

MONTANA CONSERVATION VOTERS

annual Gala



It's almost here . . . the Montana Conservation Voters and MCV Education Fund **Virtual Annual Gala and Raffle drawing at 5 pm on October 1st.**

Enjoy a fun evening with guest speaker, **Doug Adams**, an award-winning chef who will share his technique for fileting and crisping a trout. You may recognize Doug from the hit TV series *Top Chef*, after he earned a top three finish.



We're also thrilled to welcome Billings City Councilwoman, **Kendra Shaw**, who has an inspirational story about her journey to public service, with MCV's support. A Billings native, Kendra is a mother of two young daughters, a writer and small business owner.

Other exciting guests—including MCV-endorsed candidates—will be joining us throughout the program to highlight the importance of MCV's work, which is simply not possible without your support.

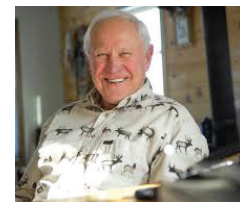
The annual Gala is free to attend, but we still need to reach our critical \$40,000 event fundraising goal! We suggest a contribution of \$75 or more, and hope you'll donate even if you're unable to take part in the Gala. A donation of any amount is greatly appreciated!

Remember, it's a great time to give as all donations will be **MATCHED** by an anonymous donor, which means your impact is **DOUBLED!**

Also, don't forget to join the action with this year's amazing raffle drawing. **Tickets are \$20 each, or six for \$100**, and you do not need to attend the gala to purchase tickets or to win a raffle item.

Please visit mtvoters.org/gala to register for the Gala, make a donation, and learn more about raffle prizes and tickets.

THANK YOU to our amazing sponsors!



It's with great honor that MCV acknowledges the late **Jim Posewitz**, one of Montana's most respected conservationists who pioneered protections for fish and wildlife and was a nationally recognized voice on the ethics of hunting, as the main sponsor of our 2020 gala.

Champion (\$5,000): League of Conservation Voters

Hero (\$1,500):
Innovo Foundation

Leader (\$500):
OnSite Energy
Liz Ametsbichler
Sally Ericsson
Laura & Jess Peterson

Friend (\$250):
Brendon Cechovic
Mary E. Fitzpatrick
Agust Gudmundsson
Geoff Stephens
Whitney Williams

Supporter (\$150):
David Genter
John Heminway
Montana Environmental
Information Center
Susan Regele

Special thanks to these amazing partners in conservation for their raffle prize donations:

Doug Adams
Ryan Busse
Tim Cahill
Jock Conyngham
Colin Davis
Jamie Harrison
Bob Hughes
Richard Manning
Tom Murphy
Reilly Neill
Oboz Footwear
Parks Reece
P.J. Smith
Bradley D. Snow
Senator Jon Tester
The Trail Head
Dan Vermillion

Montana Conservation Voters is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization, and membership dues and contributions are not tax-deductible. Tax-deductible contributions may be made to the MCV Education Fund, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Visit mtvotersedfund.org for more information.



MCV MATTERS

September 2020

MONTANA
CONSERVATION
VOTERS

Connect. Protect. Elect.
Turning Montana values into priorities.



Photo: Whitehall, MT

From the Executive Director



This year's election is, without a doubt, the most important in American history. If you're a registered voter, there's a good chance your ballot will arrive by mail in the next few days (if you're not registered, please visit app.mt.gov/voterinfo right away). Remember your local elections office must receive your signed ballot **by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3.**

As a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, MCV strives to ensure all Montanans have the information they need to make important decisions about which candidates are true conservationists. Inside you'll find the MCV list of endorsed candidates and issues. Please keep it handy as you vote; our volunteer Board of Directors put a lot of work into making sure our endorsements reflect MCV's mission and values.

We need you to continue supporting this work and we're asking you to make a contribution today at mtvoters.org/donate, or by returning the enclosed envelope.

And thank you for being a member of MCV! Your support goes a long way in protecting our climate, our environment and our public lands.

Respectfully,

Aaron Murphy
Executive Director

From the Political Director



It is officially crunch time as we enter the final few weeks of the election season. We have been hard at work the past few months doing everything we can to support MCV's endorsed candidates for the November 3rd election.

We know that in order to protect our climate, clean air and water, and our public lands for future generations, we need to elect leaders who share our values at all levels of government.

In an effort to educate our members and voters across Montana, we have put together this endorsement guide. All of MCV's endorsements are made by an independent, volunteer board of directors who painstakingly research candidates, conduct interviews and vigorously discuss every name on the ballot. The result is this powerful list of endorsed candidates.

We believe all of these Montanans will serve our incredible state well, by helping us protect its natural resources.

Thanks for being a conservation voter!

