

University of Alaska, Southeast

"Montana-Mendenhall Watershed Protection and Assessment"

FY 03 Grant Award \$17,250

Project Match \$11,910



Description and Purpose:

This project assessed current practices in the Montana-Mendenhall Watershed for controlling sediment, iron, lead, and diesel fuel. Sediment and iron are pervasive throughout the Mendenhall Valley and lead and diesel fuel are recent concerns largely in conjunction with proposed improvements to the Hank Harmon Rifle Range. This project assessed and identified the relative magnitudes of natural sources so that anthropogenic contributions could be meaningfully measured. The project involved data collection and analysis.

The project goals included:

- 1) Identify sources and loading magnitudes of sediment, iron, lead, and diesel fuel.
- 2) Meaningfully assess current practices for controlling sediment, iron, lead, and diesel fuel.
- 3) Develop and suggest alternative non-point source pollution control practices where current practices appear inadequate.

Evaluation of Environmental Benefits:

Project success and evaluation was based upon scientific community peer review of the project's data, results, conclusions, and publications.

Deliverables for this project include:

- A DEC approved QAPP
- A set of monitoring stations for continued evaluation of environmental changes in the Montana-Mendenhall watershed as it continues to be developed.
- Research papers addressing the following:
 - Identification and relative magnitudes of anthropogenic and natural sediment-sources to the Montana-Mendenhall stream system.
 - Identification and relative magnitudes of anthropogenic and natural iron-sources to the Montana-Mendenhall stream system.
 - Lead and diesel fuel exports from the Hank Harmon Rifle Range and other potential sources in the Montana-Mendenhall stream system.
- Two databases including:
 - Data entered into the USGS national database similarly to how other data currently collected by the UAS-ENVS program is entered.
 - Data contributed to the GINA project, a spatial data repository and distribution center organized by the University of Alaska system and operated out of UAS.

Project Contacts:

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