

Happy January Montana Conservation Voters!

2022 is off to a great start! From championing federal investments in Montana's clean energy economy to holding polluters accountable and supporting protections for Montana's pristine lands and rivers, we've certainly been busy! There's so much more work to do this year as we look towards important congressional and state elections that will shape the future of conservation in Montana.

We're going to need you to make your voices loud this year. Anti-conservation lawmakers and leaders are chomping at the bit to move Montana backwards on protecting our public lands, air and water, wildlife and climate, as well as our voting rights. We encourage you to get your friends and neighbors who value conservation more involved and be sure to VOTE (and of course [become an MCV member!](#))

In fact, the start of a new year is a great time to renew your MCV membership or take an extra step and become a monthly donor. We have some new MCV stickers to send to those who renew memberships this year so please make sure your membership is active. If you're not sure whether you're an active member or not, reach out to our Development Director Angela at [angela@mtvoters.org](mailto:angela@mtvoters.org).

We'll see you soon, Montana!

Thank you.



Yours in conservation,

Whitney Tawney  
Executive Director  
Montana Conservation Voters

## MCV VISITS 'THE RICHEST HILL ON EARTH'

On January 22, Team MCV traveled to Butte for a unique art and climate event at the Winter Farmers' Market. Local Butte artist Corey Gransberry carved a one-of-kind Montana ice sculpture in support of U.S. Senator Jon Tester's continuing to get it done and find climate solutions that generate good-paying jobs. The 16x12 foot sculpture was located in front of the Butte Plaza Mall and was a sight to be seen! See the sculpture below as artist Corey and his wife Lisa pose with it in front of the Butte Plaza Mall.

Head over to [TesterGettingItDone.org](https://TesterGettingItDone.org) to learn more and sign our petition to Senator Steve Daines asking him to put aside partisan politics and support climate solutions [HERE](#).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Still have some questions about the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act introduced by Senator Jon Tester? Want to find out more about how you can help pass this landmark conservation legislation? Do we have the opportunity for you!

We're hosting a panel discussion on **February 8th at 6 pm** about the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act with State Senator Shane Morigeau, Mountain Mama's board member Amy Cosco and The Trail Head's owner Todd Frank to talk about the different ways this legislation would protect the Blackfoot river and improve our state's economy.

This important legislation would protect the tributaries of the Blackfoot River, a river that is synonymous with Montana's world-class fly fishing and incredible recreation opportunities. Protecting this one of a kind resource would have long lasting economic impacts for the region and the state.

The panel will be moderated by our own Executive Director, Whitney Tawney, and hosted virtually so Montanans from across the state can participate. [You can RSVP to the panel here](#). You need to RSVP to the panel ahead of time in order to receive the Zoom link to participate.

"See you" in February!

## MCV'S ANNUAL MEMBER CELEBRATION

We invite you to join us on **Friday, March 4, 2022** in Helena for our annual MCV Member Celebration at the newly renovated Holter Museum of Art. Mingle with MCV staff, fellow MCV members, and movers and shakers from Montana's conservation community all while enjoying good food and local drinks. The time is now for us to come together and chart a course for how we're going to protect Montana and defeat the anti-conservation agenda that threatens The Last Best Place. **Registration will soon be available and we're also looking for sponsors!** Please contact our Development Director Angela [angela@mtvoters.org](mailto:angela@mtvoters.org) if you're interested in sponsoring. Thank you!

Please note, this event is subject to change as we remain committed to protecting Montanans' health in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and will abide by CDC safety recommendations.

## STAFF UPDATE

We are sad to report that our wonderful Office Manager is moving on from MCV this week. After three years, Christy McNeish will say goodbye to Team MCV. We thank Christy for her great work and dedication to MCV. We wish you all the best in this new stage of your professional life! We will sure miss you!

## MONTHLY DONORS ARE EXTRA SPECIAL!

If you're looking for an easy way you can support conservation in Montana we encourage you to [join our Big Sky Circle](#). When you give \$5, \$10, or even \$50 a month to MCV, your contributions help sustain our efforts throughout the whole year. Recurring gifts help us predict our future revenue, which means we can plan ahead and focus more on making an impact through our campaigns and programs.

If you join our Big Sky Circle during the month of January, you'll be entered to win a 2022 wall calendar by Missoula artist Claire Emery! This beautiful calendar is 6"x12" and honors conservation work in Montana. We have TWO of these calendars available to give away so [become a Big Sky Circle member BY THE END OF JANUARY](#) for a chance to win and hang one of these gorgeous calendars in your office or home!

To join, visit [our website](#) and select the dollar amount you'd like to contribute each month. Make sure to check "Make this contribution monthly" before moving on. Each month your donation will be charged to the credit card you use to make your first payment. You can cancel at any time by sending an email to [mcv@mtvoters.org](mailto:mcv@mtvoters.org). THANK YOU!

## Member of the Month!

**Greg Houston**  
Bozeman, MT

### 1. Why are you an MCV member?

I am a member because I needed a non-biased and fair voice of reason to help make educated decisions when it comes to voting and critical conservation decisions within the state. It's so easy to feel like you don't have a voice, and it's sometimes overwhelming to try to understand where to start in order to invoke change. MCV provides that educational platform to their members, along with so much information about the candidates, their views, and their stance on conservation.

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

Like many other members, my top concern is the current State political structure and local municipalities that are in place and making so many irreversible decisions that cater to large land developers by easing development standards and policies. I am also very concerned with the high number of wildfires that we had this past season and the unacceptable high percentage of those that were caused by rogue individuals.

### 3. Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

The Lewis and Clark State Park and Jefferson River Valley areas. I also take my friends and family to the Buffalo Jump State Park too. It's fascinating to see and understand how the indigenous people thrived and survived in this beyond challenging environment.

## FOLLOW ALONG WITH TEAM MCV!

Get connected with us on social media! We're always posting the latest conservation news, events and updates. And did we mention nature pics and opportunities for awesome giveaway prizes? Well there's those too! Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) — all @mtvoters!



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