

BCSA BY THE NUMBERS



9,361 annual **guided outfitter days** on the Blackfoot River in 2018¹

160+ groups, organizations, and businesses **support the BCSA**

75% of **Montanans support the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act**

15+ years of **collaboration** by ranchers, logging operators, timber companies, outfitters, local citizens, businesses, and state/federal agencies to get to the BCSA

As Montanans face the impacts of Covid-19, it's become clearer than ever that public lands and waters are vital for our physical, mental, and economic health. Our hearts are with all Americans, especially our friends and neighbors in the Blackfoot and Clearwater Valleys, whom we are dedicated to supporting. One way we can support them is by taking action on the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act, an insurance policy for our public lands, health, and outdoor recreation economy.

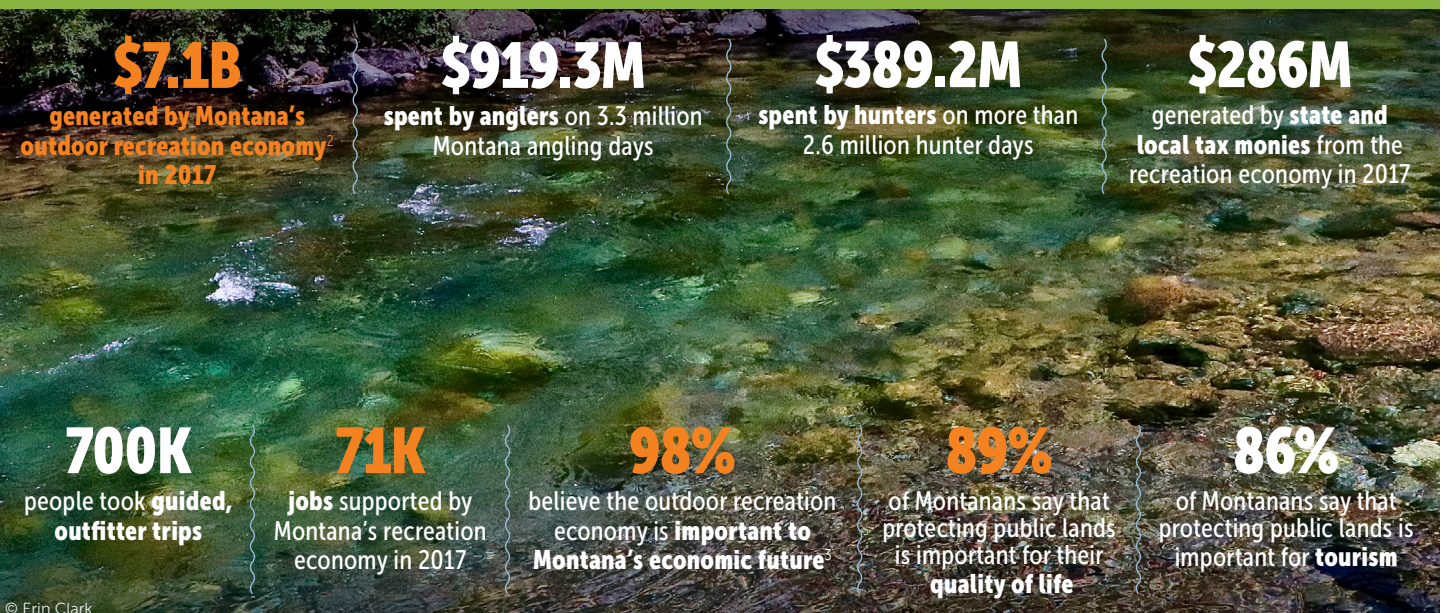
The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act (BCSA) will permanently protect 80,000 acres of public land and waters that have enabled our wildlife and native trout to thrive. In turn, the BCSA will also help restore and protect the outdoor recreation economy that the Blackfoot and Clearwater Valleys have depended on for decades, an economy based largely on fishing, hunting, boating, and wildlife viewing.

In 1975, the Blackfoot River's fishery was nearly wiped out with the collapse of the Mike Horse Mine tailings dam. After extensive local efforts to restore the Blackfoot River to the healthy fishery it is today, tens of thousands of anglers from around the world have flocked to the Blackfoot, eager to cast their lines into the same hallowed waters Norman Maclean exalts in "A River Runs through It." The BCSA would permanently protect the Blackfoot River's most important tributaries – the North Fork, Monture Creek, Morrell Creek, and the West Fork of the Clearwater – and help ensure that trout continue to thrive in, and that anglers continue to flock to, the Blackfoot.

