

WELCOME! TO THE BITTERROOT STAKEHOLDER MEETING

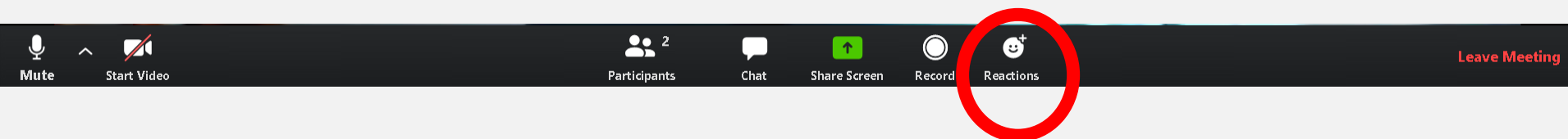
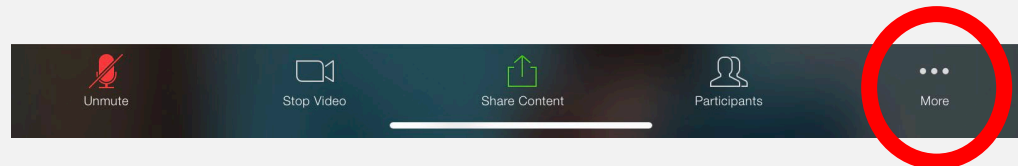
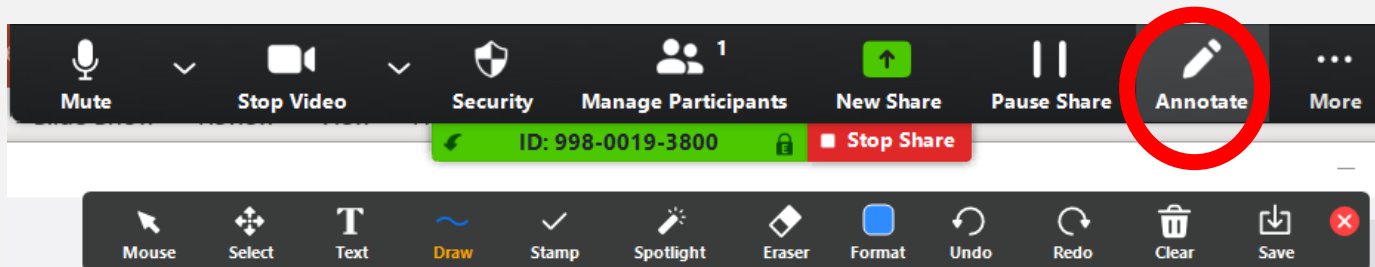
May 6, 2020

Goals

- Share stakeholders' progress on planning, projects, and monitoring
- Identify and help achieve your organization's goals by:
 - identifying overlapping interests
 - generating ideas for coordination and funding opportunities
- Introduce the concepts receive feedback on:
 - Community readiness assessments
 - Bitterroot River Nutrient Protection Plan

