How Congress and the Forest Service are Paying Collaborative Partners

An Explanatory Packet by Keith Hammer

September 27, 2015

Page 1: This pdf packet contains 16 pages, including this directory as page 1.

Page 2: My newsletter article explaining how the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) allows Congress to provide funds to the Forest Service, which the FS can then combine with its other funds to pay its formal collaborative "partners" in the Southwest Crown Collaborative. Absolutely read this article first.

Pages 3-6: My other newsletter articles providing more background on collaboration. These need not be read to understand the remainder of the packet, but help provide a broader context to understanding the process and related issues.

Pages 7-9: The SWCC's web site explanation of its spreadsheet detailing what federal funds have gone to formal "partners" and what those partners have contributed in either cash or non-cash/in-kind contributions to collaborative projects. It also provides a key of acronyms for the "partners" included in the funding spreadsheet.

Pages 10-12: The SWCC funding spreadsheet in pdf format.

Page 13: A hypothetical example the Forest Service provided of how CFLRP and other federal funds are used, matched against one another, and matched in part by "partners."

Pages 14-16: A group letter to Senator Daines (R-MT) that supports logging as forest "restoration," supports legislation that would reduce timber sale delays associated with litigation, and urges Daines to work with collaborators and ignore "organizations and individuals who oppose collaborative approaches to forest management." A number of the groups signing the letter to Daines have received federal funding as a SWCC "partner."

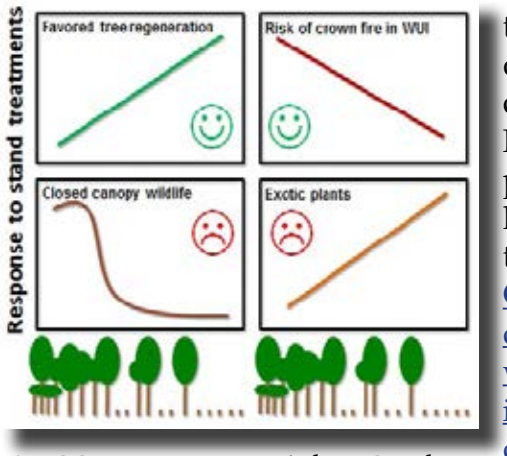
The upshot of this packet is to demonstrate that some groups receiving federal funds to participate in collaborative projects and are then turning around and asking Congress to: 1) fund more collaboration and 2) ignore those who do not participate in collaborative efforts to conduct logging under the guise of "forest restoration."

The electronic version of this pdf packet contains numerous live URL links to further information.

The Forest Service is Paying Collaborative Partners!

Imagine a world where you donate some time working on a Forest Service project and the Forest Service pays you up to four times what that in-kind donation is worth to continue working on it. This is the world Congress created in the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 as the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP).

The Southwest Crown Collaborative (SWCC) in the Swan-Clearwater-Blackfoot area is one of the collaborative efforts being funded by CFLRP via the Forest Service. Because the Act requires that the collaborative process be "transparent and nonexclusive," we asked and the SWCC agreed to list on its web site its formal partners, their contributions to projects, and federal contributions to those partners and projects.



SWCC Monitoring Workshop Graphic

In a nutshell, Congress through CFLRP will fund half of the costs of the projects if the Forest Service and its partners fund the other half. Partners need only provide one-fifth of the total project costs, often as in-kind, non-cash donations of work. This minimum one-fifth contribution then entitles the partner to receive federal funds to do work that otherwise would be done by federal employees or under competitive contracts with private businesses.

In a hypothetical example provided by the Forest Service and lodged on the SWCC web site, a partner can consider $2,000 of its work expenses as a non-cash contribution to a project. The Forest Service would pay the partner $5,000 cash, which may include CFLRP funds, "to pay for the partner's salary, fuel for vehicles, and supplies toward the project." In a real-life SWCC example, one non-profit has received $2.5 million in federal funds for its non-cash, in-kind contributions of $903 thousand.

While these funds on the one hand enable partners to do some monitoring and watershed restoration work by repairing or decommissioning roads, it also appears to silence public criticisms by partners of the more controversial timber sales being conducted under the guise of "forest restoration." Moreover, some SWCC partners have collectively promoted "restoration" logging and asked Congress to work with collaborators and not with "organizations and individuals who oppose collaborative approaches to forest management."

It is this type of bully behavior by partners that casts a long shadow over the integrity of CFLRP, which at the 5-year/halfway mark is far ahead of its logging quotas and far behind in decommissioning roads and controlling the invasive weeds they bring to the forest. Citizens and scientists that disagree for good reason with the notion that logging is "restoration" (see page 4) deserve equal standing with collaborators being paid millions of tax dollars by the Forest Service.

To see how over $7 million of your tax dollars have thus far been paid to partners in the SWCC, visit:

http://www.swcrown.org/partnership-agreements

Collaboration as a Government Booster Club!

In the late 1990s, Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas acknowledge that public forests "once covered with a sea of green [are] now pocked with clearcuts and criss-crossed by roads" and that the government was "faced by a segment of the public that had a differing view of what their national forests should be." Rather than change course, however, Thomas and the government branded such citizens "extremists" and set out to use collaboration to marginalize those who use the courts to enforce America's bedrock environmental laws. (See page 2 of our Fall 2013 newsletter).

"In my book a pioneer is a man who turned all the grass upside down, strung bob-wire over the dust that was left, poisoned the water, cut down the trees, killed the Indian who owned the land, and called it progress. If I had my way, the land here would be like God made it, and none of you sons of bitches would be here at all."

Charlie Russell, 1923, to the Great Falls Booster Club

Unfortunately, a number of "conservation" groups have aligned themselves with the government's redefinition of the problem as too many trees rather than too many roads. They've joined the "logging is restoration" booster club and are bad-mouthing those of us that resort to the courts when necessary.

For example, the 2009 Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) is designed to retain the excessive road network needed for removing forest biomass (a.k.a. trees). This even though research confirms that untidy, un-thinned forests are essential to the survival of rare and threatened species like lynx, fisher and wolverine. And, on the Flathead National Forest, research and Forest Plan standards require that substantial miles of existing road must be removed to restore grizzly bear habitat security and watersheds.

