

Happy February, Montana Conservation Voters!

Valentine's Day is nearly here, and we hope you're feeling the love as much as we are. We are incredibly grateful to have you as part of Team MCV.

As we enter week six of the Montana Legislature, things are heating up — even as the temperatures outside remain freezing. A number of bills and resolutions are threatening everything from public lands to our judiciary. Take LC 2912, for example. This joint resolution supports Utah's dangerous lawsuit against the federal government, which seeks to strip protections from 18.5 million acres of Bureau of Land Management land in the state. If successful, this would set a troubling precedent affecting more than 200 million acres of public land across the country, including here in Montana.

We understand the legislative process can feel overwhelming, especially when public lands and our way of life are under attack. But know this — we are on the frontlines, working tirelessly to keep you informed and help you take action. Whether it's guiding you on how to sign up for testimony, creating petitions, and hosting events, we're here to amplify your voice throughout the Montana Legislature. Take action and tell Montana's lawmakers to reject LC 2912 [HERE](#).

Looking to connect with Team MCV and fellow defenders of the Montana Constitution and our public lands? Join us in the Capitol Rotunda **TOMORROW at noon** for the "1 ❤️ the Montana Constitution" rally, and again on **February 19** for the 2025 Rally for Public Lands. We'd love to see you there!

Our public lands, Constitution, and impartial judiciary are facing unprecedented threats. Now is the time to stand up and protect our way of life for future generations.

We cannot thank you enough for your continued support of Team MCV and our mission to keep Montana the Last Best Place.



Yours in conservation,

Whitney Tawney  
Executive Director  
Montana Conservation Voters

## GET YOUR TICKETS TO THE 2025 MEMBER CELEBRATION TODAY!



Mark your calendars for an evening you won't want to miss! On Friday, February 28, we're coming together in Helena to celebrate you — our incredible members — and the collective impact we've made for Montana's public lands, clean water, and democracy.

[Don't wait — purchase your ticket or become a sponsor today!](#)

This is your chance to connect with fellow conservation champions and engage in critical conversations about what's happening in the state legislature. With key policy decisions affecting Montana's natural heritage, your voice and involvement have never been more important.

We're thrilled to have **Betsy Gaines Quammen** as our special guest speaker! Betsy, a renowned conservationist and author, will share her powerful stories and insights on protecting Montana's cherished landscapes and how communities like ours can drive meaningful change.

**When:** Friday, February 28, 6:00 p.m.  
**Where:** The Great Northern Hotel, 835 Great Northern Boulevard, Helena

Join us for an inspiring evening filled with connection, reflection, and a shared vision for Montana's future. Don't miss out — secure your spot today and help us keep Montana wild and free! [And don't forget, the first 50 members to buy tickets receive a 10% discount!](#)



### A big THANK YOU to our confirmed sponsors:

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## STAND FOR YOUR PUBLIC LANDS ON 2/19!

Montanans share a deep love for our public lands — the places where we hunt, fish, hike, and camp. But today — corporations, special interests and even some of those we've elected are exploiting the changing landscape of Montana to limit access and pave the way for selling off our public lands.

One of the biggest threats we face right now is LC 2912 — a dangerous resolution in the Montana Legislature that supports Utah's lawsuit to seize control of over 18.5 million acres of Bureau of Land Management land. This resolution also claims that federal land ownership in Montana is "unconstitutional," undermining our state's sovereignty. This is not just a political stunt — it's a direct attack on the vital public lands we rely on.

While the U.S. Supreme Court dismissed Utah's case, it can still be refiled. If Utah succeeds, Montana's public lands could be next. This lawsuit could open the floodgates to privatizing millions of acres, including some of our most treasured places like the Missouri Breaks, the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, and the Pryor Mountain Wilderness. **That's why we're delivering a petition to the 69th Montana Legislature, Governor Greg Gianforte, and Montana's U.S. Senators and Representatives on February 19, demanding them to defend our public lands.**

[SIGN THE PETITION](#)

But we need more than just signatures. We need you to join us at the **2025 Rally for Public Lands on February 19 at 12 p.m. in the Capitol Rotunda in Helena.** We'll be delivering the petition, standing alongside partner organizations, and sending a clear message to our elected officials: Montanans are united in our commitment to protecting access to public lands and keeping them in public hands.

