

MCV MATTERS

CONNECT. PROTECT. ELECT. TURNING MONTANA VALUES INTO PRIORITIES.

August 2022

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Whitney and her family at Beehive Basin near Big Sky, Montana

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy August, Montana Conservation Voters!

In the midst of hiking, spending time on the water and carving time out for the quintessential Montana summer, we've got a lot to celebrate and lean into!

For starters, the Inflation Reduction Act recently signed into law is the LARGEST investment in fighting against climate change in HISTORY. For Montana and much of the west, climate change is causing increasingly severe wildfires and less productive agriculture, and threatening our outdoor recreation. Not only will this new law address climate but it will also create opportunities for good paying jobs in the clean energy sector across Montana through \$369 BILLION of clean energy investments. The law is not perfect, but we're proud to have been part of the push the last year and a half and can't wait to see how it increases Montana's and our country's energy freedom while protecting our outdoor way of life for the next generation.

Now with fewer than 100 days until one of the most consequential elections in Montana history, Team MCV is leaning in and getting to work to protect Montana's constitution by electing conservation champions and preventing an anti-conservation supermajority in the state legislature. We've been on the ground earlier than ever hearing from Montanans about the issues they care about most and will be doubling down on our fieldwork this election cycle. Montana is at a turning point, and we're in the fight to protect this Last Best Place.

But we can't do this work alone and need to build an army of support! Please join us for an upcoming pint night in your community, at our October 6 Gala in Livingston or show your support by renewing your membership today. And please encourage your family and friends to join us, too. Thank you - we can't wait to see you soon!

Yours in conservation,

Whitney Tawney
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

JOIN / RENEW

MCV Membership

Join or renew for \$35 today and get a new MCV sticker to show off your support!
mtvoters.org/donate



Come celebrate with us at MCV's Annual Gala on October 6!

Now more than ever, MCV is committed to protecting our public lands, clean air, clean water, climate and voting rights. We fight every day to elect conservation champions and for our shared constitutional right to a clean, healthful environment.

As our largest fundraising event of the year, our Annual Gala is your opportunity to support and celebrate these efforts with MCV's staff, Board of Directors and fellow movers and shakers from across Montana. After two years away, we'll be back at the Livingston Depot.

Your ticket gets you access to:

- Delicious meal of local flavors from Crazy Mountain Catering
- Facetime with special guests passionate about conservation
- Silent Auction that will give you a chance to win unique experiences across Montana like a stay at the Garden Wall Inn in Whitefish or a two-day river trip on the Lochsa

TICKETS are available now!

Go to mtvoters.org/events/mcv-gala

Become a GALA SPONSOR!

Showcase your support for Team MCV and have a reach of more than 15,000 people! For more details, please contact Renee at renee@mtvoters.org.

NATIONAL UPDATES

Historic Climate Action

This month, after more than a year of negotiations, Congress passed the historic Inflation Reduction Act. The law represents the largest investment ever to combat climate change!

Some \$369 billion will go to bolstering our domestic energy production and reducing our carbon emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030. The momentous law is the result of the hard work and leadership of our Senator, Jon Tester. Because of his unrelenting drive to get Montana's best interests included, we will now see near immediate cuts to household energy bills, significant tax credits for electric vehicle purchases and create thousands of new jobs right here in Montana.



Show your support for Senator Tester!

Get a Tester Getting It Done yard sign at testergettingitdone.org and share your photo with us using #TesterGettingItDone.



photo: Bob Wick, Bureau of Land Management

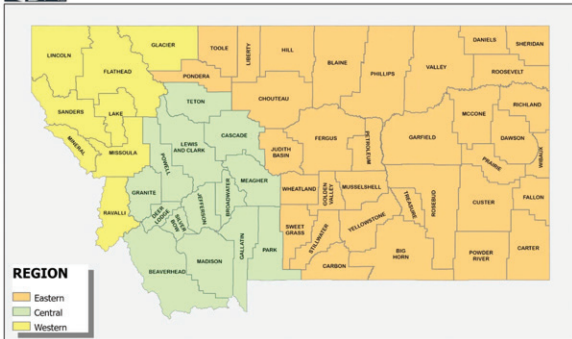
The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act Stalls Due to Partisan Politics

After significant delays, the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act (BCSA) finally received a vote in the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources last month. What was meant to be a basic, procedural step turned into a nine-month delay due to a hold from our junior Senator, Steve Daines. Despite admitting that he has "no problem with the 80,000 acres," Senator Daines voted against the wildly popular Montana-made bill, demanding it be paired with his Wilderness Study removal bill. The political stunt cost BCSA a straightforward path to a full Senate floor vote, and its fate is now less certain.

The grassroots conservation bill would add some 80,000 acres of wilderness to Montana's vast public lands, including the Scapegoat Wilderness which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The MCV Education Fund continues to work with our partners to find a way forward for BCSA and encourage Senator Daines to support it as he claimed to.



DISTRICTING & APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
REGIONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS



State Legislative Redistricting Update

The process to set our state legislative districts for the next 10 years has begun! The Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission unveiled its four initial map proposals for Montana’s new state legislative districts. **The Commission will next host in-person hearings across the state to take public comment, and we need MCV Voters to show up!** Hearings kick off in Pablo on August 25 and wrap in Crow Agency on September 17. Three regional virtual hearings are also scheduled for western, central and eastern districts.

The MCV Education Fund is working with our partners, Montana Women Vote and Forward Montana, to create a hub for all things redistricting through RepresentMT.

Visit: RepresentMT.com for more information.

