

2022



IMPACT REPORT

*UNITING AND SUPPORTING MONTANA'S
COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION
NETWORKS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY AND
PRODUCTIVE WATERSHEDS*



MONTANA'S WATERSHED CONSERVATION PARTNERS

Throughout Montana, community-based organizations work within watersheds to protect and restore their natural resources. These groups work collaboratively with diverse partners to improve and maintain conditions of local streams, rivers, lakes, forests, wetlands, rangelands, and grasslands. This work supports local communities and economies while protecting and restoring biological diversity and supporting local agricultural producers, recreationists, hunters and anglers, municipalities, and businesses across Montana.

A watershed is "that area of land, a bounded hydrologic system, within which all living things are inextricably linked by their common water course and where, as humans settled, simple logic demanded that they become part of the community" - John Wesley Powell



These local watershed partners include:

WATERSHED GROUPS: Grassroots organizations consisting of local landowners, community leaders, and conservation professionals who come together to address common resource challenges within their watersheds

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS: Units of local government designed to help residents conserve their soil, water, and other renewable natural resources

TRIBAL NATIONS: The 12 sovereign Tribal Nations in Montana work to protect and restore their local resources within seven Indian reservations and on historic lands they continue to steward

FOREST COLLABORATIVES: Forest collaboratives work with private, state, and federal land managers to achieve forest and grassland restoration, conservation, and resource goals that meet the needs of communities and surrounding landscapes

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS: Collaborative-focused statewide, regional, and national nonprofits also work within Montana's watershed communities, supporting locally based partners and initiatives

2022 WATERSHED CONSERVATION IMPACTS*

\$4.6 MILLION INVESTED IN CONSERVATION PROJECTS

471 MILES OF STREAM AND LAKESHORE IMPROVED

1,258 CONSERVATION PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED

15,372 COMMUNITY PARTNERS ENGAGED

24,108 ACRES IMPROVED

*These impacts represent 25 watershed organizations who participated in MWCC's 2022 State of the Watersheds Survey

WATERSHED CONSERVATION RESOURCES

MWCC provides critical resources that support Montana's conservation partnerships

Watershed News—MWCC publishes 25 issues of Watershed News annually, providing news and resources to an audience of 1,500+ conservation partners.

Online Resources—MWCC's website serves as a hub for all of the latest conservation funding, jobs, trainings, and events to support Montana's watershed conservation network.

IJA Funding Resources—As new federal funding programs are introduced, MWCC has provided tools and resources to help conservation groups navigate these available funding opportunities.

MWCC Watershed Resource Library—In 2022, MWCC created the Watershed Resource Library to serve as a clearinghouse of information related to organizational development, communications, project planning, and on-the-ground conservation.

