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: Bonnie L. Larsen 230 Riverfront Ln

Great Falls, MT 59404-6238

and

Amanda S. Hendrickson 215 Riverfront Ln Great Falls, MT 59404-6238

- 2. Type of action: Application to Change a Water Right No. 41K 30170695
- 3. Water source name: Sun River
- 4. Location affected by project: SESENE Sec 31 T 21N R 2E; S2SWNW Sec 32 T 21N R 2E, Cascade County
- 5. Narrative summary of the proposed project, purpose, action to be taken, and benefits: Bonnie L. Larsen and Amanda S. Hendrickson (Applicants) propose to temporarily change the place of use and purpose for Statement of Claim No. 41K 5004-00. The duration of the temporary change is proposed to be 10 years. The proposed place of use consists of a total of 2.88 acres in SESENE Sec 31 T 21N R 2E and S2SWNW Sec 32 T 21N R 2E, Cascade County. The purpose of use is proposed to be temporarily changed from irrigation to lawn & garden. Historically, a total of 6.20 acres was irrigated (irrigation purpose of use), via sprinkler, with the source of water being sun river. Four places of use, all within T 21N, R 2E, Cascade County, were claimed. The historical places of use include 2.12 acres in the SESENE Sec 31; 3.78 acres in the SESENW Sec 32; 0.12 acres in the NWNWSW Sec 32; and 0.18 acres in the NENESE Sec 31.

The DNRC shall issue a water use permit if an 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)

Part II. Environmental Review

1. Environmental Impact Checklist:

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

WATER QUANTITY, QUALITY AND DISTRIBUTION

<u>Water quantity</u> - 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: No significant impact

N/A – According to Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks the Sun River is not a chronically or periodically dewatered stream.

<u>Water quality</u> - 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 Sun River, Muddy Creek to mouth (Missouri River) is listed on the 2020 Montana 303d list as not fully supporting Aquatic Life, Agriculture, and Primary Contact Recreation. The probable causes and probable sources for these impairments may be found within the Montana DEQ Assessment Record Summary for this waterbody (SummaryReportForQAQCCycle and in the file for Application to Change a Water Right No. 41K 30170695).

This appropriation has historically been used for irrigation purpose. Although the change would temporarily change the purpose to lawn & garden, the appropriation would operate in a manner like its historical use. The volume and flow rate will be used to the same or lesser extent.

<u>Groundwater</u> - 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: No significant impact

No impacts identified. This project is part of an existing irrigation appropriation that is not increasing use.

<u>DIVERSION WORKS</u> - 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

No impacts identified. This project is part of an existing irrigation appropriation that is not increasing use.

UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

<u>Endangered and threatened species</u> - 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: No significant 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): Long-billed Curlew; Ferruginous Hawk; Burrowing Owl; Brewer's Sparrow; Grizzly Bear. Other Potential Species lists can be found in the supplemental document portion of the change application file. The changes in this project are not anticipated to have an adverse effect on the listed species.

<u>Wetlands</u> - 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 (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) no wetlands are involved as a part of this change.

<u>Ponds</u> - For ponds, consult and assess whether existing wildlife, waterfowl, or fisheries resources would be impacted.

Determination: NA

There are no ponds associated with this project. There will be no impact to existing wildlife, waterfowl, or fisheries resources due to this proposed use.

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 soils are heavy in salts that could cause saline seep.

Determination: No significant impact

The soils in this area are primarily Kobar silty clay loam (o to 2 percent and 2 to 4 percent slopes) and Havre loam. The USDA Web Soil Survey describes these as well drained, non-saline to very slightly saline soils which make for prime farmland if irrigated.

<u>VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY/NOXIOUS WEEDS</u> - 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

The landowner is expected to prevent the establishment or spread of noxious weeds on their property.

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

Determination: No impact

There should be no deterioration of air quality due to increased air pollutants from this proposed project.

<u>HISTORICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES</u> - 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.

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

Determination: No additional impacts on other environmental resources were identified.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

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

Determination: No impact identified

This proposed use is not inconsistent with any known locally adopted environmental plans and goals.

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

Determination: No impact identified

The project is already in place; this project should have no new impact on recreational or wilderness activities.

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

Determination: No impact identified

There should be no significant impact on human health from this proposed use.

<u>PRIVATE PROPERTY</u> - 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 impact identified

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

Impacts on:

- (a) <u>Cultural uniqueness and diversity</u>? No significant impact.
- (b) Local and state tax base and tax revenues? No significant impact.
- (c) Existing land uses? No significant impact.
- (d) Quantity and distribution of employment? No significant impact.
- (e) <u>Distribution and density of population and housing</u>? No significant impact.
- (f) <u>Demands for government services</u>? No significant impact.
- (g) <u>Industrial and commercial activity</u>? No significant impact.
- (h) <u>Utilities</u>? No significant impact.
- (i) <u>Transportation</u>? No significant impact.
- (j) <u>Safety</u>? No significant impact.
- (k) Other appropriate social and economic circumstances? No significant impact.
- 2. Secondary and cumulative impacts on the physical environment and human population:

Secondary Impacts None identified.