At the rally, hear from passionate advocates, including Hilary Hutcheson, a professional angler, guide, and award-winning filmmaker, and Dr. Shane Doyle, an Apsáalooke historian. They'll share their powerful insights on why we must act now to protect Montana's legacy.

The urgency has never been greater. Whether you're an avid outdoor enthusiast or simply someone who values our public lands, your presence matters. Let's make it clear that t Montanans will not stand idly by while our lands are threatened. Mark your calendar, spread the word, and come ready to defend the Montana we all love. Together, we can protect the places that make this state so special for generations to come. Click the button below to RSVP.

[RSVP TODAY](#)



## MCV AT THE CAPITOL

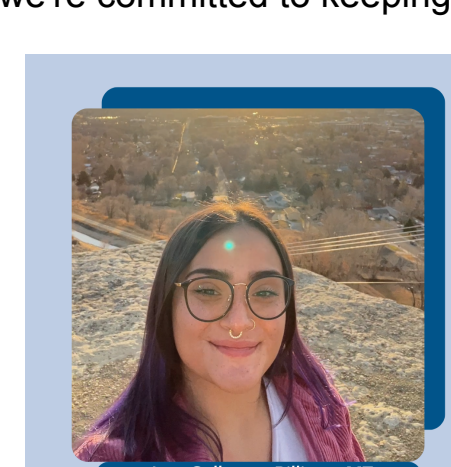
The 2025 Montana Legislative Session is off and running, and we've been keeping busy advocating on behalf of Montana values!

Last week, Team MCV testified in support of Senate Bill 224, which would establish Indigenous Peoples' Day as a legal holiday in Montana. This bill, brought by MCV-endorsed Senator Shane Morigeau, is a step toward recognizing and honoring Indigenous peoples in Montana. [Sign the petition](#) and urge the committee members to **VOTE YES on SB 224.**

Meanwhile, Montana's judiciary is being attacked on many fronts. Senate Bill 42 has passed out of committee and is now heading to the Senate floor for a vote. This bill seriously threatens the impartiality of our courts by requiring judges to identify a political party when running for office. Our courts should apply the law based on facts, not political affiliations. If SB 42 passes, judges will face constant pressure to make decisions through a political lens, rather than delivering fair, impartial justice to all Montanans. We cannot allow partisan politics to compromise the integrity of our courts. The judiciary should remain a place where all Montanans — regardless of political background — can expect a fair and unbiased hearing. **Please, take action [HERE](#) and urge your Senators to vote NO on SB 42.**

## FIELD NOTES

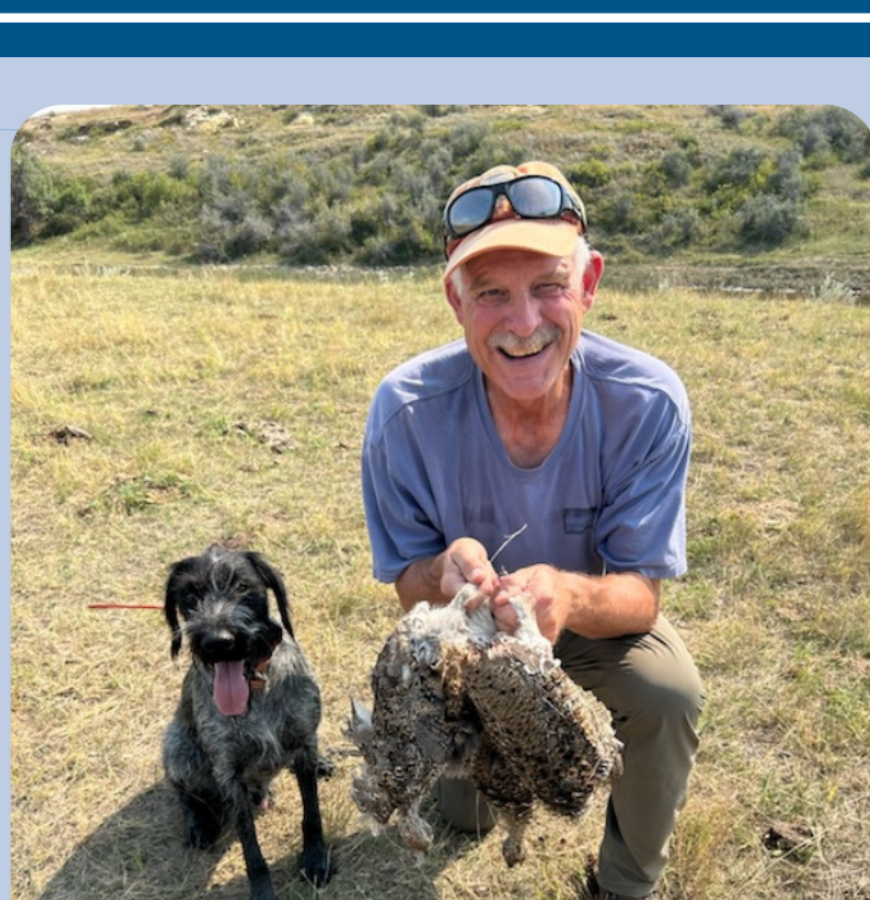
As the 2025 legislative session rolls along, Team MCV's field team is here to help build bridges between communities and the legislative process! With organizers working across the state, we're committed to keeping you informed and empowered to take action.



