

Montana Debris Joint Application Guidance

This guide provides information on only the most common permits required before removing debris from or near waterways. It is the **Applicant's responsibility to contact all appropriate resource agencies** for site specific permits. Please note, incomplete applications may be denied. If you have an emergency, please coordinate with the proper permitting agencies on how to expedite the permitting process. Refer to *Points of Contact* provided.

Obtaining Applicable Permits

- Apply for Permits *prior* to the start of work.
- Joint Application Form, Guide, and Directions available at: <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/conservation-districts/the-310-law>
- USACE Special Public Notice: Emergency Procedures for June 2022 Flooding: <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/utis/getfile/collection/p16021coll7/id/20929>
- If you are receiving funding for debris removal from FEMA or another federal agency, **work with the appropriate federal, state, and local permitting agencies** regarding applicable permits/requirements.

Method for Debris Removal			
Permits	Clean Excavation from the Bank/ <u>Equipment Not in Water</u>	Clean Excavation with Equipment in the Water/ <u>No Disturbance to the Waterway</u>	Excavation with <u>Disturbance in Waterways</u>
Local Floodplain Permit	*	*	*
Conservation District 310 (Individuals)/ 124 (Government Agencies)	*	*	*
USACE - RHA Section 10 (if within Navigable Waters*)	*	*	*
Montana DEQ 318		*	*
Montana DEQ CWA 401			*
USACE CWA 404			*

*Navigable Waters in Montana include the Missouri River, the Yellowstone River downstream of Emigrant, and a portion of the Kootenai River.

Best Management Practices

- Avoid removing vegetative debris that does not pose an immediate threat to improved property or infrastructure.
- When removing debris from waterbodies, use techniques that limit disturbance to the stream bed and banks, riparian areas, aquatic-dependent species, and the waterbody.
- Use suitable measures to avoid or minimize scour and erosion to maintain the stability of the channel and its banks.
- Do not pile or burn debris in floodways, floodplains, wetlands, or other riparian areas.
- Minimize equipment operations in floodways, floodplains, wetlands, or other riparian areas, and consider using hand labor or low ground-pressure equipment to minimize soil disturbance.
- Minimize dragging debris on the ground, floodways, floodplains, wetlands, or other riparian areas.
- Avoid or minimize soil disturbance, displacement, erosion, and damage to surface soil horizons.
- Conduct machine piling of slash to ensure topsoil is left in place and to avoid displacing soil into piles.
- Minimize soil compaction and mitigate to improve infiltration and revegetation conditions if this occurs.
- Avoid skidding on unstable, wet, or easily compacted soils and on slopes that exceed 40% grade unless not causing excessive erosion.
- Ensure all equipment operated in or near the waterbody is clean of aquatic invasive species. Ensure that equipment exteriors are free of oil and grease using standard provisions for equipment cleaning.
- Refuel and service equipment only in designated staging areas and greater than 100' from waterbodies.

Points of Contact

Carbon County Floodplain Admin: Page Dringman,
sgplanning@itstriangle.com – (406) 446-1595

City of Red Lodge Floodplain Admin: Courtney Long,
clong@cityofredlodge.com – (406) 446-1606 x5

Town of Fromberg Floodplain Admin:
Tim Nothingham, clerk@fromberg-mt.com
(406) 668-7383

Park County Floodplain Admin: Lawson Moorman,
lmoorman@parkcounty.org – (406) 222-4102

City of Livingston Floodplain Admin:
Jim Woodhull, jwoodhull@livingstonmontana.org
(406) 222-4903

Stillwater County Floodplain Admin:
Stephanie Ray, sray@stillwatercountymt.gov
(406) 322-8055

Treasure County Floodplain Admin: Angela Stahl,
angela.stahl@mt.nacdnet.net – (406) 200-4165

Yellowstone County Floodplain Admin:
Darin Swenson,
dswenson@yellowstonecountymt.gov
(406) 256-2735

USACE: Montana Regulatory: Send all applications and requests to Montana.reg@usace.army.mil – (406) 441-1375
Sage Joyce, Montana State Manager,
Sage.L.Joyce@usace.army.mil – (406) 422-7527

Carbon & Stillwater Conservation District:
Sharon Flemetis, Sharon.Flemetis.mt.nacdnet.net
(406) 322-5359 x101

Park Conservation District: Dewitt Dominick,
dewdom@gmail.com – (406) 223-7600

MT DEQ: Keenan Storrar, 401/318 Coordinator,
Keenan.Storrar@mt.gov – (406) 444-2734

MT FWP: Trevor Watson, Habitat Bureau Chief,
Trevor.Watson@mt.gov – (406) 444-2447

USFWS: Jake Martin, Jacob_martin@fws.gov
(406) 449-5225