

**Basic Biological Services** **LLC**Dillon MT 1999  
Vegetation Management for Land Rehabilitation   
Habitat Enhancement   Soil/Water Conservation  
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A river running through a grassy field

Description automatically generated

**Managing Vegetation for Health, Function, and Sustainability**

**Basic Biological Services LLC**

**Dillon, Montana since 1999**

**Summary of Qualifications 2024**

**Basic Biological Services LLC (BBS) provides expertise in vegetation management for land rehabilitation, habitat enhancement, and soil and water conservation**. We provide assessment, investigation, design and permitting, project planning and management, and long-term monitoring of natural resources to support land and management objectives. BBS also provides environmental field services including custom seeding, planting and revegetation design; biological, herbicidal, and mechanical control of noxious and nuisance weeds, shrubs and trees; erosion and sediment control design/installation, and forest health actions. BBS offers experience and qualification and over 60 years of combined experience working with landowners and managers, and natural resource professionals.

**BBS owners hold national and state certifications including Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS #2155), Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC #3445), Montana Certified Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Preparer and Administrator, Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HazWoper), MSHA, and three commercial licenses with the Montana Department of Agriculture.** BBS performs streambank and slope stabilization with bioengineering techniques, prepares and implements Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans, and installs erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices. BBS owns and operates heavy equipment, specialized equipment, and uses GPS/GIS/UAV technologies.

**BBS is a full-service resource management company** **with an outstanding record of project success.** Such as a comprehensive hydrologic and riparian vegetation assessment of the Junction Creek Watershed, MT (60,000 acres) for the NRCS and Snowline Grazing Association; and inventory of vegetative response and soil erosion risks after the Winslow Fire, MT (14,000 acres) for the BLM. Examples of other long-term and comprehensive BBS projects include:

* O’Dell Spring Creek and Wetland Restoration, Granger/Longhorn Ranches, MT (2012-present).
* Treasure and Regal Mines Reclamation Program, Barretts Minerals Inc., MT (2002-present).
* Madison River, Blaine Spring Creek and Wetland Restoration, Alton Ranch, MT (2001-2017).
* Big Hole Watershed Committee, MT; River and Wetland Restoration Projects (2003-present).
* West Side Canal Company and Beaverhead Water Company, Beaverhead Valley, MT; Inventory of irrigation infrastructure and irrigated acres; and infrastructure maintenance (2005-present).
* Riverside Construction, Gravel Pit Reclamation throughout SW MT, (2010-present).
* Expert Witness, Montana Stream Access litigation, Ruby River, Madison County (2008-11).
* MFWP projects: Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area slash piling/burning, noxious weed control, custom seeding; Upper Big Hole River Graying Re-Introduction Project noxious weed control and restoration site improvements; Poindexter Slough Fishing Access noxious weed control, trail maintenance; Bannack, Clarks Lookout, Beaverhead Rock State Parks noxious weed control, custom seeding, erosion-sediment control, hazard tree removal (2002-2022).
* MFWP, Completion of over 150 “310” stream project inspections as consultants (2001-07).
* City of Dillon, MT, design, permitting, construction, Lewis and Clark Native Plant Park (2007-10).
* Author of the Beaverhead County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2005).
* Water rights/use, stream/wetland/vegetation litigation investigations (2001-present).
* Consultation, project management, and environmental field services for mine reclamation provided to Barretts Minerals Inc., Luzenac America Inc., International Technologies Inc., Garnet USA, Stansbury Holdings Inc., Riverside Construction, and Reflex Ruby Graphite, Inc.

**Basic Biological Services LLC**

**Owners and Principals**

**Linda Walent, Owner, Aquatic Biologist**

Ms. Walent is a graduate of the University of Montana, Missoula, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Biology, Fisheries Management Option. Her early career as an Alaska commercial fisherman in Kodiak Island, Bristol Bay, Norton Sound, Homer, lasted for 11 years. Ms. Walent then worked for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) as a fisheries technician in Bozeman and Dillon Montana. Her employment as an Aquatic Biologist Technician with the United States Forest Service (USFS) in the Dillon, Butte, Wise River, and Wisdom Ranger Districts provided her with 8 field seasons of experience, mostly in the Big Hole Watershed. While with the USFS, Ms. Walent worked on salmonid and amphibian habitat assessment and fisheries habitat improvement projects. **She founded Basic Biological Services LLC (BBS) in Dillon, Montana, in 1999.** BBS initially offered aquatic habitat assessments and improvements, with emphasis on environmental field services to support the pond construction, stream habitat enhancement, and land improvement projects, and other traditional industries. Ms. Walent offers decades of experience in rapid and successful revegetation techniques for restoration and reclamation projects. In addition, she has been engaged in long-term property management with an emphasis in wetland and riparian habitats. She is Mine Safety and Health Act (MSHA) certified (2001-present), holds three commercial licenses with the Montana Department of Agriculture, and is a member of the Montana Weed Control Association. She also manages the use of GIS and GPS technologies for BBS projects. Ms. Walent has professional interests in invasive species management in riparian and wetland environments, lotic and lentic biota, and limnology.

**John Whittingham, Owner, Hydrologist**

Mr. Whittingham achieved a Bachelor of Science in Geology, with a Professional Emphasis in Hydrogeology, and a Bachelor of Arts in Geography, Watershed Management Corollary Field, from the University of Montana, Missoula. He completed his Master of Science degree in Earth Sciences at Montana State University. Mr. Whittingham worked as a hydrogeologist technician for the Montana DNRC, a hydrologist technician for the USFS in Dillon, a consulting hydrogeologist in Bozeman, and was a senior soil scientist and hydrologist for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Dillon. He joined BBS full-time in 2000. Mr. Whittingham is a career field scientist with decades of experience in the implementation of environmental field services. He provides project expertise and oversight on complex mining, construction, and restoration projects, and is engaged in the daily field activities of BBS. He performs wetland determinations and delineations, water quality and quantity investigations, and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Planning, design, and installation. He also operates heavy equipment and other specialized equipment. Mr. Whittingham is a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS #2155, 2011-present), a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC #3445, 2006-present), HazWoper certified (1998-present), MSHA certified (2001-present), holds three commercial licenses with the Montana Department of Agriculture, and is the Montana Representative of the International Erosion Control Association. He is a member of the Society of Wetland Scientists, International Erosion Control Association, and Montana Weed Control Association. He has published articles on land rehabilitation and reclamation and is a frequent speaker at professional and academic conferences. Mr. Whittingham has experience in litigation support, expert witness testimony, and third-party investigations. His interests include rehabilitation of disturbed lands and wetlands, slope and streambank erosion processes, and bio-engineering technologies.