ZOOM ETIQUETTE

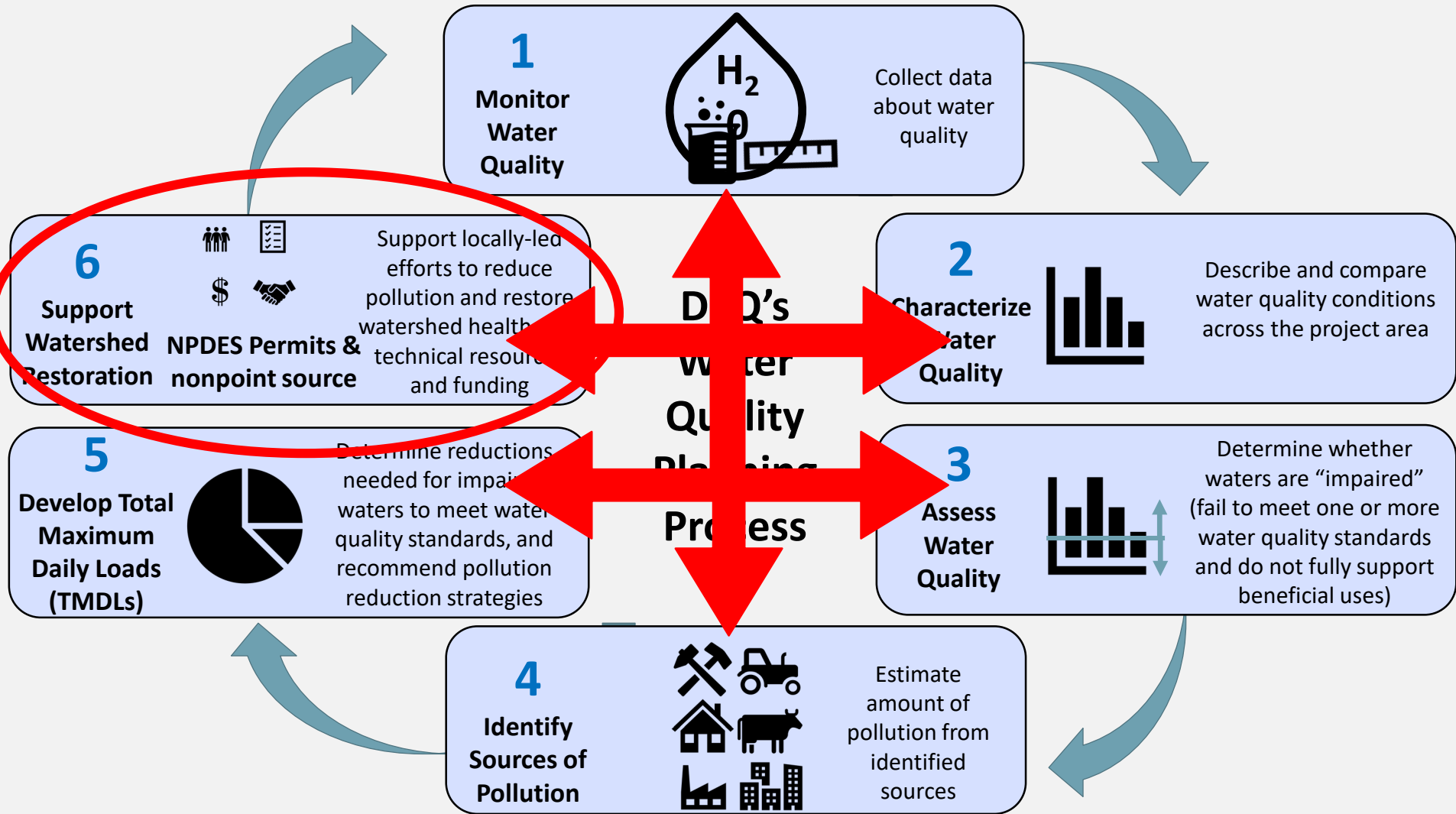
- You can mute and unmute yourself
- Or, interrupt using a “reaction”
- Annotate!



DEQ WATER QUALITY DIVISION

Protect and improve water quality so present and future generations of Montanans can enjoy the many beneficial uses of our waters

- Recreation (fishing, swimming, boating, scenic views)
- Clean drinking water for humans and livestock
- Aquatic life (fish, bugs)
- Irrigation



NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

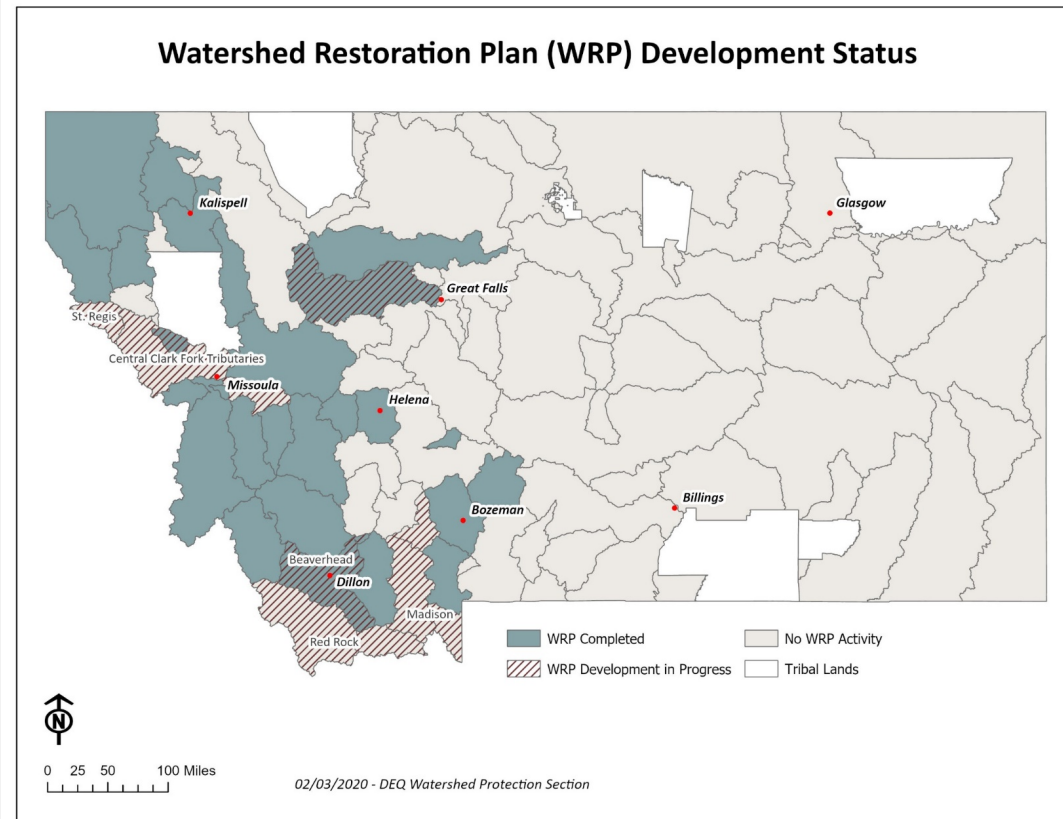
*PROTECT AND RESTORE WATER QUALITY FROM THE
HARMFUL EFFECTS OF NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION*



