



## Agency Presence in MONTANA

### Our People in Montana

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) employs 151 permanent and 38 seasonal employees in Montana. In FY 2014, the Service spent \$25,367,698 on activities in the state.

### Our Public Lands in Montana

Twenty-one National Wildlife Refuges with 1,148,000 acres and six Wetland Management Districts totaling 239,635 acres. There are also three Conservation Areas encompassing 144,627 acres of both fee and easement ownership.

*Volunteer Hours:* 10,109

*Visitation:* 871,604 people visited Refuges in Montana in 2014

Of these:

- 195,075 people fished
- 105,495 people hunted
- 482,580 people visited Refuges to view wildlife
- 5,605 people attended environmental education programs

In 2014, the Service paid Montana counties \$243,532 under the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act. This payment represents three-quarters of one percent of the market value of the property owned in fee title.

### Our Private Lands Partners

Working with a variety of partners since 1987, the Service has helped more than 3,000 Montana landowners enhance wildlife habitat on 469,350 acres of private land, and restore 1,364 miles of stream. By leveraging partner contributions, the program has achieved more than a 1:5 match, resulting in a \$69,266,602 investment in Big Sky Country.

### Blackfoot Challenge

The Blackfoot Challenge is a “grassroots” group of public and private interests working together to manage the Blackfoot River, which includes some of the most productive fish and wildlife habitat in the Northern Rocky

Mountains. It’s mission is to protect the natural resources and rural lifestyle of the Blackfoot River Valley. Resources include the federally listed bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, and the largest population of grizzly bears in the lower 48 states.

### Supporting Montana’s Fisheries

The Service operates two National Fish Hatcheries (NFH), two Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices, one Fish Health Center, and one Fish Technology Center in Montana.

Fisheries staff assists with the conservation and recovery of the endangered pallid sturgeon, native salmonids such as arctic grayling and westslope cutthroat trout, and provide fish and wildlife management assistance to Montana’s seven tribes.

The program also provides state-of-the-art scientific support in health and technology development to support fish culture and management.

### Fish Stocking and Eggs

In 2014, NFHs produced 963,041 fish for stocking and 13,631,022 eggs to support recreational fishing, recover threatened and endangered species, and restore native fishes in the state. Fish from Montana hatcheries were stocked in state and select tribal waters. Eggs produced in Montana hatcheries were sent to 20 states across the country. In support of youth fishing and education, approximately 5,000 trout were stocked in kids fishing ponds and 6,000 eggs were provided for trout in the classroom projects.

*Volunteer Hours:* 488

*Visitation:* In 2014, 50,550 people visited Fisheries facilities in Montana.

### Our Science Partnerships

The Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative (GNLCC) encompasses nearly 300 million acres

stretching from interior British Columbia to southwest Wyoming.

The partnership includes more than 30 federal, state, provincial, local and Tribal governments; academia; communities; and non-government organizations working on a collective landscape vision. In the last five years, the GNLCC has contributed more than \$3.5 million to Montana conservation efforts.

### Our Big Sky Recovery Work

The Service’s recovery efforts in Montana include bull trout, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, pallid sturgeon, and 12 other listed plant, invertebrate, vertebrate, and fish species.

The Service coordinates closely with various land and resource management agencies, as well as state, local, tribal, federal, and non-governmental partners in Montana on issues including energy and water development and wetlands impacts, and environmental contaminants assessment and mitigation.

### Montana’s Hunters, Anglers, Boaters and Related Businesses

In 2015, Montana received \$8,229,241 for sport fish restoration, \$21,552,756 for wildlife restoration, and \$792,014 for the State Wildlife Grant Program. These funds assist State Fish and Wildlife agencies in conserving, restoring, and managing fish and wildlife species and their habitats for the use and enjoyment of hunters, anglers, and wildlife viewers.

