

Project Name:

Evergreen Flood Resiliency and Groundwater Quality Improvements

Recipient:

Flathead County Water District No. 1

Address:

108 Cooperative Way, Kalispell, MT 59901

Amount Required:

\$3,653,000

Project Description:

Flathead County's Evergreen area sits within the Flathead River floodplain, where aging septic systems and wastewater infrastructure are highly vulnerable to flooding and groundwater infiltration. These conditions create a serious risk of untreated sewage entering and contaminating drinking water sources, threatening public health, local fisheries, and the broader Flathead watershed. While a portion of this project has been funded, critical areas remain unaddressed due to limited resources. This funding will replace outdated septic systems and failing wastewater infrastructure with modern, flood-resilient sewer facilities, reducing health risks and improving long-term system reliability. Investing in this project will protect water quality and prevent more costly emergency repairs in the future.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2601

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Evergreen Flood Resiliency and Groundwater Quality Improvements

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Evergreen Flood Resiliency and Groundwater Quality Improvements in Fiscal Year 2027

The entity to receive funding for this project is Flathead County Water District No. 1 - Evergreen located at 108 Cooperative Way, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Flathead County's Evergreen area sits within the Flathead River floodplain, where aging septic systems and wastewater infrastructure are highly vulnerable to flooding and groundwater infiltration. These conditions create a serious risk of untreated sewage entering and contaminating drinking water sources, threatening public health, local fisheries, and the broader Flathead watershed. While a portion of this project has been funded, critical areas remain unaddressed due to limited resources. This funding will replace outdated septic systems and failing wastewater infrastructure with modern, flood-resilient sewer facilities, reducing health risks and improving long-term system reliability. Investing in this project will protect water quality and prevent more costly emergency repairs in the future.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress