

Happy August, Montana Conservation Voters!

With only 84 days until the election, Team MCV is all-in on our work to ensure pro-democracy, pro-Constitution, pro-conservation candidates are elected up and down the ballot this fall. 2024 is truly the make or break year for Montana. And now more than ever, we need YOU to stand up with us to protect the Last Best Place.

That's why we've been knocking doors since last November to meet Montanans where they're at - in their communities - and talk about the issues and the values that unite us. We've hosted events across the state to help build further momentum for the most critical election year in decades and appreciate every one of you who has continued to show up.

Together, we can have a lasting impact. But we can't do this work to protect Montana alone. Thank you for sending your hard earned dollars to help fund our work. Please take the next step and ask your friends and family to [join Team MCV](#). We need an army to push back on powerful outside forces that are trying to change this state. And simply put, we need your help.

Thank you for your consideration - GO, FIGHT, WIN!

Yours in conservation,




Whitney Tawney
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

LAST CALL for a Smith River Map

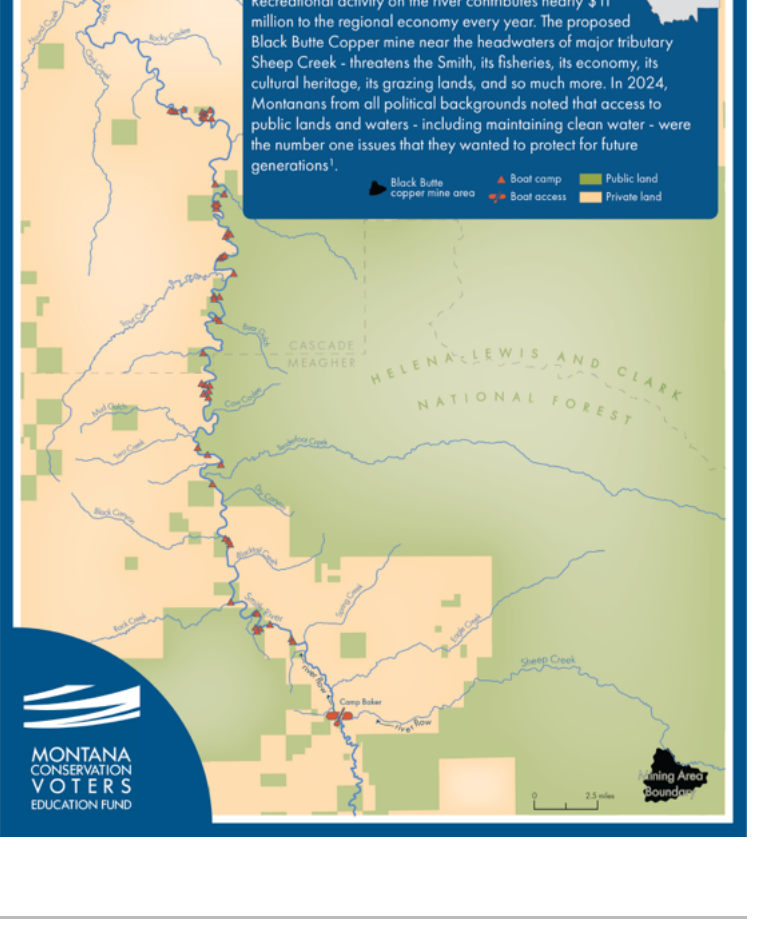
The Smith River is not just a river — it's a lifeline for wildlife, fishing, and recreation that generates \$11 million annually for the local economy. **FROM NOW UNTIL AUGUST 31**, fill out [THIS FORM](#) to help #SaveOurSmith and receive a **free custom postcard-sized map of the Smith River!**

Why now? An Australian mining company called Sandfire Resources wants to develop a large underground copper mine near the headwaters of Sheep Creek — an essential tributary to the Smith River. The project, known as the Black Butte Copper Mine, threatens to release acid mine drainage and wastewater containing arsenic and other toxins into the river, thereby posing a serious threat to the local fisheries, ranches, and recreational opportunities that are dependent on good water quality.

Ask the Forest Service to Protect the Smith River

Sandfire's current proposal is to operate on private land, however, the mining company has already leased and is looking to expand into parcels of nearby Forest Service land. While only the courts can decide the outcome of what happens on private land, the Forest Service has the power to protect the Smith and our nearby public lands by blocking Sandfire's expansion with an administrative mineral withdrawal.

Speak up now to #SaveOurSmith and receive a postcard as a thank you from Team MCV! Just fill out [THIS FORM](#) to send a note asking U.S. Forest Service Deputy Chief Chris French and Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest Supervisor Emily Platt to protect the Smith by issuing an administrative mineral withdrawal on nearby Forest Service lands.



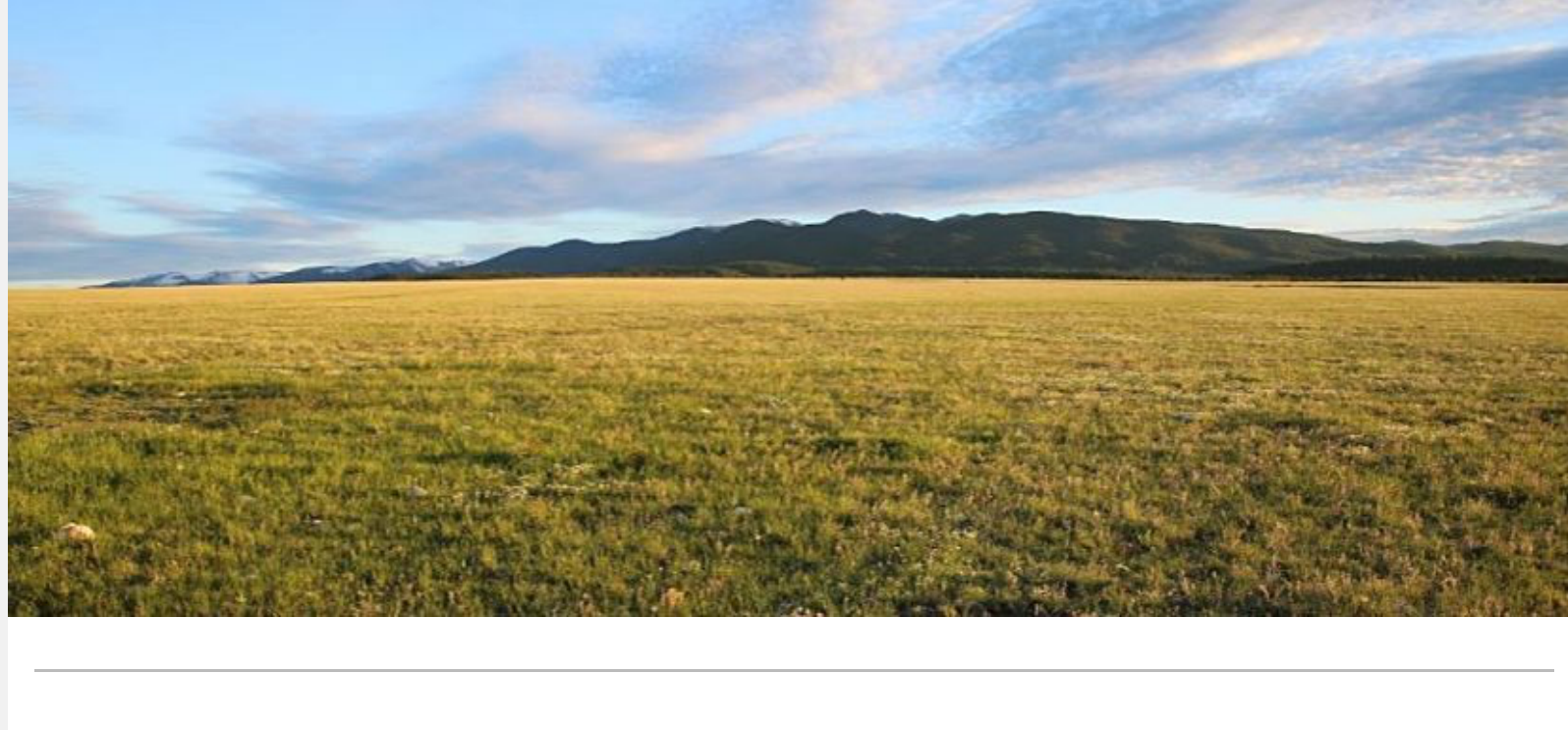
Tell Rep. Zinke to Protect our Public Lands

U.S. Representative Ryan Zinke has co-sponsored a bill aimed at overturning the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)'s recently finalized "Public Lands Rule." The rule is one of several recently finalized by the BLM that improves public lands management. Specifically, this rule clarifies that managing BLM land for conservation fits squarely within the agency's legal mandate, and that **conservation sits on equal footing to other uses** such as extraction and other commodity-driven development. It was also supported by [92% of the 150,000 comments](#) made during the 90-day public comment period.

Send a message to Rep. Zinke

Considering that [95% of Montanans](#) visited national public lands in 2023 and [78% of Montanans](#) think that more emphasis should be placed on conservation-related land uses, the Public Lands Rule is a major win. Montanans love public lands, and conserving them is crucial to our way of life in the Treasure State. By supporting the charge against the Public Lands Rule, Rep. Zinke is ignoring the broad majority of Montanans.