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

41K.

- 3. **Describe any mitigation/stipulation measures:** There are no mitigation or stipulation measures required.
- 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: 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 why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action: No significant environmental impacts were identified. No EIS required.

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

Name: Matthew Shaw

Title: Water Resource Specialist

Date: August 11, 2025

Reporting Cycle: 2020 Assessment Record: MT41K001_020 Status: Unassigned

WATER INFORMATION Status: Unassigned

Reporting Cycle: 2020

Assessment Unit: MT41K001_020

Name: Sun River

Location Description: SUN RIVER, Muddy Creek to mouth (Missouri River)

Water Type:Size (Miles/Acres)Use Class:RIVER17.3 MILESB-3

Trophic Status:

Trophic Trend:

1 - Hydrologic Unit Code: 10030104 **2 - HUC Name:** Sun

3 - Watershed: Upper Missouri4 - Basin: Upper Missouri

5 - TMDL Planning Area: Sun

6 - Ecoregion: Northwestern Glaciated Plains

7 - County: Cascade County

8 - LAT/LONG AU Upstream: Start: 47.548837 / -111.538253 **9 - LAT/LONG AU Downstream:** End: 47.494617 / -111.312105

Water Quality Category: 4A - All TMDLs needed to rectify all identified threats or impairments have been

completed and approved.

11/20/2024 12:23:44 Page 1 of 4

Reporting Cycle: 2020 Assessment Record: MT41K001_020 Status: Unassigned

Beneficial Use Support Information					
Use Name	Fully Supporting	Not Fully Supporting	Threatened	Insufficient Information	Not Assessed
Aquatic Life		X			
Agricultural		X			
Drinking Water	X				
Primary Contact Recreation		X			

Assessment Information		
Use Name	Assessment Type	Assessment Confidence
NA		
Use Name	Assessment Methods	
NA		

Impairment Information			
Use Name	Probable Causes	Probable Sources	TMDL Completed
Aquatic Life	Sedimentation/Siltation	Channelization	Υ
		Crop Production (Irrigated)	
		Rangeland Grazing	
	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	Channelization	Y
		Crop Production (Irrigated)	
		Rangeland Grazing	
	Nitrogen, Total	Crop Production (Irrigated)	Y
		Rangeland Grazing	
		Agriculture	
	Phosphorus, Total	Crop Production (Irrigated)	Y
		Rangeland Grazing	
		Agriculture	
	Flow Regime Modification	Crop Production (Irrigated)	N
Primary Contact Recreation	Nitrogen, Total	Crop Production (Irrigated)	Υ
		Rangeland Grazing	
		Agriculture	
	Phosphorus, Total	Crop Production (Irrigated)	Υ
		Rangeland Grazing	
		Agriculture	
Agricultural	Flow Regime Modification	Crop Production (Irrigated)	N

11/20/2024 12:23:44 Page 2 of 4

Reporting Cycle: 2020 Assessment Record: MT41K001_020 Status: Unassigned

Use Name	Observed Effects
NA	

Delisting / Category Changes			
Cause	Reason for Change	Change Date	Comments
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	TMDL Approved or established by EPA (4A)	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on Februar 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphoru for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.
Nitrogen, Total	TMDL Approved or established by EPA (4A)	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on Februar 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphoru for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.
Phosphorus, Total	TMDL Approved or established by EPA (4A)	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on Februar 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphoru for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.
Sedimentation/Siltation	TMDL Approved or established by EPA (4A)	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on Februar 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphoru for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.
Sulfate	Applicable WQS attained; reason for recovery unspecified	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on Februar 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphoru for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.

11/20/2024 12:23:44 Page 3 of 4

Reporting Cycle: 2020 Assessment Record: MT41K001_020 Status: Unassigned

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	Applicable WQS attained; reason for recovery unspecified	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on February 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphorus for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.
Salinity	Applicable WQS attained; reason for recovery unspecified	02/23/2005	"Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Sun River Planning Area" approved by EPA on February 23, 2005 addressed TMDLs for suspended solids, siltation, nitrogen and total phosphorus for the lower Sun River. The Salinity Section indicates that the Lower Sun River is meeting water quality standards for temperature and salinity-related pollutants. Therefore, no TMDLS were written for those pollutants.

11/20/2024 12:23:44 Page 4 of 4



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Latitude Longitude 47.51593 -111.49943 47.54685 -111.53668 Summarized by: **41K 30170695**

(Custom Area of Interest)



Suggested Citation

Montana Natural Heritage Program. Environmental Summary Report.

for Latitude 47.51593 to 47.54685 and Longitude -111.49943 to -111.53668. Retrieved on 8/1/2025.

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.





