Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division
Water Rights Bureau

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
For Routine Actions with Limited Environmental Impact

Part I. Proposed Action Description

1. *Applicant/Contact name and address:* East Fork Holdings LLC
109 Royal Palm Way
Palm Beach, FL 33480-4249

2. *Type of action:* Application to Change a Water Right No. 40B 30164213

3. *Water source name:* McDonald Creek, North Fork

4. *Location affected by project:* S2SE Sec 14, NENE Sec 23, & N2 Sec 24 T15N R20E Fergus County; N2 Sec 19 & W2NW Sec 20 T15N R21E Fergus County

5. *Narrative summary of the proposed project, purpose, action to be taken, and benefits:*

East Fork Holdings LLC (Applicant) is proposing to change the place of use for flood irrigation and add a place of storage. The new places of use include 14.88 acres in the E2NE Section 24 Township 15N Range 20E, 38.37 acres in the NW of Section 19 Township 15N Range 21E, 10.27 acres in the SENE of Section 19 Township 15N range 21E, and 7.14 acres in the SWNW of Section 20 Township 15N Range 21E. Seventeen point four acres are proposed to be irrigated outside the historical place of use and 101.75 acres are being retired from the historical place of use. The place of storage has a capacity of 6 acre-feet. The storage reservoir is predominantly located in the S2SENE of Section 19 Township 15N Range 21E. The reservoir slightly protrudes into the SESWNE of Section 19 Township 15N Range 21E as well.

The water right to be changed, Statement of Claim No. 40B 6655-00, is permitted to flood irrigate 155 acres. The source of water is the North Fork of McDonald Creek. Point of diversion is the SESWSE of Section 14 Township 15N Range 20E in Fergus County. All irrigation takes place within Fergus County. The places of use include 3.00 acres in the S2SWSW Section 13 Township 15N Range 20E, 9.00 acres in the S2S2SE Section 14 Township 15N Range 20E, 22.00 acres in the NENE of Section 23 Township 15N Range 20E, 82.00 acres in the N2 of Section 24 Township 15N Range 20E, and 39.00 acres in the NW of Section 19 Township 15N Range 21E.

The DNRC shall issue a change authorization if the Applicant proves the criteria in 85-2-402 MCA are met.

6. *Agencies consulted during preparation of the Environmental Assessment: (include agencies with overlapping jurisdiction)*

Montana Department of Environmental Quality – Web site
National Wetlands Inventory

Montana Natural Heritage Program
United States Department of Agriculture—Web Soil Survey

Part II. Environmental Review

1. Environmental Impact Checklist:

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

WATER QUANTITY, QUALITY AND DISTRIBUTION

Water quantity **-** *Assess whether the source of supply is identified as a chronically or periodically dewatered stream by DFWP. Assess whether the proposed use will worsen the already dewatered condition.*

Determination: The North Fork of McDonald Creek is listed by DFWP as chronically dewatered. However, since the change is only for POD, with proposed volumes and flow rates remaining the same or decreasing, the proposed use would not worsen the already chronically dewatered condition.

Water quality **-** *Assess whether the stream is listed as water quality impaired or threatened by DEQ, and whether the proposed project will affect water quality.*

Determination: No significant impact.

The reach of the North Fork of McDonald Creek, headwaters to confluence with South Fork McDonald Creek is listed on the Montana DEQ Water Quality Standards Attainment Record (2020 reporting cycle) as a Water Quality Category 3. This designation is due to insufficient data to assess the use support of any applicable beneficial use, so no use support determinations have been made.

The proposed change will continue irrigation purpose with return flows accumulating in the same reach as they have historically.

Groundwater **-** *Assess if the proposed project impacts ground water quality or supply. If this is a groundwater appropriation, assess if it could impact adjacent surface water flows.*

Determination: Low likelihood of impact.

The localized groundwater table under the requested place of storage may increase slightly, due to legally stored. Base flows in the North Fork McDonald Creek could also show a slight increase during the irrigation season. There is a low likelihood that groundwater will be adversely affected because of this proposal.

DIVERSION WORKS - *Assess whether the means of diversion, construction and operation of the appropriation works of the proposed project will impact any of the following: channel impacts, flow modifications, barriers, riparian areas, dams, well construction.*

Determination: No significant impact.

This project is part of an existing irrigation appropriation that is not increasing or changing use. It is likely that the project will have some minor impacts related to the construction of the place of storage (three small dams). A proposed pipeline will be placed in the McVay Ditch, which is proposed to be abandoned.

UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Endangered and threatened species **-** *Assess whether the proposed project will impact any threatened or endangered fish, wildlife, plants, or aquatic species or any "species of special concern," or create a barrier to the migration or movement of fish or wildlife. For groundwater, assess whether the proposed project, including impacts on adjacent surface flows, would impact any threatened or endangered species or "species of special concern."*

Determination: Temporary minor impact.

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MNHP) did not identify any endangered or threatened species in the project area. However, MNHP did identify the following Species Occurrences within the project area for the following Species of Concern (SOC): Northern Redbelly Dace (Chrosomus eos); Bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus); Veery (Catharus fuscescens); Little Brown Myotis (Myotis lucifugus); Northern Hoary Bat (Lasiurus cinereus); Long-eared Myotis (Myotis evotis); Great Blue Heron (Ardea Herodias). Other Potential Species lists can be found in the supplemental document portion of the change application file.

Reservoir construction and the potential inundation area may cause displacement of some species; however, impacts are expected to be temporary and relatively inconsequential. There is a temporary minor impact on species of concern because of this change.

Wetlands **-** *Consult and assess whether the apparent wetland is a functional wetland (according to COE definitions), and whether the wetland resource would be impacted.*

Determination: No significant impact.

According to the National Wetlands Inventory, there are no known wetlands associated with this application.

Ponds **-** *For ponds, consult and assess whether existing wildlife, waterfowl, or fisheries resources would be impacted.*

Determination: Minor impact.

As mentioned above under the endangered and threatened species impacts, the inundation of land may temporarily displace some wildlife species. However, the reservoir impacts on wildlife and waterfowl are anticipated to be beneficial after the initial construction and filling phases of the project.

GEOLOGY/SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE - *Assess whether there will be degradation of soil quality, alteration of soil stability, or moisture content. Assess whether the soil is heavy in salts that could cause saline seep.*

Determination: Minor impact.

The USDA-NRCS Web Soil Survey indicates that the dominant soil units in the project area are Fergus clay loam (0 to 2 percent slopes) and Twin Creek Loam. Both soil units are well drained, the salinity ranges from nonsaline to slightly saline. Soil Moisture content around the proposed 1.62-acre reservoir may increase later in the irrigation season depending on available storage. Soil moisture in proximity to the McVay Ditch will likely decrease as the ditch will be abandoned in favor of enclosed pipeline.

VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY/NOXIOUS WEEDS - *Assess impacts to existing vegetative cover. Assess whether the proposed project would result in the establishment or spread of noxious weeds.*

Determination: No significant impact.

Typical farm weed management should be used to control noxious weeds potentially invading disturbed areas. It is the responsibility of the property owner to control noxious weeds on their property.

AIR QUALITY - *Assess whether there will be a deterioration of air quality or adverse effects on vegetation due to increased air pollutants.*

Determination: Temporary minor impact.

Temporary impacts to air quality during the reservoir construction phase of the project may occur, however they are expected to be short-lived. It is unlikely air quality will be significantly affected after construction.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES - *Assess whether there will be degradation of unique archeological or historical sites in the vicinity of the proposed project if it is on State or Federal Lands. If it is not on State or Federal Lands simply state NA-project not located on State or Federal Lands.*

Determination: NA-project not located on State or Federal Lands.

DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AND ENERGY - *Assess any other impacts on environmental resources of land, water and energy not already addressed.*

Determination: Low likelihood of impact.

No additional impacts are anticipated.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS - *Assess whether the proposed project is inconsistent with any locally adopted environmental plans and goals.*

Determination: Low likelihood of impact.

The proposed action is consistent with historic agricultural practices in the area.

ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES - *Assess whether the proposed project will impact access to or the quality of recreational and wilderness activities.*

Determination: Low likelihood of impact.

This proposal should not negatively affect recreational activities in the area. It may increase future recreational activities based on whether the public is allowed to use the reservoir for fishing, hunting and/or wildlife viewing purposes.

HUMAN HEALTH - *Assess whether the proposed project impacts human health.*

Determination: Low likelihood of impact.

Since its introduction to the U.S. in 1999, West Nile virus has become a potential threat in many states. In 2006, 4 in every 1000 mosquitoes captured on the Milk River near Malta, MT were infected with West Nile. Mosquito habitat development has been associated with standing water containing debris and vegetation. Proper weed management and reservoir maintenance will help to control the conditions required for larva growth, making the impacts on human health associated with the stagnant water insignificant. The reservoir is in a remote area with a small population.

PRIVATE PROPERTY - *Assess whether there are any government regulatory impacts on private property rights.*
*Yes___ No_**X**__ If yes, analyze any alternatives considered that could reduce, minimize, or eliminate the regulation of private property rights*.

Determination: No known impacts.

OTHER HUMAN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES - *For routine actions of limited environmental impact, the following may be addressed in a checklist fashion.*

Impacts on:

(a) *Cultural uniqueness and diversity?* None.

(*b)* *Local and state tax base and tax revenues?* None.

(c) *Existing land uses?* None.

(*d)* *Quantity and distribution of employment?* None.

(e) *Distribution and density of population and housing?* None.

(f) *Demands for government services?* None.

(g) *Industrial and commercial activity?* None.

(h) *Utilities?* None.

(i) *Transportation?* None.

(j) *Safety?* None.

(k) *Other appropriate social and economic circumstances?* None.

2. ***Secondary and cumulative impacts on the physical environment and human population:***

Secondary Impacts - No secondary impacts on the physical environment and human population are indicated because of this assessment.

Cumulative Impacts - None identified. There are no other pending applications for basin 40B.

3. ***Describe any mitigation/stipulation measures:***

The Applicant will be required to measure and record all diversions to ensure they will not exceed the authorized appropriation and will not adversely affect required minimum stream flow levels in McDonald Creek, North Fork.

4. ***Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, including the no action alternative, if an alternative is reasonably available and prudent to consider:***

No action alternative: There are no reasonable alternatives to the proposed action.

PART III. Conclusion

1. Preferred Alternative

To authorize the beneficial change use authorization.

2. Comments and Responses

3. Finding:

Yes___ No_X_ Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required?

If an EIS is not required, explain <u>why</u> the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action:

No significant impacts have been identified; therefore, an EIS is not necessary.

Name of person(s) responsible for preparation of EA:

Name: Matthew Shaw
Title: Water Resource Specialist
Date: August 11, 2025

Environmental Summary

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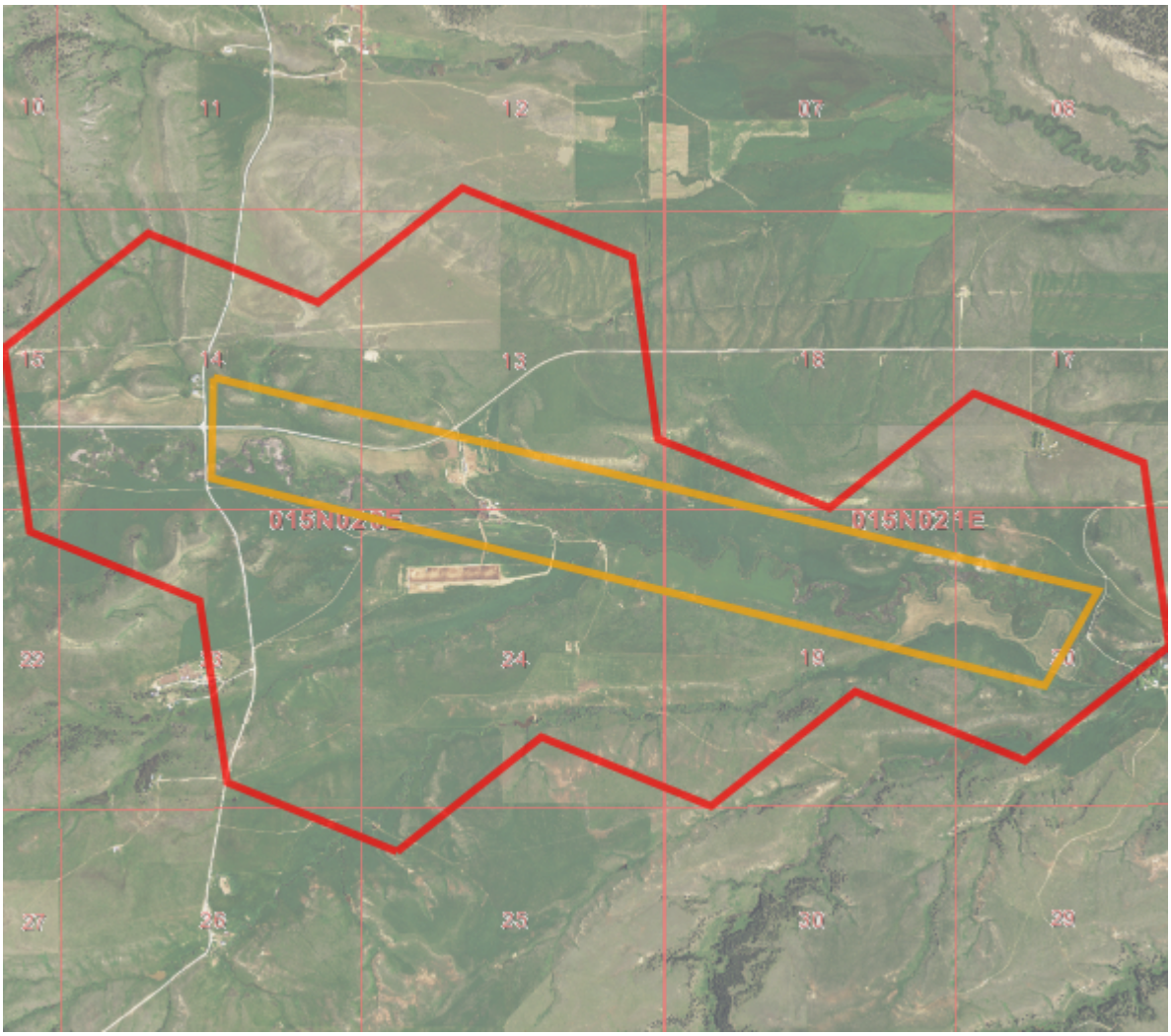
Latitude	Longitude
47.03799	-109.08317
47.07010	-109.16652

Summarized by:
40B 30164213
(Custom Area of Interest)



Suggested Citation
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The Montana Natural Heritage Program is part of the Montana State Library's Natural Resource Information System. Since 1985, it has served as a neutral and non-regulatory provider of easily accessible information on Montana's species and biological communities to inform all stakeholders in environmental review, permitting, and planning processes. The program is part of the NatureServe network that is composed of over 60 member programs across North America that work to provide current and comprehensive distribution and status information on species and biological communities.