It is important that Rep. Zinke hears from Montanans that support the Public Lands Rule. **Sign [THIS FORM](#) to send a message today.**



Come find Team MCV at Pearl Jam in Missoula!

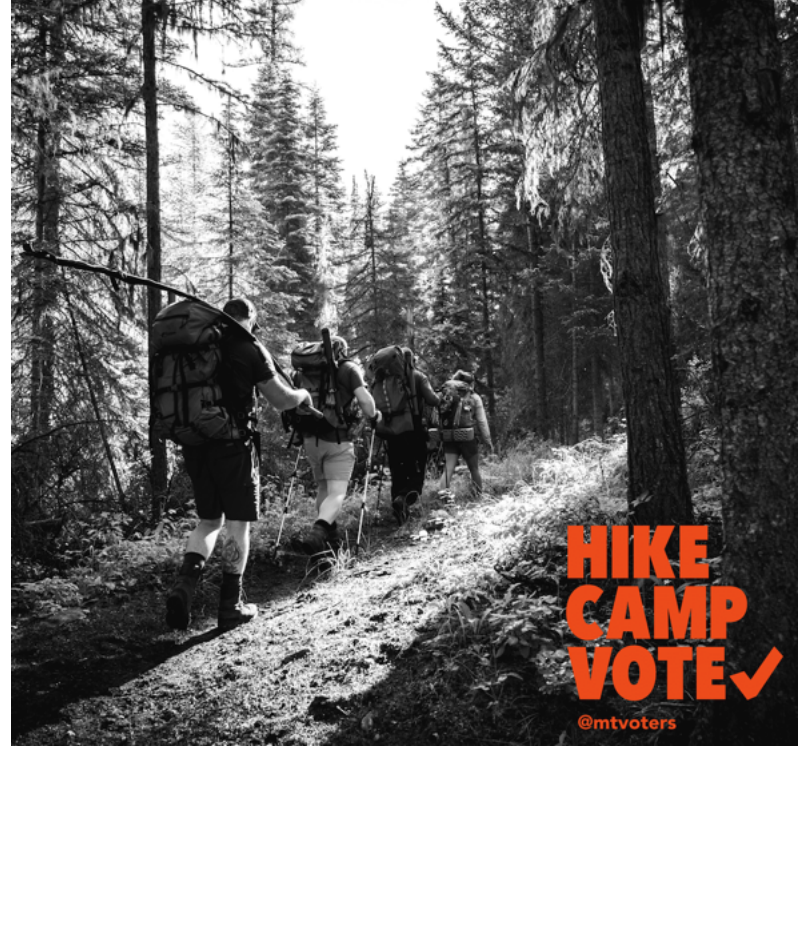
That's right, Team MCV will be talking to voters from 1-7 p.m. at the Pearl Jam "Our Village" pre-concert festival at the University of Montana on 8/22 in Missoula. Pearl Jam is committed to turning out voters this election. During the festival, Team MCV will be circulating and helping people pledge to vote this November.

Voting is an essential way to make your voice heard, so we want to make sure people know what's at stake this coming election cycle. Come out and visit with Team MCV and take the pledge!

MCV's 2024 Endorsements

We are quickly approaching the November election, and it is critical to stay informed and know who the pro-conservation candidates are on the ballot. This month, MCV's independent PAC board endorsed the following eight candidates, rounding out 72 endorsements that have been made for the 2024 cycle:

- Attorney General**
Ben Alke
- State Senators:**
Rep. Laura Smith (SD 40)
- State Representatives:**
Rina Fontana Moore (HD 20)
Janna Hafer (HD 51)
Kim Gillan (HD 55)
Jamie Isaly (HD 58)
Michele Crepeau (HD 84)
- Missoula County Commissioner**
Commissioner Josh Slotnick



You can find the full list of MCV-endorsed candidates on our website.

MEET MCV'S 2024 CANDIDATES



Join Us for MCV's 2024 Annual Gala: A Night to Celebrate and Support Conservation!

We are thrilled to invite you to our Annual Gala in Livingston on Saturday, October 5, from 5 to 8 PM. This event is the highlight of our year, a vibrant gathering where we come together to celebrate and support MCV's mission to protect the Last Best Place.

Held at the historic Livingston Depot Center, this year's gala promises an unforgettable evening. Delight in a hearty Montana meal prepared by Sadie Morales and savor refreshing local brews while mingling with our dedicated staff, board members, and over 200 passionate conservationists from across Montana.