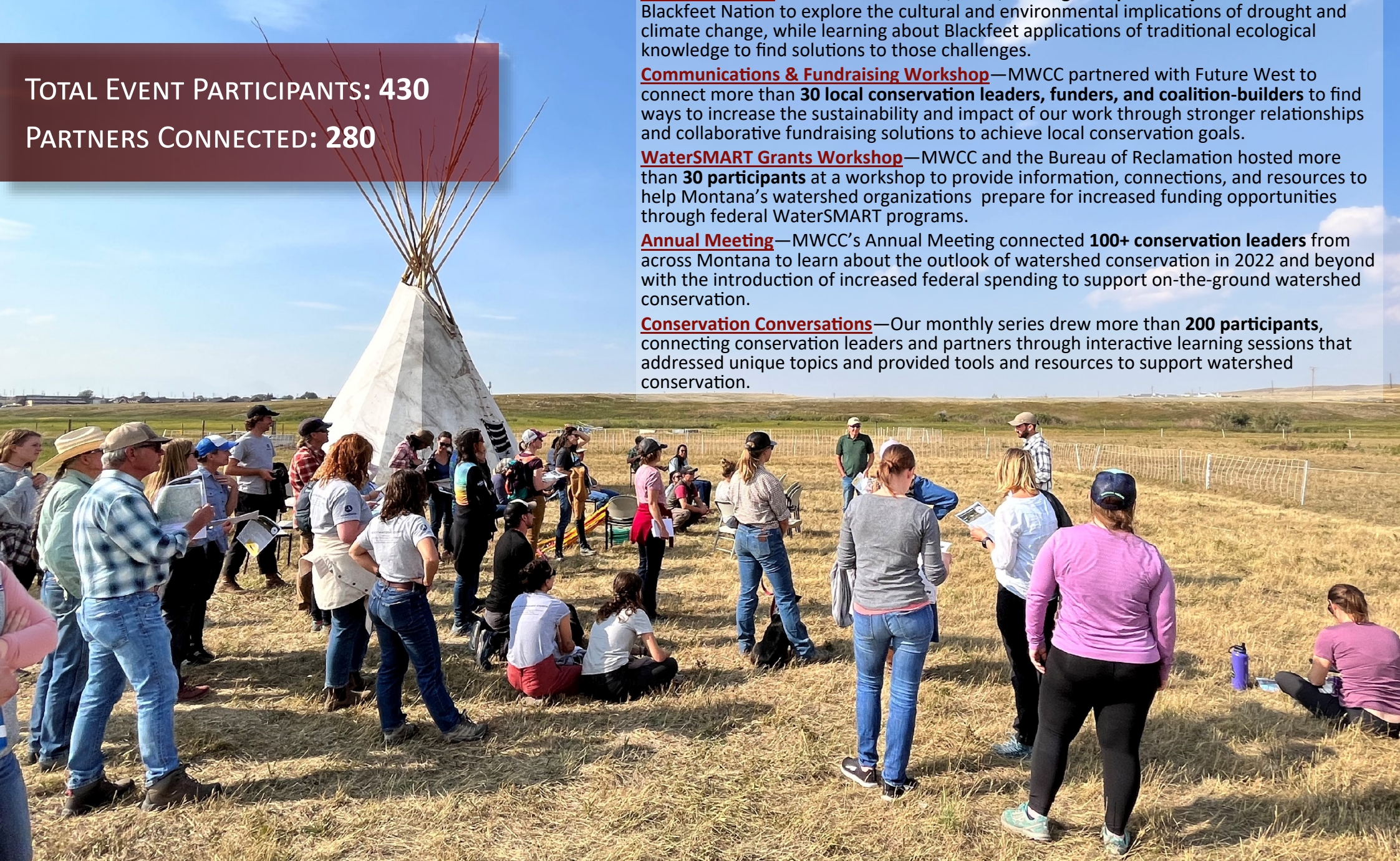
Water Monitoring Resource Library and Directory—With support from MWCC's Water Committee, we recently developed a new hub for monitoring information across the state, including an updated directory of monitoring programs and a library of resources to assist groups in further developing monitoring efforts.



EVENTS, TRAININGS, AND WORKSHOPS

TOTAL EVENT PARTICIPANTS: 430

PARTNERS CONNECTED: 280



MWCC builds connections and strengthens conservation partnerships by hosting events, trainings, and workshops across the state

Watershed Tour—More than **70 local, state, and regional partners** joined MWCC and the Blackfeet Nation to explore the cultural and environmental implications of drought and climate change, while learning about Blackfeet applications of traditional ecological knowledge to find solutions to those challenges.

Communications & Fundraising Workshop—MWCC partnered with Future West to connect more than **30 local conservation leaders, funders, and coalition-builders** to find ways to increase the sustainability and impact of our work through stronger relationships and collaborative fundraising solutions to achieve local conservation goals.

WaterSMART Grants Workshop—MWCC and the Bureau of Reclamation hosted more than **30 participants** at a workshop to provide information, connections, and resources to help Montana's watershed organizations prepare for increased funding opportunities through federal WaterSMART programs.

Annual Meeting—MWCC's Annual Meeting connected **100+ conservation leaders** from across Montana to learn about the outlook of watershed conservation in 2022 and beyond with the introduction of increased federal spending to support on-the-ground watershed conservation.

Conservation Conversations—Our monthly series drew more than **200 participants**, connecting conservation leaders and partners through interactive learning sessions that addressed unique topics and provided tools and resources to support watershed conservation.

MWCC provides leadership and coordination to coalitions and partnerships a that foster collaborative solutions to watershed health

Big Sky Watershed Corps (BSWC) —In 2022, 42 BSWC AmeriCorps members served with watershed organizations across the state. MWCC provided support, training, and funding to these young professionals and their hosting organizations in partnership with Montana Conservation Corps and Montana Association of Conservation Districts.