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NATURESERVE

Table of Contents

Introduction to Environmental Summary Report

Environmental Summary Reports from the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) provide information on species and biological communities to inform all stakeholders in environmental review, permitting, and planning processes. For information on environmental permits in Montana, please see permitting overviews by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Index of Environmental Permits for Montana and our Suggested Contacts for Natural Resource Management Agencies. The report for your area of interest consists of introductory and related materials in this PDF and an Excel workbook with worksheets summarizing information managed in the MTNHP databases for: (1) species occurrences; (2) other observed species without species occurrences; (3) other species potentially present based on their range, presence of associated habitats, or predictive distribution model output if available; (4) structured surveys that follow a protocol capable of detecting one or more species; (5) land cover mapped as ecological systems; (6) wetland and riparian mapping; (7) land management categories; and (8) biological reports associated with plant and animal observations. If your area of interest corresponds to a statewide polygon layer (e.g., watersheds, counties, or public land survey sections) information summaries in your report will exactly match those boundaries. However, if your report is for a custom area, users should be aware that summaries do not correspond to the exact boundaries of the polygon they have specified, but instead are a summary across a layer of hexagons intersected by the polygon they specified as shown on the report cover. Summarizing by these hexagons which are one square mile in area and approximately one kilometer in length on each side allows for consistent and rapid delivery of summaries based on a uniform grid that has been used for planning efforts across North America.

In presenting this information, MTNHP is working towards assisting the user with rapidly assessing the known or potential species and biological communities, land management categories, and biological reports associated with the report area. Users are reminded that this information is likely incomplete and may be inaccurate as surveys to document species are lacking in many areas of the state, species' range polygons often include regions of unsuitable habitat, methods of predicting the presence of species or communities are constantly improving, and information is constantly being added and updated in our databases. **Field verification by professional biologists of the absence or presence of species and biological communities in a report area will always be an important obligation of users of our data. Users are encouraged to only use this environmental summary report as a starting point for more in depth analyses and are encouraged to contact state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies for additional data or management guidelines relevant to your efforts. Please see the Appendix for introductory materials to each section of the report, additional information resources, and a list of relevant agency contacts.**

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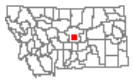
Legend

Model Icons	Habitat Icons	Range Icons	Num Obs
N Suitable (native range)	C Common	Y Native / Year-round	Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m)
O Optimal Suitability	O Occasional	S Summer	+ indicates additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-10,000m)
M Moderate Suitability		W Winter	
L Low Suitability		M Migratory	
I Suitable (introduced range)		N Non-native	
		H Historical	



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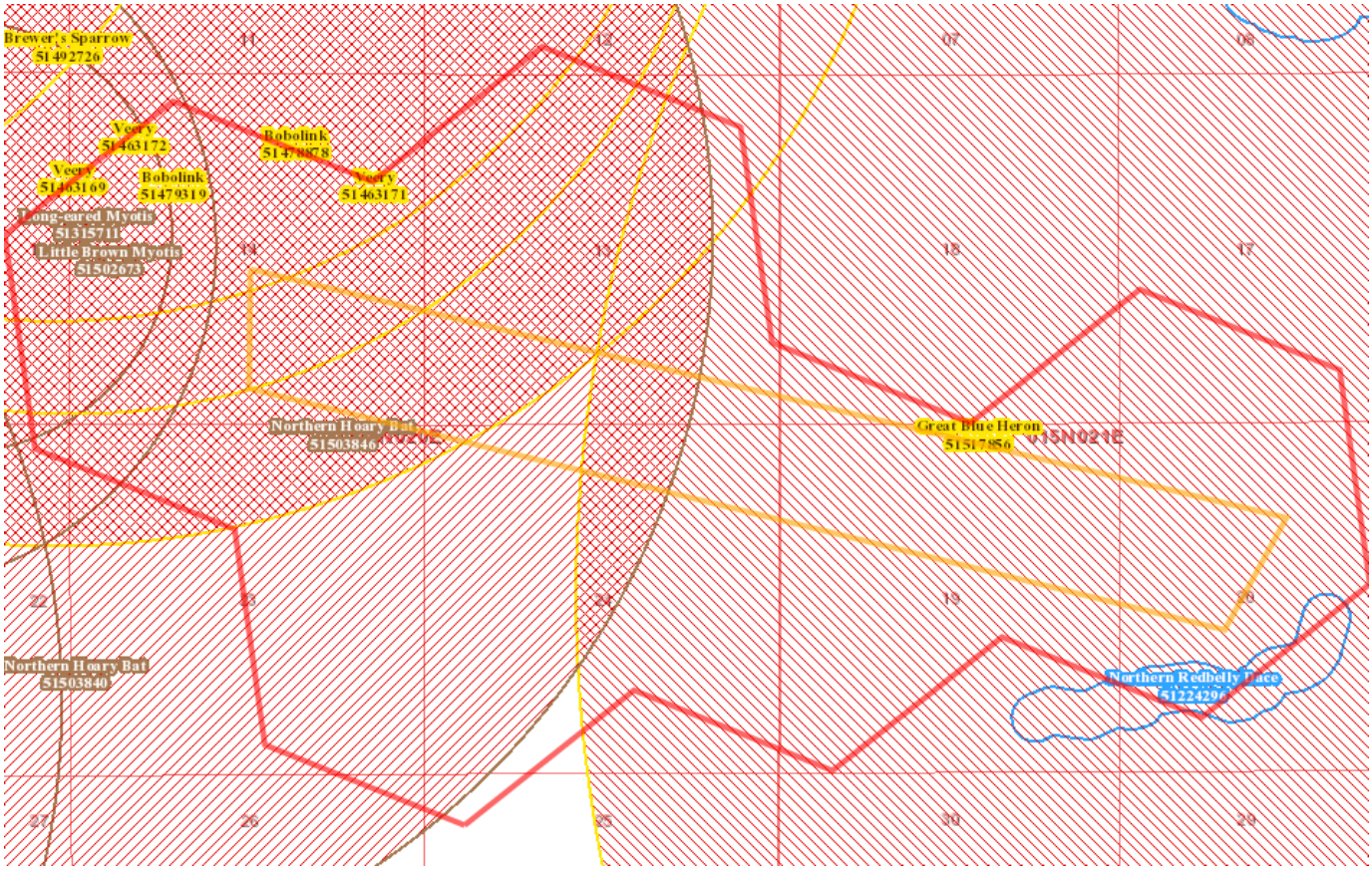

Species Occurrences

	USFWS Sec7	# SO	# Obs	Predicted Model	Range
F - Northern Redbelly Dace *(Chrosomus eos)* SOC		1			Y

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**

Delineation Criteria Stream reaches and standing water bodies where the species presence has been confirmed through direct capture or where they are believed to be present based on the professional judgement of a fisheries biologist due to confirmed presence in adjacent areas. In order to reflect the importance of adjacent terrestrial habitats to survival, stream reaches are buffered 100 meters, standing water bodies greater than 1 acre are buffered 50 meters, and standing water bodies less than 1 acre are buffered 30 meters into the terrestrial habitat based on PACFISH/INFISH Riparian Conservation Area standards. (Last Updated: Mar 19, 2024)

Predicted Models: N 20% Suitable (native range) (deductive)

B - Bobolink *(Dolichonyx oryzivorus)* SOC		2		S	M

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC10; BCC11; BCC17** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**

Delineation Criteria Confirmed breeding area based on the presence of a nest, chicks, or territorial adults during the breeding season. Point observation location is buffered by a minimum distance of 150 meters in order to conservatively encompass male territory size reported for the species and otherwise is buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Dec 20, 2024)

Predicted Models: M 60% Moderate (inductive), L 40% Low (inductive)

B - Veery *(Catharus fuscescens)* SOC		3		S	M

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **2**

Delineation Criteria Observations with evidence of breeding activity buffered by a minimum distance of 300 meters in order to be conservative about encompassing home ranges and otherwise buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Dec 20, 2024)

Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

M - Little Brown Myotis *(Myotis lucifugus)* **SOC**

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G3G4** State: **S2S3** USFS: **Sensitive - Known in Forests (BD, BRT, KOOT)** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**

Delineation Criteria Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence (mistnet captures, definitively identified acoustic recordings, or definitively identified roosting individuals) of adults or juveniles. Point observation location is buffered by a distance of 1,600 meters in order to encompass the greater than 1,500 meters foraging distance reported for the species in New Brunswick, Canada and otherwise buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. When cave locations are involved, point observations are mapped in the center of a one-square mile hexagon to protect the exact location of the cave entrance as per the Federal Cave Resource Protection Act and associated regulations (U.S. Code Title 16 Chapter 63, Code of Federal Regulations Title 43 Subtitle A Part 37). The outer edges of the hexagon are then buffered by a distance of 1,600 meters and otherwise by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. All of the one-square mile hexagons intersecting this buffered area are presented as the Species Occurrence record. (Last Updated: Dec 26, 2024)

Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

M - Northern Hoary Bat *(Lasiurus cinereus)* **SOC**

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G3G4** State: **S3B** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**

Delineation Criteria Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence (mistnet captures, definitively identified acoustic recordings, and definitively identified roosting individuals) of adults or juveniles during the active season. Point observation location is buffered by a minimum distance of 3,500 meters in order to be conservative about encompassing the maximum reported foraging distance for the congeneric Lasiurus borealis and otherwise buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Dec 26, 2024)

Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

M - Long-eared Myotis *(Myotis evotis)* **SOC**

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3**

Delineation Criteria Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence (mistnet captures, definitively identified acoustic recordings, and definitively identified roosting individuals) of adults or juveniles. Point observation location is buffered by a minimum distance of 1,000 meters in order to encompass the average distances traveled from capture locations to roosts and between roosts in western Montana, Alberta, and Oregon and otherwise buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. When cave locations are involved, point observations are mapped in the center of a one-square mile hexagon to protect the exact location of the cave entrance as per the Federal Cave Resource Protection Act and associated regulations (U.S. Code Title 16 Chapter 63, Code of Federal Regulations Title 43 Subtitle A Part 37). The outer edges of the hexagon are then buffered by a distance of 1,000 meters and otherwise by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. All of the one-square mile hexagons intersecting this buffered area are presented as the Species Occurrence record. (Last Updated: Jun 26, 2024)

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

B - Great Blue Heron *(Ardea herodias)* **SOC**

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3** USFWS: **MBTA** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**

Delineation Criteria Confirmed nesting area buffered by a minimum distance of 6,500 meters in order to be conservative about encompassing the areas commonly used for foraging near the breeding colony. If the locational uncertainty associated with the observation is greater than 5,000 meters, the observation is not valid for creation of a species occurrence. (Last Updated: May 02, 2025)

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

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L Low Suitability		M Migratory	
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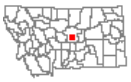

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Native Species

Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*
Filtered by:
Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern

Other Observed Species

	USFWS Sec7	# Obs	Predicted Model	Range
B - American White Pelican *(Pelecanus erythrorhynchos)* SOC		1		S M

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**
Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

B - Golden Eagle *(Aquila chrysaetos)* SOC		1		Y

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3** USFWS: **BGEPA; MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

B - Ferruginous Hawk *(Buteo regalis)* SOC		1		S M

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC17** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **2**
Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

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N Suitable (native range)	C Common	Y Native / Year-round	Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m)
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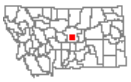
M Moderate Suitability		W Winter	
L Low Suitability		M Migratory	
I Suitable (introduced range)		N Non-native	
		H Historical	



