



JULY 2021: MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Happy July Montana Conservation Voters,

It's blazing hot and how about that smoke? We're in trouble. Fishing restrictions are in place and many of us are having to stay inside to protect our health.

Now more than ever we need champions fighting for Montana's future and we have the opportunity to put more people who care about our outdoor legacy in office.

Municipal elections are right around the corner and we're hard at work on endorsements to help provide guidance on who's committed to fighting climate change, protecting clean air and water, safeguarding and expanding access to public land and supporting wildlife habitat and renewable energy.

Become a member today to ensure you have the best information going into the voting booth at mtvoters.org/join. And if you're already a member please consider donating again to help bolster our efforts.

Want to learn more? Join us at one of our upcoming events featured below. We're coming to a community near you and can't wait to talk about all things conservation.

We can't do this work alone and my goodness are we thankful to have you in the tent.

Yours in conservation,



Whitney Tawney
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

MONTANA NEWS

Montana has a lot to pay attention to on the federal side these days. Public lands advocate and Montanan Tracy Stone-Manning has been nominated to lead the Bureau of Land Management. Unfortunately, Senator Steve Daines has been doing his best to block the nomination of this public lands champion despite supporting anti-conservation extremist William Perry Pendley who led the BLM during much of the Trump Administration. Call Senator Daines today and ask him to support Tracy at (202) 224-2651.

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. The package continues to move forward thanks to Senator Jon Tester but please drop us an email if you're interested in writing a letter to the editor in support of climate action via mcv@mtvoters.org.

The Montana Redistricting and Apportionment Commission has officially adopted the criteria they'll use to craft the new congressional and state legislative district maps. After an overwhelming amount of public testimony, the commission adopted criteria that will ensure fair and competitive maps. This is a huge step in the right direction, and will hopefully mean the new maps will result in accurate representation for all Montanans. We at MCV believe that when Montanans are better represented in government, our clean air, water, and public lands will be better off.

The next step in the process is actually beginning to draw the lines for Montana's new congressional district. There will be plenty of more opportunities for Montanans to get involved with this process, and we'll be working with our partners at [Fair Maps MT](#) to make sure you don't miss any opportunities to weigh in.

Member of the Month!



Jayson O'Neill
Helena, MT

1. Why are you an MCV member?

I'm a proud member of MCV because it's dedicated to preserving Montana's wildlife, water, and way of life. At no point in recent history has Montana and what we value been under more threat from exploitive, monied special interests than now. I support MCV because we need organizations working to hold officials accountable in order to protect our state and it's future.

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

Climate change. If we fail to innovate and work towards a more sustainable future, no amount of personal wealth will save you. This is no longer a debate yet Big Oil is still spending over \$500 million per year lobbying our elected officials to not act on climate and build resiliency. It's a disservice to America and the planet's future. America and Montana have an opportunity to lead the world in clean energy and new energy jobs but, unfortunately, oily politicians, like Senator Steve Daines and Rep. Matt Rosendale, continue to put monied special interests ahead of our interests.

3. Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

So many spots that I love but I'm going to refrain from naming them. But there is one place that will always be near and dear to me: Polebridge, Montana. Nothing like traveling a dusty road to an off-the-grid place without cell phone coverage to get away from modnerty for a moment. You won't regret floating the N.F. of the Flathead and, if you do, remember that oil and gas wanted to drill there too.



You're invited to MCV's inaugural **DINNER UNDER THE BIG SKY** at Oro Ranch in Condon on August 26!

Join us for a night of fine dining and support our efforts to turn Montana values into priorities.

Buy your tickets soon as we only have 40 spots available for a multiple course meal with Top Chef Doug Adams. Menu details coming soon.

Get your tickets [HERE!](#)

Our ticket deadline is August 20, so act now so you don't lose your seat. To learn more or purchase your tickets, visit mtvoters.org/events.



We're coming to your local watering hole 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.

Our next stop is [Livingston](#) on August 5, then [Great Falls](#) (August 12), [Whitefish](#) (September 8) and [Bozeman](#) (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 christy@mtvoters.org.

SAVE THE DATE

We're gathering for MCV and the MCV Education Fund's Annual Gala at the Livingston Depot on October 28. More details to come but you know this is a great opportunity to rub elbows with fellow politicians, eat good food and be merry!

STAY CONNECTED & SHARE!

Stay connected with the MCV team and our work by following us on social media via [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#). Your support helps us expand our message and our community of conservation warriors!



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