Simply put, CFLRP uses tax dollars to match private and other government funding, enticing others to support "logging is restoration" because there is money to be made in doing so. Groups like The Wilderness Society heap praise on CFLRP's Southwest Crown Collaborative, even though the Forest Service continues to fight against the road decommissioning required by its Forest Plan, especially on former Plum Creek lands now owned by the Forest Service.

Our pleadings at SWCC meetings fell on deaf ears, so we had to secure a court order directing the Forest Service to apply its road decommissioning standards! It's bad enough when collaborators sit silently as the agency runs amok. It's even worse when collaborators like TWS and Montana Wilderness Association publicly badmouth - as they have recently - those of us that retain enough autonomy to challenge the agency when necessary.

In a 12/4/14 joint press release, TWS, the timber industry and others urge Congress to fund more collaboration so they can increase the scale and pace of logging-as-restoration - while criticizing folks who "use litigation . . . to influence Forest Service policy." There is something dreadfully wrong when booster clubs urge Congress to listen only to them and to ignore the broader public and those working to see our bedrock environmental laws enforced!

Have no doubts that collaborative booster clubs and late-night deals like the Defense Bill are replacing your voice and democracy with governance by the select and privileged! It's big money with those who flock to it once again bullying those who insist average people, fish and wildlife have a voice.

Flathead Forest Plan Collaboration: Circular, Incestuous or Just Rotten to the Core?

The Forest Service cannot ask for a group's advice without firstly insuring the group represents a broad and fair public spectrum and publishes meeting minutes, per the Federal Advisory Committee Act. So the FS instead hires a contractor to ask for the group opinion, bypassing the FACA!

Flathead National Forest chose the federal Udall Foundation's Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to design a collaborative process for its Forest Plan revision. Udall in turn contracted Meridian Institute in 2013, after presenting Meridian an award for facilitating the writing of the new Forest Planning Rule that urges the use of collaboration.

Meridian's initial $30,500 contract required it to interview folks in the Flathead, as Udall had done. Both concluded many of those folks "expressed skepticism about the notion of a single forest-wide multi-stakeholder collaborative group," in part because "there is considerable collaboration fatigue already" from other collaborative efforts.

Nonetheless, Meridian's contract was expanded by an additional $254,000 to conduct the process while also changing the contract to say Meridian would "determine areas of common ground," not the collaborative group - which undermines the entire premise of group collaboration!

Udall Foundation had been audited the year prior by the Department of Interior's Inspector General and its corrective actions were being audited by the General Accounting Office at the time the Meridian contract was awarded (see pull quote at center). Nonetheless, Udall chose to issue Meridian a contract it admitted was flawed and that diverted "from new protocol," rather than write a new contract "for which Meridian may not be eligible"!

The result is a contract awarded to a company whose lead facilitator refused to lower her $307/hour rate, instead reducing the number of hours devoted to the process. Meridian announced it "was selected as a third-party neutral through . . .Udall . . . to assist with . . . documentation of" the collaborative.

"[The Udall] Foundation had not appropriately assessed the effectiveness of its internal controls for at least 6 fiscal years . . . was missing key internal controls over its . . . contracting practices . . . had conflict-of-interest issues . . . was not in compliance with the [Federal Acquisition Regulation] when awarding [non-competitive] contracts [and] inappropriately modified some contracts to add additional funding, [to] extend the period of performance beyond the original dates, or a combination of these." (GAO Report 14-95)

Meridian has refused, however, to better document the meetings from which it is extracting "emerging themes." The American taxpayer is left with a Udall favorite "neutral" poised to pull a rabbit out of a hat with no substantial records to support its conclusions, at a price of $285,000!

We've notified Forest Supervisor Weber we will be attending fewer meetings and putting what we have to say in writing so it can't be omitted or misconstrued by Meridian. You can find our letter to Weber, which attaches a number of Udall/Meridian/FNF emails, the contract, and FACA guidance, on our Reports and Documents page at:

http://www.swanview.org

Why Collaboration and What's the Fuss?

Definitions of collaboration include "working together" and "traitorous cooperation with an enemy." Over the past several decades, the Forest Service has increased its use of collaboration to forge consensus among key "stakeholders."

This has allowed it to marginalize those of lesser means or not in agreement with social compromises that again "cut the baby in half" and perhaps violate laws protecting fish, wildlife, and water quality. Indeed, the National Forest Foundation's "A Roadmap for Collaboration Before, During and After the NEPA Process" warns of the significant expenditures of "time, effort, funds and social capital necessary for an ongoing collaborative process."

Current Forest Planning regulations urge that an optional collaborative process precede then parallel the National Environmental Policy Act's (NEPA) public involvement process. And therein lie two aspects of the rub: 1) collaborators get to front-load the process with their proposals while, 2) many folks who can't afford to do both must choose whether to collaborate or follow the legally required NEPA process.

The process of seeking consensus through collaboration remains contentious, especially when the Forest Service and industry use it to enlist enough folks to agree with them so they can marginalize those who disagree. Consider these quotes:

"Between private lands and public lands the world that was once covered with a sea of green was now pocked with clearcuts and criss-crossed by roads. But we still continued until we were faced with a segment of the public that had a differing view of what their national forests should be." (Former USFS Chief Jack Ward Thomas; Chronicle of Community Vol. 3, No. 1, 1998).

"[W]hen local environmental groups and timber representatives learn to reach consensus . . . that will marginalize extremists." (Former USFS Chief Jack Ward Thomas; Daily Inter Lake 6/8/97).

"We need to find common ground so the people who want to litigate are marginalized." (Former Assistant Secretary of Interior Rebecca Watson; Missoulian 11/28/02).

"The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act . . . is largely being used to circumvent existing environmental laws and give control of the management of our National Forests to local special interests." (Al Espinosa and Harry Jageman, retired USFS fisheries and wildlife biologists; Letter to Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests 8/21/10).

"I believe that we . . . have public lands that belong to all people . . . I fear that localized decisions are usually based on 'How much can I get now?'" (Former Lewis and Clark National Forest Supervisor Gloria Flora; Chronicle of Community Vol. 3, No. 1, 1998).