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Native Species

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Other Potential Species

	USFWS Sec7	Predicted Model	Range
M - Preble's Shrew *(Sorex preblei)* **SOC**			Y
M - Fringed Myotis *(Myotis thysanodes)* **SOC**			Y
M - Merriam's Shrew *(Sorex merriami)* **SOC**			Y
B - Long-billed Curlew *(Numenius americanus)* **SOC**			S M
I - Danaus plexippus *(Monarch)* **SOC**			S
B - Sharp-tailed Grouse *(Tympanuchus phasianellus)* **SOC**			Y
I - Bombus suckleyi *(Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee)* **SOC**			Y
B - Sprague's Pipit *(Anthus spragueii)* **SOC**	7		S M
M - Grizzly Bear *(Ursus arctos)* **SOC**			Y H
M - Long-legged Myotis *(Myotis volans)* **SOC**			Y
M - Silver-haired Bat *(Lasionycteris noctivagans)* **SOC**			Y
M - Townsend's Big-eared Bat *(Corynorhinus townsendii)* **SOC**			Y

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**
Predicted Models: M 80% Moderate (inductive), L 20% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**
Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**
Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC11** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **2**
Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S2S3** USFWS: **P** USFS: **Sensitive - Migratory in Forests (BD, BRT, KOOT)**
Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3S4** FWP SWAP: **SGCN1** PIF: **2**
Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G2G3** State: **S1** USFWS: **P**
Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G3G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC11; BCC17** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **1**
Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3** USFWS: **LT** BLM: **THREATENED** FWP SWAP: **SGCN2-3**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4G5** State: **S3**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

View in Field Guide **View Predicted Models** **View Range Maps**
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3** USFS: **Sensitive - Known in Forests (LOLO)** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

A - Northern Leopard Frog *(Lithobates pipiens)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3S4** USFS: **Sensitive - Suspected in Forests (KOOT, LOLO)** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN1**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Carex crawei *(Crawe's Sedge)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2S3** Plant Threat Score: **Low**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Elodea bifoliata *(Long-sheath Waterweed)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4G5** State: **S2?** Plant Threat Score: **No Known Threats**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

B - American Bittern *(Botaurus lentiginosus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

B - Brewer's Sparrow *(Spizella breweri)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **2**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

B - Clark's Nutcracker *(Nucifraga columbiana)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3** USFWS: **MBTA** USFS: **Species of Conservation Concern in Forests (FLAT)** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

B - Pinyon Jay *(Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G3** State: **S3** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC10; BCC17** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

A - Great Plains Toad *(Anaxyrus cognatus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN2**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

V - Chenopodium subglabrum *(Smooth Goosefoot)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G3G4** State: **S2** Plant Threat Score: **Unknown** CCVI: **Highly Vulnerable**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

V - Cyperus schweinitzii *(Schweinitz's Flatsedge)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2** Plant Threat Score: **Low**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

M - Eastern Red Bat *(Lasiurus borealis)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G3G4** State: **S3B** BLM: **SENSITIVE**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

B - Black-billed Cuckoo *(Coccyzus erythropthalmus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC11; BCC17** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3, SGIN** PIF: **2**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

B - White-faced Ibis *(Plegadis chihi)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **2**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

B - Yellow-billed Cuckoo *(Coccyzus americanus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **PS: LT; MBTA** BLM: **THREATENED** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3, SGIN** PIF: **2**

Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

B - Baird's Sparrow *(Centronyx bairdii)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC11; BCC17** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **1**

Predicted Models: L 60% Low (inductive)

B - Black-necked Stilt *(Himantopus mexicanus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**

Predicted Models: L 60% Low (inductive)

R - Plains Hog-nosed Snake *(Heterodon nasicus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN2, SGIN**

Predicted Models: L 40% Low (inductive)

V - Lilium philadelphicum *(Wood Lily)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3** Plant Threat Score: **Low** CCVI: **Less Vulnerable**

Predicted Models: L 40% Low (inductive)

V - Physaria ludoviciana *(Silver Bladderpod)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2S3** Plant Threat Score: **No Known Threats**

Predicted Models: L 40% Low (inductive)

V - Potentilla plattensis *(Platte Cinquefoil)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3** Plant Threat Score: **No Known Threats** CCVI: **Highly Vulnerable**

Predicted Models: L 40% Low (inductive)

B - Cassin's Finch *(Haemorhous cassinii)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S4** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC10** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

B - Evening Grosbeak *(Coccothraustes vespertinus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S3** USFWS: **MBTA; BCC10** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

R - Western Milksnake *(Lampropeltis gentilis)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN2**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

V - Triodanis leptocarpa *(Slim-pod Venus'-looking-glass)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5?** State: **S3** Plant Threat Score: **No Known Threats** CCVI: **Moderately Vulnerable**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

B - Caspian Tern *(Hydroprogne caspia)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G5** State: **S2B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN2** PIF: **2**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

B - Loggerhead Shrike *(Lanius ludovicianus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **2**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

B - Sage Thrasher *(Oreoscoptes montanus)* SOC

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: **G4** State: **S3B** USFWS: **MBTA** BLM: **SENSITIVE** FWP SWAP: **SGCN3** PIF: **3**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

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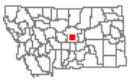


Latitude	Longitude
47.03799	-109.08317
47.07010	-109.16652

Structured Surveys

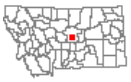
Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) records information on the locations where more than 80 different types of well-defined repeatable survey protocols capable of detecting an animal species or suite of animal species have been conducted by state, federal, tribal, university, or private consulting biologists. Examples of structured survey protocols tracked by MTNHP include: visual encounter and dip net surveys for pond breeding amphibians, point counts for birds, call playback surveys for selected bird species, visual surveys of migrating raptors, kick net stream reach surveys for macroinvertebrates, visual encounter cover object surveys for terrestrial mollusks, bat acoustic or mist net surveys, pitfall and/or snap trap surveys for small terrestrial mammals, track or camera trap surveys for large mammals, and trap surveys for turtles. Whenever possible, photographs of survey locations are stored in MTNHP databases.

MTNHP does not typically manage information on structured surveys for plants; surveys for invasive species may be a future exception.

Within the report area you have requested, structured surveys are summarized by the number of each type of structured survey protocol that has been conducted, the number of species detections/observations resulting from these surveys, and the most recent year a survey has been conducted.

E-Eastern Heath Snail *(Eastern Heath Snail Survey)*	**Survey Count**: 1	**Obs Count**:	**Recent Survey**: 2012
E-Noxious Weed, Road-based *(Noxious Weed Road-based Visual Surveys)*	**Survey Count**: 5	**Obs Count**: 10	**Recent Survey**: 2003
M-Bat Roost (Active Season) *(Bat Roost (Active Season) Survey)*	**Survey Count**: 1	**Obs Count**:	**Recent Survey**: 2017



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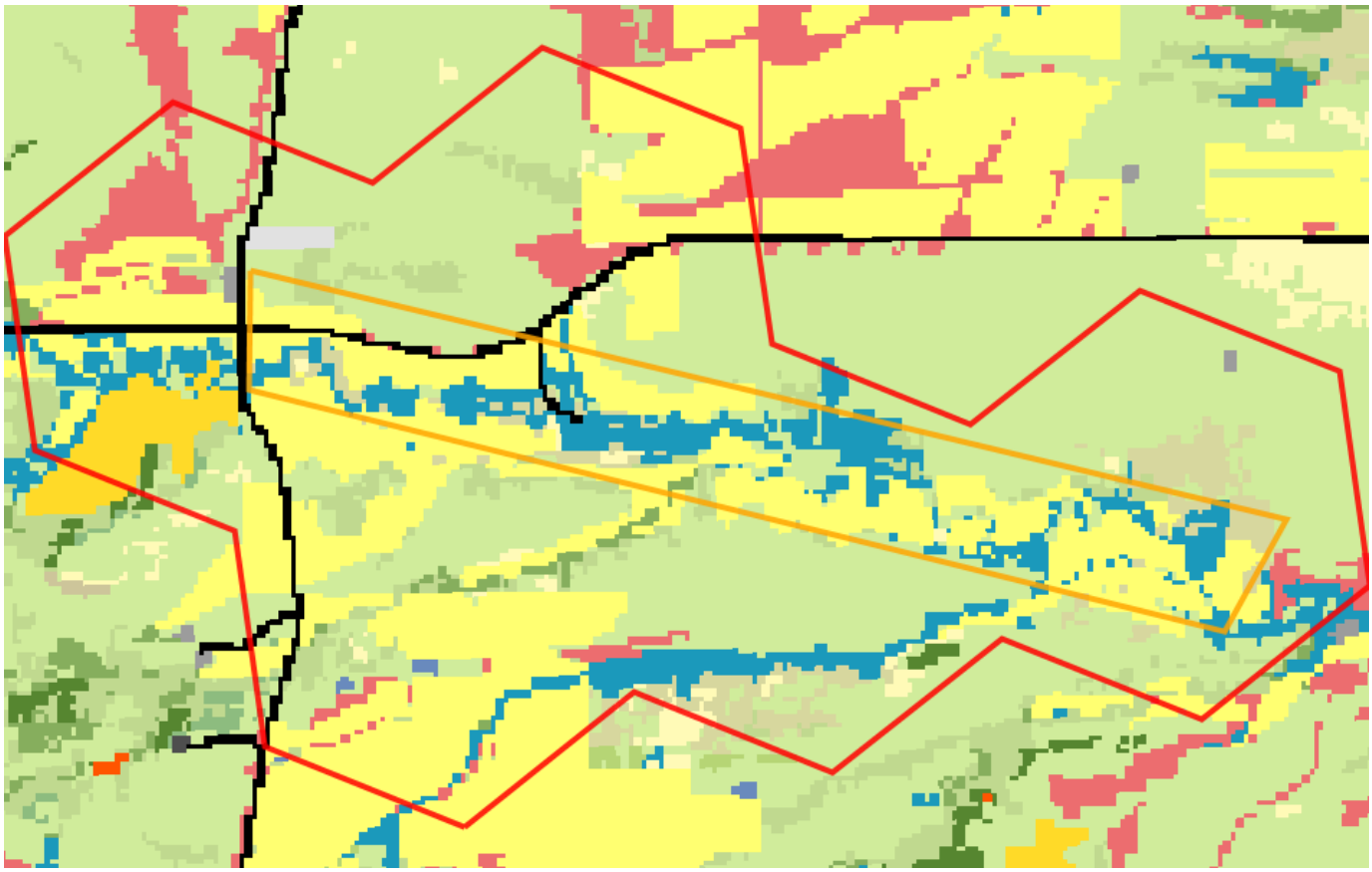
Land Cover

Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*



44% (*1,408 Acres*)

Grassland Systems
Lowland/Prairie Grassland
Great Plains Mixedgrass Prairie

The system covers much of the eastern two-thirds of Montana, occurring continuously for hundreds of square kilometers, interrupted only by wetland/riparian areas or sand prairies. Soils are primarily fine and medium-textured. The growing season averages 115 days, ranging from 100 days on the Canadian border to 130 days on the Wyoming border. Climate is typical of mid-continental regions with long severe winters and hot summers. Grasses typically comprise the greatest canopy cover, and western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*) is usually dominant. Other species include thickspike wheatgrass (*Elymus lanceolatus*), green needlegrass (*Nassella viridula*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), and needle and thread (*Hesperostipa comata*). Near the Canadian border in north-central Montana, this system grades into rough fescue (*Festuca campestris)* and Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*) grasslands. Remnants of shortbristle needle and thread *(Hesperostipa curtiseta)* dominated vegetation are found in northernmost Montana and North Dakota, and are associated with productive sites, now mostly converted to farmland. Forb diversity is typically high. In areas of southeastern and central Montana where sagebrush steppe borders the mixed grass prairie, common plant associations include Wyoming big sagebrush-western wheatgrass (*Artemisia tridentata* ssp. *wyomingensis/ Pascopyrum smithii*). Fire and grazing are the primary drivers of this system. Drought can also impact it, in general favoring the shortgrass component at the expense of the mid-height grasses. With intensive grazing, cool season exotics such as Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*), and Japanese brome (*Bromus japonicus*) increase in dominance; both of these rhizomatous species have been shown to markedly decrease species diversity. Previously cultivated acres that have been re-vegetated with non-native plants have been transformed into associations such as Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*)/western wheatgrass *(Pascopyrum smithii)* or into pure crested wheatgrass (*Agropyron cristatum)* stands.

29% (*918 Acres*)

Human Land Use
Agriculture
Pasture/Hay

These agriculture lands typically have perennial herbaceous cover (e.g. regularly-shaped plantings) used for livestock grazing or the production of hay. There are obvious signs of management such as irrigation and haying that distinguish it from natural grasslands. Identified CRP lands are included in this land cover type.

9% (*272 Acres*)

Wetland and Riparian Systems
Floodplain and Riparian
Great Plains Riparian

This system is associated with perennial to intermittent or ephemeral streams throughout the northwestern Great Plains. In Montana, it occurs along smaller tributaries of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers, as well as tributaries to the large floodplain rivers that feed them (e.g. the Milk, Marias, Musselshell, Powder, Clark's Fork Yellowstone, Tongue, etc). In areas adjacent to the mountain ranges of central and southeastern Montana, and near the Rocky Mountain Front, it grades into Rocky Mountain Lower Montane-Foothill Riparian Woodland and Shrubland systems. This system is found on alluvial soils in highly variable landscape settings, from confined, deep cut ravines to wide, braided streambeds. Channel migration occurs in less-confined areas, but within a more narrow range than would occur in broad, alluvial floodplains. Typically, the rivers are wadeable by mid-summer.

