

UPPER GALLATIN WATERSHED ABCs...or...Who's doing what up here???

| What's going on? | Who can you contact? | How can you participate? |
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| <p>TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load TMDL studies are being performed on 6 impaired streams in the Upper Gallatin watershed. An impaired stream has some pollution problem that is preventing it from one or more uses of the stream (like recreation, fish habitat, or drinking water). For each impaired stream, the Montana DEQ must identify the pollutants that are causing problems and determine the maximum amount of each pollutant that the stream can accept or carry without being impaired. Then a plan is developed to reduce pollutants so that this maximum amount—or “load”—is met. This process is called TMDL Planning. The DEQ is able to access EPA money by engaging local organizations and communities in the process. In the Upper Gallatin Watershed, the BWTF is leading this effort, which allows for the community to have more direct input in the process and in the final pollution reduction plan.</p> | <p>Blue Water Task Force (BWTF) Kristin Gardner (406) 993-2519 http://www.bluewatertaskforce.org/ kristin@bluewatertaskforce.org</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Contact Kristin Gardner to be added to the BWTF email list. ★ Keep an eye out for public participation events. ★ Attend public meetings that will be planned as different phases of the planning effort are implemented. |
| <p>Gallatin Canyon Wastewater Study HKM engineering is conducting a study to determine the feasibility of providing public sewer to the Gallatin Canyon between Bighorn shopping center and the Corral. The study should be finished by August 2008.</p> | <p>Blue Water Task Force Kristin Gardner/Jon Holtzman (406) 993-2519 http://www.bluewatertaskforce.org/ kristin@bluewatertaskforce.org jholtzman@aol.com</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Contact Blue Water Task Force for more information. |
| <p>Gallatin/Madison Groundwater Assessment The Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) is conducting a three year groundwater study of Gallatin and Madson counties. To gain a clear picture of Big Sky's groundwater system, MBMG is working in collaboration with the Blue Water Task Force to monitor grounswater levels and groundwater quality in selected wells in the Big Sky area. Groundwater monitoring began in June 2008 and will continue for three years.</p> | <p>Blue Water Task Force Kristin Gardner (406) 993-2519 http://www.bluewatertaskforce.org/ kristin@bluewatertaskforce.org</p> <p>Tom Patton Ground-Water Assessment Program Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (406) 496 - 4153</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Contact Blue Water Task Force for more information. |

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| <p>MSU Research: Effects of Mountain Resort Development on Streamwater Nitrogen Export: the Importance of Spatial Location</p> <p><u>Kristin Gardner</u>: MSU PhD candidate is studying how nitrogen moves through a mountainous watershed by looking at land use, land cover, topography, and other variables. Kristin is using the West Fork Watershed as her study area, which allows her to look at a wide spectrum of land use from pristine wilderness to developed areas.</p> <p><u>Becca McNamara</u>: MSU Master's candidate is studying how nitrogen travels downstream in the West Fork Watershed..</p> <p><u>Natalie Campos</u>: MSU Master's candidate is working on mapping land use, land cover change in the West Fork Watershed using high resolution satellite imagery and topography data.</p> <p><u>Galena Ackerman</u>: Recently finishing a Master's in geochemistry at MSU, Galena now works for the Watershed Hydrology Group. She is involved in two projects: 1) a project to determine how much nitrogen is released by different types of rocks found in the Big Sky area through weathering processes, and 2) a project to determine whether stream productivity (e.g. algal growth) in the Big Sky area is limited by nitrogen or phosphorus.</p> | <p>MSU Dept. of Land Resources and Environmental Studies (LRES) – Watershed Hydrology Group</p> <p>Kristin Gardner (406) 993-2519 kristin.k.gardner@gmail.com</p> <p>Becca McNamara (406) 994-5705 rebecca.mcnamara@myportal.montana.edu</p> <p>Natalie Campos (406) 994-5073 zynx1234@gmail.com</p> <p>Galena Ackerman (406) 994 – 5705 Galena.g@gmail.com</p> | <p>★ Kristin often involves the public in her research. Contact her to participate or for more information on the other projects.</p> |