



Happy October Montana Conservation Voters!

It's that time of year again! Election Day is coming fast — November 2 — and we're excited to share this special endorsement edition of *MCV Matters* with you. We hope you will vote for conservation champions who have committed to protecting Montana's outdoor way of life for all Montanans and for future generations.

Just because it's an off year for state level elections does not mean there aren't important races happening across Montana! Municipal elections are critically important as our mayors, city commissioners and council members make important decisions about our public spaces, development projects, funding and resources and other community initiatives that impact our daily lives.

MCV and the MCV Education Fund urge you to register to vote or update your registration if you've moved. Make sure to plan ahead because Governor Greg Gianforte ended same day voter registration earlier this year!

We have a lot of work ahead of us to ensure the protection of our public lands, to keep them accessible, and to address our changing climate and build a clean energy future. We must elect strong conservation champions up and down the ballot to make this happen. It all starts at the local level. See you at the ballot box!

Yours in conservation,



Whitney Tawney
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

2021 ENDORSEMENTS

For over 20 years, Montana Conservation Voters has proudly supported pro-conservation candidates. We have elected conservation leaders to all levels of government from local city councils to the U.S. Senate and everything in between. And ultimately all MCV endorsement decisions are made by our independent Political Action Committee Board of Directors with input from local MCV members.

To view MCV's 2021 endorsements [click here](#).

BLACKFOOT CLEARWATER STEWARDSHIP ACT FINALLY GETS A HEARING

The MCV Education Fund and other members of the [Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project](#) are celebrating that Senator Jon Tester's Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act (BCSA) is finally moving forward and was heard in the U.S. Senate Energy & Natural Resource Committee. Reintroduced last year, BCSA would help grow Montana's \$7.1 billion outdoor recreation economy by permanently protecting the Blackfoot River, its most important tributaries and adding approximately 80,000 acres to Montana's Bob Marshall, Scapegoat and Mission Mountains Wilderness areas with appropriate forest management. It will also establish two outdoor recreation areas north of Ovando, providing new winter motorized access and preserving mountain biking opportunities. Please help us tell Committee Member Senator Steve Daines this bill is a no-brainer for Montana by taking action [HERE](#).

MONTANA GETS A NEW CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Montana is getting a new congressional district and how the map is drawn will matter for our

conservation goals and communities. Redistricting is our chance to draw fair and competitive districts to make sure all Montanans can elect leaders who will represent Montana values like clean air, clean water, healthy wildlife and public access. This is a huge opportunity and we need to make sure it's done right.

The commission met on October 19 to review comments and hear testimony. MCV testified in support of maps 4,6, 8 and 9, which we think meet the criteria of being fair and competitive. A HUGE thank you to the hundreds of MCV supporters who took advantage of the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission in support of fair and competitive districts that do not favor any political party. On October 21, the Commission will meet again to select a tentative final congressional map. Then meet again October 30 to take public comment and vote on the final map. Please stay engaged and ready to make public comments.

MAKING SENSE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE: WHAT'S IN IT FOR MONTANA?

It's hard to ignore the news coming out of Washington, D.C. about the bipartisan infrastructure and Build Back Better bills. Not only does the package provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to fund Montana priorities like the Milk River Project and provide over \$2.8 billion for Montana highways, but it tackles the climate crisis head-on while creating thousands of clean energy jobs. Senator Jon Tester's leadership was pivotal to the successful passage in the Senate, never sacrificing Montana's priorities. Despite the enormous wins for Montana, unfortunately, our junior Senator Steve Daines refused to work with his colleagues or fight for his constituents. MCV continues to work to progress these momentous bills and educate all Montanans about its many benefits.



To protect the health and safety of all Montanans, MCV decided to pivot away from an in-person gala this year. Instead, we launched **CAMPFIRES FOR CONSERVATION**, our fall membership campaign. Campfires are something we all cherish. Gathering outdoors with

friends and family, telling stories, reflecting on the year and looking ahead. These sentiments are what we tried to bring to this campaign. **Team MCV sincerely thanks everyone who joined us and generously donated.** With the support of members like you and our generous group of sponsors, MCV has raised more than \$36,000. **You still have time to help us hit our goal of \$40,000 by the end of October.** Renew your membership or make an additional contribution today. Donate by mail or online [HERE](#). We'll see you 'round the campfire!



CAMPFIRES FOR CONSERVATION

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

CHAMPIONS

U.S Senator Jon Tester
League of Conservation Voters

HEROES

CB Pearson
Jock Conyngham
Robin Tawney Nichols & William Nichols
Sally Ericsson
Jim Messina & Taya Cromley
Hilltop Public Solutions
The Kendeda Fund

LEADERS

Clinton Summers
Jay Proops
Hon. Juanita Vero & Matt Rinella
Laura Wood Peterson
Lore Kann Foundation
Lake Research Partners
Montana Environmental Information Center
Onsite Energy
Ken & Jenny Younger

FRIENDS

Chris Saeger & Tyler Hope
Jeanne Marie Souvigny
Missoula Wine Merchants

KNOCK, KNOCK — WHO'S THERE? — IT'S MCV!



Team MCV and our volunteers are fanning out across Montana to canvass in support of our [endorsed candidates](#)! We've already knocked doors in both Billings and Missoula and will be in Helena talking to our neighbors in the coming weeks.

As you know, this is a critical time for conservation in Montana and the people we elect today will make a difference in the outdoor legacy we pass on to future generations. Interested in volunteering for Team MCV? Email MCV@mtvoters.org to get involved.

Member of the Month!



Kate Sheridan
Polson, MT

1. Why are you an MCV member?

I joined as an MCV member at the start of the 2021 Legislative Session. I knew MCV would be providing important on-the-ground work and communication, and I wanted to support that as a Montanan.

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

I've had the honor of working on public lands conservation in the past, and that remains the most important issue to me. We're so fortunate to live in a state that has incredible access to

public lands, and it's absolutely an issue we must remain vigilant on.

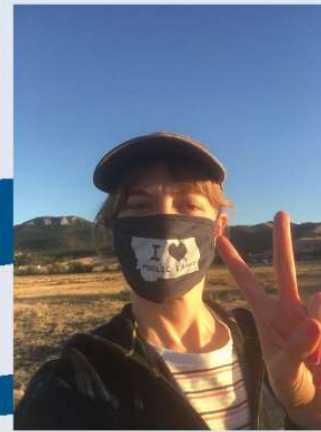
3. Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

Cedar Island and Bird Island on Flathead Lake! I'm an open water swimmer, and circumnavigating either of these island groups is my idea of a perfect day.

STAY CONNECTED & SHARE



TEAM MCV



Make sure to stay up to date with MCV by following us on social media. We're on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) - all @mtvoters! If you tag us out on the trail or in your community wearing your MCV "I Heart Public Lands" mask, we'll repost to our pages. Stay safe #TeamMCV.



Paid for by Montana Conservation Voters
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MCV is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization. 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 to learn more.

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