The primary inputs of water to these systems include groundwater discharge, overland flow, and subsurface interflow from the adjacent upland. Flooding is the key ecosystem process, creating suitable sites for seed dispersal and seedling establishment, and controlling vegetation succession. Communities within this system range from riparian forests and shrublands to tallgrass wet meadows and gravel/sand flats. Dominant species are similar to those found in the Great Plains Floodplain System. In the western part of the system's range in Montana, the dominant overstory species is black cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa*) with narrowleaf cottonwood *(Populus angustifolia)* and Plains cottonwood (*Populus deltoides)* occurring as co-dominants in the riparian/floodplain interface near the mountains. Further east, narrowleaf cottonwood and Plains cottonwood become dominant. In wetter systems, the understory is typically willow (*Salix spp*.) and redosier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*) with graminoids such as western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*) and forbs like American licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*). In areas where the channel is incised, the understory may be dominated by big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) or silver sagebrush (*Artemisia cana*). Like floodplain systems, riparian systems are often subjected to overgrazing and/or agriculture and can be heavily degraded, with salt cedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*) and Russian olive (*Eleagnus angustifolia*) replacing native woody vegetation and regrowth. Groundwater depletion and lack of fire have resulted in additional species changes.

5% (*153 Acres*)

Shrubland, Steppe and Savanna Systems
Deciduous Shrubland
Great Plains Shrubland

This ecological system is found from southern Alberta through northern Montana's glaciated and unglaciated plains, typically at elevations ranging from 1,220 to 1,524 meters (4,000-5,000 feet). It can occur on all aspects but is more common on mesic sites with moderately shallow or deep, fine to sandy loam soils. Often it is located on slopes near breaklands and on the edge of coulees, or on upper terraces of rivers and streams. It differs from the Northwestern Great Plains Mixedgrass Prairie in that shrub cover is more than 10%, although the grass component is similar, and may occur where fire suppression in grasslands has allowed shrubs to establish. Dominant shrubs include serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), skunkbush sumac (*Rhus trilobata*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos* species), silver buffaloberry (Sheperdia argentea), shrubby cinquefoil (*Dasiphora fruticosa ssp. floribunda*), silverberry (*Elaeagnus commutata*) and horizontal rug juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*). Silver sage (*Artemisia cana ssp. cana*) shrublands may occur on flat alluvial deposits on floodplains, terraces or benches, and alluvial fans.

4% (*130 Acres*)

Recently Disturbed or Modified
Introduced Vegetation
Introduced Upland Vegetation - Annual and Biennial Forbland

Land cover is significantly altered/disturbed by introduced annual and biennial forbs. Natural vegetation types are no longer recognizable. Typical species that dominate these areas are knapweed, oxeye daisy, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, pepperweed, and yellow sweetclover.

4% (*116 Acres*)

Grassland Systems
Lowland/Prairie Grassland
Great Plains Sand Prairie

The sand prairies constitute a very unique system within the western Great Plains. The unifying and controlling feature for this system is that coarse-textured soils predominate and the dominant grasses are well-adapted to this condition. In the northwestern portion of the system's range, stand size corresponds to the area of exposed caprock sandstone, and small patches predominate, but larger patches are found embedded in the encompassing Great Plains Mixed Grass Prairie, and usually occupy higher positions in local landscapes where former caprock formations have eroded into more subdued and planar topography. In most of eastern Montana, substrates supporting this system have weathered in place from sandstone caprock. Soils can be relatively thin or deep due to varying amounts of downslope movement of weathered sands. Needle and thread (*Hesperostipa comata*) is the dominant grass species. Other frequent species include little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), often occurring with threadleaf sedge (*Carex filifolia*) and dominating both sandy sites and actively eroding sites. Prairie sandreed (*Calamovilfa longifolia*), sand bluestem (*Andropogon hallii*) and big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) are sporadically distributed and found generally on the coarsest-textured sands. Other graminoids include bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*), sun sedge (*Carex inops ssp. heliophila*), and purple threeawn (*Aristida purpurea*). Characteristic forbs differ by occurrence, but species of scurf pea (*Psoralidium* species) and Indian breadroot (*Pediomelum*) species are common. Communities of silver sage (*Artemisia cana* ssp. *cana*) or skunkbush sumac (*Rhus trilobata*) can occur within this system. Wind erosion, fire and grazing constitute the other major dynamic processes that can influence this system.

2% (*58 Acres*)

Human Land Use
Agriculture
Cultivated Crops

These areas used for the production of crops, such as corn, soybeans, small grains, sunflowers, vegetables, and cotton, typically on an annual cycle. Agricultural plant cover is variable depending on season and type of farming. Other areas include more stable land cover of orchards and vineyards.

Additional Limited Land Cover

1% (*33 Acres*) Big Sagebrush Steppe
1% (*32 Acres*) Other Roads
1% (*30 Acres*) Major Roads
1% (*19 Acres*) Great Plains Wooded Draw and Ravine
<1% (*9 Acres*) Developed, Open Space
<1% (*8 Acres*) Great Plains Ponderosa Pine Woodland and Savanna
<1% (*4 Acres*) Low Intensity Residential
<1% (*3 Acres*) Rocky Mountain Foothill Woodland-Steppe Transition
<1% (*3 Acres*) Emergent Marsh

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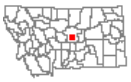

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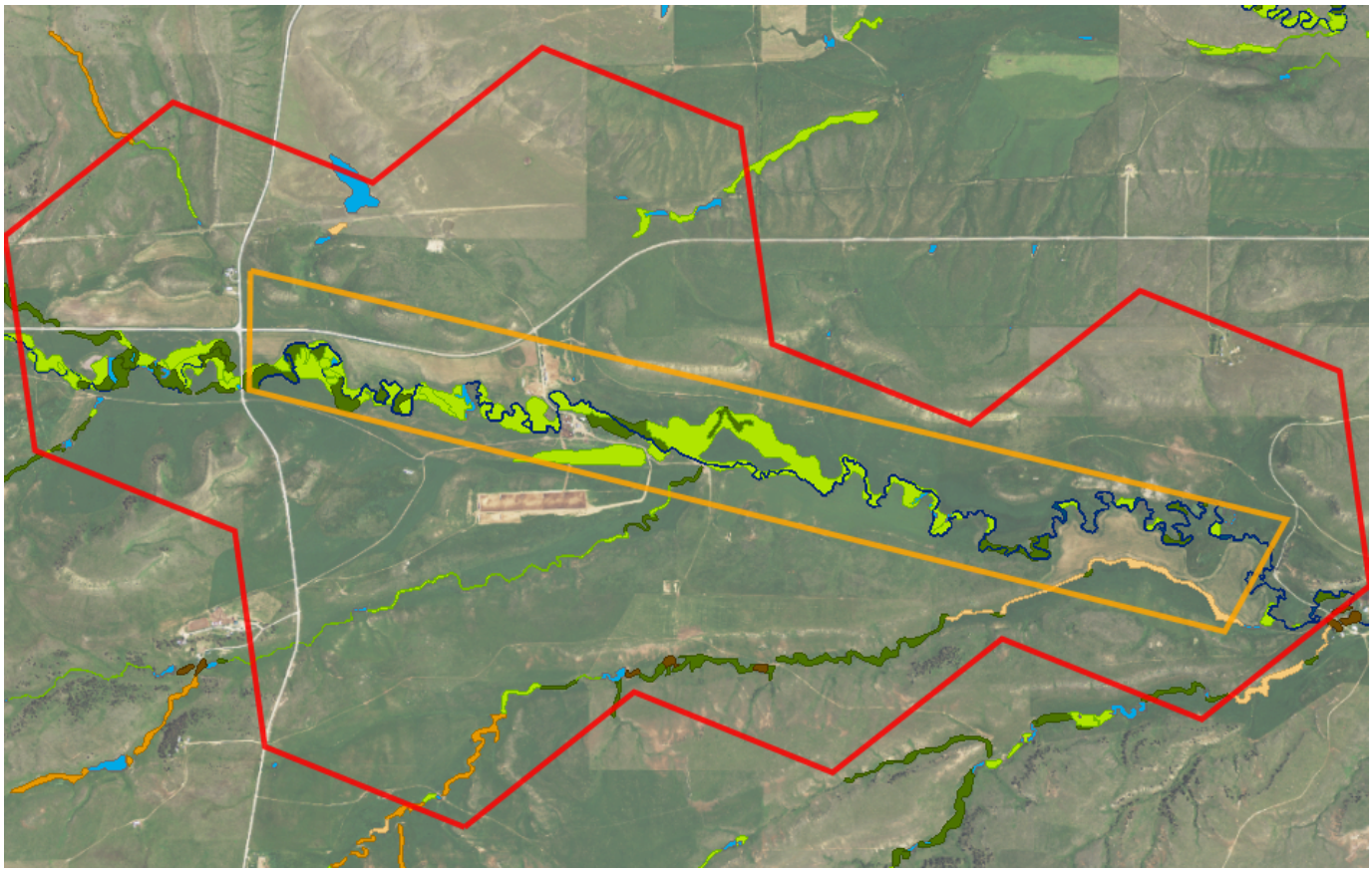
Wetland and Riparian

Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*



Wetland and Riparian Mapping

P - Palustrine

AB - Aquatic Bed

F - Semipermanently Flooded	13 Acres	
(no modifier)	**6 Acres**	**PABF**
b - Beaver	**2 Acres**	**PABFb**
h - Diked/Impounded	**5 Acres**	**PABFh**

P - Palustrine, AB - Aquatic Bed
Wetlands with vegetation growing on or below the water surface for most of the growing season.

US - Unconsolidated Shore

C - Seasonally Flooded	<1 Acres	
(no modifier)	**<1 Acres**	**PUSC**

P - Palustrine, US - Unconsolidated Shore
Wetlands with less than 75% areal cover of stones, boulders, or bedrock. AND with less than 30% vegetative cover AND the wetland is irregularly exposed due to seasonal or irregular flooding and subsequent drying.

EM - Emergent

A - Temporarily Flooded	90 Acres	
(no modifier)	**85 Acres**	**PEMA**
h - Diked/Impounded	**5 Acres**	**PEMAh**
C - Seasonally Flooded	10 Acres	
(no modifier)	**10 Acres**	**PEMC**
F - Semipermanently Flooded	1 Acres	
(no modifier)	**1 Acres**	**PEMF**

P - Palustrine, EM - Emergent
Wetlands with erect, rooted herbaceous vegetation present during most of the growing season.

SS - Scrub-Shrub

A - Temporarily Flooded	50 Acres	
(no modifier)	**50 Acres**	**PSSA**
h - Diked/Impounded	**<1 Acres**	**PSSAh**

P - Palustrine, SS - Scrub-Shrub
Wetlands dominated by woody vegetation less than 6 meters (20 feet) tall. Woody vegetation includes tree saplings and trees that are stunted due to environmental conditions.

R - Riverine (Rivers)

3 - Upper Perennial

UB - Unconsolidated Bottom

F - Semipermanently Flooded	19 Acres	
(no modifier)	**19 Acres**	**R3UBF**

R - Riverine (Rivers), 3 - Upper Perennial, UB - Unconsolidated Bottom
Stream channels where the substrate is at least 25% mud, silt or other fine particles.