Montana Forest Action Plan—In addition to serving on the Montana Forest Action Council and the Montana Forest Collaboration Network (MFCN), we partnered with Montana DNRC and MFCN to award more than \$100,000 in grants for collaborative forest planning capacity.

Life in the Land Film Series—MWCC and other collaborative conservation advocates partnered with Stories for Action to support a documentary film and podcast series telling the stories of collaborative conservation successes across Montana.

Western Collaborative Conservation Network (WCCN) —MWCC collaborated with conservation networks across the west through our leadership roles in the WCCN. We also coordinated with several Montana-based conservation organizations to support the WCCN's 2022 Confluence event, bringing practitioners from across the Western US to Montana for 3 days of learning, connections, and inspiration.



MWCC partners with public and private funders to provide grants to collaborative conservation groups throughout Montana's watersheds

\$160,000 Awarded to 34 Organizations in 2022

- ◇ **\$35,000** in Capacity-Building Support
- ◇ **\$34,100** in BSWC AmeriCorps Support
- ◇ **\$39,678** for On-the-Ground Projects
- ◇ **\$7,222** in Professional Development Scholarships
- ◇ **\$44,000** in Forest Collaboration Support*

2022 Watershed Fund Investors: Montana DNRC, Montana DEQ, Bureau of Land Management, Kendeda Fund, Cinnabar Foundation, and High Stakes Foundation

2022 Watershed Fund Impacts

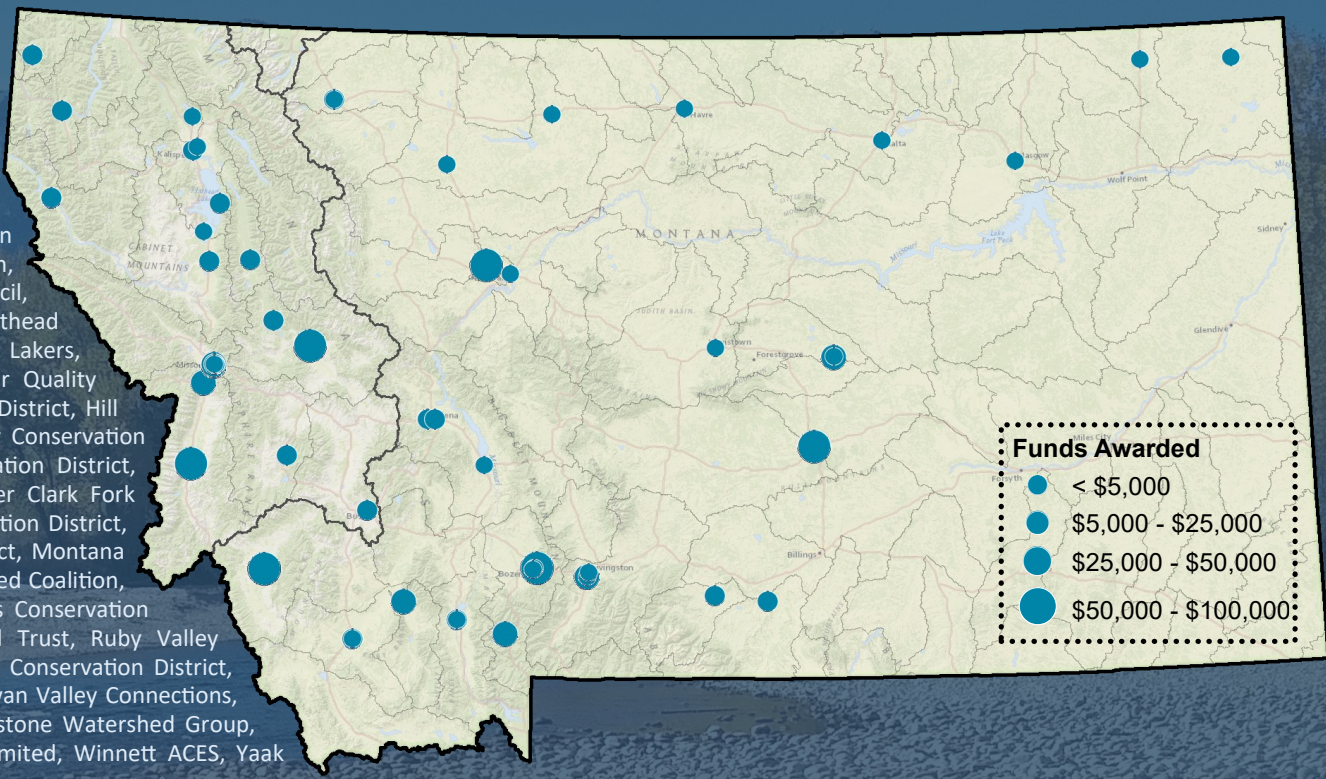
- ◇ **24 miles** of stream and lakeshore improved
- ◇ **79** conservation practices implemented
- ◇ **570** acres improved
- ◇ **4,572** community partners engaged

