



Sanders County Aquatic Invasive Plants Task Force

P. O. Box 519

Thompson Falls, Montana 59873

April 22, 2021

Travis Rehm
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 1
5427 Highway 200
Thompson Falls, MT 59873

Dear Travis,

Please accept this letter from the Sanders County Aquatic Invasive Plants Task Force in support of your application to the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership for help funding a pilot project to determine if mechanical modification of dense beds of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) can improve fisheries habitat in Noxon Reservoir.

Your project comes at an important time for Sanders County. The Sanders County Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan, which the Task Force has been charged by the county commissioners to oversee, has been updated to prioritize control of EWM near public and private access sites (including public and private boating access sites and shoreline dock areas). Secondly, we are also targeting larger, high EWM-density shallow access areas with significant boat traffic. We will gladly observe and learn how the results of your pilot project can dovetail with, and bolster, the county's overall EWM control program into the future.

Along with signifying our strong support of the project, this letter also confirms the intent of Task Force members to provide volunteer time to assist with community outreach efforts taking place during the project period.

Dedicated members of the Task Force who join with me in support of the project include representatives from: Sanders County Weed District, Avista, Montana BASS Nation, Montana State University Extension/Sanders County, Green Mountain Conservation District, Noxon-Cabinet Shoreline Coalition, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, U. S. Forest Service, private industry, and the general public.

Our members stand ready to assist and look forward to working with you on this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Kim Bergstrom
Facilitator