Environmental Summar

Table of Contents

- Species Report
- Structured Surveys
- Land Cover
- Wetland and Riparian
- Land Management
- Biological Reports
- Invasive and Pest Species
- Introduction to Montana Natural Heritage Program
- Data Use Terms and Conditions
- Suggested Contacts for Natural Resource Agencies
- Introduction to Native Species
- Introduction to Land Cover
- Introduction to Wetland and Riparian
- Introduction to Land Management
- Introduction to Invasive and Pest Species
- Additional Information Resources

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 Num Obs Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m) Model Icons **Habitat Icons** Range Icons Nuitable (native range) Common Native / Year-round Optimal Suitability Occasional Summer Moderate Suitability Winter + indicates additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-10,000m) Low Suitability Migratory Suitable (introduced range) Non-native Historical

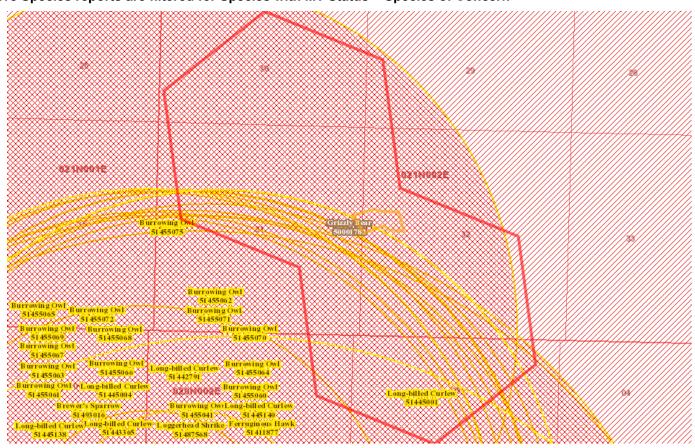


Native Species

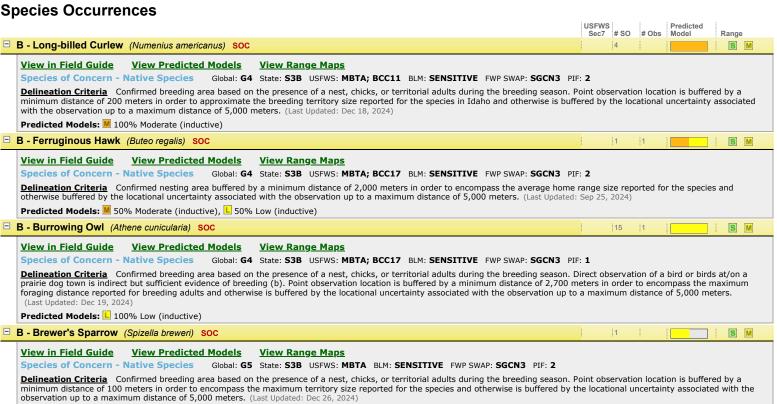
Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (Custom Area of Interest)

Filtered by:

Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern



Predicted Models: ■ 50% Low (inductive)



■ M - Grizzly Bear (Ursus arctos) SOC

View in Field Guide View Range Maps

Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S3 USFWS: LT BLM: THREATENED FWP SWAP: SGCN2-3

Delineation Criteria Species Occurrence polygons represent areas delineated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that encompass both home ranges and potential transitory movements based on verified sightings. Within these areas, the USFWS wants project proponents to consider whether the species "may be present" when evaluating the potential impacts of a project and to work with the USFWS to develop and implement best management practices to minimize or eliminate project effects on the species. (Last Updated: Dec 26, 2024)

7 1

Not Assessed Y



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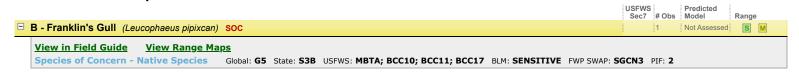
Native Species

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (Custom Area of Interest)

Filtered by:

Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern

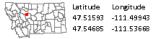
Other Observed Species





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Legend Num Obs Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m) Model Icons **Habitat Icons** Range Icons Suitable (native range) Common Mative / Year-round Optimal Suitability Occasional Summer Moderate Suitability Winter + indicates Low Suitability Migratory Suitable (introduced range) Non-native Historical