Rp - Riparian

1 - Lotic

SS - Scrub-Shrub (no modifier)	**4 Acres** Rp1SS	**Rp - Riparian, 1 - Lotic, SS - Scrub-Shrub** *This type of riparian area is dominated by woody vegetation that is less than 6 meters (20 feet) tall. Woody vegetation includes tree saplings and trees that are stunted due to environmental conditions.*
FO - Forested (no modifier)	**2 Acres** Rp1FO	**Rp - Riparian, 1 - Lotic, FO - Forested** *This riparian class has woody vegetation that is greater than 6 meters (20 feet) tall.*
EM - Emergent (no modifier)	**7 Acres** Rp1EM	**Rp - Riparian, 1 - Lotic, EM - Emergent** *Riparian areas that have erect, rooted herbaceous vegetation during most of the growing season.*

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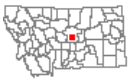

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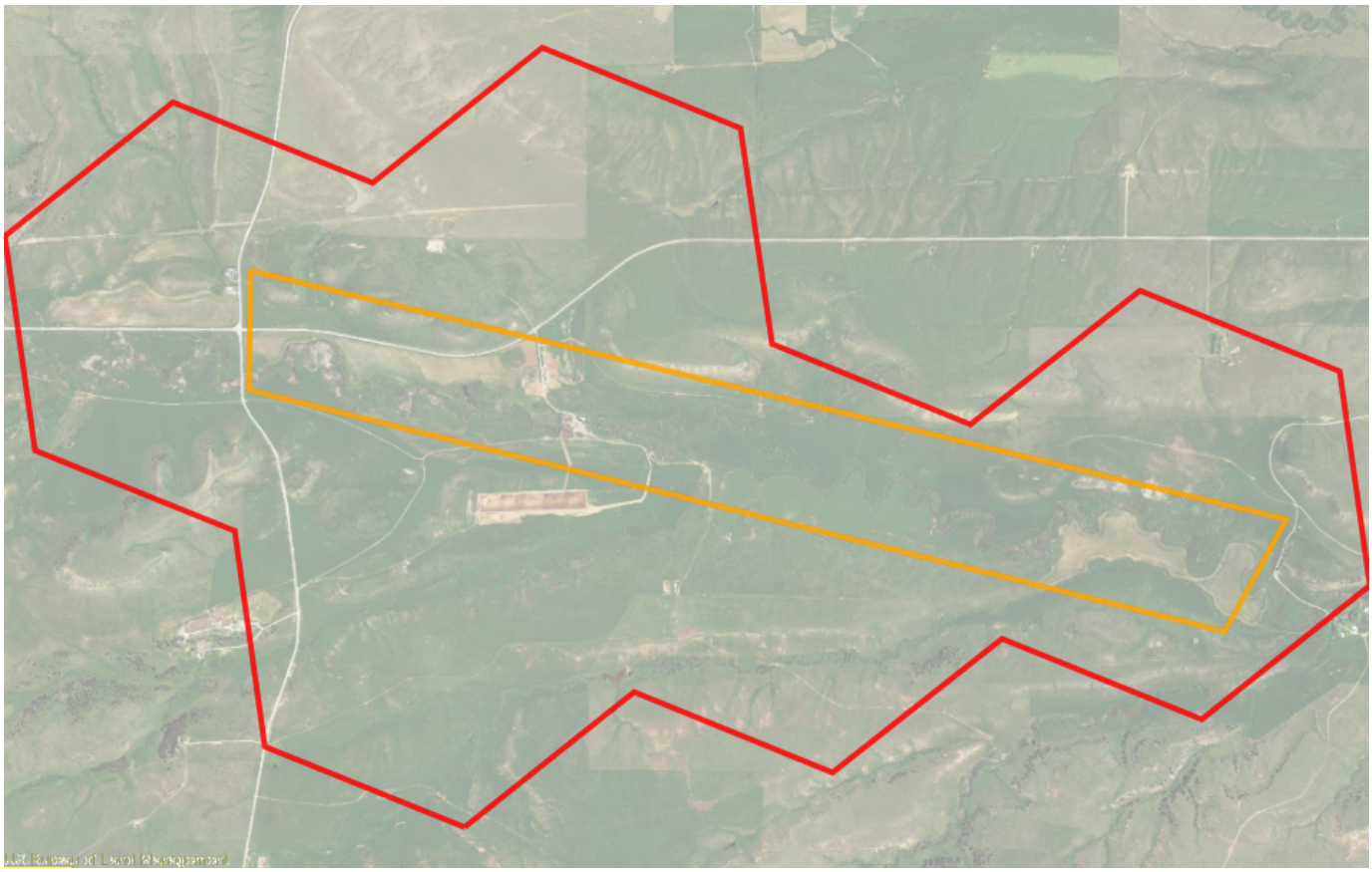
Land Management

Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*



No Land Management records were found in the selected area

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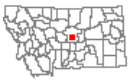

Latitude	Longitude
47.03799	-109.08317
47.07010	-109.16652

Biological Reports

Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*

Within the report area you have requested, citations for all reports and publications associated with plant or animal observations in Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) databases are listed and, where possible, links to the documents are included.

The MTNHP plans to include reports associated with terrestrial and aquatic communities in the future as allowed for by staff resources. If you know of reports or publications associated with species or biological communities within the report area that are not shown in this report, please let us know: mtnhp@mt.gov

No Biological Reports were found in the selected area

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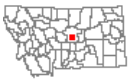
Legend

Model Icons
- N Suitable (native range)
- O Optimal Suitability
- M Moderate Suitability
- L Low Suitability
- I Suitable (introduced range)

Habitat Icons
- C Common
- O Occasional

Range Icons
- N Non-native

Num Obs
Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m)
+ indicates additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-10,000m)



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47.03799	-109.08317
47.07010	-109.16652

Invasive and Pest Species

Summarized by: **40B 30164213** *(Custom Area of Interest)*

	# Obs	Predicted Model	Range

Aquatic Invasive Species

V - Nymphaea odorata *(American Water-lily)* **AIS** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: **G5** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: I 60% Suitable (introduced range) (deductive)

V - Nymphoides peltata *(Yellow Floating Heart)* **AIS** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: **G5** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: I 60% Suitable (introduced range) (deductive)

Noxious Weeds: Priority 1A

V - Centaurea solstitialis *(Yellow Starthistle)* **N1A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)

V - Isatis tinctoria *(Dyer's Woad)* **N1A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Taeniatherum caput-medusae *(Medusahead)* **N1A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: **G4G5** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Phragmites australis ssp. australis *(European Common Reed)* **N1A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: **G5T5** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 60% Low (inductive)

Noxious Weeds: Priority 1B

V - Lythrum salicaria *(Purple Loosestrife)* **N1B** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 1B - Non-native Species Global: **G5** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 60% Moderate (inductive), L 40% Low (inductive)

V - Polygonum cuspidatum *(Japanese Knotweed)* **N1B** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 1B - Non-native Species Global: **GNRTNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 60% Low (inductive)

Noxious Weeds: Priority 2A

V - Ventenata dubia *(Ventenata)* **N2A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

V - Lepidium latifolium *(Perennial Pepperweed)* **N2A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Hieracium praealtum *(Kingdevil Hawkweed)* **N2A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 40% Low (inductive)

V - Hieracium piloselloides *(Tall Hawkweed)* **N2A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

V - Ranunculus acris *(Tall Buttercup)* **N2A** — Range: N

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps
Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Non-native Species Global: **G5** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

V - Rhamnus cathartica *(Common Buckthorn)* N2A

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

Noxious Weeds: Priority 2B

V - Lepidium draba *(Whitetop)* N2B 5

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: O 40% Optimal (inductive), M 60% Moderate (inductive)

V - Euphorbia virgata *(Leafy Spurge)* N2B 5

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 80% Moderate (inductive), L 20% Low (inductive)

V - Centaurea stoebe *(Spotted Knapweed)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

V - Cirsium arvense *(Canada Thistle)* N2B 1

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **G5** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

V - Convolvulus arvensis *(Field Bindweed)* N2B 1

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

V - Linaria dalmatica *(Dalmatian Toadflax)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **G5** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 40% Moderate (inductive), L 60% Low (inductive)

V - Centaurea diffusa *(Diffuse Knapweed)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

V - Cynoglossum officinale *(Common Hound's-tongue)* N2B 1

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: M 20% Moderate (inductive), L 80% Low (inductive)

V - Acroptilon repens *(Russian Knapweed)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Berteroa incana *(Hoary False-alyssum)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Potentilla recta *(Sulphur Cinquefoil)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Linaria vulgaris *(Yellow Toadflax)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 60% Low (inductive)

V - Leucanthemum vulgare *(Oxeye Daisy)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

V - Tanacetum vulgare *(Common Tansy)* N2B

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 20% Low (inductive)

Regulated Weeds: Priority 3

V - Elaeagnus angustifolia *(Russian Olive)* R3

View in Field Guide | View Predicted Models | View Range Maps

Regulated Weed: Priority 3 - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**

Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

V - Bromus tectorum *(Cheatgrass)* R3

View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps
Regulated Weed: Priority 3 - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 80% Low (inductive)

Biocontrol Species

I - Aphthona lacertosa *(Brown-legged Leafy Spurge Flea Beetle)* BIOCNTRL

View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)

I - Cyphocleonus achates *(Knapweed Root Weevil)* BIOCNTRL

View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)

I - Mecinus janthiniformis *(Dalmatian Toadflax Stem-boring Weevil)* BIOCNTRL

View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)

I - Aphthona nigriscutis *(Black Dot Leafy Spurge Flea Beetle)* BIOCNTRL

View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: M 60% Moderate (inductive), L 40% Low (inductive)

I - Mecinus janthinus *(Yellow Toadflax Stem-boring Weevil)* BIOCNTRL

View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: **GNR** State: **SNA**
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)

Introduction to Montana Natural Heritage Program

PO Box 201800 • 1201 11th Avenue • Helena, MT 59620-1800 • fax 406.444.0266 • phone 406.444.3989 • mtnhp.mt.gov

Introduction

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is Montana's source for reliable and objective information on Montana's native species and habitats, emphasizing those of conservation concern. MTNHP was created by the Montana legislature in 1983 as part of the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) at the Montana State Library (MSL). MTNHP is "a program of information acquisition, storage, and retrieval for data relating to the flora, fauna, and biological community types of Montana" (MCA 90-15-102). MTNHP's activities are guided by statute as well as through ongoing interaction with, and feedback from, principal data source agencies such as Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Montana University System, the US Forest Service, and the US Bureau of Land Management. Since the first staff was hired in 1985, the Program has logged a long record of success, and developed into a highly respected, service-oriented program. MTNHP is widely recognized as one of the most advanced and effective of over 60 natural heritage programs that are distributed across North America.

Vision

Our vision is that public agencies, the private sector, the education sector, and the general public will trust and rely upon MTNHP as the source for information and expertise on Montana's species and habitats, especially those of conservation concern. We strive to provide easy access to our information to allow users to save time and money, speed environmental reviews, and make informed decisions.

Core Values

- We endeavor to be a single statewide source of accurate and up-to-date information on Montana's plants, animals, and aquatic and terrestrial biological communities.
- We actively listen to our data users and work responsively to meet their information and training needs.
- We strive to provide neutral, trusted, timely, and equitable service to all of our information users.
- We make every effort to be transparent to our data users in setting work priorities and providing data products.

Confidentiality

All information requests made to the Montana Natural Heritage Program are considered library records and are protected from disclosure by the Montana Library Records Confidentiality Act (MCA 22-1-11).

Information Managed

Information managed at the Montana Natural Heritage Program is botanical, zoological, and ecological information that describes the distribution (e.g., observations, structured surveys, range polygons, predicted habitat suitability models), conservation status (e.g., global and state conservation status ranks, including threats), and other supporting information (e.g., accounts and references) on the biology and ecology of species and biological communities.

Data Use Terms and Conditions

- Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) products and services are based on biological data and the objective interpretation of those data by professional scientists. MTNHP does not advocate any particular philosophy of natural resource protection, management, development, or public policy.
- MTNHP has no natural resource management or regulatory authority. Products, statements, and services from MTNHP are intended to inform parties as to the state of scientific knowledge about certain natural resources, and to further develop that knowledge. The information is not intended as natural resource management guidelines or prescriptions or a determination of environmental impacts. MTNHP recommends consultation with appropriate state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies and authorities in the area where your project is located.
- Information on the status and spatial distribution of biological resources produced by MTNHP are intended to inform parties of the state-wide status, known occurrence, or the likelihood of the presence of those resources. **These products are not intended to substitute for field-collected data, nor are they intended to be the sole basis for natural resource management decisions.**
- MTNHP does not portray its data as exhaustive or comprehensive inventories of rare species or biological communities. **Field verification of the absence or presence of sensitive species and biological communities will always be an important obligation of users of our data.**
- MTNHP responds equally to all requests for products and services, regardless of the purpose or identity of the requester.
- Because MTNHP constantly updates and revises its databases with new data and information, products will become outdated over time. Interested parties are encouraged to obtain the most current information possible from MTNHP, rather than using older products. We add, review, update, and delete records on a daily basis. Consequently, we strongly advise that you update your MTNHP data sets at a minimum of every four months for most applications of our information.
- MTNHP data require a certain degree of biological expertise for proper analysis, interpretation, and application. Our staff is available to advise you on questions regarding the interpretation or appropriate use of the data that we provide. See Contact Information for MTNHP Staff
- The information provided to you by MTNHP may include sensitive data that if publicly released might jeopardize the welfare of threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or biological communities. This information is intended for distribution or use only within your department, agency, or business. Subcontractors may have access to the data during the course of any given project, but should not be given a copy for their use on subsequent, unrelated work.
- MTNHP data are made freely available. Duplication of hard-copy or digital MTNHP products with the intent to sell is prohibited without written consent by MTNHP. Should you be asked by individuals outside your organization for the type of data that we provide, please refer them to MTNHP.
- MTNHP and appropriate staff members should be appropriately acknowledged as an information source in any third-party product involving MTNHP data, reports, papers, publications, or in maps that incorporate MTNHP graphic elements.
- Sources of our data include museum specimens, published and unpublished scientific literature, field surveys by state and federal agencies and private contractors, and reports from knowledgeable individuals. MTNHP actively solicits and encourages additions, corrections and updates, new observations or collections, and comments on any of the data we provide.
- MTNHP staff and contractors do not enter or cross privately-owned lands without express permission from the landowner. However, the program cannot guarantee that information provided to us by others was obtained under adherence to this policy.

Suggested Contacts for Natural Resource Management Agencies

As required by Montana statute (MCA 90-15), the Montana Natural Heritage Program works with state, federal, tribal, nongovernmental organizations, and private partners to ensure that the latest animal and plant distribution and status information is incorporated into our databases so that it can be used to inform a variety of permitting and planning processes and management decisions. We encourage you to contact state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies in the area where your project is located and review the permitting overviews by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Index of Environmental Permits for Montana for guidelines relevant to your efforts. In particular, we encourage you to contact the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks for the latest data and management information regarding hunted and high-profile management species and to use the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information Planning and Consultation (IPAC) website regarding U.S. Endangered Species Act listed Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate species.