- Support local planning, decision-making, and voluntary project implementation
 - Pollution source identification
 - Watershed Restoration Plans
 - Project Development
- Approximately \$1,000,000 in project funding annually

FOCUS WATERSHED ATTRIBUTES

- ✓ Watershed Restoration Plan(s) in place
- ✓ Stakeholder interest
- ✓ Existing momentum with DEQ
- ✓ Ability to increase momentum with DEQ's help
- ✓ DEQ's ability to track change
- ✓ Traditional BMPs can remedy most nonpoint sources of pollution
- ✓ Potential to reduce a community's point source treatment costs
- ✓ Coinciding priorities with programs internal and external to DEQ



BITTERROOT WATERSHED

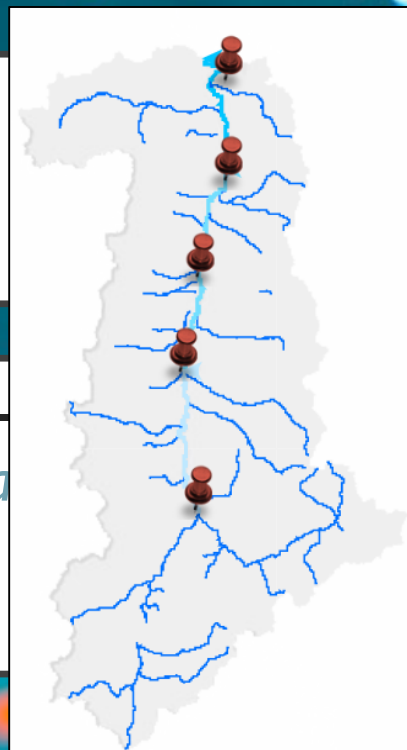
- Assessed Waterbodies (44)
 - cwaic.mt.gov
 - 39 impaired waterbodies
 - 103 Impairment Causes
 - Sediment (30)
 - Nutrients (17)
 - Temperature (10)
 - Metals (2)
 - Non-pollutants (44)
- TMDLs (2003, 2005, 2011, 2014)
- TIEs (2011, 2020 in prep)
- Watershed Restoration Plans (3)
- Engaged organizations, counties and cities





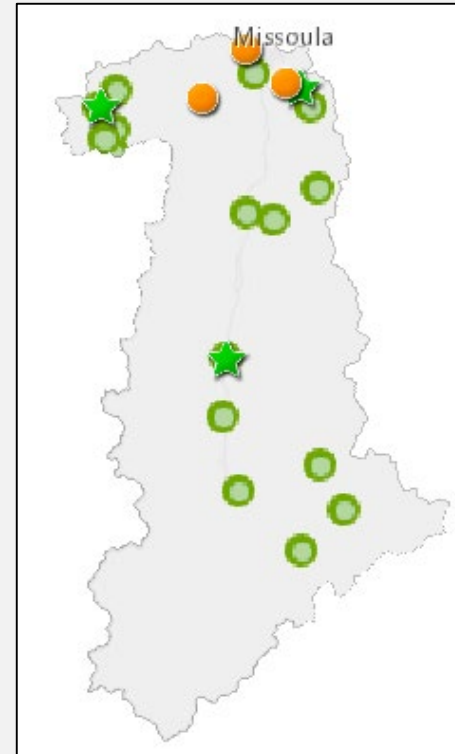
Bitterroot River watershed
selected as the first focus area
for 2019-2022.

\$23,974 of *pre-project planning* “mini-
grants” distributed to *5 different local*
entities to conduct pre-project
planning and update a WRP.

