

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND RECREATION PROJECT  
FY2024 GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

Project Name: Fort Benton Canoe Camp upgrades

Reservoir or River Segment: Carter Ferry FAS to Ft. Benton County(ies) Chouteau

Site Name (or project location): Chouteau County Fairgrounds

Applicant Name: Chouteau County Fair Canoe Launch Campground by Lori Holleman

Position and Agency: Office Manager, Chouteau County Fair

Telephone: 406-622-5505

Email: chocofair@itstriangle.com

Project Sponsor Name: JC Lindeman

Position and Agency: Fair Board President, Chouteau County Fair

Telephone: 406-750-6802

Email: jclindeman@mountainviewcoop.com

**Project Cost Breakdown and Financial Request:**

Complete the financial section below by providing total project cost (to the nearest dollar), contributions by applicant and cooperators, request for NorthWestern Energy match of agency funds (see detailed instruction), and River Fund Grant request. Document in-kind contributions by public agencies for determination of NorthWestern Energy match request. A description of funding sources and in-kind contributions should be included in the Project Description.

Total project cost:	<u>\$ 17,500</u>	
Applicant Contributions – cash	<u>\$ 7,750</u>	
Applicant Contributions – value of in-kind:	<u>\$ 2,000</u>	
Other Contributions – Please list by source:		
	<u>\$</u>	
	<u>\$</u>	
	<u>\$</u>	
	<u>\$</u>	<b>Percentage of Total Project Cost:</b>
Total Applicant and Other Contributions:	<u>\$ 9,750</u>	<u>56%</u>
NorthWestern Energy Match Request:	<u>\$ 2,438</u>	<u>14%</u>
River Fund Grant Request:	<u>\$ 5,312</u>	<u>30%</u>
Proposed Project Implementation Period:	<u>2023-2024</u>	

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1. Has this project been previously submitted for funding consideration by the River Fund Board, either as a separate project or part of another project?     Yes     No

*If yes, please identify which years the application was submitted and, if the project was previously funded, list the amount funded by year.*

2. **Project Description:** Provide a description of the proposed project. Be sure to include specific project elements that are planned, and any associated cost detail.

- ▶ The Fort Benton Canoe Camp is in need of some basic upgrades to efficiently manage the site and improve visitor services.

There are numerous leaks in the system, and the hydrants need replacing. This assist with site watering and fire prevention, and will prevent disruption of water delivery to site users

The majority of the campers utilizing the Canoe Camp are in RVs that use 50 amps, and more 50 amp plug-ins will be added to meet the demands of the campers.

A storage shed is needed for bathroom supplies, tools and implements to maintain the grounds. These items are currently kept in various locations throughout the fairgrounds. Having a storage shed onsite will improve efficiency of grounds keeping and restroom maintenance.

3. **Project Phasing:** Briefly discuss whether the project could be phased over more than one year or construction season.

- ▶ All elements of this project are one-and-done types of actions, so phasing is not a good fit.

4. **Cultural Resource Management:** Cultural Resource Management (CRM) requirements for any activity related to this Project must be completed and documented to NorthWestern Energy as a condition of awarded River Fund grant funds or NorthWestern Energy matching funds. Grant and matching funds may not be used for any land-disturbing activity, or the modification, renovation, or removal of any buildings or structures until the CRM consultation process has been completed. Agency applicants must submit a copy of the proposed project to a designated Cultural Resource Specialist for their agency. Private parties or non-governmental organizations are encouraged to submit a copy of their proposed project to a CRM consultant they may have employed. Private parties and non-governmental organizations may also contact the NorthWestern Energy representative for further information or assistance. Applications submitted without this section completed will be held without any action until the information has been submitted.

Summarize how you will complete requirements for Cultural Resource Management.

- ▶ The installation location has been previously disturbed, so it is unlikely that any cultural concerns exist. Cultural clearance will be sought through NorthWestern Energy's CRM contractor to ensure compliance.