As we mark our 25th anniversary, this gala is especially significant. In the midst of a critical election year for the Big Sky State, we are eager to celebrate our past successes and unite to face the challenges of the upcoming election and legislative session. Your presence and support are crucial as we continue our work to safeguard Montana's natural beauty and resources.

Be a Sponsor, Make an Impact
We encourage you to deepen your involvement by becoming a sponsor. Event sponsorship comes with a variety of benefits for your business, organization or family. For more details on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jessica at jessica@mtvoters.org.

Don't miss out on this lively evening of celebration, connection, and commitment to conservation. [Get your tickets today](#) and join us in Livingston for a night that promises to inspire and invigorate our collective efforts to protect Montana for future generations.

We can't wait to see you there!

FIELD NOTES

Since last November, Team MCV has had Field Organizers on the ground in Billings, Bozeman, and the Flathead. Through knocking doors and hosting events, our Field Organizers are making an impact. Team MCV kicked off with four organizers in November, and now boasts sixteen across all regions! Here's what one of MCV's newest Field Organizers, Sabine Love of Bozeman, has to say about joining Team MCV:



"I am about to be wrapping up my second meeting with the Bozeman Field team! I have been loving meeting all of my new coworkers and seeing the impactful work we will be doing over the next 5 months. I have been really enjoying moments with my community. I am happy to be back living in the west and doing such important get out of the vote work in my hometown! Thankful to have the support from everyone with MCV, I am so happy to be here!"

Know anyone who may be interested in becoming an MCV Field Organizer? We're still hiring in Billings, Bozeman and the Flathead and are now expanding our efforts into Missoula. These positions pay at minimum \$25 per hour and individuals are eligible for reimbursements of health insurance premiums. Learn more about our job opportunities at Team MCV by visiting mtvoters.org/opportunities.

Members of the Month



Why are you an MCV member?
We really believe Montana is the Last Best Place. But it won't stay that way if we don't protect it. That means electing leaders who share our values and we think the best way to do that is by supporting MCV. As data geeks, we see how many voter contacts, door knocks and phone calls MCV coordinates each election. We are proud to help support those efforts.

What's your top conservation issue and why?
Montana is experiencing unprecedented growth. One of our passions has become protecting wildlife corridors to ensure historic migratory patterns and genetic health of animal populations. That means helping fund land conservation including easements. It means wildlife friendly fences and tracking populations. And it means we need help from government and elected officials.

Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?
Jim would like to say Montana Grizzly stadium in Montana a foot! Saturday, but together we love hiking the trails of the Crazy Mountains where we often see more animals than people.

SAVE THE DATES

AUGUST

- August 13: BOZEMAN** Paint n Sip at Steep Mountain Tea House (5-8 p.m.) [RSVP HERE](#)
- August 15: BILLINGS** Pint Night (MCV's 2024 Summer Road Tour: Thirsty Street Brewing, 5-9 p.m.) [RSVP HERE](#)
- August 20: BOZEMAN** Farmers Market at Lindley Park (5-8 p.m.)
- August 22: MISSOULA** Pearl Jam "Our Village" pre-concert festival (1-7 p.m.)
- August 23: BOZEMAN** CATAPALOOZA at MSU (10 a.m.-3 p.m.)
- August 24: MISSOULA** Tyler Childers pre-concert festival (4:30-7:30 p.m.)
- August 24: BILLINGS** Montana Clean Energy Fair at MSUB Downtown Campus (9 a.m.-3 p.m.)
- August 27: BOZEMAN** Farmers Market at Lindley Park (5-8 p.m.)
- August 28: FLATHEAD** Craft Night at Bonsai Brewing (5-8 p.m.) [RSVP HERE](#)

SEPTEMBER

- September 1-30: STATEWIDE** Pups for Public Lands photo contest
- September 4: MISSOULA** House party hosted by Laurie and Ed Stalling to support Team MCV and all we do to protect the Last Best Place (5:30-8 p.m.) [RSVP HERE](#)

OCTOBER

- October 5:** MCV's Annual Gala in LIVINGSTON (5-8 p.m.) [RSVP HERE](#)

Next month is Public Lands Month. That means we're holding our Annual Pups for Public Lands photo contest! The top 12 dogs will be featured in our 2025 Pups for Public Lands calendar and receive a prize pack! Stay tuned to our social media and emails as we announce contest rules, prizes and judges!



Social media is a great way to stay connected with MCV. You can keep up-to-date on upcoming events like Pups for Public Lands, endorsed candidates, educational resources and so much more! It's the best way to hear about our latest news and be a part of the conversation about election efforts across the state. Follow us today to join the movement to protect Montana for future generations.



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 mtvotersfund.org to learn more.

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