Here's what our Regional Field Organizer in Billings Jesc has to say about navigating the session with Team MCV.

"A few weeks into the session now, and I'm really glad to be here. The legislative session can often feel overwhelming, but having three dedicated organizers in our respective regions helps clear up much of the confusion. We're here to support you! Our bi-weekly Legislative Catch-Up sessions are a great opportunity to get the latest updates and insights on what's happening at the MT LEG."

## Member of the Month



Dale Tribby  
Miles City, MT

### Why are you an MCV member?

*The mission of MCV is important to my wife and I. Retention and proper management of our public lands are values we hold and are non-negotiable. We appreciate MCV's guidance and information on candidates running for public office. We find this information crucial as we decide which candidates receive our votes.*

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

*The importance of science based conservation of public land and the directed management of these is one of the greatest challenges facing public land managers and those who love these lands.*

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

*Without question, hiking and bird hunting the public and private lands of Eastern Montana are where I am the happiest.*

## SAVE THE DATES

**February 12 (TONIGHT):** Legislative Catch-Up, Bozeman ([RSVP HERE](#))

**February 13:** Constitution Rally at the Capitol, Helena ([RSVP HERE](#))

**February 19:** Public Lands Rally at the Capitol, Helena ([RSVP HERE](#))

**February 21:** Legislative Catch-Up, Billings ([RSVP HERE](#))

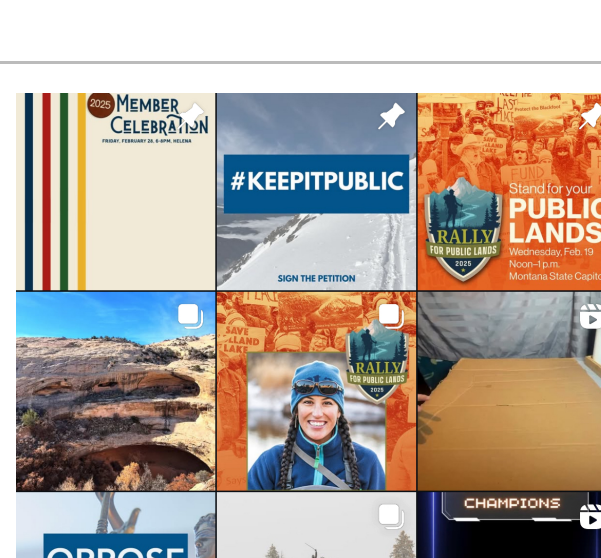
**February 24:** Legislative Catch-Up, Missoula ([RSVP HERE](#))

**February 28:** MCV Annual Member Celebration, Helena ([RSVP HERE](#))

**October 11:** Annual Gala, Livingston

**November 4:** Municipal Elections

Stay connected with Team MCV! Along with [MontanaPushback.org](#), our legislative action hub, social media is an excellent way to stay connected and receive real-time updates. Follow us to stay informed on the 2025 Legislature, upcoming events, petitions, educational resources, and much more! Join the movement today and be a part of protecting our state for future generations!



Paid for by Montana Conservation Voters  
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