Likewise, thousands of hunters from around the country regularly come to the Blackfoot every year to chase elk, deer, and other game. Elk need big, roadless, and undeveloped places to thrive – places like the Swan Front, Grizzly Basin, and other areas protected by the BCSA – as do grizzly bears, wolverines, lynx, and many more species that make this area one of the wildest in the Lower 48.

Covid-19 has been a wake-up call to just how essential public lands and waters are for Montanans. Recognizing that the health of our wildlife populations, our economy, and ourselves are all connected, Montanans cannot wait any longer to give lands and waters in the Blackfoot the protection they need to go on sustaining our quality of life and provide the insurance, and assurance, we need to together navigate the uncertain times we're living in.

MONTANA BY THE NUMBERS



\$7.1B generated by **Montana's outdoor recreation economy**² in 2017

\$919.3M spent by anglers on 3.3 million Montana angling days

\$389.2M spent by hunters on more than 2.6 million hunter days

\$286M generated by **state and local tax monies** from the recreation economy in 2017

700K people took **guided, outfitter trips**

71K jobs supported by Montana's recreation economy in 2017

98% believe the outdoor recreation economy is **important to Montana's economic future**³

89% of Montanans say that protecting public lands is important for their **quality of life**

86% of Montanans say that protecting public lands is important for **tourism**

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We cannot leave the health of the Blackfoot – and the health of our outdoor recreation economy – to fate. The BCSA offers the insurance, and assurance, we need to see that both continue to prosper.

¹ Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks Region 2 (annual average 2013-18) ² Consumer spending, state and local taxes, and jobs generated from outdoor recreation: Outdoor Industry Association. 2017. Montana. <https://outdoorindustry.org/state/montana/> ³ Montana recreation, conservation and BCSA support: University of Montana. 2020. Montana. <https://crown-yellowstone.umt.edu/voter-surveys/2020/2020-survey-results.pdf>

The people of the BCSA represent a patchwork as varied as its landscape – ranchers, foresters, fishermen, hunters, snowmobilers, conservationists, small business owners, mountain bikers, and more – all with a common goal of leaving the best possible legacy for the Blackfoot River and its tributaries. We need these healthy spaces now more than ever, to lead our communities to a bright future.

There are dozens of Montana businesses in the Blackfoot and Clearwater Valleys that depend on access to quality recreation, whether that be blue-ribbon fisheries, quiet pack trips into wilderness, or acres of untracked powder for snowmobiling. These are just a sampling of the businesses that rely on the passage of the BCSA, a bill that will ensure our economic foundation is protected.



Juanita Vero

The E Bar L Ranch

Montana Guest Ranch
Greenough, Montana

Years in operation: **94**
Average annual guest nights: **3,560**
Seasonal employees: full/part-time: **38**
Year-round employees: full/part-time: **5**

"Our business depends on the health of the Blackfoot River and its tributaries, on an intact eco-region and the state of mind that is Big Sky Country. The BCSA ensures this part of Montana remains a world-class place to live and visit. The BCSA has been well over a decade in the making and has an arguably unmatched range of stakeholders. The BCSA's time has come, and it should be passed."



Terri Raugland
and John Herzer

Blackfoot River Outfitters

Fly fishing Outfitter Multi-site Fly/Guide Shops
Missoula, Montana and Philipsburg, Montana

Years in operation: **29**
Annual river guiding days: **1,300**
Seasonal staff: **14 full-time; 10 part-time**
Fly shop staff: **4 full-time; 6 part-time**

Currently building a \$1.3 million Missoula facility with an estimated annual \$20,000 tax impact.

"In good faith, committed volunteers from a variety of stakeholders worked for years on the BCSA and agreed to compromises from both sides. These compromises are how things are done in Montana. Our business is literally contingent on the clean, clear, cold water of our namesake river and we can't afford to have that resource in limbo."



Jack Rich

The Rich Ranch

Wilderness Outfitter and Recreation
Service Provider
Woodworth, Montana

Years in operation: **74**
Recreation service days: **2,000**
Number of staff: full/part-time: **20**

"The vision is this (BCSA) land has value in its wilderness character and without wilderness protection it's always just one crisis away from saying there's a higher and better use through extraction."



"We have a civic responsibility to be good stewards of the land. What's unique about the BCSA and what's unique about Montana is that we have gathered broad interest groups together, and the BCSA is a result of what we agree upon. It's time to get it done."

