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| **Project Name** | **Applicant Name** | **Amount Requested** | **Matching Funds** | **Total Project Cost** | **Project Location****(Zone)** |
| Blackfoot River Avian Mitigation and Habitat Enhancement | Trout Unlimited | $673,008.75 | $445,088.56 | $1,118,097.31 | 1 |

Executive Summary

The Blackfoot River, historically abundant with Yellowstone cutthroat trout, has experienced significant declines in fish size and abundance since the 1960s. While fishery management interventions in the 1990s sparked some population recovery, critical habitat limitations- especially from riparian degradation and avian predation- continue to hinder full recovery. In response, Trout Unlimited, in partnership with Itafos Conda, aims to improve overall riparian conditions on the Blackfoot River with this Project above the Blackfoot Reservoir.

This Project focuses on degraded areas characterized by poor riparian vegetation, low hydraulic diversity, disconnected floodplains, and limited cover for Yellowstone cutthroat trout. The Project’s goals are centered on enhancing habitat conditions for all life stages of Yellowstone cutthroat trout through comprehensive stream and floodplain restoration. Specific objectives include reestablishing native riparian vegetation, installing instream structures to improve channel complexity and scour pools, enhancing floodplain connectivity, stabilizing streambanks, and improving spring channel habitat. These interventions aim to increase survival, reduce predation vulnerability, and support long-term resilience of Yellowstone cutthroat trout populations in the Upper Blackfoot watershed.