"There's something unreasonably comfortable about focusing primarily on alternative structures for decision making instead of the issues that lie at the heart of the debate." (Economist Tom Power; Chronicle of Community Vol. 3, No. 1, 1998).

"Consensus is the process of abandoning all beliefs, principles, values and policies in search of something in which no one believes; but to which no one objects; the process of avoiding the very issues that have to be solved, merely because you cannot get agreement on the way ahead. What great cause would have been fought and won under the banner, 'I stand for consensus'?" (Former UK Primer Minister Margaret Thatcher).

Swan View Coalition on Collaboration

Swan View will always follow the legally required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) public involvement process and will participate in optional collaborative processes as time and funds allow. We appreciate both as avenues to better understand all interests and issues.

But we have seen the collaborative process abused by federal agencies and key "stakeholders." In 1997, national "conservation" groups joined industry in insisting its Flathead Common Ground logging plan be called "ecologically-driven vegetation treatments," even though the scientific panel they asked to review their proposal disagreed and concluded "The desire to harvest timber products should be explicitly recognized here as the driving force." This oft-repeated collaborative myth allows industry to argue old logging roads are ecologically necessary to log the forest back to health!

Flathead National Forest field tour. *Keith Hammer photo*

In 2012, the SW Crown Collaborative down-played opportunities for road decommissioning to benefit fish and wildlife in the Swan Valley, based on a mistaken report by the Flathead Forest Supervisor that "the Swan RD has already decommissioned 800 miles of roads . . ." We had to correct the record by providing the Supervisor's own spreadsheet indicating less than 10 miles of road have been decommissioned in the Swan Valley! Who's on watch here?

Forest-based collaboratives are skewed toward logging as "forest restoration," rather than including a robust consideration of road decommissioning and other time-proven means to restore over-logged and over-roaded forests. Indeed, National Forest Foundation's "A Roadmap for Collaboration Before, During and After the NEPA Process" helps institutionalize the assumption that trees must be removed to restore forest ecosystems. It offers the following tip: "It can be helpful when in the field to ask stakeholders what they would do to improve the condition of the project area. In the case of forest restoration, it can be as simple as asking stakeholders which trees they would leave on the landscape and why."

We will continue to provide the Forest Service with the scientific research - most of it its own - indicating most forests suffer from too many roads and motorized vehicles, not too many trees. We'll always do so through the NEPA process and will via the collaborative process when able. But we'll continue to file lawsuits when necessary to prevent the Forest Service from continuing to create a landscape "pocked with clearcuts and criss-crossed by roads" (see the comments of Former USFS Chief Jack Ward Thomas on page 2) and we'll refuse to be marginalized simply because we dare speak up and advocate for fish and wildlife.

SOUTHWESTERN CROWN
COLLABORATIVE

Partnership Agreements

A Valuable Tool for Meeting SWCC goals

In 2010 the SWCC was selected in a competitive process as one of 10 Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) projects nationally to receive up to $4 million annually for 10 years with a 1:1 matching requirement to collaboratively implement and monitor fuel reduction and restoration projects. Matching funds may include a combination of Forest Service appropriated funds, permanent and trust funds, forest product value exchanged for restoration treatments (in stewardship contracts) or partner non-cash, cash, and in-kind contributions.

Some tools the Forest Service has available to implement restoration and monitoring within the Southwestern Crown of the Continent landscape (SW Crown) are partnership agreements. Using partnership agreements for implementing fuel reduction and restoration projects increases local economies and capacities and contributes to the 1:1 CFLR matching requirement. Partnership agreements are voluntary and may last up to five years.

Example Partnership Agreement

List of SWCC Partnership Agreements (updated January 2015): This table shows the SWCC partnership agreements that have received CFLRP funds since the inception of the program (2010) and includes 27 different partners (see list below). It shows the amount of CFLRP funds (column 2) and non-CFLRP Forest Service funds (column 3) received by each partner for specific work items. Column 4 shows additional non-cash match provided by the Forest Service, usually Forest Service staff time to assist with the work. It also shows the cash contribution (column 5) and non-cash contribution (column 6) provided by the partner. Finally, it shows the total cost of the project (column 7: combined Forest Service and partner contribution) and the percent of the total project costs provided to each partner by the Forest Service (column 8). The sum of the partner's contributions (columns 5 and 6) must be at least 20% of the project total (column 7). Click HERE for an example of how and why this is calculated. The list will be updated annually.

27 Current Partners include:

- BBCTU – Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited
- BC – Blackfoot Challenge
- BMWF – Bob Marshal Wilderness Foundation
- CRC – Clearwater Resource Council
- Defenders of Wildlife
- DNRC – Montana Department of Natural Resource Conservation
- EMRI – Ecosystem Management Research Institute
- FS-RO – Regional One Office of Forest Service
- MCC – Montana Conservation Corps
- MFWP – Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- Missoula County
- MLS – Montana Loon Society
- MT-DOT – Montana Department of Transportation
- MWA – Montana Wilderness Society
- NFF – National Forest Foundation
- NOHVCC – National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council
- NWC – Northwest Connections
- OSU – Oregon State University
- PSW – Ponderosa Snow Warriors
- RMEF – Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- SEC – Swan Ecosystem Center
- TNC – The Nature Conservancy
- UM – University of Montana (including Dr. Peter Rice)

- UM BS – University of Montana Biological Station
- USGS – US Geological Survey
- WCPR – Wildlands CPR
- WTU – Wild Things Unlimited

In addition the Flathead, Helena and Lolo National Forests are partnering with other branches of the Forest Service to conduct project monitoring including:

- USFS RMRS – US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station
- USFS FS Fire Modeling Institute
- USFS Strike Team

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DISCLAIMER: Data manually entered one time per year from IWEB data base. Not official record of Agreement financials.
Last Updated 1/2015