—Loren Rose, COO, Pyramid Mountain Lumber, Seeley Lake, Montana

“The Big Blackfoot chapter of Trout Unlimited was created in 1987 with the purpose of restoring this iconic coldwater fishery by working with diverse partners and private landowners to preserve the working landscapes and critical habitats that sustain the health of the watershed. Thanks to an investment of over \$15 million and more than 750 restoration projects – the Blackfoot and its tributaries are once again thriving with wild, native trout. The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act will provide meaningful protections for the critical habitats that partners have invested in restoring as well as ensuring access and sustaining the Valley’s rural heritage and recreational economy.” – Clayton Elliott, Conservation and Government Director for Montana Trout Unlimited

The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act began as a three-legged stool of timber, recreation, and conservation. Through the good work the Southwest Crown Collaborative has done – which includes the timber provisions of the BCSA – jobs have been created and maintained, forests and waterways have been restored, and nearly \$20 million has been injected into the local economy.

Two legs of the stool have to be completed – the conservation and outdoor recreation legs. Now is the time to protect our waterways, our wildlife, our access, our jobs, and our future.

BCSA TIMBER RESULTS: 2010-2018

- 60M** board feet of timber sold
- \$33M** investment in the local economy through timber sale, stewardship and restoration
- \$19M** in federal investments
- 125K** ft³ commercial wood products sold
- 46K** acres treated for noxious weeds
- 138** jobs maintained or created
- 130** miles of stream restoration

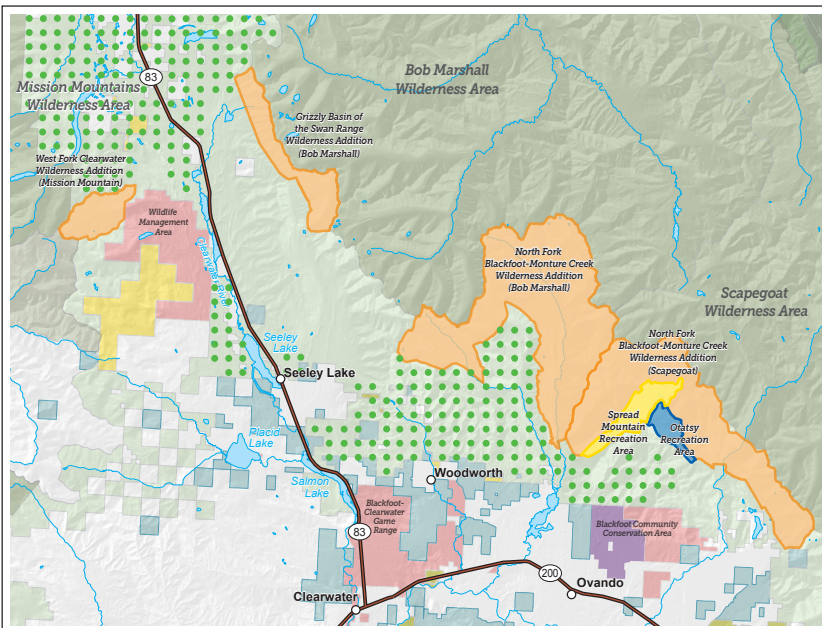
BCSA: CONSERVATION

What’s possible:
80,000 acres of accessible wilderness additions to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat, and Mission Mountains
Protection of North Fork of the Blackfoot, Monture Creek, Swan Front, Grizzly Basin, West Fork of the Clearwater
Continued health of storied Blackfoot fishery + tributaries

BCSA: RECREATION

What’s possible:
5,700 acres of mixed-use recreation
300K acres studied for new recreation
2,000 acres of snowmobiling in Otatsy Recreation Management Area
3,700 acres of mountain bike access to Spread Mountain, Center Ridge, and Camp Pass

• forest restoration projects



“Recreation has driven Montana’s economy for years—whether we’re riding mountain bikes, fishing, hunting, or playing in the snow. When we visit a place to get out and enjoy the landscape, we eat at restaurants, sleep in hotels and campgrounds, tip our guides, buy gear in local shops, and pump gas to get here and home again. The lands and waters of the BCSA put food on the table and support the lifestyles of thousands of hardworking Montanans, and they will be an important part of how our economy emerges from the Covid-19 crisis.” – Ben Horan, Executive Director of MTB Missoula

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Bob Brown, Former MT Secretary of State
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
of the Flathead Nation
Lewis and Clark County Commission
Missoula County Commission
Powell County Commission
Rep. Mike Hopkins, R (HD 92)
Sanders County Commission
Sen. Sue Malek, D (SD 46)
Seeley Lake Community Council

BUSINESS AND LABOR

Action Realty
Bad Goat Forest Products
BearPaw River Expeditions
Birds and Beasleys
Blackfoot Angler
Business for Montana's Outdoors
Clearwater Montana Properties
Cory's Valley Market
Crazy Creek Products, Inc.

