

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

What's going on?	Who can you contact?	How can you participate?
<p>TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load In response to the requirements of the US Clean Water Act, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) assessed each stream in the state to identify those that are impaired. 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 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 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) Katie Alvin (406) 995-4601 http://www.bluewatertaskforce.org/</p>	<p>Contact Katie Alvin 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>
<p>ORW: Outstanding Resource Water In June of 2000, American Wildlands initiated a campaign to give the Gallatin River the ORW designation. The official ORW designation will be made or rejected after a full review of the impacts of such a designation (see EIS).</p>	<p>American Wildlands (406) 586-8175 info@wildlands.org http://www.wildlands.org/gallatin/</p>	<p>Contact American Wildlands for more information.</p>
<p>EIS: Environmental Impact Statement After accepting the ORW nomination, the State gave responsibility for reviewing the impacts of such a designation to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The EIS was completed by an independent contractor and was made available for review. The comment period is now closed, but the document is on the internet.</p>	<p>MT DEQ Greg Hallsten (406) 444-3276 http://tinyurl.com/yfhbum</p>	<p>Comments have been received and the Board of Environmental Review will be making recommendations to the state legislature.</p>
<p>MSU Research: Effects of Mountain Resort Development on Streamwater Nitrogen Export: the Importance of Spatial Location Kristin Gardner, MSU PhD candidate, is studying how nitrogen moves through a small 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>MSU Dept. of Land Resources and Environmental Studies (LRES) Kristin Gardner (406) 994-5705 http://landresources.montana.edu/watershed/gardner/</p>	<p>Kristin often involves the public in her research. Contact her to participate.</p>

MSU Research: Distribution of riparian vegetation and associated environmental conditions in the Upper Gallatin and Yellowstone River watersheds	MSU Dept. of LRES Levia Shoutis (406) 994-6499	Contact Levia for more information.