

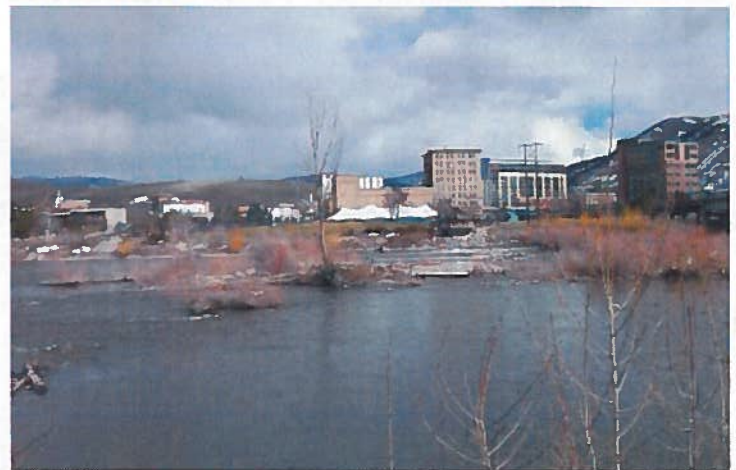
CARAS PARK OUTFALL-STORMWATER TREATMENT RETROFIT

The Caras Park Outfall Stormwater Treatment Retrofit Project is an incremental step to improving the quality of the Clark Fork River. This project involves the installation of a stormwater treatment device to clean stormwater runoff before it reaches the river.

The stormwater outfall pipe, located just 60 feet below Brennan's Wave, collects and drains a significant portion of the Missoula downtown area. Currently, this drainage system includes high traffic streets and alleys full of dumpsters. The stormwater runoff is visibly degraded during storm events, when people dump materials in the storm drains and clean their dumpsters, alleys and sidewalks. When there are accidents or spills of hazardous materials, gasoline, oil, hydraulic fluid, all of this goes straight into the drain system and ultimately to the Clark Fork.

The Caras Park outfall pipe currently discharges pollutants such as heavy metals including lead and copper, bacteria, sediments, warm water from street runoff, and trash such as cigarette butts, plastic bottles and garbage directly into the Clark Fork River. The impacts of the untreated stormwater extend to public health and safety and also the natural system health of the Clark Fork River.

The location of this stormwater outfall is in a highly visited and cherished area of Missoula. The Riverfront Trail, Caras Park Events, Brennan's Wave, and Clark Fork Market all occur in proximity to this location. This stretch of river is used by swimmers, boaters, and anglers. Those recreating in Brennan's Wave are directly exposed to the contaminated stormwater runoff. The pollution could have a significant impact on aquatic life including fishery habitat. The effects of this stormwater outfall extend to the economic industry associated with the Clark Fork River. Improving the quality of stormwater runoff is paramount.



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This proposed project takes action to clean the stormwater before it reaches the Clark Fork. The proposed solution involves multistep treatment. The first step is a hydrodynamic separator to remove

sediment and pollutants. The second step is infiltration gallery to remove additional pollutants and protect the river from contamination including thermal pollution during hot summer months. This system will treat a majority of stormwater runoff events.

The City of Missoula and the Missoula Valley Water Quality District are seeking grants for this project. Your input in the form of a letter of support will be included in the grant application to demonstrate support for the project.