SWCC Partners and Projects	Sum of CASH TO PARTNR CFLR/CFLN FUNDS (in Iweb if applicable)	Sum of CASH TO PARTNR NON-CFLR MATCH FUNDS	Sum of FS NON-CASH MATCH (IE. $ DOES NOT GO TO PARTNER-Gone Yr allocated)	Sum of PLANNED PARTNER CASH CONTRIBUTION	Sum of PLANNED PARTNER NON-CASH, IN-KIND MATCH	Sum of TOTAL PROJECT COST	% of Total FS Contributions
Big Blackfoot TU	**$ 2,376,067**	**$ 94,894**	**$ 21,742**	**$ -**	**$ 903,286**	**$ 3,354,002**	**30%**
ACCOMPLISH ROAD DECOMMISSIONING IN THE BLACKFOOT HEADWATERS	$ 237,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 60,800	$ 297,800	
Benedict Creek Culvert and Road Removal	$ 2,000	$ 1,317	$ 683	$ -	$ 1,875	$ 5,875	
Collaborative Acquistion of Lidar Survey Data	$ 38,986	$ 3,000	$ -	$ -	$ 96,000	$ 96,000	
Cottonwood Stream Restoration	$ 139,511	$ -	$ 7,561	$ -	$ 62,875	$ 209,947	
Culvert Removal FS #4106	$ 84,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 21,450	$ 105,450	
Fish Passage Improvements (culverts), stream channel restoration, etc. (spreadsheet projects 26, 39, 40, 41)	$ 1,640,005	$ 45,000	$ -	$ -	$ 282,100	$ 1,967,105	
Sauerkraut Creek Stream Rehabilitation	$ -	$ 20,000	$ 2,700	$ -	$ 143,500	$ 166,200	
Seeley Lake Aquatic Restoration	$ 5,000	$ 18,783	$ 3,000	$ -	$ 8,400	$ 35,183	
Snowbank Creek Diversion Ditch	$ -	$ 6,794	$ -	$ -	$ 1,870	$ 8,664	
Southfork Poorman Road	$ 125,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 151,755	$ 276,755	
Veg of Stream and Wetlands Associated w/ Rd. Impacts	$ 17,500	$ -	$ 1,880	$ -	$ 5,500	$ 24,880	
CFLRP - Dunham Cr Restoration	$ 16,765	$ -	$ 1,880	$ -	$ 30,000	$ 48,645	
Cottonwood Reclamation extension	$ 40,000	$ -	$ 2,160	$ -	$ 28,160	$ 70,320	
CFLRP Dunham Monture Reroute	$ 30,300	$ -	$ 1,879	$ -	$ 9,001	$ 41,180	
Blackfoot Challenge	**$ 583,487**	**$ 149,260**	**$ 34,701**	**$ -**	**$ 217,756**	**$ 985,204**	**9%**
CFLRP Fisheries/Watershed Restoration SPA	$ 50,003	$ -	$ 3,508	$ -	$ 21,316	$ 74,826	
CFLRP Noxious Weed Treatment SPA	$ 74,360	$ -	$ 1,665	$ -	$ 19,246	$ 95,271	
MAINTAIN OR RESTORE RETAINED FOREST ROADS	$ 115,500	$ -	$ 2,750	$ -	$ 37,291	$ 155,541	
Mike Horse Mine Restoration	$ -	$ 15,000	$ -	$ -	$ 4,054	$ 19,054	
Mike Horse Restoration Interpretive and Education	$ -	$ 6,760	$ 1,751	$ -	$ 9,169	$ 17,680	
Noxious Weed Treatment	$ 20,000	$ -	$ 6,480	$ -	$ 6,970	$ 33,450	
Noxious Weed Treatment Lake Crk-backpack spray; roa	$ 38,280	$ -	$ 5,724	$ -	$ 14,075	$ 58,079	
Patterson Prairie Weed Treatment	$ 27,044	$ 22,500	$ 2,488	$ -	$ 13,379	$ 65,411	
SPA Fire History Nevada Willow NFMA	$ 30,000	$ 30,000	$ -	$ -	$ 17,900	$ 77,900	
Wed Treatments	$ 15,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,162	$ 19,162	
CFLRP Monitioring Coordination	$ 94,030	$ -	$ 2,142	$ -	$ 31,562	$ 127,734	
CFLRP Monitioring Coorination	$ 1,095	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,095	
Biomass Coordinator	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 8,193	$ -	$ 8,315	$ 26,508	
Noxious Weed Treatment Ground/Arial III	$ 100,000	$ -		$ -	$ 30,318	$ 130,318	
Noxious Weed Treatment Ground/Arial III	$ -	$ 75,000		$ -	$ -	$ 75,000	
Integrated fuels and forest Plot checks support	$ 8,175	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 8,175	
BMWF	**$ 29,000**	**$ 132,513**	**$ 49,518**	**$ -**	**$ 56,908**	**$ 267,939**	**3%**
Bob Marshall Wilderness Trail Maintenance	$ 5,000	$ 52,337	$ 10,152	$ -	$ 17,854	$ 85,343	
Coordination for Trail Work in the BMW Complex	$ -	$ 28,809	$ 22,950	$ -	$ 13,800	$ 65,559	
Trail work - 50th anniversery	$ -	$ 51,367	$ -	$ -	$ 15,254	$ 66,621	
Weed/Trail Work - Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex	$ 24,000	$ -	$ 16,416	$ -	$ 10,000	$ 50,416	
CRC	**$ 14,952**	**$ 39,793**	**$ 11,433**	**$ -**	**$ 40,788**	**$ 106,966**	**1%**
CFLRP Weed Mapping & Data Entry	$ -	$ 5,000	$ 1,557	$ -	$ 2,500	$ 9,057	
Nutient / TSS	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Nutrient	$ 3,500	$ 10,000	$ 1,728	$ -	$ 5,498	$ 20,726	
RAC - Weed Mapping	$ -	$ 24,793	$ 4,820	$ -	$ 14,731	$ 44,343	
CFLRP Aquatics Monitoring	$ 3,452	$ -	$ 1,600	$ -	$ 2,030	$ 7,082	
Nutrient/TSS Aquatics Monitoring A	$ 8,000	$ -	$ 1,728	$ -	$ 16,030	$ 25,758	
CRC	**$ 16,212**	**$ -**	**$ 4,399**	**$ -**	**$ 14,700**	**$ 35,311**	**0%**
Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention & Education	$ 16,212	$ -	$ 4,399	$ -	$ 14,700	$ 35,311	
Defenders of Wildlife	**$ -**	**$ 9,500**	**$ 91,800**	**$ 3,500**	**$ 1,300**	**$ 106,100**	**1%**
Seeley Lake Bear Conflict Prevention	$ -	$ 9,500	$ -	$ -	$ 1,300	$ 10,800	
Carnivore surveys support	$ -	$ -	$ 91,800	$ 3,500	$ -	$ 95,300	
DNRC	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 19,200**	**$ 6,700**	**$ -**	**$ 25,900**	**0%**
Multi Species Carnivor Surveys	$ -	$ -	$ 19,200	$ 4,000	$ -	$ 23,200	
NCDE Database	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,700	$ -	$ 2,700	
EMRI	**$ 73,645**	**$ 12,000**	**$ 12,724**	**$ -**	**$ 109,852**	**$ 208,220**	**1%**
CFLRP Wildlife Monitoring	$ 21,900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 21,900	
CFLRP Wildlife Monitoring	$ 51,745	$ 12,000	$ 12,724	$ -	$ 109,852	$ 186,320	
FS - RO	**$ 1,428**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 1**	**$ 1,429**	**0%**
Integrated - re-measurements	$ 1,428	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,428	
Survey Instrument - OMB clearance Cynthia Manning	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1	$ 1	
MCC	**$ 422,600**	**$ 57,861**	**$ 154,030**	**$ 2**	**$ 386,407**	**$ 1,020,899**	**8%**
CFLRP Trails Swan Lake	$ 130,200	$ 21,550	$ 7,300	$ -	$ 114,012	$ 273,062	
MCC Trail Maintenance Training PF	$ -	$ 1,911	$ -	$ -	$ 43,118	$ 45,028	
MCC Verbenone Packet Application	$ -	$ 900	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 900	
Monture West and Trail Weed spraying, pulling and	$ 17,200	$ -	$ 3,456	$ -	$ 15,990	$ 36,646	
NFWF Grant projects in SWCC-CFLR	$ -	$ -	$ 7,083	$ -	$ 47,151	$ 54,234	
Seeley Lake Trail Maintenance	$ 45,000	$ -	$ 12,011	$ -	$ 15,331	$ 72,342	
Seeley Lake Trail Maintenance #2	$ 58,500	$ -	$ 12,011	$ -	$ 15,331	$ 85,842	
Seeley Lake Trails	$ 41,500	$ 14,500	$ 11,492	$ -	$ 43,834	$ 111,326	
Trail Improvement Seeley	$ 54,000	$ -	$ 13,900	$ -	$ 49,612	$ 117,512	
Trail Work - Little Blackfoot	$ -	$ 9,000	$ 8,112	$ -	$ -	$ 17,112	
Verbenone Packet Application	$ 17,200	$ -	$ 78,665	$ -	$ 16,167	$ 112,032	
STREAM AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECTS IN CARL CREEK, CEDAR BAR CREEK	$ 59,000	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 2	$ 25,861	$ 94,863	
MFWP	**$ 520,924**	**$ 85,000**	**$ 125,575**	**$ 2,700**	**$ 395,081**	**$ 1,129,281**	**9%**
Auquatic Invasive Species Prevention Rangers	$ 30,000	$ -	$ 2,564	$ -	$ 16,944	$ 49,508	