5. **Scoring Criteria.** Respond to the following Scoring Criteria. Put answers in the cell after ▶.

*5.1 Does the project occur at a 2188 license site?*

- ▶ Yes, the Canoe Camp is a 2188 site.

5.2 Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site. Describe if the project will meet operation and maintenance needs. Higher points awarded to projects that are higher priority and are not a recurring expense. Lower points awarded to projects that are low priority and/or have been previously funded. It is unlikely that the timeframe of River Fund would address emergency operation and maintenance needs but could support non-emergency operation and maintenance needs.

- ▶ These projects are vital in the Canoe Camp, but costs exceed the capacity of existing operating budgets. Replacing the hydrants and repairing leaks will help maintain the grounds and could provide additional protection during fire season. Installing more 50-amp plug-ins will accommodate more campers to utilize the campground. Installing a shed will provide storage for bathroom supplies, tools, and implements to maintain the grounds.

5.3 Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organizations. Identify project partners other than NorthWestern Energy or River Fund, if any, and describe their participation. Document all funding sources and all in-kind support and services to a project because all are sources of partnerships and in-kind contributions from public agencies qualify for calculation of NorthWestern Energy matching funds. If there are no project partners, explain why.

- ▶ The Chouteau County Fair will support the project by preparing for water and power system upgrades; and preparing a site for the shed next to the restroom.

5.4 Project provides a benefit to public recreation in the Project Area and addresses specific issues and goals of the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan (CRP). Identify how the project provides a benefit to public recreation and describe how the project specifically addresses issues and goals in Chapter 2-1 of the CRP.

- ▶ The campground is open to the public for river recreation and is the only public overnight facility available on the north shoreline of the Missouri River between Great Falls and Fort Benton. Upgrading the water system and providing adequate power supply to campers helps to “provide safe and well-managed recreation sites...that provide enjoyable user experiences across a spectrum of opportunities and seasons” as well as to “develop responses appropriate to the intensity and priority of the demand” of changing trends in recreation uses.

5.5 Project responds to a clearly identified need. Describe and document the need for this project and how the project would address that need. Cite specific sources, as possible, to establish need and support the project. Discuss consequences if the funding request is unsuccessful. For a new construction or acquisition project, identify how post-project, long-term costs (such as site maintenance and management) will be provided.

- ▶ Water is precious resource that is currently being wasted due to leaking hydrants and lines. If the necessary repairs are not done, the water has to be turned off in the affected areas. Our power supply to campers is antiquated and in order to meet the demands of the campers, we need to upgrade to 50 amps. We have no place for storage of necessary supplies in the Canoe Campground and adding the shed will improve management efficiency. If funding is not achieved, the water will remain shut off in some areas of the site, we will not be able to accommodate campers that need 50 amp service and we may lose revenue by turning campers away as a result.

5.6 Project design options have been considered, estimated, and a preferred design selected. Well-designed projects reduce occurrences of budgetary overages, design changes, and additional complications. Discuss the current design phase for this project, demonstrate that the project has been well vetted, and include cost estimates.

- ▶ Upgrading the deteriorated components of the water system is vital at this time. We have tried to repair the old lines, but new leaks appear at another spot. Upgrading all of the lines and hydrants in one phase will cost \$7,000 but eliminate the water waste. By installing more 50 amps in the campsites, we can meet the demands of the public. The associated cost is \$5,500. A storage shed for supplies and equipment in the Canoe Campground is also badly needed, anticipated cost is \$3,000.

5.7 Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area. Describe how this project will protect resource values (such as public access, water quality, fisheries, wildlife, habitats, and cultural resources) and support other resource and agency plans, including Project 2188 License plans and land use and land management plans in place in the Corridor. Management plans should provide justification for the project.

- ▶ NorthWestern Energy’s FERC license #2188 stipulates drinking water to be provided on site, so repairing the system is critical for remaining compliant with the license. Upgrading the electrical service will keep the site aligned with current trends in outdoor recreation, one component of which is bigger RVs with larger power supply demands.

6. Insert map(s)