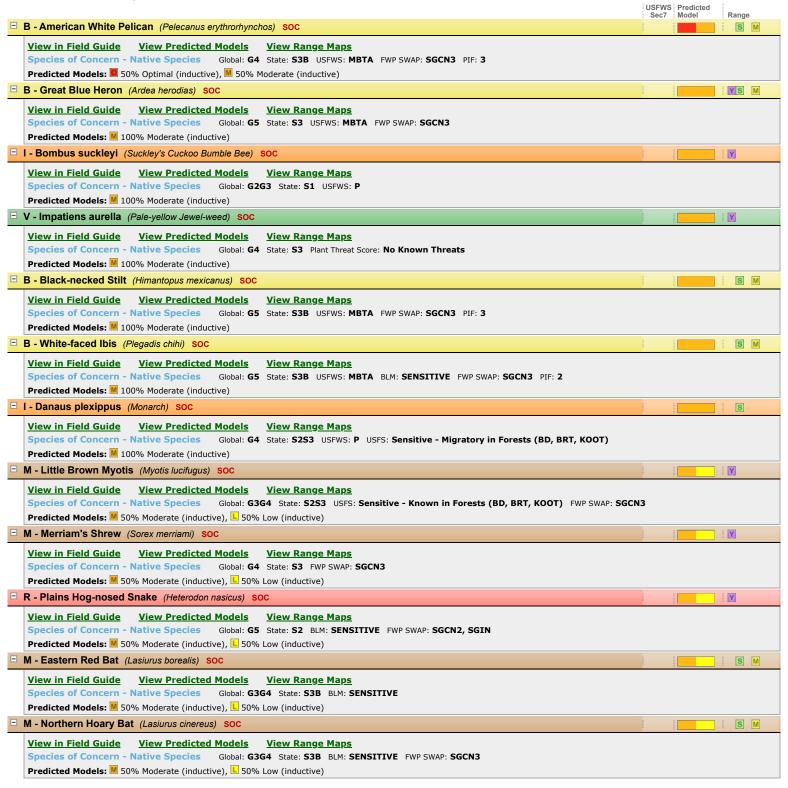
Native Species

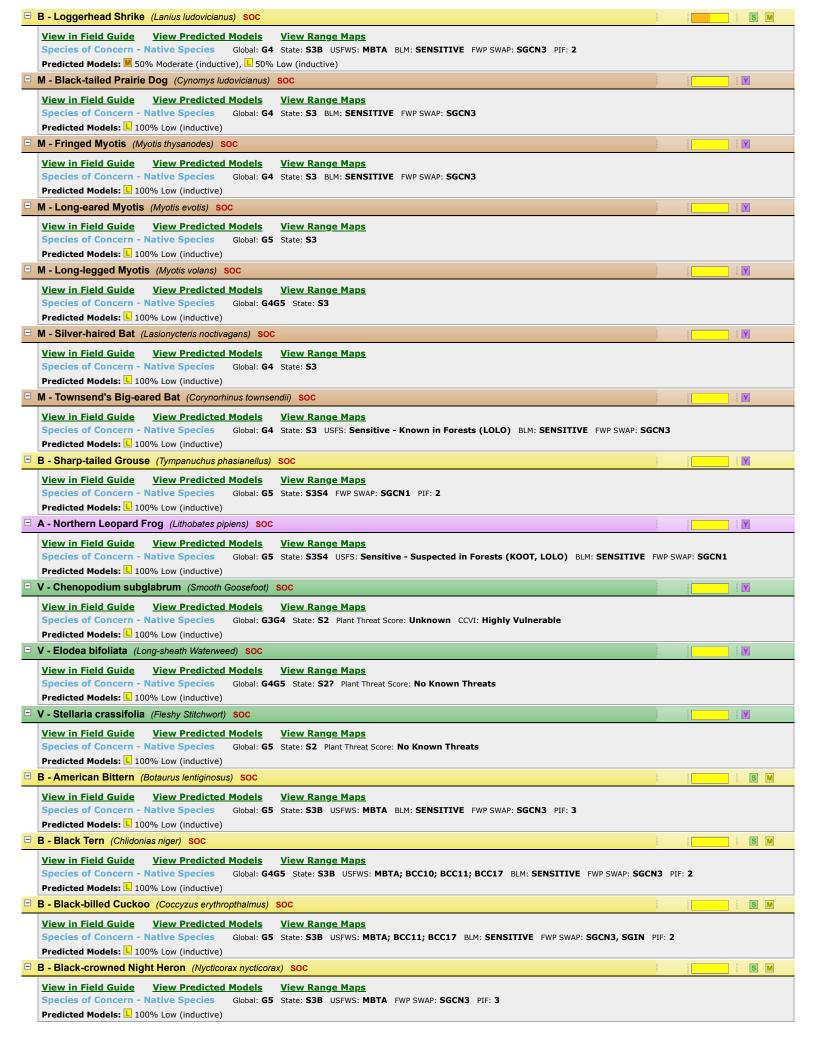
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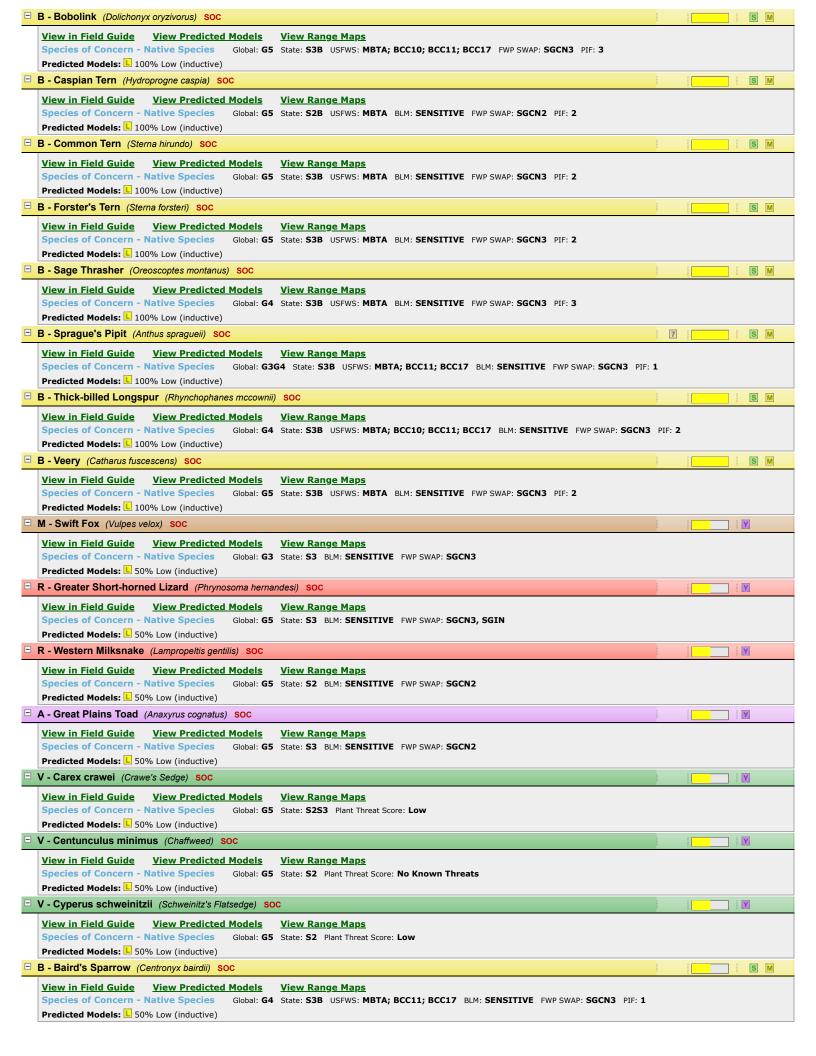
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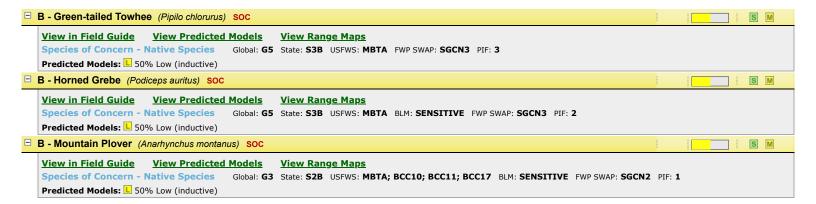
Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern

