

Holly Hill, Executive Director, Gallatin Watershed Council

Changes in community/ watershed/landscape	How are you thriving during these changes?	How are you adapting to these changes? Is there mission drift?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Population growth<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Increase of 33% in Gallatin County since 2010● Land use changes<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Shift from rural to urban○ Impacts to groundwater● Climate change<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Drought○ Wildfire● Water availability<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ With current rate of growth, Bozeman could face water supply shortage in the next 15 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Heightened sense of community urgency to find solutions to water challenges - our mission is very relevant now● As a non-partisan, non-advocacy organization we're able to bring all of the stakeholders to the table● New community members seem eager to get involved and volunteer, Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve Busy Beavers program● New, expanding pool of potential donors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● DEQ Focus Watershed - Lower Gallatin Watershed Stakeholder Collaborative● New opportunities to work in the Wildland Urban Interface on fire recovery and fuels reduction● Exploring low-tech, process based restoration opportunities that are relatively low cost

Holly Hill, Executive Director, Gallatin Watershed Council

Helpful resources

- Montana Watershed Coordination Council
- Local Conservation Districts (Gallatin Conservation District)
- DEQ
- Big Sky Watershed Corps AmeriCorps Program
- Montana Nonprofit Association
- Network for Landscape Conservation
- A fairy godmother

Challenges to successfully accomplishing goals

- Death by 1,000 cuts - are we making progress?
- Lack of consistent source of funding to support ongoing capacity needs
- Crowded nonprofit sector - over 800 nonprofits in Gallatin County

Resources needed to address challenges

- Water budgets
- Partnerships and collaboration, locally and regionally
- More fairy godmothers (or legislation that increases funding for watershed group capacity and projects)

Dusty Olson, Administrator, Garfield Conservation District

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Coal Severance Tax revenue-Increase of non-private land purchases	<p>Watercraft Inspection Stations and other project with admin fees to build a savings account.</p> <p>Working with DNRC & MACD to pitch our case to legislation for permanent funding solution.</p>	<p>New projects and events, we still believe they meet the goals of our work plan.</p>

Dusty Olson, Administrator, Garfield Conservation District

Helpful resources

Non-traditional partners

Others have mentioned a fairy godmother??

Challenges to successfully accomplishing goals

Budget risk- we are a small entity

Resources needed to address challenges

Diverse funding source

More public awareness (maybe this is more a challenge to overcome than a resource)

Heather Brighton, Watershed Coordinator, Lolo Watershed Group

**Changes in community/
watershed/landscape**

- Climate Change:
 - ◆ Intense Wildfires
 - ◆ Lolo Creek Dewatering

- Community Change:
 - ◆ Aging population
 - ◆ Population growth

- Landscape Change:
 - ◆ Agriculture to developments
 - ◆ Lolo Creek is dynamic

**How are you thriving during these
changes?**

- Slowing down and simplifying

- Re-Calibrating

- Revising Strategic plan

**How are you adapting to these
changes? Is there mission drift?**

- LWG's leap of faith into large scale restoration work.

- Taking on more education programs and activities to stay funded.

- No mission drift, but perhaps leaned in too hard?

Heather Brighton, Watershed Coordinator, Lolo Watershed Group

Helpful resources

- MWCC's capacity grant and network for other grant opportunities
- DNRC's Watershed Management Grant for capacity development
- Information exchange with other watershed groups
- Big Sky Watershed Program extending our work scope
- Partnering with public agencies for funding and project collaboration.

Challenges to successfully accomplishing goals

- Lag time in between grant opportunities
- Lag time in expense reimbursements
- Reluctant landowners
- No sense of urgency within the community

Resources needed to address challenges

- Larger board
- Re-addressing strategic plan
- Greater membership numbers
- Developing a fundraising plan

Pedro Marques, Executive Director, Big Hole Watershed Committee

Changes in community/ watershed/landscape	How are you thriving during these changes?	How are you adapting to these changes? Is there mission drift?
<p>Pace of ownership change is increasing; ageing owners; increased property values driving landowners to recalculate</p> <p>Fuel-loaded forests from pine beetle outbreak and fire suppression</p> <p>Booming recreation economy increasing fishing pressure (34000 angler days to >95000 in 6 years)</p> <p>Driest water year in recent memory, increased water consumption in Butte from Big Hole</p>	<p>BHWC at the table and on the list. Our work is recognized and our opinion/comments are requested</p> <p>Connecting our past to the present ('88 to '21 water years)</p> <p>On-the-ground project results build trust and credibility = partnership agreements</p> <p>Online and automated back-of-house systems</p> <p>Covid-relief \$</p> <p>Aligning staff roles with their talents</p>	<p>Intermediating land deals for conservation benefits</p> <p>Ramping up forestry-related programs</p> <p>Big Hole Conservation Fund - more points of contact with general public to invest in conservation</p> <p>Connect project outcomes to late-season water</p> <p>Books, podcasts, films, guitars: No drift if the effort brings in capacity funding</p>

Pedro Marques, Executive Director, Big Hole Watershed Committee

Helpful resources	Challenges to successfully accomplishing goals	Resources needed to address challenges
<p>Ears on the ground</p> <p>All the project grant sources (especially the non-federal ones)</p> <p>Small family foundations and individual gifts (fairy godmothers/fathers)</p> <p>Google Earth Engine</p>	<p>Equating outreach and communications to outcomes. Time/effort talking into the wind</p> <p>Plenty of tables to sit at, most don't pay your bills</p> <p>Landscape-level management changes are outside our control (ex. Forest management, fuels reduction)</p> <p>Dampening effect of serial litigation on conservation and resource management</p> <p>10:1 federal:non-federal available funds and short time-frames</p>	<p>**All would lead to mission creep**</p> <p>Federal and state commitments to long-term base funding of watershed groups</p> <p>Federal changes to NWP permitting for purely restorative actions</p> <p>Exposing damage caused by serial litigation under ESA. It's a business model not a concern over species</p> <p>Reduction of non-federal match requirements</p>