



# Lolo Watershed Study Fact Sheet

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) have formed a statewide cooperative program to install real-time stream gages, create a water data internet clearinghouse, and conduct watershed studies. The goal is to provide the citizens of Montana with access to real-time stream flow and watershed resource information.



## Why Lolo?

The Lolo Watershed was chosen as the pilot study for the cooperative program because:

- Changes in land use, drought, and dewatering have drawn attention to local water issues
- The Lolo has an active watershed group
- The lower reaches of Lolo Creek have been successfully nominated by the Lolo Watershed Group to be studied by MBMG Ground Water Investigation Program (GWIP). GWIP will examine the hydrology/hydrogeology of the lower reaches and identify potential causes of dewatering. GWIP and the cooperative watershed study will share resources and data to strengthen results.

## What Is It?

The study will be a 3 to 4 year inventory of Lolo’s water resources and uses beginning April 2016. The primary goals are to:

- Measure streamflows and ground water resources throughout the watershed
- Quantify water uses: domestic, municipal, agricultural and forest (evapotranspiration)
- Examine the effects of changes in land and water use
- Develop a water budget for the watershed
- Develop hydrologic and climate models that can be used to assess changes to the water supply

## Is This a Study of Water Rights?

- No. While the study will be looking at water use, which by law requires a water right or a permit, the study will focus on quantifying water resources and uses to create a water budget for the watershed.

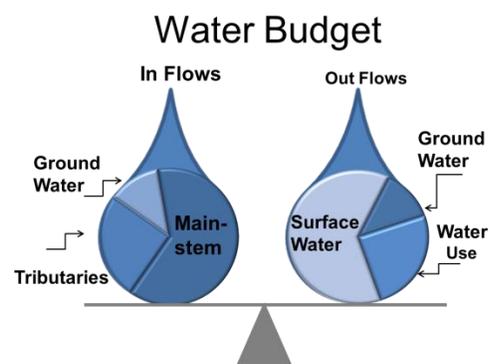
## What Are The Expected Outcomes?

- A comprehensive technical report presenting current water resource conditions and future water availability
- Long-term stream gaging and public access to real-time and legacy data
- If desired by local entities, State support to move beyond knowledge gained from the study and work towards common water resource goals within the watershed

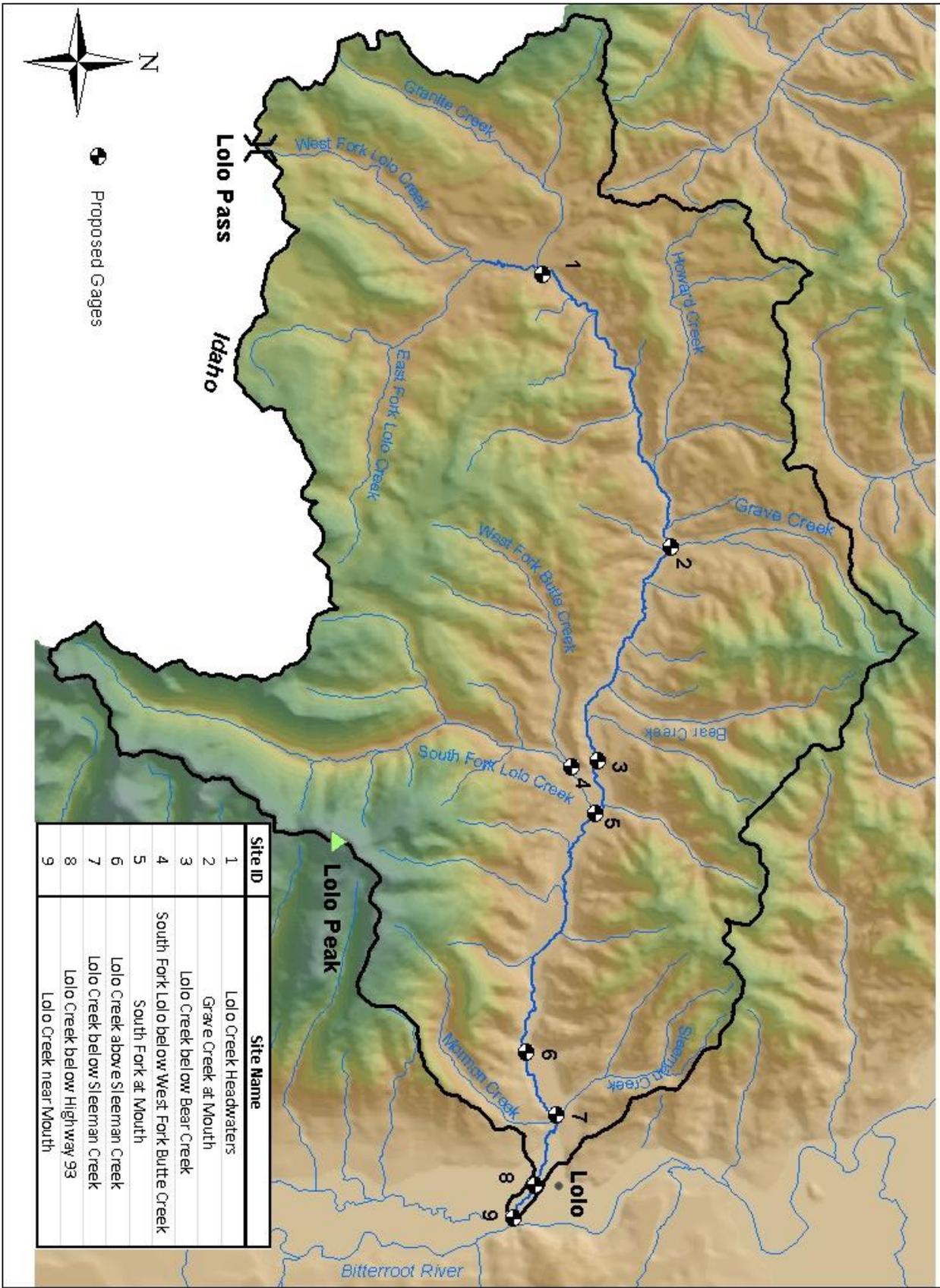
## For More Information, please contact either

Aaron Fiaschetti, DNRC, 406-444-0504 [afiaschetti@mt.gov](mailto:afiaschetti@mt.gov)

Ginette Abdo, MBMG, 406-496-4152 [GAbdo@mtech.edu](mailto:GAbdo@mtech.edu)



# Lolo Watershed Proposed Stream Gages



Site ID	Site Name
1	Lolo Creek Headwaters
2	Grave Creek at Mouth
3	Lolo Creek below Bear Creek
4	South Fork Lolo below West Fork Butte Creek
5	South Fork at Mouth
6	Lolo Creek above Sleeman Creek
7	Lolo Creek below Sleeman Creek
8	Lolo Creek below Highway 93
9	Lolo Creek near Mouth