For your convenience, we have compiled a list of relevant agency contacts and links below:

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Fish Species	Zachary Shattuck zshattuck@mt.gov (406) 444-1231 or Eric Roberts eroberts@mt.gov (406) 444-5334
American Bison Black-footed Ferret Black-tailed Prairie Dog Bald Eagle Golden Eagle Common Loon Least Tern Piping Plover Whooping Crane	Kristina Smucker KSmucker@mt.gov (406) 444-5209
Grizzly Bear Greater Sage Grouse Trumpeter Swan Big Game Upland Game Birds Furbearers	Brian Wakeling brian.wakeling@mt.gov (406) 444-3940
Managed Terrestrial Game Data	Adam Messer – MFWP GIS Coordinator amesser@mt.gov (406) 444-0095
Fisheries Data and Nongame Animal Data	Adam Messer – MFWP GIS Coordinator amesser@mt.gov (406) 444-0095
Wildlife and Fisheries Scientific Collector's Permits	https://fwp.mt.gov/buyandapply/commercialwildlifeandscientificpermits/scientific Kristina Smucker for Wildlife ksmucker@mt.gov (406) 444-5209 Dave Schmetterling for Fisheries dschmetterling@mt.gov (406) 542-5514
Fish and Wildlife Recommendations for Subdivision Development	Stevie Burton stevie.burton@mt.gov (406) 594-7354 See https://fwp.mt.gov/conservation/living-with-wildlife/subdivision-recommendations
Regional Contacts  	Region 1 (Kalispell) (406) 752-5501 fwprg12@mt.gov Region 2 (Missoula) (406) 542-5500 fwprg22@mt.gov Region 3 (Bozeman) (406) 577-7900 fwprg3@mt.gov Region 4 (Great Falls) (406) 454-5840 fwprg42@mt.gov Region 5 (Billings) (406) 247-2940 fwprg52@mt.gov Region 6 (Glasgow) (406) 228-3700 fwprg62@mt.gov Region 7 (Miles City) (406) 234-0900 fwprg72@mt.gov

Montana Conservation Districts
Clickable map for contact information across Montana: https://macdnet.org/conservation-district-map/
Montana Association of Conservation Districts Resources Directory: https://macdnet.org/resources

Montana Department of Agriculture
General Contact Information: https://agr.mt.gov/About/Office-Locations/Office-Locations-and-Field-Offices
Noxious Weeds: https://agr.mt.gov/Noxious-Weeds

Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Permitting and Operator Assistance for all Environmental Permits: https://deq.mt.gov/Permitting
Opencut Mining Web Mapping Application for review of opencut mining applications
https://gis.mtdeq.us/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7b60084bc4c444a19c9a7a0867e7635a

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Overview of, and contacts for, licenses and permits for state lands, water, and forested lands:
https://dnrc.mt.gov/Permits-Services

Stream Permitting (310 permits) and an overview of various water and stream related permits (e.g., Stream Protection Act 124, Federal Clean Water Act 404, Federal Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10, Short-term Water Quality Standard for Turbidity 318 Authorization, etc.).
https://dnrc.mt.gov/Licenses-and-Permits/Stream-Permitting

Wildfire Resources: https://dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Wildfire

Bureau of Land Management

Montana Field Office Contacts:

Billings	(406) 896-5013	Lewistown	(406) 538-1900
Butte	(406) 533-7600	Malta	(406) 654-5100
Dillon	(406) 683-8000	Miles City	(406) 233-2800
Glasgow	(406) 228-3750	Missoula	(406) 329-3914
Havre	(406) 262-2820		

United States Army Corps of Engineers
Montana Regulatory Office for federal permits related to construction in water and wetlands
https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Program/Montana/
Email for questions: Montana.Reg@usace.army.mil
Phone for questions: (406) 441-1375

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Environmental information, notices, permitting, and contacts https://www.epa.gov/mt
Gateway to state resource locators https://www.envcap.org/srl/index.php

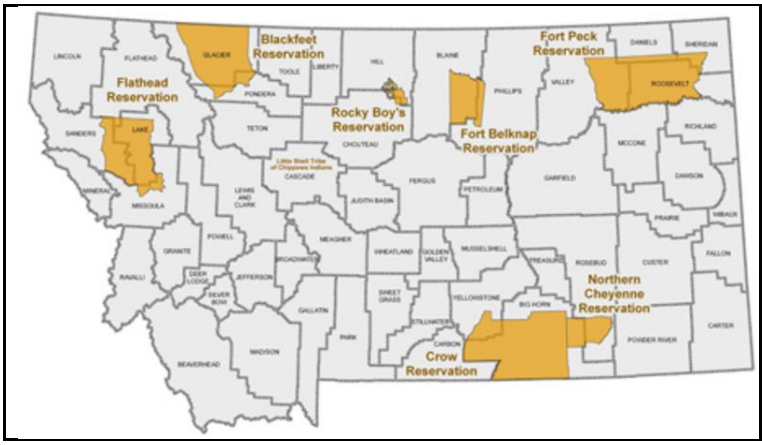
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Information Planning and Conservation (IPAC) website: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov
Montana Ecological Services Field Office: https://www.fws.gov/office/montana-ecological-services (406) 449-5225

United States Forest Service

Regional Office – Missoula, Montana Contacts

Assistant Regional TES PM	Diane Probasco	diane.probasco@usda.gov	(307) 709-2292
Assessment/Planning Wildlife Ecologist	T.J. Fontaine	jospeh.fontaine@usda.gov	(406) 802-0617
Interagency Grizzly Bear Coordinator	Scott Jackson	scott.jackson@usda.gov	(406) 329-3664
Regional Botanist	Amanda Hendrix	amanda.hendrix@usda.gov	(651) 447-3016
Regional Vegetation Ecologist	Mary Manning	mary.manning@usda.gov	(406) 329-3304
Invasive Species Program Manager	Michelle Cox	michelle.cox2@usda.gov	(406) 329-3669
Regional Hydrologist	Andy Efta	james.efta@usda.gov	(406) 329-3447

Tribal Nations



Assiniboine & Gros Ventre Tribes – Fort Belknap Reservation
Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes – Fort Peck Reservation
Blackfeet Tribe - Blackfeet Reservation
Chippewa Creek Tribe - Rocky Boy's Reservation
Crow Tribe – Crow Reservation
Little Shell Chippewa Tribe
Northern Cheyenne Tribe – Northern Cheyenne Reservation
Salish & Kootenai Tribes - Flathead Reservation

Natural Heritage Programs and Conservation Data Centers in Surrounding States and Provinces

Alberta Conservation Information Management System
British Columbia Conservation Data Centre
Idaho Natural Heritage Program
North Dakota Natural Heritage Program
Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre
South Dakota Natural Heritage Program
Wyoming Natural Diversity Database

Invasive Species Management Contacts and Information

Aquatic Invasive Species

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Aquatic Invasive Species staff
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation's Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Program
Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC)
Western Montana Conservation Commission

Noxious Weeds

Montana Weed Control Association Contacts Webpage
Montana Biological Weed Control Coordination Project
Montana Department of Agriculture - Noxious Weeds
Montana Weed Control Association
Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks - Noxious Weeds
Montana State University Integrated Pest Management Extension
Integrated Noxious Weed Management after Wildfires
Fire Management and Invasive Plants

Introduction to Native Species

Within the report area you have requested, separate summaries are provided for: (1) Species Occurrences (SO) for plant and animal Species of Concern, Special Status Species (SSS), Important Animal Habitat (IAH) and some Potential Plant Species of Concern; (2) other observed non Species of Concern or Species of Concern without suitable documentation to create Species Occurrence polygons; and (3) other non-documented species that are potentially present based on their range, predicted suitable habitat model output, or presence of associated habitats. Each of these summaries provides the following information when present for a species: (1) the number of Species Occurrences and associated delineation criteria for construction of these polygons that have long been used for considerations of documented Species of Concern in environmental reviews; (2) the number of observations of each species; (3) the geographic range polygons for each species that the report area overlaps; (4) predicted relative habitat suitability classes that are present if a predicted suitable habitat model has been created; (5) the percent of the report area that is mapped as commonly associated or occasionally associated habitat as listed for each species in the Montana Field Guide; and (6) a variety of conservation status ranks and links to species accounts in the Montana Field Guide. Details on each of these information categories are included under relevant section headers below or are defined on our Species Status Codes page. In presenting this information, the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is working towards assisting the user with rapidly determining what species have been documented and what species are potentially present in the report area. We remind users that this information is likely incomplete as surveys to document native and introduced species are lacking in many areas of the state, information on introduced species has only been tracked relatively recently, the MTNHP's staff and resources are restricted by budgets, and information is constantly being added and updated in our databases. **Thus, field verification by professional biologists of the absence or presence of species and biological communities will always be an important obligation of users of our data.**

If you are aware of observation datasets that the MTNHP is missing, please report them to the Program Botanist apipp@mt.gov or Senior Zoologist dbachen@mt.gov If you have animal or plant observations that you would like to contribute, you can also submit them via Excel spreadsheets, geodatabases, iNaturalist, or a Survey123 form. Various methods of data submission are reviewed in this playlist of videos: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRaydtZpHu2qOHPoSPq9cnM9uXGmEXACx

Observations

The MTNHP manages information on several million animal and plant observations that have been reported by professional biologists and private citizens from across Montana. The majority of these observations are submitted in digital format from standardized databases associated with research or monitoring efforts and spreadsheets of incidental observations submitted by professional biologists and amateur naturalists. At a minimum, accepted observation records must contain a credible species identification (i.e. appropriate geographic range, date, and habitat and, if species are difficult to identify, a photograph and/or notes on key identifying features), a date or date range, observer name, locational information (ideally with latitude and longitude in decimal degrees), notes on numbers observed, and species behavior or habitat use (e.g., is the observation likely associated with reproduction). Bird records are also required to have information associated with date-appropriate breeding or overwintering status of the species observed. MTNHP reviews observation records to ensure that they are mapped correctly, occur within date ranges when the species is known to be present or detectable, occur within the known seasonal geographic range of the species, and occur in appropriate habitats. MTNHP also assigns each record a locational uncertainty value in meters to indicate the spatial precision associated with the record's mapped coordinates. Only records with locational uncertainty values of 10,000 meters or less are included in environmental summary reports and number summaries are only provided for records with locational uncertainty values of 1,000 meters or less.

Species Occurrences

The MTNHP evaluates plant and animal observation records for species of higher conservation concern to determine whether they are worthy of inclusion in the Species Occurrence (SO) layer for use in environmental reviews; observations not worthy of inclusion in this layer include long distance dispersal events, migrants observed away from key migratory stopover habitats, and winter observations. An SO is a polygon depicting what is known about a species occupancy from direct observation with a defined level of locational uncertainty and any inference that can be made about adjacent habitat use from the latest peer-reviewed science. If an observation can be associated with a map feature that can be tracked (e.g., a wetland boundary for a wetland associated plant) then this polygon feature is used to represent the SO. Areas that can be inferred as probable occupied habitat based on direct observation of a species location and what is known about the foraging area or home range size of the species may be incorporated into the SO. Species Occurrences generally belong to one of the following categories:

Plant Species Occurrences

A documented location of a specimen collection or observed plant population. In some instances, adjacent, spatially separated clusters are considered subpopulations and are grouped as one occurrence (e.g., the subpopulations occur in ecologically similar habitats, and their spatial proximity likely allows them to interbreed). Tabular information for multiple observations at the same SO location is generally linked to a single polygon. Plant SO's are only created for Species of Concern and Potential Species of Concern.

Animal Species Occurrences

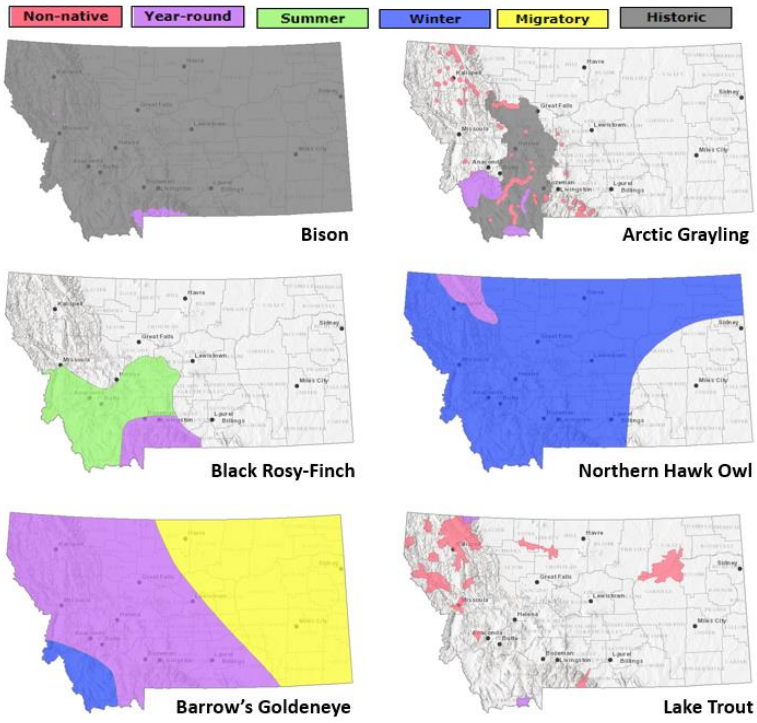
The location of a verified observation or specimen record typically known or assumed to represent a breeding population or a portion of a breeding population. Animal SO's are generally: (1) buffers of terrestrial point observations based on documented species' home range sizes; (2) buffers of stream segments to encompass occupied streams and immediate adjacent riparian habitats; (3) polygonal features encompassing known or likely breeding populations (e.g., a wetland for some amphibians or a forested portion of a mountain range for some wide-ranging carnivores); or (4) combinations of the above. Tabular information for multiple observations at the same SO location is generally linked to a single polygon. Species Occurrence polygons may encompass some unsuitable habitat in some instances in order to avoid heavy data processing associated with clipping out habitats that are readily assessed as unsuitable by the data user (e.g., a point buffer of a terrestrial species may overlap into a portion of a lake that is obviously inappropriate habitat for the species). Animal SO's are only created for Species of Concern and Special Status Species (e.g., Bald Eagle).