Other Potential Species













Structured Surveys

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (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:

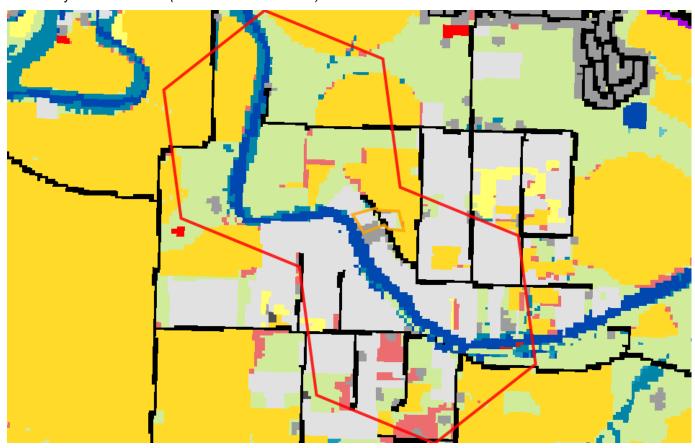
Recent Survey: 2012

Latitude 47.51593 47.54685

Latitude Longitude 47.51593 -111.49943 47.54685 -111.53668

Land Cover

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (Custom Area of Interest)





Human Land Use Developed



28% (355 Acres)

Vegetation (primarily grasses) planted in developed settings for recreation, erosion control, or aesthetic purposes. Impervious surfaces account for less than 20% of total cover. This category often includes highway and railway rights of way and graveled rural roads.



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.



Human Land Use Agriculture

Cultivated Crops

23% (*301 Acres*)

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.



Wetland and Riparian Systems
Open Water



Open Water

All areas of open water, generally with less than 25% cover of vegetation or soil

No Image

Human Land Use Developed



Other Roads

6% (74 Acres) County, city and or rural roads generally open to motor vehicles.



Recently Disturbed or Modified Introduced Vegetation

ntroduced 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.