Bozeman Family Canvass Set for September 10

Need something fun and educational to do with the kids on a Saturday? Join MCV at our Family Canvass Day in Bozeman! This special day gives the whole family a chance to see democracy at work. MCV will provide easy training and a list in a walkable neighborhood. Together, you’ll talk to voters about how the Montana Constitution protects our right to a clean and healthful environment. Kids also receive a scavenger hunt packet that follows the route!

WHEN? Saturday, Sept. 10, 10AM to 2PM
KICK-OFF: Story Mill Park in Bozeman
Celebration at the park to follow
Please contact Molly at Molly@mtvoters.org if you have further questions.

Election Day is Almost Here!

Montana Conservation Voters are out in the field warning Montanans that the freedom to access our public lands is on the ballot this November 8. With our partners AFL-CIO, Big Sky 55+, Montana Federation of Public Employees and Wild Montana, we are running a robust canvass in key legislative districts. In Great Falls to date, our canvassers have knocked more than 15,000 doors! Our canvassers are educating Montanans about which elected officials support the freedom to hunt and fish on our public lands and which elected officials are irresponsibly working with powerful special interests to chip away access at every turn.

In the months ahead, our canvass operation will expand to other regions and continue conversations about Montana candidates and issues. We will be talking to voters about the need to elect candidates who will protect our freedom to recreate on public lands. We are laser focused on preventing an anti-conservation supermajority in the legislature and supporting Supreme Court candidates who will uphold the Montana Constitution.

KEY ENDORSEMENT

Monica Tranel

MCV continues to endorse candidates in key races across Montana. Recently, MCV praised our national partner, the League of Conservation Voters, for their endorsement of Monica Tranel for Montana’s Western Congressional District. The LCV Action Fund announced their endorsement of Tranel’s campaign on July 5 and chose their endorsement based on the candidate who will address the climate crisis and advance a more equitable clean energy future.



Courtesy Monica Tranel for Montana

“Monica is exactly who we need to represent the Western District in Congress.”

— Whitney Tawney
MCV Executive Director

MCV commends LCV’s decision to endorse Tranel, with MCV Executive Director, Whitney Tawney, stating: “We applaud the LCV Action Fund for recognizing Monica Tranel’s commitment to protect Montana’s outdoor way of life and fight for climate action. Her opponent Ryan Zinke represents all that Monica isn’t, including his atrocious public lands record and his lead role in the largest reduction of public land protections in U.S. history as Interior Secretary. LCV sees what most of Western Montana has seen for some time, Zinke is out of step with Montanans and Tranel is the obvious choice.”

To see all of our endorsements, visit mtvoters.org/endorsements (and check back often for more updates and candidate information).

Are You Ready to Vote?



Hey Montana Voters, start making your plan to vote today to make sure your vote counts this November! Need to register to vote? Visit VoteInMT.org today! Need to check your voter registration?

Use the QR code included here to check your voter registration. (You can also visit Montana's My Voter Page.)



Support the MCV Education Fund While You Shop!

Visit smile.amazon.com today and add the MCV Education Fund as your charity of choice. For every purchase you make, Amazon will donate to the MCV Education Fund on your behalf, at no cost to you — talk about value!



MCV Member of the Month



C.B. Pearson
Missoula, MT

Why are you an MCV member?

Our state is a very special place with a special history. By being a smart active community we can make sure our air, water and land are preserved for the coming generations and that our elected leaders at all levels work for smart conservation and a healthy environment. When Montanans have worked together, key conservation issues have united us for the future of our state.

What's your top conservation issue and why?

I am concerned with both the "green" issues like wildlife, wilderness and the "brown" issue of pollution. Right now my top conservation issue is to preserve the strength of our democratic system of self-governance – to honor our 1972 constitution. Global warming mitigation and prevention cannot be accomplished if our political system becomes unresponsive.

Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

Rock Creek near Missoula is a favorite place to recharge and admire the wonder of nature.

FOLLOW US! Stay up to date with Team MCV through social media!



✓ SAVE THE DATES Mark your calendar with these important upcoming dates!

AUGUST

Aug. 20 - Helena PINT NIGHT

Ten Mile Creek Brewing, 4 to 7PM

Aug. 25 - Redistricting Public Hearings

(Pablo) Salish Kootenai College

Aug. 26 - Redistricting Public Hearings

(Missoula) University of Montana School of Law

Aug. 30 - Bozeman PINT NIGHT

Bridger Brewing, 5 to 7PM

Aug. 30 - Redistricting Public Hearing

on Zoom for Western Montana

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1 - Redistricting Public Hearing

(Bozeman) Montana State University Asbjornson Building

Sept. 6 - Great Falls PINT NIGHT

Celtic Cowboy, 5 to 7PM
MCV receives \$1 for every pint sold!

Sept. 9 - Redistricting Public Hearing

on Zoom for Central Montana

Sept. 10 - Bozeman Family Canvass Day

Sept. 15 - Redistricting Public Hearing (Crow) at Little Big Horn College

Sept. 16 - Redistricting Public Hearing

(Billings) Montana State University Student Union

Sept. 19 - Redistricting Public Hearing

on Zoom for Eastern Montana

Sept. 20 - Whitefish PINT NIGHT

Bonsai Brewing Project, 5 to 8PM
MCV receives \$1 for every pint sold!

Sept. 23 - Dillon PINT NIGHT

with Patagonia
Beaverhead Brewing Company, 6 to 8PM
MCV receives \$1 for every pint sold!

Sept. 24 - National Public Lands Day

OCTOBER

Oct. 6 - ANNUAL GALA

Livingston Depot Center, 5 to 8PM

Oct. 14 - General Election Ballots mailed

NOVEMBER

Nov. 8 - Make a plan to vote in the general election!



JOIN / RENEW



Visit mtvoters.org/join

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.