



THIS MEMO IS INTENDED TO SHOWCASE IMPORTANT POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE proposals that will improve the lives of all Montanans. Montanans want their elected officials to be champions of Montana's outdoor way of life more than ever before.



1

Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act

Introduced by Sen. Jon Tester, the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act will add nearly 80,000 acres to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat and Mission Mountains Wilderness Areas and safeguard the four most crucial tributaries of the storied Blackfoot River, helping sustain the health of wildlife, native trout populations and the river itself. This made-in-Montana bill protects thousands of acres of public land, ensures future generations can access outdoor recreational opportunities and strengthens Montana's outdoor economy. Local economies – from Seeley Lake to Ovando to Missoula – rely on fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, snowmobiling, and other outdoor recreation, as well as on forest restoration work.

2022 UM Voter Survey on Public Lands Poll: Blackfoot Clearwater

Stewardship Act (Q25): Enacting the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act in western Montana, which would ensure hunting and fishing access, safeguard streams flowing into the Blackfoot River, add nearly eighty thousand acres of existing public lands to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat, and Mission Mountains wilderness areas, and create two new recreation areas and sustain timber harvest and habitat restoration.

TOTAL SUPPORT: 83%



2

National Monuments

The Antiquities Act, enacted in 1906, is one of our nation's most important conservation tools. Used to safeguard and preserve federal lands and cultural and historical sites for all Americans to enjoy, 17 presidents from both political parties, including most recently President Trump, have designated 158 national monuments under this authority.

In Montana, we've been lucky enough to have some of our most iconic and culturally important shared public lands protected in perpetuity as national monuments for generations to enjoy.

- Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, designated in 1946.
- Pompeys Pillar National Monument, designated in 2001.
- Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, designated in 2001.

2022 UM Voter Survey on Public Lands Poll: Antiquities Act (Q26): Presidents of both parties, including most recently President Trump, have used the ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments in order to maintain public access and protect the land and wildlife for future generations. Knowing that – Do you support or oppose Presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments?

TOTAL SUPPORT: 78%



3

America the Beautiful Initiative

The America the Beautiful initiative was launched by the current administration and is a decade-long challenge to pursue locally led and voluntary efforts to conserve, connect, and restore the lands, waters, and wildlife upon which we all depend. This initiative is a call to action that we work together to conserve, connect, and restore 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030 for the sake of our economy, our health, and our well-being.

2022 UM Voter Survey on Public Lands Poll: America the Beautiful (Q 20):

One national proposal, the America the Beautiful Initiative, is to support locally led and community-designed conservation efforts to meet an overall national goal of conserving thirty percent of land and inland waters in America, and thirty percent of its ocean areas by the year 2030. Does that sound like something you would support or oppose?

TOTAL SUPPORT: 66%



4

Climate Change Action

Montana is seeing the effects of our warming climate increase yearly through increasing extreme weather events and wildfires. The fire season is getting longer and hotter, our winter's are shorter and drier. As the recent flooding of the Yellowstone River shows, Montanans and the communities who support our robust outdoor economy are first to feel the impacts of climate change. The majority of Montanans believe climate change is happening, it's a problem, and we must take action. The numbers of voters, regardless of political affiliation, who said they were worried about environmental problems worsened by climate change has jumped significantly in the last decade. Addressing it as an economic necessity and tying it to the personal impacts folks have from our changing climate (shorter ski season, smoke-filled summers, drought) are most compelling to Montanans.

2022 Colorado College State of the Rockies Poll: Do you think there is enough evidence of climate change that action should be taken?

TOTAL SUPPORT: 58%



The Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund engages all Montanans and their communities by empowering them to protect our clean air, clean water, public lands and voting rights through education, mobilization and the power of grassroots advocacy.