Carnivore survey support	$ -	$ -	$ 14,000	$ -	$ 4,000	$ 18,000		
CFLRP Aquatic Invasive Species Wash Station	$ 88,024	$ -	$ 8,184	$ -	$ 34,165	$ 130,373		
Gill Netting	$ 212,000	$ 39,251	$ 19,372	$ -	$ 251,365	$ 521,988		
Native trout genetic assignment	$ 20,000	$ -	$ 3,410	$ -	$ 16,091	$ 39,501		
NCDE Database	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,700	$ -	$ 2,700		
Swan Lake Gill Netting	$ 148,400	$ 45,749	$ 74,990	$ -	$ 63,317	$ 332,455		
Auquatic Invasive Species Prevention	$ 22,500	$ -	$ 3,056	$ -	$ 9,200	$ 34,756		
Missoula County	**$ 14,000**	**$ 2,035**	**$ 2,035**	**$ -**	**$ 61,228**	**$ 79,298**		**0%**
Aquatic Weed early detection	$ 7,000	$ -	$ 2,035	$ -	$ 30,614	$ 39,649		
Missoula County Weed District	$ 7,000	$ 2,035	$ -	$ -	$ 30,614	$ 39,649		
MLS	**$ 3,503**	**$ 2,500**	**$ 3,128**	**$ 4,333**	**$ 7,200**	**$ 20,664**		**0%**
Flathead Forest-wide Loon Program	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 4,000	$ -	$ 4,000		
Loon Ranger (1/3 of project is in the SWCC-Swan Lake	$ 3,503	$ 2,500	$ 3,128	$ 333	$ 7,200	$ 16,664		
MT-DOT	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 14,000**	**$ 2,500**	**$ -**	**$ 16,500**		**0%**
Carnivore survey support	$ -	$ -	$ 14,000	$ 2,500	$ -	$ 16,500		
MWA	**$ 28,225**	**$ 35,787**	**$ 3,320**	**$ -**	**$ 33,760**	**$ 101,092**		**1%**
Continental Divide Trail Projects with Volunteer Workforc	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		
Continental Divide Trail Stemple Pass Rehab. (FY Grani	$ 23,225	$ -	$ 3,320	$ -	$ 9,140	$ 35,685		
Trail Improvement	$ 5,000	$ 35,787	$ -	$ -	$ 24,620	$ 65,407		
NFF	**$ 9,500**	**$ -**	**$ 594**	**$ 16,325**	**$ 5,735**	**$ 32,154**		**0%**
Planting Lincoln Compound	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,825		$ 3,825		
SWCC Montiroing Adaptive Mgmt Workshops	$ 9,500	$ -	$ 594	$ -	$ 5,735	$ 15,829		
Whitebark Pine for Planting	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 12,500	$ -	$ 12,500		
NOHVCC	**$ 19,720**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 16,205**	**$ 35,925**		**0%**
Motorized Trail Maintenance - Enhance and Conserve R	$ 19,720	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 16,205	$ 35,925		
Northwest Connections	**$ 201,283**	**$ 51,799**	**$ 131,803**	**$ -**	**$ 165,745**	**$ 550,630**		**5%**
Bird Monitoring	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		
Carnivore Monitoring	$ 40,000	$ 10,000	$ -	$ -	$ 19,035	$ 69,035		
Project level bird monitoring	$ 16,483	$ -	$ 7,863	$ -	$ 7,650	$ 31,996		
Westslop Cutthroat Trout Conservation RAC	$ -	$ 10,000	$ 1,009	$ -	$ 7,500	$ 18,509		
CFLRP Old Growth Monitoring	$ 6,300	$ 6,300	$ 5,187	$ -	$ 6,080	$ 23,867		
CFLRP(#4) Fuels SPA	$ 36,000	$ -	$ 3,907	$ -	$ 11,660	$ 51,567		
CFLRP Monitoring Carnivore Surveys	$ 102,500	$ 25,499	$ 113,836	$ -	$ 113,820	$ 355,655		
OSU	**$ -**	**$ 8,022**	**$ 1,234**		**$ 2,384**	**$ 11,640**		**0%**
Monitoring Package Review	$ -	$ 8,022	$ 1,234		$ 2,384	$ 11,640		
Ponderosa Snow Warriors	**$ 604,090**	**$ 19,557**	**$ 23,625**	**$ -**	**$ 357,054**	**$ 1,004,326**		**8%**
CFLRP Ponderosa Snow Warriors Weed Control	$ -	$ 7,857	$ -	$ -	$ 21,507	$ 29,364		
PSW Best Management Practices Implementation on Rc	$ 45,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 46,780	$ 91,780		
PSW Restoration work on Roads and Trails	$ 58,240	$ -	$ 2,750	$ -	$ 43,047	$ 104,037		
PSW Weed Treatment	$ 255,850	$ 11,700	$ 6,275	$ -	$ 210,230	$ 484,055		
PSW Best Management Practices Implementation on Rc	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000		
PSW Best Management Practices Implementation on 10	$ 145,000	$ -	$ 14,600	$ -	$ 35,490	$ 195,090		
Powell Co	**$ -**	**$ 215,000**	**$ 11,139**	**$ -**	**$ 22,000**	**$ 248,139**		**3%**
RAC-North Fork Blackfoot Road MOD	$ -	$ 215,000	$ 11,139	$ -	$ 22,000	$ 248,139		
RMEF	**$ 104,137**	**$ 65,320**	**$ 214,882**	**$ 105,541**	**$ 49,380**	**$ 539,260**		**5%**
Alice Creek 3 & 7 Prescribed Burn	$ -	$ -	$ 41,250	$ 41,250	$ -	$ 82,500		
Alice Creek Prescribed Burn Units 2 & 4	$ -	$ -	$ 9,500	$ 9,500		$ 19,000		
Horseshoe Hills/Dick Cr	$ -	$ -	$ 137,500	$ 35,000	$ -	$ 172,500		
Non WUI Fuels prescribed burn and prep work	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 19,790	$ -	$ 19,790		
Seeley Stewardship Project-Dick & Cave Cr. Rx; Auggie Crk. Restoration and Fuels Stewardship added with MOD	$ 104,137	$ 2,116	$ -	$ -	$ 23,730	$ 129,983		
Meadow Smith Stewardship	$ -	$ 63,204	$ 26,632	$ 1	$ 25,650	$ 115,487		
SEC	**$ 75,579**	**$ 30,000**	**$ 196,475**	**$ 42,381**	**$ 214,947**	**$ 559,382**		**4%**
Cold Creek and Jim Creek Restoration	$ 71,800	$ 7,000	$ 46,690	$ -	$ 75,395	$ 200,885		
Fire manager interviews	$ 3,779	$ -	$ 8,438	$ -	$ 3,127	$ 15,344		
StreamMonitoring Swan Valley	$ -	$ -	$ 5,952	$ 12,750	$ -	$ 18,702		
Stream Channel Monitoring	$ -	$ -	$ 26,978	$ 29,631	$ -	$ 56,609		
Mission Mtn & Swan Front Rangers CFLR	$ -	$ 23,000	$ 108,417	$ -	$ 136,425	$ 267,842		
TNC	**$ -**	**$ 15,000**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 15,034**	**$ 30,034**		**0%**
Montana Legacy Weeds (RAC)	$ -	$ 15,000	$ -	$ -	$ 15,034	$ 30,034		
UM	**$ 713,511**	**$ -**	**$ 33,779**	**$ -**	**$ 372,806**	**$ 1,120,096**		**9%**
M64864 Developing, Testing and Imp. Sampling Protocc	$ 116,017	$ -	$ 2,109	$ -	$ -	$ 118,126		
M64865 Post Weed Treatment Monitoiring	$ 165,790	$ -	$ 2,109	$ -	$ -	$ 167,899		
M64866 Socioeconomic Monitoring	$ 23,600	$ -	$ 2,109	$ -	$ -	$ 25,709		
M64867 Fire Management Options and Costs	$ 4,590	$ -	$ 2,109	$ -	$ -	$ 6,699		
M64900 CFLR Whitebark pine	$ 23,168	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 23,168		
M64901 Local contract capture & Contract attributes Dat	$ 43,466	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 43,466		
M64902 Project level bird monitoring	$ 10,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10,000		
M64941 BBER Development and Testing of a Survey Ins	$ 9,150	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 9,150		
Survey Instrument - OMB clearance Cynthia Manning	$ 11,198	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 11,198		
M64845 Monitoring Coordinator	$ 306,532	$ -	$ 25,342	$ -	$ 372,806	$ 704,680		
UM-Rice	**$ 13,000**	**$ 5,000**	**$ 2,154**	**$ -**	**$ 5,594**	**$ 25,748**		**0%**
Forest Invasive monitoring	$ 13,000	$ 5,000	$ 2,154	$ -	$ 5,594	$ 25,748		
University of Montana-Biological Station	**$ 67,199**	**$ 7,500**	**$ 22,939**	**$ -**	**$ 27,951**	**$ 125,589**		**1%**
CFLRP (#16b) Aquatics Monitoring B	$ 18,200	$ -	$ 4,708	$ -	$ 6,220	$ 29,128		
Early Detection of Zebra, Quagga Mussels and Eurasian	$ 23,000	$ 7,500	$ 1,580	$ -	$ 10,447	$ 42,527		
FLBS Herrick Run Genetic Rescue	$ 15,999	$ -	$ 12,743	$ -	$ 7,806	$ 36,548		
Cutthroat genetics Aquatics Monitoring	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 3,908	$ -	$ 3,478	$ 17,386		
USFS FS Fire Modeling Institute	**$ 10,000**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 5,000**	**$ 15,000**		**0%**
Fire modeling	$ 10,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000	$ 15,000		
USFS RMRS	**$ 90,200**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 20,000**	**$ 110,200**		**1%**
GRAIP Boise, ID (Tom Black)	$ 90,200	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 20,000	$ 110,200		
USFS RMRS & USGS	**$ 58,348**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 58,348**		**1%**
Aquatics GRAIP & PIBO	$ 28,348	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 28,348		
Hybrid PIBO	$ 30,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 30,000		
USFS Strike Team	**$ 5,000**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 5,000**		**0%**