3% (43 Acres)

Wetland and Riparian Systems Floodplain and Riparian Great Plains Floodplain

This system occurs along the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers and their larger tributaries, including parts of the Little Missouri, Clark's Fork Yellowstone, Powder, Tongue, Bighorn, Milk, and Musselshell rivers. These are the big perennial rivers of the region, with hydrologic dynamics largely driven by snowmelt and rainfall originating in their headwater watersheds, rather than local precipitation events. In the absence of disturbance, periodic flooding of fluvial and alluvial soils and channel migration will create depressions and backwaters that support a mosaic of wetland and riparian vegetation, whose composition and structure is sustained, altered and redistributed by hydrology. Dominant communities within this system range from floodplain forests to wet meadows to gravel/sand flats, linked by underlying soils and flooding regimes. In the western part of the system's range in Montana, the overstory dominant species is black cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa*) with narrowleaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*) and eastern 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 relatively undisturbed stands, willow (*Salix* species), redosier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) and common chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*) form a thick, multi-lavered shrub understory, with a mixture of cool and warm season graminoid species below.

In Montana, many occurrences are now degraded to the point where the cottonwood overstory is the only remaining natural component. The hydrology of these floodplain systems has been affected by dams, highways, railroads and agricultural ditches, and as a result, they have lost their characteristic wetland /riparian mosaic structure. This has resulted in a highly altered community consisting of relict cottonwood stands with little regeneration. The understory vegetation is dominated by non-native pasture grasses, legumes and other introduced forbs, or by the disclimax western snowberry (*Symphoricarpos occidentalis*) and rose (*Rosa* species) shrub community.



Acrès)

Human Land Use Developed

Low Intensity Residential

Includes areas with a mixture of constructed materials and vegetation. Impervious surfaces account for 20-50% of total cover. These areas most commonly include single-family housing units in rural and suburban areas. Paved roadways may be classified into this category.

Additional Limited Land Cover

<1% (5 Acres) Pasture/Hav

<1% (2 Acres) Great Plains Riparian

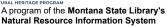
<1% (1 Acres) Introduced Riparian and Wetland Vegetation

Wetland and Riparian

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (Custom Area of Interest)



No Wetland records were found in the selected area





Land Management

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (Custom Area of Interest)





Private Lands or Unknown Ownership 1,268 Acres (99%)





Biological Reports

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (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



A program of the Montana State Library's

Natural Resource Information System

Legend Model Icons N Suitable (native range) Optimal Suitability Low Suitability Low Suitability Suitable (introduced range) Num Obs Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m') + indicates additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-10,000m')



Invasive and Pest Species

Summarized by: 41K 30170695 (Custom Area of Interest)

	Predicted # Obs Model Range
quatic Invasive Species ■ V - Potamogeton crispus (Curly-leaf Pondweed) N2B/AIS	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: G5 State: SNA Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)	
V - Myriophyllum spicatum (Eurasian Water-milfoil) N2A/AIS	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	<u>'</u>
Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA	
Predicted Models:	
V - Butomus umbellatus (Flowering-rush) N2A/AIS	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Noxious Weed: Priority 2A - Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: G5 State: SNA Predicted Models: L 50% Low (inductive)	
F - Common Carp (Cyprinus carpio) AIS	!
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: G5 State: SNA Predicted Models: 1 100% Suitable (introduced range) (deductive)	
V - Nymphaea odorata (American Water-lily) AIS	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: G5 State: SNA	
Predicted Models: 100% Suitable (introduced range) (deductive)	
V - Nymphoides peltata (Yellow Floating Heart) Als	N
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Aquatic Invasive Species - Non-native Species Global: G5 State: SNA Predicted Models: 100% Suitable (introduced range) (deductive)	
oxious Weeds: Priority 1A V - Phragmites australis ssp. australis (European Common Reed) N1A	N N
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: G5T5 State: SNA Predicted Models: ■ 100% Optimal (inductive)	
V - Isatis tinctoria (Dyer's Woad) N1A	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA Predicted Models: ■ 50% Optimal (inductive), ■ 50% Moderate (inductive)	
V - Centaurea solstitialis (Yellow Starthistle) N1A	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA Predicted Models: № 100% Moderate (inductive)	
V - Taeniatherum caput-medusae (Medusahead) N1A	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Noxious Weed: Priority 1A - Non-native Species Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) View Range Maps Global: G4G5 State: SNA	
exicus Weeds: Priority 1B	
V - Lythrum salicaria (Purple Loosestrife) N1B	N N
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Noxious Weed: Priority 1B - Non-native Species Global: G5 State: SNA Predicted Models: ■ 100% Optimal (inductive)	
V - Chondrilla juncea (Rush Skeletonweed) N1B	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Noxious Weed: Priority 1B - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA	
Predicted Models: M 50% Moderate (inductive), L 50% Low (inductive)	
V - Cytisus scoparius (Scotch Broom) N1B	N. C.
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Noxious Weed: Priority 1B - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA Predicted Models: M 50% Moderate (inductive), L 50% Low (inductive)	





