

June 2021: Message from Executive Director

Dear Montana Conservation Voters -

The entire MCV team would like to send you our sincerest thanks for all your work during this unprecedented legislative session. In the face of constantly shifting protocols, attacks on our public lands and Montana way of life, the MCV community stepped up and made our priorities undeniable. This was a tough one, but your tenacity made each phase of the session manageable, allowing us to stop a lot of bad bills in their tracks and usher in a new age of conservation funding.

To foster accountability, MCV has tallied legislators' votes on conservation bills throughout the session in our 2021 Legislative Scorecard, naming our conservation champions while calling out those who let us down. Check out the full Scorecard <u>HERE</u>, including key insights from the Conservation Working Group and MCV's Political Director Jake Brown.

While the legislative session is over, MCV is active throughout the entire political process - we never stop working to advance our issues. We are currently recruiting conservation champions to run for office at every level, planning strategically for the next legislative session and devising local action plans for municipal elections. Please fill out <u>this survey</u> if you have any interest in seeking office and helping to shape a Montana built around our shared values of conservation, climate action, civic engagement and equity.

To keep pushing back on conservation foes and amplifying the roar of the conservation community, we need to grow our people power from the grassroots up. Please engage with us this summer by staying tuned in to MCV's actions and joining us for a night at your local watering hole to discuss what's on tap for MCV this year. Check out when we'll be in your neck of the woods <u>HERE</u> and be sure to bring a few friends along!

We value your continued support of our work, and would appreciate any donations you are able to make at this time, please contribute to our efforts financially <u>HERE</u>.

Together, we can keep driving change in the Last Best Place and ensure that our Montana values and outdoor way of life are at the forefront of political priorities. Let's keep on fighting for future generations together.



Yours in conservation,

Montana News

This week, the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee held a nomination hearing for Tracy Stone-Manning to lead the Bureau of Land Management. Stone-Manning, a Montanan and former MCV board treasurer, is the Senior Advisor at the National Wildlife Federation and former Chief of Staff to Governor Steve Bullock. She previously served as senior aide to Senator Tester and as the director of Montana's Department of Environmental Quality.

MCV fully supports Stone-Manning's nomination and believes, <u>"There's no better person to lead the Bureau of Land Management than Tracy Stone-Manning."</u> Stone-Manning's confirmation vote is on track to be voted out of Committee in the coming weeks and up for a full Senate vote shortly after.

Also in federal news, MCV is working on the big infrastructure package you've heard about in the news! Montana has suffered from a lack of investment in infrastructure and the American Jobs Plan means more money for drinking water, broadband and clean energy union jobs. And a recent poll shows 72% of Montanans are ready for these investments and support the American Jobs Plan.

Member of the Month!



1. Why are you an MCV member?

I believe that MCV is one of the most effective change-makers in the state. Montana is worth fighting for and MCV is always leading the charge for our public lands and clean water.

2. What's your top conservation issue and why?

Removing Gianforte from office. He is the single biggest threat to our Montana way of life. Decisions made for temporary gain now mean generations of consequences. He, as well as most of the Montana legislature, must be replaced with folks who have a long-term vision that includes protecting Montana's best resources - it's lands and waters.

3. Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

My favorite outdoor spot in Montana is where a river runs through it. Give me a river, a campfire, great friends and a clear summer night...name the place, I'll be there.



Don't miss our 2021 road tour! To celebrate the warmer weather and safer conditions, we're hitting the road to grab a beverage with our supporters from across the Big Sky State.

We'll be stopping at local watering holes along the way to chat about the future of Montana politics and conservation. We can't wait to hear your take on the session and what you see in store for our great state.

On May 27, over 40 MCV supporters gathered in Billings with state Rep. Kathy Kelker, Mayor Bill Cole and City Council members Danny Choriki and Denise Joy. The night was full of energy and fun - you don't want to miss!

Our next stop is <u>Butte</u> (June 17), then <u>Missoula</u> (July 8), <u>Helena</u> (July 27), <u>Livingston</u> (August 5), <u>Great Falls</u> (August 12), <u>Whitefish</u> (September 8) and <u>Bozeman</u> (September 27).

For more information, check out our website HERE.

Make sure to come on by to hear what's on tap for MCV and support our local Montana businesses. To RSVP for your local pint night please email Christy at <u>christy@mtvoters.org</u>.

Stay Connected and Share!

Stay connected with the MCV team and our work by following us on social media via <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. Your support helps us expand our message and our community of conservation warriors!



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