Fuels reduction treatment monitoring	$ 5,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,000	
USGS	**$ 42,500**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 42,500**	**1%**
Hybrid PIBO	$ 21,100	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 21,100	
Robert Al-Chokhachy GRAIP and PIBO	$ 21,400	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 21,400	
Wildlands CPR	**$ 34,188**	**$ 64,752**	**$ 8,394**	**$ -**	**$ 28,436**	**$ 135,770**	**1%**
Road Inventory (Survey)	$ -	$ 64,752	$ 6,292	$ -	$ 19,800	$ 90,844	
Road veg/soils impacts	$ 34,188	$ -	$ 2,102	$ -	$ 8,636	$ 44,926	
WTU	**$ 3,500**	**$ -**	**$ 3,950**	**$ -**	**$ 9,800**	**$ 17,250**	**0%**
Carnivore Monitoring Wild Things Unlimited	$ 3,500	$ -	$ 3,950	$ -	$ 9,800	$ 17,250	
TOTAL	**$ 6,135,798**	**$ 1,103,093**	**$ 1,198,572**	**$ 183,982**	**$ 3,546,336**	**$ 12,167,780**	**100%**
TOTALS	$ 6,135,798	$ 1,103,093	$ 1,198,572	$ 183,982	$ 3,546,336	$ 12,167,780	