I - Mecinus janthiniformis (Dalmatian Toadflax Stem-boring Weevil) BIOCNTRL
<u>View in Field Guide</u> <u>View Predicted Models</u> <u>View Range Maps</u>
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA
Predicted Models: ☐ 100% Low (inductive)
I - Mecinus janthinus (Yellow Toadflax Stem-boring Weevil) BIOCNTRL
 <u>View in Field Guide</u> <u>View Predicted Models</u> <u>View Range Maps</u>
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA
Predicted Models:
I - Aphthona nigriscutis (Black Dot Leafy Spurge Flea Beetle) BIOCNTRL
<u>View in Field Guide</u> <u>View Predicted Models</u> <u>View Range Maps</u>
Biocontrol Species - Non-native Species Global: GNR State: SNA
Predicted Models: L 50% 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 thirdparty 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	Kristina Smucker KSmucker@mt.gov (406) 444-5209			
Common Loon				
Least Tern				
Piping Plover				
Whooping Crane				
Grizzly Bear				
Greater Sage Grouse				
Trumpeter Swan	Brian Wakeling brian.wakeling@mt.gov (406) 444-3940			
Big Game				
Upland Game Birds				
Furbearers				
Managed Terrestrial Game	Adam Messer – MFWP GIS Coordinator <u>amesser@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-0095			
Data				
Fisheries Data and Nongame	Adam Messer – MFWP GIS Coordinator <u>amesser@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-0095			
Animal Data				
Wildlife and Fisheries	https://fwp.mt.gov/buyandapply/commercialwildlifeandscientificpermits/scientific			
Scientific Collector's Permits	Kristina Smucker for Wildlife ksmucker@mt.gov (406) 444-5209			
	Dave Schmetterling for Fisheries <u>dschmetterling@mt.gov</u> (406) 542-5514			
Fish and Wildlife	Stevie Burton stevie.burton@mt.gov (406) 594-7354			
Recommendations for	See https://fwp.mt.gov/conservation/living-with-wildlife/subdivision-recommendations			
Subdivision Development				
Regional Contacts	Region 1 (Kalispell) (406) 752-5501 <u>fwprg12@mt.gov</u>			
	Region 2 (Missoula) (406) 542-5500 <u>fwprg22@mt.gov</u>			
1 4 6	Region 3 (Bozeman) (406) 577-7900 <u>fwprg3@mt.gov</u>			
	Region 4 (Great Falls) (406) 454-5840 <u>fwprg42@mt.gov</u>			
5 7	Region 5 (Billings) (406) 247-2940 fwprg52@mt.gov			
3 12 6	Region 6 (Glasgow) (406) 228-3700 <u>fwprg62@mt.gov</u>			
	Region 7 (Miles City) (406) 234-0900 <u>fwprg72@mt.gov</u>			

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

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			
	Butte Dillon Glasgow	Butte (406) 533-7600 Dillon (406) 683-8000 Glasgow (406) 228-3750	Butte (406) 533-7600 Malta Dillon (406) 683-8000 Miles City Glasgow (406) 228-3750 Missoula	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

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

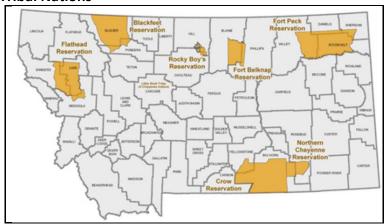
Montana Ecological Services Field Office: https://www.fws.gov/office/montana-ecological-services (406) 449-5225

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 <u>Species Occurrence</u> (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.

<u>Animal Species Occurrences</u>

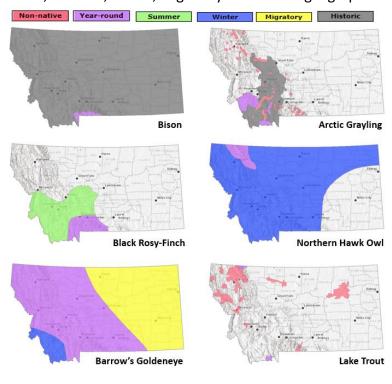
The location of a verified observation or specimen record typically known or assumed to represent a breeding population or a portion of a breeding population. Animal SO's are generally: (1) buffers of terrestrial point observations based on documented species' home range sizes; (2) buffers of stream 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 <u>Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure</u> 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 <u>Species Status Codes</u> 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

