



BLUE WATER TASK FORCE, INC.

2014-2015 WORK PLAN

Our Vision:

A community that protects and preserves the health of Gallatin Watershed.

Our Mission:

To promote public stewardship of aquatic resources in the Gallatin River Watershed through community education, citizen involvement in water quality monitoring, and scientific data collection

Our Values:

The integrity of our natural environment
Responsible growth and sustainable development
An educated and involved community
A commitment to future generations

Organizational Goals:

- 1. To maintain a sustainable organization**
- 2. To monitor the health of the watershed through scientific data collection**
- 3. To coordinate and promote projects that protect or preserve the health of the watershed**
- 4. To create partnerships with individuals and organizations that support our mission**
- 5. To support responsible growth that provides opportunities for voluntary action as well as appropriate public policy**
- 6. To provide a respected local source of water resource information and expertise**
- 7. To educate and empower the watershed community**

Action Plan:

A. OBJECTIVE: Create and maintain a sustainable organization

GOALS ADDRESSED: 1

TIMEFRAME: Ongoing

RESULTS: A balanced budget; an active board;

ACTION STEPS:

1. Develop and implement a fundraising plan.
2. Maintain and follow a budget
3. Recruit community leaders to the board when needed

B. OBJECTIVE: Conduct regular assessments for water quality, macroinvertebrates, and streamflow.

GOALS ADDRESSED: 2, 6

TIMEFRAME: Winter baseflow (December/January), presnowmelt (March/April), spring runoff (May/June), and summer baseflow (August/September) for water chemistry, summer baseflow for macroinvertebrates, and June - November for streamflow.

RESULTS: Credible water quality, streamflow, and macroinvertebrate data.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Maintain inventory for sample collection and testing
2. Conduct sampling and analysis each quarter for water chemistry and once a year for macroinvertebrates
3. Send macroinvertebrate samples to subcontractor for analysis
4. Maintain streamflow stations on the West Fork, South Fork, and North Fork
5. Interpret collected data
6. Upload data to the BWTF website

C. OBJECTIVE: Conduct more thorough watershed assessments to address water resource questions

GOALS ADDRESSED: 2, 6

TIMEFRAME: As needed.

RESULTS: Watershed assessment final report.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Develop project to assess water resource question
2. Fundraise for water resource project
3. Implement water resource project
4. Summarize findings/results in a final report

D. OBJECTIVE: Implement Upper Gallatin Watershed Restoration Plan (WRP)

GOALS ADDRESSED: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7

TIMEFRAME: Ongoing.

RESULTS: Improvements in water quality.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Update WRP every 3 years
2. Conduct fundraising to support watershed restoration projects described in WRP
3. Implement funded watershed restoration projects
4. Monitor for changes in water quality/quantity

E. OBJECTIVE: Conduct regular community outreach and educational events

GOALS ADDRESSED: 1-7

TIMEFRAME: Throughout the year

RESULTS: Increase community awareness; more volunteers; more donations

ACTION STEPS:

1. Develop outreach/educational piece for all materials/information generated in Objectives B-D.
2. Host 2-3 public meetings
3. Participate in local community events such as the possible
4. Educate and involve local children in BWTF activities.
5. Develop web accessible list of water resource materials
6. Conduct regular outreach, including e-mail updates, newspaper articles, and website updates, of all materials/information generated from Objectives B-E.

F. OBJECTIVE: Collaborate with local, regional and state organizations with similar goals.

GOALS ADDRESSED: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7

TIMEFRAME: Throughout the year

RESULTS: Strong relationships and trust among watershed partners. Mobilization of shared resources to accomplish goals.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Coordinate data collection and activities with university level researchers
2. Participate in Montana Watershed Coordination Council's training programs (quarterly meetings if pertinent and annual coordinator's retreat)
3. Work with the Gallatin Local Water Quality District (GLWQD) to develop and implement projects in the Big Sky area
4. Participate in Missouri Headwaters Partnership (quarterly and annual meetings)
5. Keep up to date on Greater Gallatin Watershed Council activities and collaborate whenever possible
6. Collaborate with the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology for the Groundwater Information Program Study.