Other Occurrence Polygons

These include significant biological features not included in the above categories, such as Important Animal Habitats like bird rookeries and bat roosts, and peatlands or other wetland and riparian communities that support diverse plant and animal communities.

Geographic Range Polygons

Geographic range polygons are still under development for most plant and invertebrate species. Native year-round, summer, winter, migratory and historic geographic range polygons as well as polygons for introduced populations have been defined for most vertebrate animal species for which there are enough observations, surveys, and knowledge of appropriate seasonal habitat use to define them (see examples to left). These native or introduced range polygons bound the extent of known or likely occupied habitats for non-migratory and relative sedentary species and the regular extent of known or likely occupied habitats for migratory and long-distance dispersing species; polygons may include unsuitable intervening habitats. For most species, a single polygon can represent the year-round or seasonal range, but breeding ranges of some colonial nesting water birds and some introduced species are represented more patchily when supported by data. Some ranges are mapped more broadly than actual distributions in order to be visible on statewide maps (e.g., fish).



Predicted Suitable Habitat Models

Predicted habitat suitability models have been created for plant and animal Species of Concern and are undergoing development for non-Species of Concern. For species for which models have been completed, the environmental summary report includes simple rule-based associations with streams for aquatic species and seasonal habitats for game species as well as mathematically complex Maximum Entropy models (Phillips et al. 2006, Ecological Modeling 190:231-259) constructed from a variety of statewide biotic and abiotic layers and presence only data for individual species for most terrestrial species. For the Maximum Entropy models, we reclassified 90 x 90-meter continuous model output into suitability classes (unsuitable, low, moderate, and optimal) then aggregated that into the one square mile hexagons used in the environmental summary report; this is the finest spatial scale we suggest using this information in management decisions and survey planning. Full model write ups for individual species that discuss model goals, inputs, outputs, and evaluation in much greater detail are posted on the MTNHP's Predicted Suitable Habitat Models webpage. Evaluations of predictive accuracy and specific limitations are included with the metadata for models of individual species. **Model outputs should not be used in place of on-the-ground surveys for species. Instead model outputs should be used in conjunction with habitat evaluations to determine the need for on-the-ground surveys for species.** We suggest that the percentage of predicted optimal and moderate suitable habitat within the report area be used in conjunction with geographic range polygons and the percentage of commonly associated habitats to generate lists of potential species that may occupy broader landscapes for the purposes of landscape-level planning.

Associated Habitats

Within the boundary of the intersected hexagons, we provide the approximate percentage of commonly or occasionally associated habitat for vertebrate animal species that regularly breed, overwinter, or migrate through the state; a detailed list of commonly and occasionally associated habitats is provided in individual species accounts in the Montana Field Guide We assigned common or occasional use of each of the ecological

systems mapped in Montana by: (1) using personal knowledge and reviewing literature that summarizes the breeding, overwintering, or migratory habitat requirements of each species; (2) evaluating structural characteristics and distribution of each ecological system relative to the species' range and habitat requirements; (3) examining the observation records for each species in the state-wide point observation database associated with each ecological system; and (4) calculating the percentage of observations associated with each ecological system relative to the percent of Montana covered by each ecological system to get a measure of numbers of observations versus availability of habitat. Species that breed in Montana were only evaluated for breeding habitat use, species that only overwinter in Montana were only evaluated for overwintering habitat use, and species that only migrate through Montana were only evaluated for migratory habitat use. In general, species were listed as associated with an ecological system if structural characteristics of used habitat documented in the literature were present in the ecological system or large numbers of point observations were associated with the ecological system. However, species were not listed as associated with an ecological system if there was no support in the literature for use of structural characteristics in an ecological system, even if point observations were associated with that system. Common versus occasional association with an ecological system was assigned based on the degree to which the structural characteristics of an ecological system matched the preferred structural habitat characteristics for each species as represented in the scientific literature. The percentage of observations associated with each ecological system relative to the percent of Montana covered by each ecological system was also used to guide assignment of common versus occasional association.

We suggest that the percentage of commonly associated habitat within the report area be used in conjunction with geographic range polygons and the percentage of predicted optimal and moderate suitable habitat from predictive models to generate lists of potential species that may occupy broader landscapes for the purposes of landscape-level planning. Users of this information should be aware that land cover mapping accuracy is particularly problematic when the systems occur as small patches or where the land cover types have been altered over the past decade. Thus, particular caution should be used when using the associations in assessments of smaller areas (e.g., evaluations of public land survey sections).

Introduction to Land Cover

Land Use/Land Cover is one of 15 Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure framework layers considered vital for making statewide maps of Montana and understanding its geography. The layer records all Montana natural vegetation, land cover and land use, classified from satellite and aerial imagery, mapped at a scale of 1:100,000, and interpreted with supporting ground-level data. The baseline map is adapted from the Northwest ReGAP (NWGAP) project land cover classification, which used 30m resolution multi-spectral Landsat imagery acquired between 1999 and 2001. Vegetation classes were drawn from the Ecological System Classification developed by NatureServe (Comer et al. 2003). The land cover classes were developed by Anderson et al. (1976). The NWGAP effort encompasses 12 map zones. Montana overlaps seven of these zones. The two NWGAP teams responsible for the initial land cover mapping effort in Montana were Sanborn and NWGAP at the University of Idaho. Both Sanborn and NWGAP employed a similar modeling approach in which Classification and Regression Tree (CART) models were applied to Landsat ETM+ scenes. The Spatial Analysis Lab within the Montana Natural Heritage Program was responsible for developing a seamless Montana land cover map with a consistent statewide legend from these two separate products. Additionally, the Montana land cover layer incorporates several other land cover and land use products (e.g., MSDI Structures and Transportation themes and the Montana Department of Revenue Final Land Unit classification) and reclassifications based on plot-level data and the latest NAIP imagery to improve accuracy and enhance the usability of the theme. Updates are done as partner support and funding allow, or when other MSDI datasets can be incorporated. Recent updates include fire perimeters and agricultural land use (annually), energy developments such as wind, oil and gas installations (2014), roads, structures and other impervious surfaces (various years): and local updates/improvements to specific ecological systems (e.g., central Montana grassland and sagebrush ecosystems). Current and previous versions of the Land Use/Land Cover layer with full metadata are available for download from the Montana State Library's GIS Data List More information on the land cover layer is available at: https://msl.mt.gov/geoinfo/msdi/land_use_land_cover/

Within the report area you have requested, land cover is summarized by acres of Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Ecological Systems.

Literature Cited

Anderson, J.R. E.E. Hardy, J.T. Roach, and R.E. Witmer. 1976. A land use and land cover classification system for use with remote sensor data. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 964.

Comer, P., D. Faber-Langendoen, R. Evans, S. Gawler, C. Josse, G. Kittel, S. Menard, M. Pyne, M. Reid, K. Schulz, K. Snow, and J. Teague. 2003. Ecological systems of the United States: A working classification of U.S. terrestrial systems. NatureServe, Arlington, VA.

Introduction to Wetland and Riparian

Within the report area you have requested, wetland and riparian mapping is summarized by acres of each classification present. Summaries are only provided for modern MTNHP wetland and riparian mapping and not for outdated (NWI Legacy) or incomplete (NWI Scalable) mapping efforts; described here. MTNHP has made all three of these datasets and associated metadata available for separate download on the Montana Wetland and Riparian Framework web page.

Wetland and Riparian mapping is one of 15 Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure framework layers considered vital for making statewide maps of Montana and understanding its geography. The wetland and riparian framework layer consists of spatial data representing the extent, type, and approximate location of wetlands, riparian areas, and deep water habitats in Montana.

Wetland and riparian mapping is completed through photointerpretation of 1-m resolution color infrared aerial imagery acquired from 2005 or later. A coding convention using letters and numbers is assigned to each mapped wetland. These letters and numbers describe the broad landscape context of the wetland, its vegetation type, its water regime, and the kind of alterations that may have occurred. Ancillary data layers such as topographic maps, digital elevation models, soils data, and other aerial imagery sources are also used to improve mapping accuracy. Wetland mapping follows the federal Wetland Mapping Standard and classifies wetlands according to the Cowardin classification system of the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) (Cowardin et al. 1979, FGDC Wetlands Subcommittee 2013). Federal, State, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands differently than the NWI. Similar coding, based on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conventions, is applied to riparian areas (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2009). These are mapped areas where vegetation composition and growth is influenced by nearby water bodies, but where soils, plant communities, and hydrology do not display true wetland characteristics. **These data are intended for use at a scale of 1:12,000 or smaller. Mapped wetland and riparian areas do not represent precise boundaries and digital wetland data cannot substitute for an on-site determination of jurisdictional wetlands.**

See detailed overviews, with examples, of both wetland and riparian classification systems and associated codes as a storymap and companion guide

Literature Cited

Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FWS/OBS-79/31. Washington, D.C. 103pp.

Federal Geographic Data Committee. 2013. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. FGDC-STD-004-2013. Second Edition. Wetlands Subcommittee, Federal Geographic Data Committee and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. 2009. A system for mapping riparian areas in the western United States. Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation, Branch of Resource and Mapping Support, Arlington, Virginia.

Introduction to Land Management

Within the report area you have requested, land management information is summarized by acres of federal, state, and local government lands, tribal reservation boundaries, private conservation lands, and federal, state, local, and private conservation easements. Acreage for "Owned", "Tribal", or "Easement" categories represents non-overlapping areas that may be totaled. However, "Other Boundaries" represents managed areas such as National Forest boundaries containing private inholdings and other mixed ownership which may cause boundaries to overlap (e.g. a wilderness area within a forest). Therefore, acreages may not total in a straight-forward manner.

Because information on land stewardship is critical to effective land management, the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) began compiling ownership and management data in 1997. The goal of the Montana Land Management Database is to manage a single, statewide digital data set that incorporates information from both public and private entities. The database assembles information on public lands, private conservation lands, and conservation easements held by state and federal agencies and land trusts and is updated on a regular basis. Since 2011, the Information Management group in the Montana State Library's Digital Library Division has led the Montana Land Management Database in partnership with the MTNHP.

Public and private conservation land polygons are attributed with the name of the entity that owns it. The data are derived from the statewide Montana Cadastral Parcel layer Conservation easement data shows land parcels on which a public agency or qualified land trust has placed a conservation easement in cooperation with the landowner. The dataset contains no information about ownership or status of the mineral estate. For questions about the dataset or to report errors, please contact the Montana Natural Heritage Program at (406) 444-5363 or mtnhp@mt.gov. You can download various components of the Land Management Database and view associated metadata at the Montana State Library's GIS Data List at the following links:

Public Lands
Conservation Easements
Private Conservation Lands
Managed Areas

Map features in the Montana Land Management Database or summaries provided in this report are not intended as a legal depiction of public or private surface land ownership boundaries and should not be used in place of a survey conducted by a licensed land surveyor. Similarly, map features do not imply public access to any lands. The Montana Natural Heritage Program makes no representations or warranties whatsoever with respect to the accuracy or completeness of this data and assumes no responsibility for the suitability of the data for a particular purpose. The Montana Natural Heritage Program will not be liable for any damages incurred as a result of errors displayed here. Consumers of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the viability of the information for their purposes.

Introduction to Invasive and Pest Species

Within the report area you have requested, separate summaries are provided for: Aquatic Invasive Species, Noxious Weeds, Agricultural Pests, Forest Pests, and Biocontrol species that have been documented or potentially occur there based on the predicted suitability of habitat. Definitions for each of these invasive and pest species categories can be found on our Species Status Codes page.