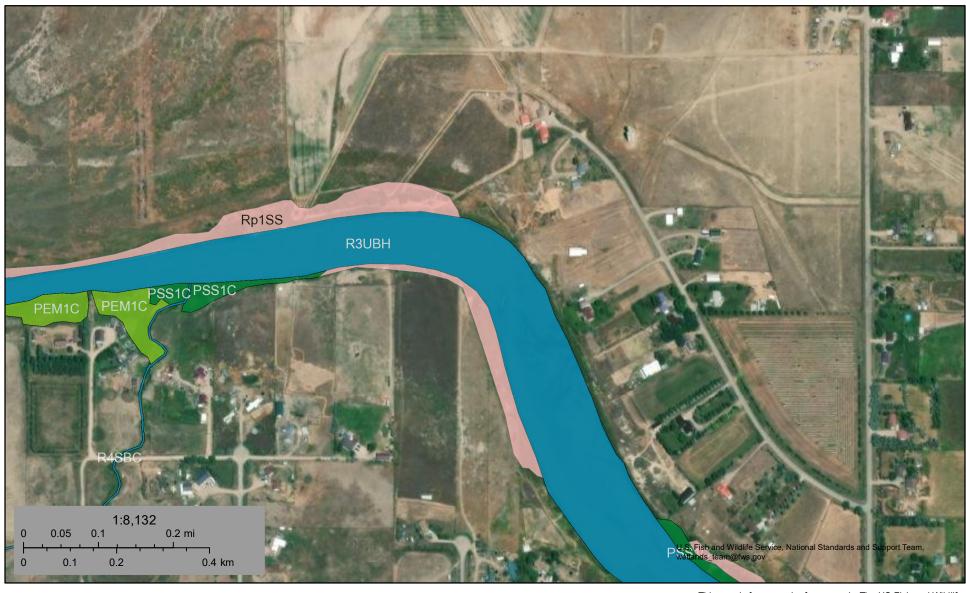
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation Resources

PISH A WHAT IFE SERVICE

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

41K 30170695



August 1, 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.



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

Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways

Streams and Canals



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

Background



Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24.000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed

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: Cascade County Area, Montana Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 22, 2024

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50.000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jul 6, 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
96	Havre loam	2.0	19.3%
114	Kobar silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	6.9	67.9%
115	Kobar silty clay loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	1.3	12.8%
Totals for Area of Interest		10.2	100.0%

Cascade County Area, Montana

115—Kobar silty clay loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: cgmz Elevation: 2,700 to 3,800 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 11 to 18 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 39 to 45 degrees F

Frost-free period: 105 to 135 days

Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated

Map Unit Composition

Kobar and similar soils: 90 percent Minor components: 10 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of

the mapunit.

Description of Kobar

Setting

Landform: Alluvial fans Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Typical profile

A - 0 to 6 inches: silty clay loam

Bw - 6 to 12 inches: silty clay loam

Bk - 12 to 26 inches: silty clay loam

Bky - 26 to 60 inches: silty clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 2 to 4 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Well drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water

(Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 15 percent

Gypsum, maximum content: 5 percent

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 3.0

mmhos/cm)

Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 10.0

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.7 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3e Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: C

Ecological site: R052XN162MT - Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Lawther

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Alluvial fans Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R052XN162MT - Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Marias

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Alluvial fans Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R052XN162MT - Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Cascade County Area, Montana Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 22, 2024

Cascade County Area, Montana

96—Havre loam

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: cgvs Elevation: 2,800 to 3,700 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 11 to 19 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 37 to 45 degrees F

Frost-free period: 105 to 135 days

Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated

Map Unit Composition

Havre and similar soils: 90 percent Minor components: 10 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of

the mapunit.

Description of Havre

Setting

Landform: Flood plains Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Typical profile

A - 0 to 8 inches: loam

C - 8 to 60 inches: stratified fine sandy loam to 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 to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: Rare Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 5 percent

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 3.0

mmhos/cm)

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.7 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 2e Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: B

Ecological site: R052XN161MT - Silty (Si) 10-14" p.z.,

R046XP801MT - Bottomland Group

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Korent

Percent of map unit: 4 percent Landform: Flood plains Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R052XN161MT - Silty (Si) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Rivra

Percent of map unit: 3 percent Landform: Flood plains Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R046XC507MT - Shallow to Gravel (SwGr) RRU

46-C 13-19 PZ Hydric soil rating: No

Ryell

Percent of map unit: 3 percent Landform: Flood plains Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R052XN161MT - Silty (Si) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Cascade County Area, Montana Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 22, 2024

Cascade County Area, Montana

114—Kobar silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: cgmy Elevation: 2,700 to 3,800 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 11 to 18 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 39 to 45 degrees F

Frost-free period: 105 to 135 days

Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated

Map Unit Composition

Kobar and similar soils: 90 percent Minor components: 10 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of

the mapunit.

Description of Kobar

Setting

Landform: Alluvial fans Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Typical profile

A - 0 to 6 inches: silty clay loam

Bw - 6 to 12 inches: silty clay loam

Bk - 12 to 26 inches: silty clay loam

Bky - 26 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 low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 15 percent

Gypsum, maximum content: 5 percent

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 3.0

mmhos/cm)

Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 10.0

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.7 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3e Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: C

Ecological site: R052XN162MT - Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Lawther

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Alluvial fans Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R052XN162MT - Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Marias

Percent of map unit: 5 percent Landform: Alluvial fans Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

Ecological site: R052XN162MT - Clayey (Cy) 10-14" p.z.

Hydric soil rating: No

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Cascade County Area, Montana Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 22, 2024