



October 12, 2001

Rebecca Wodder  
American Rivers  
1025 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Suite 720  
Washington DC 20005-3516  
Dear Rebecca,

The Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MCAFS) endorses American Rivers' recommendations in "The River Budget: National Priorities for Local River Conservation for Fiscal Year 2003". MCAFS is an approximately 150 member sub-unit of the American Fisheries Society, an international organization of fisheries professionals established in 1870. The mission of the American Fisheries Society is "to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals."

We feel there are a number of programs listed in the River Budget that could directly influence the welfare of Montana's waters. An adequate budget for each of these programs is necessary to allow the various agencies and groups to acquire necessary funding to conduct measures that will benefit waters and watercourses for fisheries, as well as for the communities that rely on the health of those waters for municipal, recreational, agricultural, and aesthetic uses.

Thank you for the opportunity to join in this national effort to influence Congress and the Executive Branch for the benefit of the nations waterways.

Sincerely,

Pat Clancey  
Chapter President  
Box 1336  
Ennis, MT 59729

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