

**Project No. 66**

<b>Applicant Name</b>	Huntley Project Irrigation District	
<b>Project Name</b>	Yellowstone River Bank Stabilization	
<b>Amount Requested</b>	\$ 125,000	
<b>Other Funding Source</b>	\$1,123,688	Applicant
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	\$1,248,688	
<b>Amount Recommended</b>	\$ 125,000	

**Project History**

The Huntley Project Irrigation District (ID) is in Yellowstone County. The project site is located along the northern bank of the Yellowstone River approximately 3.0 river miles upstream of the Highway 312 bridge near Huntley. The existing diversion and intake structures have served well for over a century, with improvements made to the diversion structure in the 1950s. During the flooding season in the spring of 2018, a significant amount of the northern bank upstream of the Huntley Project ID's diversion dam began to erode allowing the Yellowstone River to migrate north away from the existing irrigation facilities (up to 230 horizontal feet of the existing riverbank was lost to erosion in one flooding season).

Without the reinforcement of the northern bank of the Yellowstone River upstream of the existing structure, the river is likely to bypass these crucial structures and leave Huntley Project ID without the ability to use existing infrastructure to provide irrigation for its users. The losses caused by unmitigated erosion and channel migration could reach over \$13 million in crop production losses each year. Installation of the proposed improvements will eliminate channel migration, preserve existing infrastructure, improve water resource management, and preserve water quality in the Yellowstone River.

**Proposed Solution**

Specific tasks include:

- Install riprap on riverbank;
- Repair existing low water weir at the overflow channel to the north of the existing diversion structure; and
- Reclaim the disturbed areas.

**Resource and Citizen Benefits Analysis**

The resource benefits for this project are preservation and conservation of surface water and conservation of energy. The bank stabilization will decrease sedimentation in the Yellowstone River. The weir repair will decrease the amount of water diverted and preserve habitat, which also conserves energy.

The economic benefit from the preserved land provides \$13 million per year in crop production. The citizen benefit is local.

**Funding Recommendation**

DNRC recommends grant funding of \$125,000 upon development and approval of the final scope of work, administration, budget, and funding package. The applicant must meet the following conditions prior to initiating a contract with the DNRC:

- The applicant consults with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers whether the project will require mitigation related to bank stabilization.