



Resolution 26-06

Resolution type: Policy Statement

Resolution to Create Advisory Council

Submitted by: Lewis and Clark Conservation District

BACKGROUND DESCRIBING ISSUE

The Resource Conservation Advisory Council, a governor-appointed committee of conservation district supervisors, served the Conservation Districts of Montana effectively for decades. When that council sunsetted, the Conservation District Advisory Council was formed. With the creation of the Conservation District Trust and the increased opportunity for district funding, it is important for districts to adapt to increased funding and important to improve consistency in grant guidelines. It would be helpful to have a collaborative effort between Districts, MACD, and DNRC in order to facilitate that adaptation.

ACTUAL POLICY STATEMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN MACD POLICY BOOK IF ADOPTED

The Conservation District Fund, established by HB 321 during the 2023 Legislative Session provides a mechanism for funding Conservation Districts into the long-term future. With this funding, Conservation Districts are entrusted to utilize funds to the maximum benefit possible and have a higher expectation for transparency and accountability.

In order for CDs to be good stewards of these funds, deliver high-quality conservation programming, and strengthen district capacity, MACD and Conservation Districts should work collaboratively with DNRC to create a working group or sub-committee to establish clear guidelines and rules regarding the granting process. These guidelines and practices should be predictable, allow for district innovation, and be developed through a collaborative and iterative approach between CDs and DNRC.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

SPONSOR(S) ACTIONS TO DATE

We have provided public comments during the ARMs creation process.

HOW WILL YOUR DISTRICT CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND BE INVOLVED WITH THIS POLICY STATEMENT/STANCE?

Whatever we can do to assist.

ARE THERE ANY EXISTING MACD POLICIES THAT THIS WOULD IMPACT OR INTERACT WITH?

Unknown

HOW WOULD THIS POLICY IMPACT MACD?

It would likely require staff time to assist in the collaborative effort.

WOULD THIS POLICY STATEMENT IMPACT THE STATE BUDGET? IF SO, HOW?

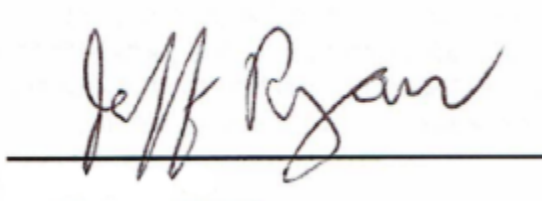
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MEETING AND DATE ADOPTED BY SPONSORING ENTITY

Lewis and Clark Conservation District Board Meeting, July 9, 2026

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) AND TITLE(S)

Jeff Ryan, Board Chair 7/9/2026

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeff Ryan", is written over a solid horizontal line.