Rolling Stone Ranch
Rovero's Ace Hardware
Seacat Creative (Mark Seacat)
Seeley Lake Chamber of Commerce
Six Pony Hitch
Sustainability, Inc.
Tamaracks Resort
The Bridge Pizza
The Missoulian Angler Fly Shop
The Notorious P.I.G. BBQ
The Trail Head
Taco Del Sol-Helena
Ten Mile Creek Brewing
Thirsty Street Brewing Co.
TOMIS
Top Hat Lounge
Watershed Consulting LLC
Wisetail LMS
Wolf Creek Angler LLC
Yurt Ski Montana
Zoo Town Surfers

RECREATION

International Mountain Bicycling Assoc.
Seeley Lake Driftriders Snowmobile Club
Missoula Back Country Horsemen
Montana Back Country Horsemen
Montana Mountain Bike Alliance
MTB Missoula
Seeley Lake ROCKS
The 'Club' (Ovando OHV Community Organization)
The Montana Outdoors Foundation
Yellowstone River Parks Association

OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES

Blackfoot River Outfitters
Bob Marshall Wilderness Outfitters
Brant Oswald Fly Fishing Services
Clear Creek Outfitters
Dropstone Outfitting
Fly Fisher Adventures
Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana
Fishes Eddy O Outfitter and Guide Services
Glacier Guide and Raft

“The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act is the type of solutions-oriented legislation that results when diverse stakeholders set aside their differences and roll up their sleeves to find common ground. This bill would safeguard some of America’s finest fish and wildlife habitat and support hunting and fishing for generations to come.”

—Whit Fosburgh, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Double Arrow Lodge
E Bar L Ranch
Ecosystem Management Research Institute
FireTree Wildland Fire Sciences, LLC
Great Divide Cyclery
Great Bear Properties
Grizzly Hackle Fly Shop
Hub Coffee
iFlyFishMontana
Iron Fly Angling LLC
KettleHouse Brewing Co
Lake Country Builders
Lary's Fly Shop
Lewis and Clark Trail Adventures
Lindley's Prime Steak House
Lolo Peak Brewing
Majestic Montana Properties, Inc.
Missoula Central Labor Council
Missoula Chamber of Commerce
Missoula Economic Partnership
Montana Angler Fly Fishing
Oboz Footwear
onX
Paws Up
Pyramid Mountain Lumber
RealEstateAuctions.com
Red Mountain Yoga and Massage
Rocky Mountain Outfitter

COLLABORATIVE GROUPS

Beaverhead-Deerlodge Working Group
Clearwater Resource Council
Heart of the Rockies Initiative
High Divide Collaborative
Kootenai Forest Stakeholder Coalition
Lolo Restoration Committee
Mineral County Resource Coalition
Montana Forest Owners Association
Ravalli County Collaborative
Sanders County Collaborative Committee
Whitefish Range Partnership
Seeley-Swan Fuels Mitigation Task Force

SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN

Anaconda Sportsmen's Club
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Big Blackfoot Riverkeeper
George Grant Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Helena Hunters and Anglers
Hellgate Hunters and Anglers
Hilary Hutcheson
Magic City Fly Fishers Chapter of Trout Unlimited
Montana Bowhunters Association
Montana Trout Unlimited
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission
Montana Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Federation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Waterkeeper Alliance
WestSlope Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Go West Outfitters

Latitudes Outfitting Company
Missoula Fly Fishing Outfitters
Missoula On the Fly
Montana Fly Fishing Connection
Montana Outfitters and Guides Association
Montana Trout Outfitters
Pro Outfitters
Professional Wilderness Outfitters Assoc.
Rich Ranch Outfitting
Smoke Elser
Thunder Hammer Fly Fishing
Wolf Creek Angler LLC
Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures

CONSERVATION

American Rivers
The Conservation Alliance
Great Burn Conservation Alliance
Mission Mountain Audubon Society
Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund
Montana Wilderness Association
Mountain Mamas
The Wilderness Society
Winter Wildlands Alliance

OTHERS

Artemis Common Ground
Assoc. Students of the Univ. of Montana
Montana Association of Christians
Seeley Lake Community Foundation
Seeley Lake Elementary School
Seeley Lake Rural Fire District