		% of Total
TOTAL FS CONTRIBUTIONS	$8,437,462	69%
TOTAL PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS	$3,730,318	31%

The Forest Service Has Provided the Following Example of How Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Funds Are Awarded to and Partially Matched by Collaborative Partners

The term "CFLN" is a type of budget authority authorized by Congress that allows the Forest Service to spend funds on the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP). The Forest Service Washington Office communicates to the units how much funding is available to spend on the CFLRP through the budget line item "CFLN."

The legislation enabling CFLRP states that CFLRP funds "are to be used to pay up to 50 percent of the cost of carrying out and monitoring ecological restoration treatments on National Forest System (NFS) land." "Carrying out" is interpreted to be synonymous with implementing and monitoring treatments on the ground. Matching funds would also need to cover the costs of implementing and/or monitoring projects on NFS lands since the CFLRP funds are limited to 50 percent of these costs. Matching funds can include a combination of appropriated funds, forest product value exchanged for restoration treatments (in stewardship contracts) or funds contributed by our partners through partnership agreements such as in-kind, non-cash, cash contributions, or grants that our partners have received from other entities.

Forest Service (FS) policy says that FS partners need to contribute a minimum 20% of the total project value in partnership agreements. The reason for this is that partnership agreements are meant to provide a "mutual benefit" to all parties. If partners are contributing less than 20%, then maybe the activity should be accomplished through procurement or a personnel action.

<u>Here's an example of calculating the minimum (20%) match for an agreement with a partner:</u>

The Forest Service is contributing $3,000 for Forest Service employee salaries, vehicles, and supplies toward the project.

The Forest Service is reimbursing the partner $5,000 to pay for the partner's salary, fuel for vehicles, and supplies toward the project.

The total Forest Service contribution is $8,000. Looking for the minimum 20% match, the Forest Service $8,000 would represent 80% of the total project value. Now we need to find the total project value.

Here's the backwards math: $8,000/.8 = $10,000 (the total project value). $10,000 * 20% = $2,000. $2,000 would be the partner's <u>minimum</u> 20% match.

More information and "Frequently Asked Questions" about CFLRP can be found at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLRP/index.shtml

January 14, 2015

Senator Steve Daines
1 Russell Senate Courtyard
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Daines:

We, the undersigned Montanans, write today to thank you for your interest in the future of Montana's national forests. Collectively, we share many decades of experience working together to ensure a better future for our forests and the communities that depend upon them. We are grateful for this opportunity to share our experience and recommendations with you.

As you know, Montanans of all stripes have come together over the past decade to find collaborative solutions to Montana's public land-management problems. Unfortunately, many of our efforts have struggled to move through Congress and some of our efforts languish for lack of timely and consistent action by the Forest Service. All too often, Congress and the Forest Service have been unable to fully implement these collaborative initiatives. At the same time, small but vocal minorities at both ends of the political spectrum refuse to participate and work to block proposals supported by the broad mainstream of Montana.

We believe that management of Montana's national forests needs reform and that place-based proposals have an important role to play. A century of aggressive fire suppression, past land management practices, excessive litigation and declining Forest Service capacity have left millions of acres in poor condition and at increased risk of severe, uncharacteristic wildfires. At the same time many deserving wild areas of our national forests—vital to Montana's outdoor heritage and economy—await permanent protection. The current situation is not producing the healthy, sustainable federal forests that Montana needs, nor is it adequately supporting many rural economies.