Each of these summaries provides the following information when present for a species: (1) the number of observations of each species; (2) the geographic range polygons for each species, if developed, that the report area overlaps; (3) predicted relative habitat suitability classes that are present if a predicted suitable habitat model has been created; (4) the percent of the report area that is mapped as commonly associated or occasionally associated habitat as listed for each species in the Montana Field Guide; and (5) links to species accounts in the Montana Field Guide. Details on each of these information categories are included under relevant section headers under the Introduction to Native Species above or are defined on our Species Status Codes page. In presenting this information, the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is working towards assisting the user with rapidly determining what invasive and pest species have been documented and what species are potentially present in the report area. We remind users that this information is likely incomplete as surveys to document introduced species are lacking in many areas of the state, information on introduced species has only been tracked relatively recently, the MTNHP's staff and resources are limited, and information is constantly being added and updated in our databases. **Thus, field verification by professional biologists of the absence or presence of species will always be an important obligation of users of our data.**

If you are aware of observation or survey datasets for invasive or pest species that the MTNHP is missing, please report them to the Program Coordinator bmaxell@mt.gov Program Botanist apipp@mt.gov or Senior Zoologist dbachen@mt.gov If you have animal or plant observations that you would like to contribute, you can also submit them via Excel spreadsheets, geodatabases, iNaturalist, or a Survey123 form. Various methods of data submission are reviewed in this playlist of videos:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRaydtZpHu2qOHPoSPq9cnM9uXGmEXACx

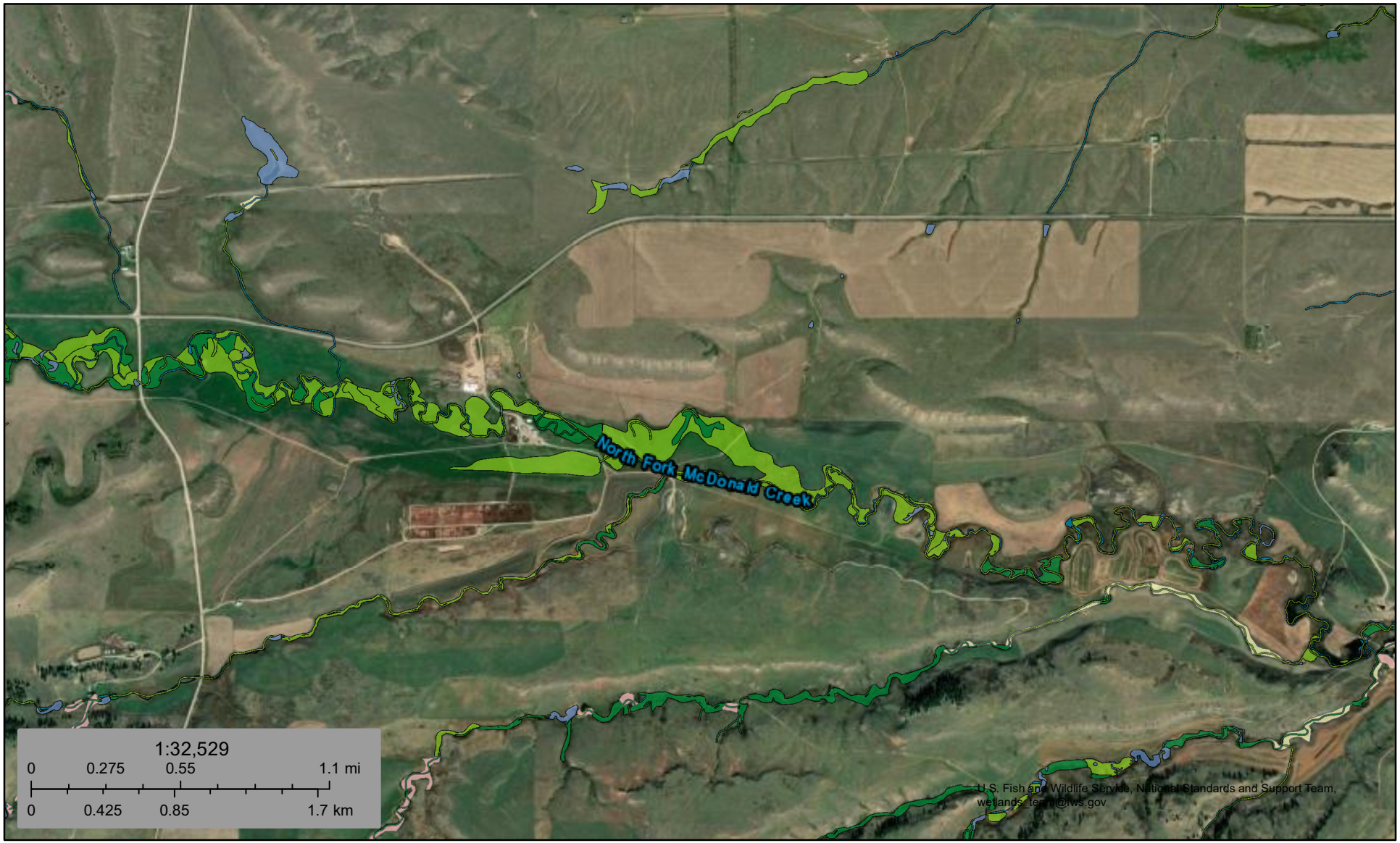
Additional Information Resources

- Effects of Recreation on Rocky Mountain Wildlife
- Laws, Treaties, Regulations, and Agreements on Animals and Plants
- MTNHP Staff Contact Information
- Montana Field Guide
- MTNHP Species of Concern Report - Animals and Plants
- MTNHP Species Status Codes - Explanation
- MTNHP Predicted Suitable Habitat Models (for select Animals and Plants)
- MTNHP Request Information page
- Montana Cadastral
- Montana Code Annotated
- Montana Fisheries Information System
- Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Subdivision Recommendations
- Montana Forestry Best Management Practices
- Montana GIS Data Layers
- Montana GIS Data Bundler
- Montana Greater Sage-Grouse Project Submittal Site
- Montana Guide to Streamside Management Zone Law and Rules
- Montana Ground Water Information Center
- Montana Index of Environmental Permits, 21st Edition (2018)
- Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)
- Montana Environmental Policy Act Analysis Resource List
- Montana Native Plant Conservation Strategy
- Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Layers
- Montana State Historic Preservation Office Review and Compliance
- Montana Stream Permitting: a guide for conservation district supervisors and others
- Montana Water Information System
- Montana Web Map Services
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Penalties for Misuse of Fish and Wildlife Location Data (MCA 87-6-222)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation (Section 7 Consultation)
- Uses of Information from the Montana Natural Heritage Program
- Web Soil Survey Tool
- Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation Resources

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

40B 30164213



July 31, 2025

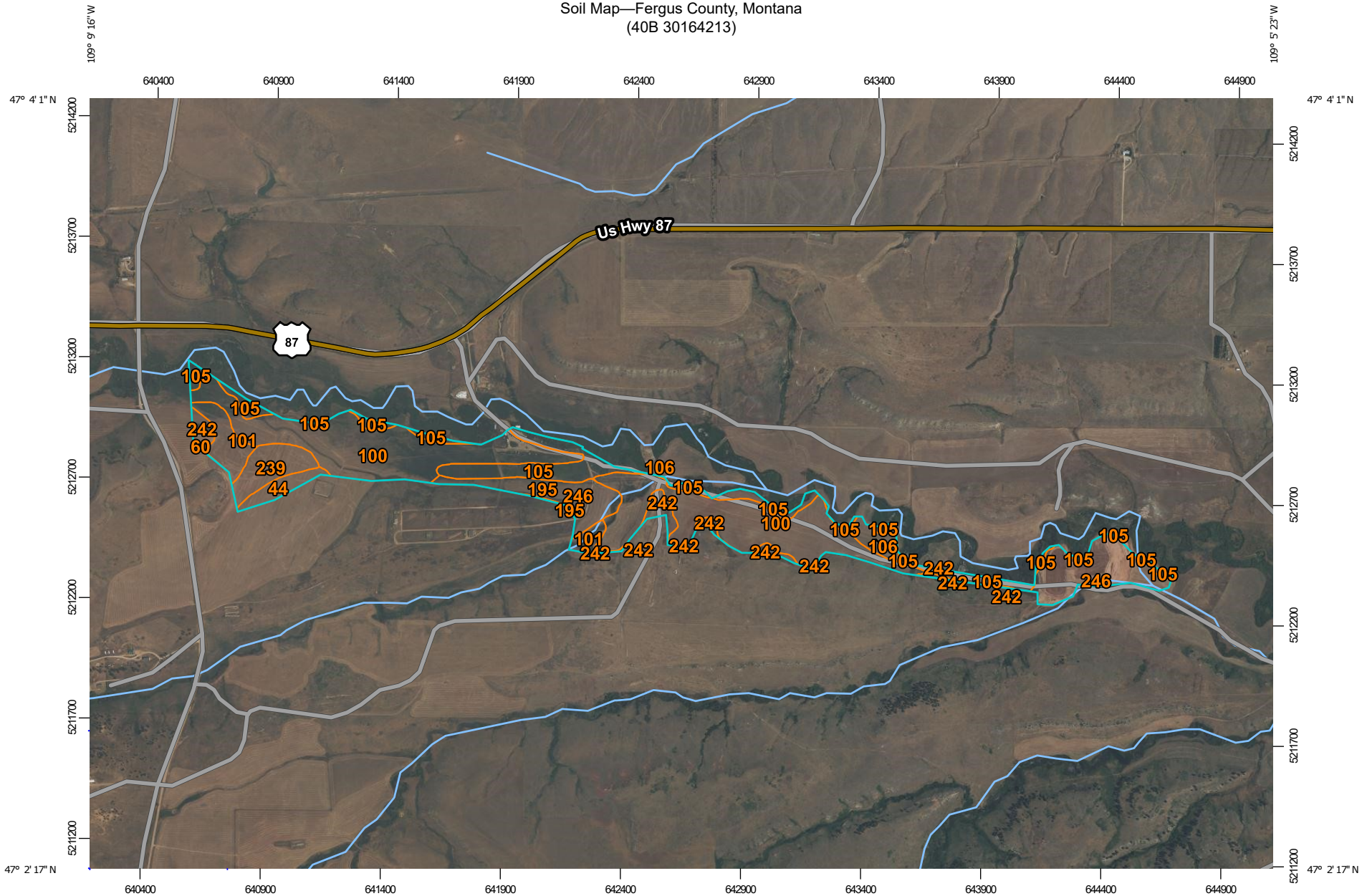
Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)
This page was produced by the NWI mapper

Soil Map—Fergus County, Montana
(40B 30164213)



MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)
- Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils
- Soil Map Unit Polygons
- Soil Map Unit Lines
- Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features
- Blowout
- Borrow Pit
- Clay Spot
- Closed Depression
- Gravel Pit
- Gravelly Spot
- Landfill
- Lava Flow
- Marsh or swamp
- Mine or Quarry
- Miscellaneous Water
- Perennial Water
- Rock Outcrop
- Saline Spot
- Sandy Spot
- Severely Eroded Spot
- Sinkhole
- Slide or Slip
- Sodic Spot
- Spoil Area
- Stony Spot
- Very Stony Spot
- Wet Spot
- Other
- Special Line Features

Water Features
- Streams and Canals

Transportation
- Rails
- Interstate Highways
- US Routes
- Major Roads
- Local Roads

Background
- Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Fergus County, Montana
Survey Area Data: Version 25, Aug 21, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jun 13, 2021—Sep 30, 2021

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
44	Castner complex, 4 to 25 percent slopes	5.2	2.4%
60	Darret clay loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	0.2	0.1%
100	Fergus clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	102.6	47.9%
101	Fergus clay loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	11.8	5.5%
105	Fluvaquentic Haplaquolls, nearly level	31.6	14.8%
106	Frazer silty clay loam	5.7	2.7%
195	Roy-Winifred complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	0.2	0.1%
239	Timberg clay, 2 to 8 percent slopes	11.3	5.3%
242	Timberg-Castner complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	8.8	4.1%
246	Twin Creek loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	37.0	17.3%
Totals for Area of Interest		**214.4**	**100.0%**

Fergus County, Montana

100—Fergus clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: ch6r
Elevation: 3,600 to 4,500 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 15 to 19 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 39 to 45 degrees F
Frost-free period: 110 to 125 days
Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated

Map Unit Composition

Fergus and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 10 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Fergus

Setting

Landform: Alluvial fans, stream terraces
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Clayey alluvium

Typical profile

A - 0 to 6 inches: clay loam
Bt - 6 to 21 inches: clay
Bk - 21 to 60 inches: silty clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 2 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.57 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 15 percent
Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 3.0 mmhos/cm)
Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.8 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e
Hydrologic Soil Group: C
Ecological site: R046XN247MT - Clayey (Cy) RRU 46-N 13-19 PZ
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Terrad

Percent of map unit: 5 percent
Landform: Plains
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: R046XN247MT - Clayey (Cy) RRU 46-N 13-19 PZ
Hydric soil rating: No

Twin creek

Percent of map unit: 5 percent
Landform: Stream terraces, alluvial fans
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: R046XC508MT - Silty (Si) RRU 46-C 13-19 PZ
Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Fergus County, Montana
Survey Area Data: Version 25, Aug 21, 2024

Fergus County, Montana

246—Twin Creek loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: chcy
Elevation: 3,500 to 4,700 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 15 to 19 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 39 to 45 degrees F
Frost-free period: 110 to 125 days
Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

Map Unit Composition

Twin creek and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 10 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Twin Creek

Setting

Landform: Stream terraces, alluvial fans
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Loamy alluvium

Typical profile

A - 0 to 7 inches: loam
Bw - 7 to 29 inches: loam
Bk - 29 to 60 inches: loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 2 to 8 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 35 percent
Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)
Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.6 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e
Hydrologic Soil Group: B
Ecological site: R046XC508MT - Silty (Si) RRU 46-C 13-19 PZ
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Fergus

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Landform: Alluvial fans, stream terraces
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: R046XN247MT - Clayey (Cy) RRU 46-N 13-19 PZ
Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Fergus County, Montana
Survey Area Data: Version 25, Aug 21, 2024