*in partnership with Montana Forest Collaboration Network



ORGANIZATIONS FUNDED

Beaverhead Conservation District, Beaverhead Watershed Committee, Big Hole Watershed Committee, Bitter Root Water Forum, Blackfeet Nation Agricultural Resource Management Program, Blackfeet Nation Fish and Wildlife, Blackfoot Challenge, Broadwater Conservation District, Carbon Conservation District, Cascade Conservation District, City of Kalispell & Flathead Basin Commission, City of Missoula Stormwater Utility, Clark Fork Coalition, Clark Fork Watershed Education Program, Clearwater Resource Council, Daniels County Conservation District, Fergus Conservation District, Flathead Conservation District, Flathead Lake Biological Station, Flathead Lakers, Flathead Rivers Alliance, Gallatin River Task Force, Gallatin Water Quality District, Gallatin Watershed Council, Green Mountain Conservation District, Hill County Conservation District, Kootenai River Network, Lake County Conservation District, Lake Helena Watershed Group, Lewis and Clark Conservation District, Liberty County Conservation District, Lolo Watershed Group, Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group, Madison Conservation District, McCone Conservation District, Milk River Watershed Alliance, Missoula Valley Water Quality District, Montana Freshwater Partners, Montana Trout Unlimited, Musselshell Watershed Coalition, Park Conservation District, Petroleum Conservation District, Phillips Conservation District, Pondera County Conservation District, Prickly Pear Land Trust, Ruby Valley Conservation District, Sacajawea Audubon Society, Sheridan County Conservation District, Stillwater Valley Watershed Council, Sun River Watershed Group, Swan Valley Connections, The Watershed Education Network, Trout Unlimited, Upper Yellowstone Watershed Group, Valley County Conservation District, WestSlope Chapter Trout Unlimited, Winnett ACES, Yaak Valley Forest Council



SINCE 2018, THE MWCC WATERSHED FUND HAS DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN **\$1 MILLION** IN GRANTS TO COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION GROUPS FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND ON-THE-GROUND PROJECTS. THANKS TO THE INVESTMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR SUPPORTERS, THESE LOCAL PARTNERS ARE ACHIEVING THEIR NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GOALS

\$1 Million+ Awarded

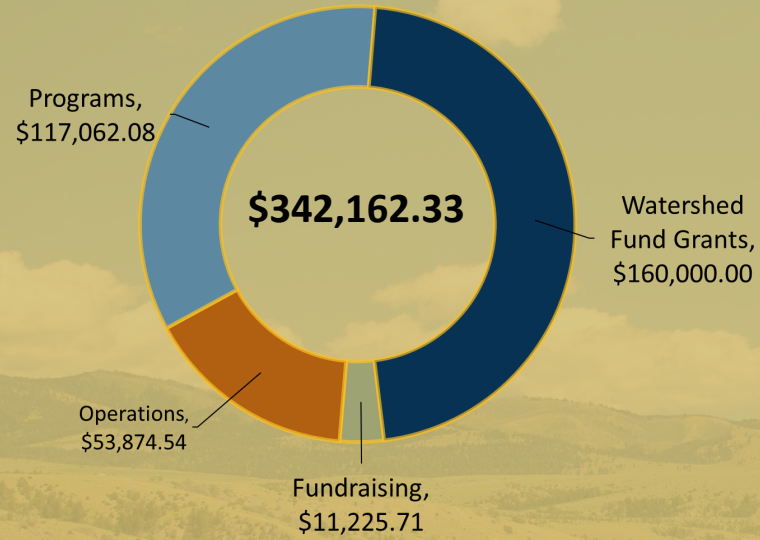
- \$453,670** INVESTED IN CAPACITY-BUILDING
- \$554,714** INVESTED IN ON-THE-GROUND PROJECTS
- \$890,000** LEVERAGED BY GRANTEES