Through our on-the-ground collaborative work, we have shown that balanced solutions to these problems are possible. Reasonable forest reform that generates more timber for mills, reduces wildfire risks to communities, helps protect and restore water quality and wildlife habitat, includes very clear forest management objectives, and designates significant new wilderness and other conservation lands can produce needed, bipartisan solutions that are flexible enough to address multiple and sometimes unique local issues.

We can understand and sympathize with the interest in national, system-wide reforms, but we realize that there may be additional factors at play in other states with large nearby urban centers, different climates and forest ecology, and alternate management histories. Please ensure that addressing Montana's needs is not delayed by conflict or delays in other states and regions of the country. Please put Montana first.

We respectfully request that as you move forward that you please:

- Develop any and all legislation in a public, transparent, and highly collaborative process that is more substantive than a 30-day call for public comment. We agree that time is of the essence but recognize that these problems have taken decades to develop and will require more than 30 days to resolve.

- Advance legislation with the strong, unified, bipartisan and concurrent support of the entire Montana Congressional delegation. As we observed in the closing days of the 113th Congress, bills that have the full support of our delegation are much more likely to be enacted.

- Honor, advance and build upon the work of the many existing national forest collaborative groups in Montana and empower them to succeed.

- Ensure the legislation you advance takes a large-landscape approach that creates jobs and benefits fish and wildlife habitat through active management, scientifically sound forest restoration and permanent land protection measures, including new wilderness designation. This will allow for diverse parties to see that their interests are being addressed and not deferred or sacrificed to one entity with a loud voice.

- Work with coalitions of the willing. Deference to organizations and individuals who oppose collaborative approaches to forest management and reform merely maintains a status quo that does not serve the interests of most Montanans.

- Address practical, broadly supported opportunities to: 1) Solve the ongoing fire-funding problem and the resulting drain on Forest Service budgets; 2) Reduce delays associated with litigation and other forms of conflict; 3) Increase Forest Service and partner capacity; 4) Include language (more sophisticated than simple acreage targets) to ensure Forest Service accountability and implementation; 5) Increase the pace and scale of active management and forest restoration; 6) Prioritize and expedite mechanical treatment in the front country while protecting backcountry roadless areas and restoring high-quality wildlife habitat and watersheds; 7) Recognize that collaboration is a multi-interest stakeholder process that brings "the willing" to the table to work on and make recommendations to the Forest Service regarding restoration needs. 8) Create incentives for collaboration in places where it does not yet exist or has not fully matured while avoiding poison pills that would generate unnecessary opposition. 9) Recognize the need for the Forest Service to continue developing and implementing management and restoration activities outside of areas covered by collaborative processes.

- Before you fully develop, lend your support to or work to advance any new timber or land-management-reform proposals, we request the opportunity to review, discuss and meet with you together to share our assessment of how such proposals would impact Montana.

Montana's collaborative efforts need funding, agency buy-in and unified, bipartisan support from our entire delegation to help ensure their success. We respectfully request that you work with the full Montana delegation to support and advance place-based community-developed approaches to problems facing our national forests. In doing so, you can help play a leadership role in resolving vexing resource management issues in a way that brings people together and finds common ground that works for the people and lands of Montana.

We stand eager to work with the entire Montana Congressional delegation and all other interested and willing parties in a good-faith collaborative effort to this end.

Signed,

Julia Altemus, Executive Vice President
Montana Wood Products Association

Brian Sybert, Executive Director
Montana Wilderness Association

Charles W. Roady, Vice President & General Manager
F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co

Dave Chadwick, Executive Director
Montana Wildlife Federation

Loren Rose, Controller
Pyramid Mountain Lumber

Brent Anderson, Owner
Conifer Logging

Dale Bosworth, Chief (Retired)
United States Forest Service

Scott Brennan, Montana State Director
The Wilderness Society

Gordy Sanders, Resource Manager
Pyramid Mountain Lumber

Caroline Byrd, Executive Director
Greater Yellowstone Coalition

Craig Rawlings, President and CEO
Forest Business Network

Bruce Farling, Montana State Director
Trout Unlimited

Jim Stone, Chairman
Blackfoot Challenge

Tim Love, District Ranger (Retired)
United States Forest Service

Joel Webster, Center for Western Lands Director
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Bob Brown, Former Secretary of State and
State Senate President, Whitefish

Robyn King, Executive Director
Yaak Valley Forest Council

Jon Haufler, Executive Director
Ecosystem Management Research Institute

Mack and Connie Long, Owners
Bob Marshall Wilderness Outfitters

Addrien Marx, Business Owner
Seeley Lake

Reed Gregerson, President
The Zaneray Group

Wendy Weaver, Principal
Greenstone Consulting

Bill Stoddart, Founder & Principal
Nothfork Financial

Randy Hafer, CEO
High Plains Architects

Lance Trebesch, CEO
TicketPrinting.com

Brian Kahn, Executive Director
Artemis Common Ground

Ed Levert, Lincoln County Forester
Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Coalition

Land Tawney, Executive Director
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Tom France, Senior Director
National Wildlife Federation

Michael Jamison, Crown of the Continent Program Mgr.
National Parks Conservation Association

Dave Hadden, Executive Director
Headwaters Montana

Cathy Kahnle, Executive Director
Clearwater Resource Council

William Wall , President
Sustainability, Inc.

Jim Klug, Director of Operations,
Yellowdog Flyfising

Jeff Batton, CEO
The Natural Baby Co.

Larry Shotland, Principal
Shotland Tax Consulting

Patricia Dowd, Principal
Shift Consulting

David Bell, President & CEO
ALPS Corporation

Mike England, Editor and Publisher
Outside Bozeman

Smoke Elser
Wilderness Outfitters Consulting Group

Greg Munther and John Sullivan
Montana Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Mary Tuckerman-Hollow, Government Relations Dir.
The Nature Conservancy, Montana

Mitchell Doherty, Planner
Missoula County

cc: Senator Jon Tester
Congressman Ryan Zinke
Governor Steve Bullock