Jake Brown

Jake Brown
Political Director



The following statewide candidates and issues are endorsed by the Montana Conservation Voters Action Fund. All endorsements are online at mtvoters.org/endorsements.

Steve Bullock: U.S. Senate



Governor Steve Bullock has a long record as an MCV conservation champion. As Attorney General, Bullock fought to keep our public lands in public hands and to fight dark money in politics. As a two-term governor, he's vetoed more anti-environment bills than any Montana

governor before him. Bullock is running for the U.S. Senate to make Washington work a little more like Montana, ensuring our shared outdoor heritage is protected for future generations.

Website: stevebullock.com

Kathleen Williams: U.S. House of Representatives

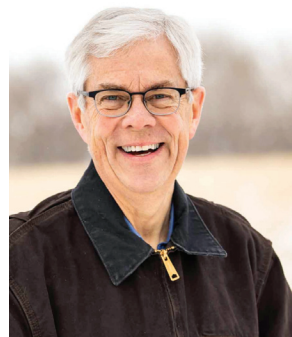


Kathleen Williams is running for Montana's lone House seat to fight for Montanans in Congress. As a state legislator, Williams earned a 100% score with MCV. And as Montana's only member of the U.S. House, she will continue

to protect our public lands and waters and help Montana's economy continue to grow.

Website: kathleenformontana.com

Mike Cooney: Governor



Lieutenant Governor Mike Cooney has decades of experience strengthening Montana. As Secretary of State, a member of the Montana Land Board and as a state legislator, Cooney advocated for our public lands. And now as a candidate

for Governor, Cooney is running to protect the "Last Best Place" for future generations.

Website: cooneyformontana.com

Raph Graybill: Attorney General



Raph Graybill is the Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Steve Bullock and a proven conservation champion. He's defended our public lands in court and won, and he defeated the Trump Administration to keep dark money out of Montana politics. Graybill

is running for Attorney General as an independent watchdog for our rights, and to protect our shared outdoor heritage. Website: raphgraybill.com

Bryce Bennett: Secretary of State



State Senator Bryce Bennett earned a 100% lifetime conservation record with MCV. Bennett's experience in both the Montana Senate and House has demonstrated his ability to work across party lines to get things done. Bennett is also the former

executive director of the Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG), a strong partner of MCV in our fight to protect public lands and increase access to the ballot box. Website: bennettformontana.com

Shane Morigeau: Auditor and Insurance Commissioner



State Representative Shane Morigeau has a 100% lifetime conservation champion score with MCV. Morigeau is an accomplished attorney and legislator who spearheaded legislation to protect public lands. Morigeau is an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

As State Auditor, he will work tirelessly to give every Montanan a voice in their government.

Website: shaneformontana.com



Melissa Romano: Superintendent of Public Instruction

Melissa Romano is a dedicated and accomplished public school educator who has pledged to fight for the protection of Montana's public lands as a member of the Land Board. Romano was named 2018 Montana Teacher of the Year and received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Website: romanoforontana.com



Mike Black: Supreme Court, Seat 5

Mike Black is an experienced attorney and previous member of the Montana Department of Justice, now running for the nonpartisan Seat 5 on the Montana Supreme Court. Black is committed to protecting all Montanans' constitutional rights to reside in a "clean and healthful environment" and access public lands.

Black served as Senior Assistant Attorney General and Civil Bureau Chief, tirelessly fighting to increase Montanans' ability to access justice. Website: blackformontana.com

Ballot Issues

I-190 and CI-118: YES to BOTH



These two ballot measures are closely related, and MCV urges

YES votes on both measures because of their significant impact on public lands funding. Initiative 190 allows for the legalization, regulation and taxation of limited amounts of recreational marijuana for adults 21 and over in Montana. Nearly half of the tax revenue generated by I-190 would support public lands funding, expected to be millions of dollars per year. Constitutional Initiative 118 simply changes two words in the Montana Constitution to define an adult--for the purposes of cannabis consumption--as someone 21 or older.

Website: publiclandowners.org

StopPendley Campaign Update



This summer MCV launched a new campaign to stop controversial public lands foe William Perry Pendley from leading the Bureau of Land Management: StopPendley.org.

Senator Steve Daines has called Montanans' concerns about Pendley "overblown." But we know Montanans' concerns about our public lands are not overblown, which is why with your generous support, we met our goal of raising \$10,000 to post a billboard near Senator Daines' home. This means he can't avoid Montanans, or our fight to protect our public lands.

Thanks to your generosity, this billboard is now a reality! But we still need to hold Senator Daines accountable to Montana, and we encourage you to sign onto our petition at StopPendley.org to ask Daines to demand President Trump fire Pendley.

Pendley remains at the helm of BLM despite the fact he is so controversial the White House pulled his nomination to avoid having him answer tough questions under oath. Montana's public lands can't afford Pendley's failed leadership and it's time for Senator Daines to step up.