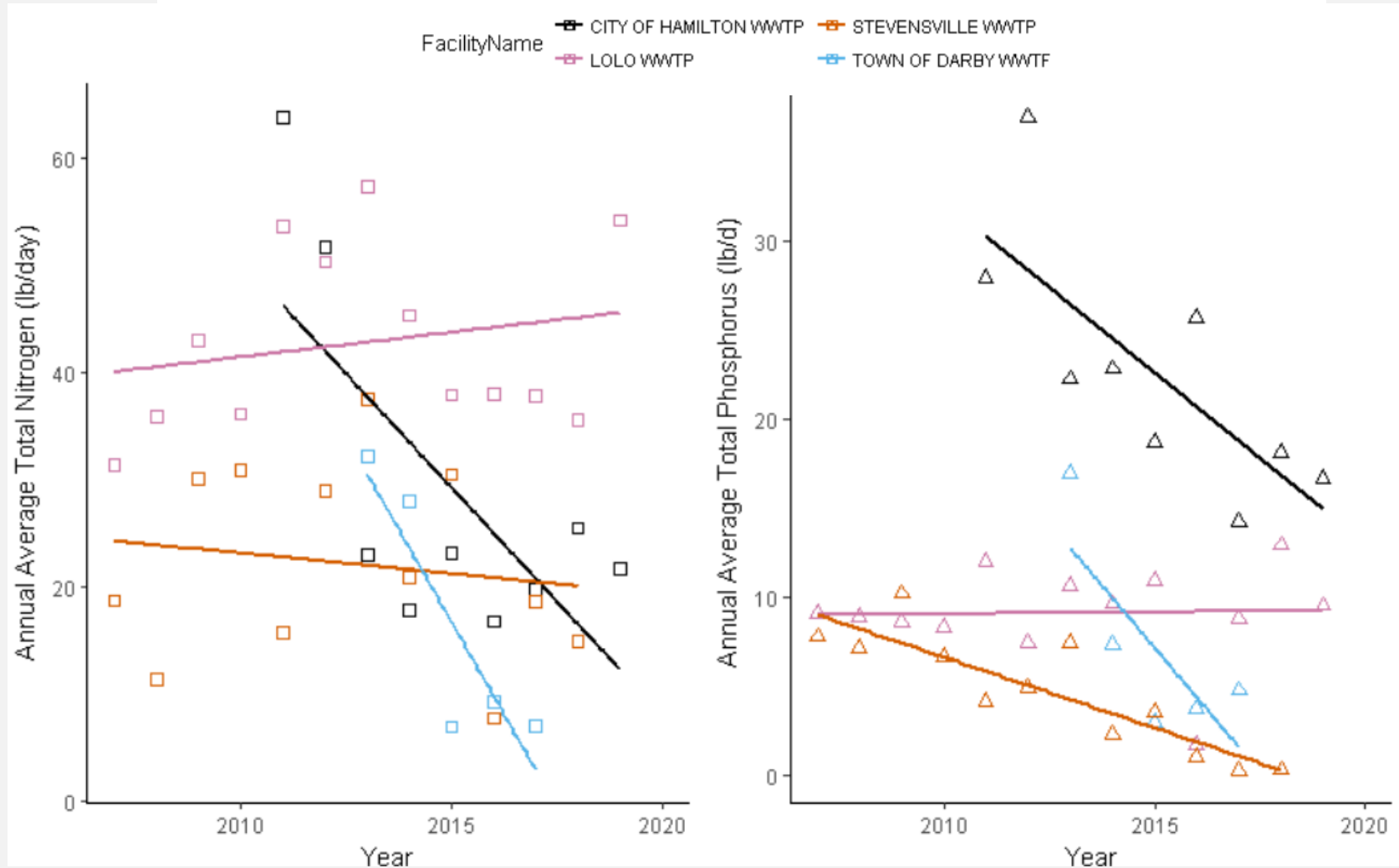


DEQ began *long-term nutrient*
monitoring along the bitterroot
mainstem, in partnership with the
Clark Fork Coalition, the Bitterroot
River Protection Association, and the
University of Montana.

In 2019, DEQ awarded **\$671,139**
in 319 funds to local groups
implementing restoration
projects in the bitterroot.



EFFORTS FROM POINT SOURCES



9:00

Welcome & Review of the Focus Watershed effort

Hannah Riedl, DEQ

Introductions:

Yourself, your organization

Your organization's strengths and interests

A need your organization hopes this Focus Watershed effort can fulfill

9:40

New ideas from the Bitterroot Watershed Restoration Plan Update

Andrea Price, Bitter Root Water Forum

10:00

Lessons learned from North Burnt Fork Creek project development

Christine Brissette, Trout Unlimited

10:20

BREAK

10:40

Funding brainstorm: matching federal dollars, and featuring MT Aquatic Resources Services

ALL—Discuss!

Wendy Weaver, MARS

11:10

Mainstem and headwaters monitoring results

John DeArment, Clark Fork Coalition

Robert Ray, DEQ

11:40

Community readiness assessments

Eric Trum, DEQ

12:00

Bitterroot River Protection Plan

Hannah Riedl, DEQ