Conservation Impacts Supported

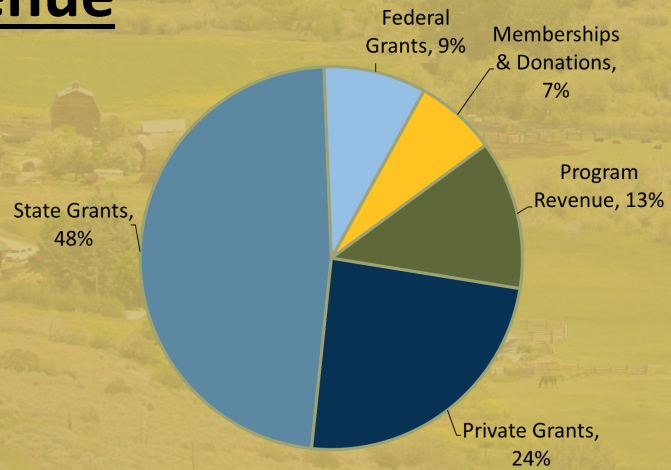
- 1,477 MILES** OF STREAM AND LAKESHORE IMPROVED
- 23,590 ACRES** IMPROVED
- 336** CONSERVATION PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED
- 13,168** COMMUNITY PARTNERS ENGAGED

THANK YOU TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION, MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, CINNABAR FOUNDATION, MOSAIC, HIGH STAKES FOUNDATION, KENDEDA FUND, ARTHUR M. BLANK FOUNDATION, TURNER FOUNDATION AND WILBURFORCE FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORTING THE WATERSHED FUND AND INVESTING IN MONTANA'S WATERSHED COMMUNITIES.

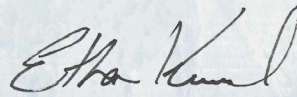
Expenses



Revenue



On behalf of our Board members and staff at the Montana Watershed Coordination Council (MWCC), we want to thank all of our partners and supporters who allowed us to leave a lasting impact on Montana's watersheds in 2022. As MWCC begins celebrating our 10th year as a 501(c)(3), we are excited to continue cultivating collaborative partnerships and supporting land and water conservation across the state.



MWCC Executive Director

Thank you for Supporting MWCC in 2022

Adam Sigler
Beau Downing
Beaverhead Watershed Committee
Big Hole River Foundation
Big Hole Watershed Committee
Bitter Root Water Forum
Bitterroot River Protection Association
Blackfoot Challenge
Boulder River Watershed Association
Bureau of Land Management
Centennial Valley Association
Cinnabar Foundation
Clark Fork Coalition
Clark Fork Watershed Education Program
Clarks Fork Yellowstone Partnership
Clearwater Resource Council
Confluence Consulting
Erin Farris-Olsen
Flathead Basin Commission
Flathead Lake Biological Station
Flathead Lakers
Gallatin Conservation District
Gallatin Local Water Quality District
Gallatin Watershed Council
Gardner Russell Imhoff Charitable Fund
Greater Yellowstone Coalition
Heather Stokes
High Stakes Foundation

Holly Hill
HydroSolutions
James Burchfield
Jordan Tollefson
Kootenai River Network
Laura Nowlin
Lewis and Clark Conservation District
Lolo Watershed Group
Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group
Luther Dow
Madison Conservation District
Michael Pipp
Michael Romeo
Michelle Anderson
Mike Koopal
Montana Conservation Corps
Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
Montana Farmers Union
Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks
Montana Shares Contributors
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National Wildlife Federation

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River Design Group, Inc.
Robert Ray
Roosevelt County Conservation District
Sarah Church
Sarah Howell
Solstice Landscaping
Sue Higgins
Sun River Watershed Group
Susann Beug
Swan Valley Connections
SWCA Environmental Consulting
The Kendeda Fund
The Nature Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
Timothy Covino
Trout Unlimited
Upper Columbia Conservation Commission
Upper Yellowstone Watershed Group
Vicki Watson
WGM Group
Whitefish Lake Institute
World Wildlife Fund
Yellowstone River Conservation District
Council
Zach Owen



TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK, PLEASE VISIT
[MTWATERSHEDS.ORG/JOIN](https://mtwatersheds.org/join)

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