### Conserving Birds

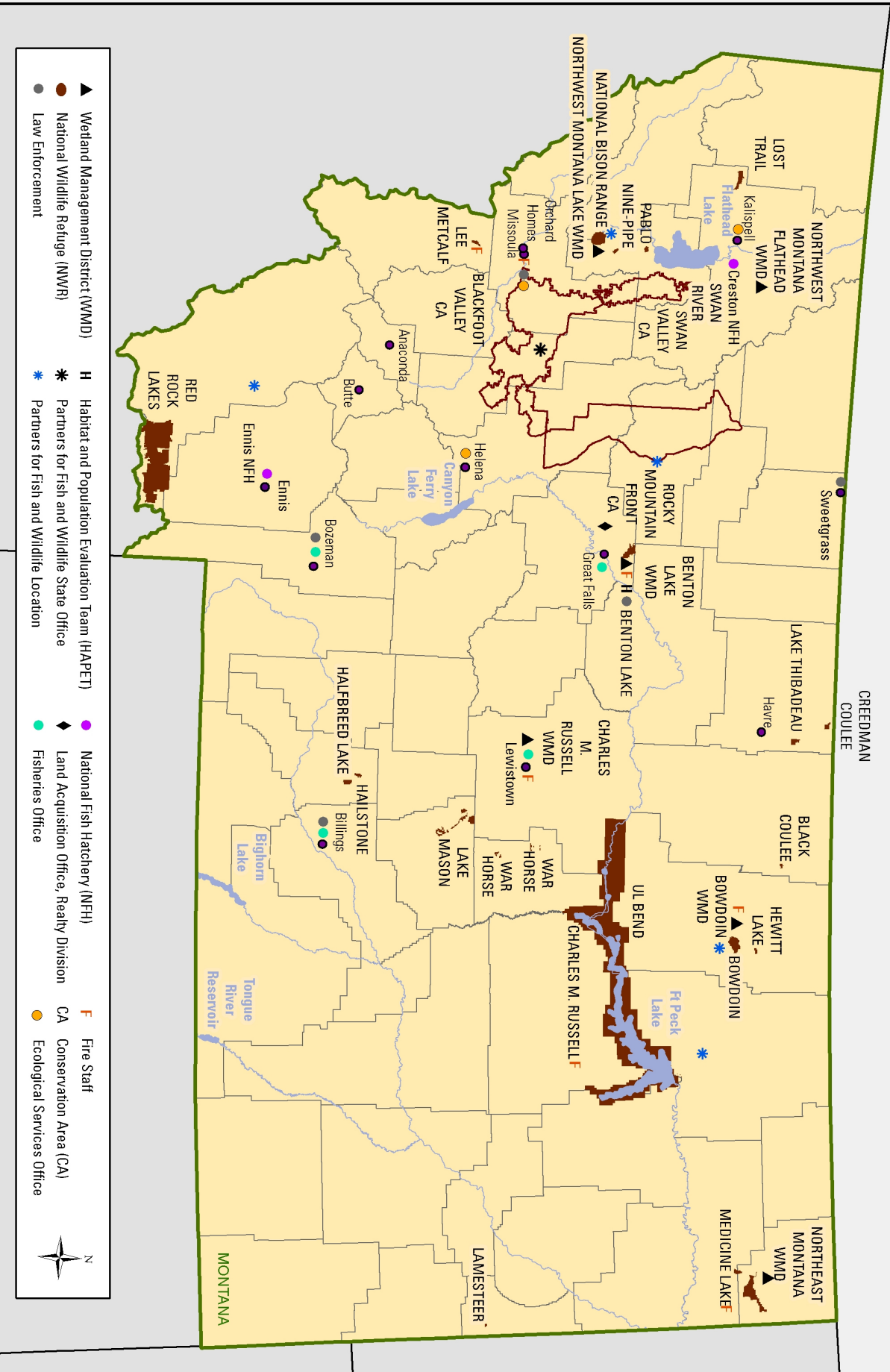
For more than two decades, the Intermountain West Joint Venture (IWJV) has worked to catalyze bird habitat conservation through the collaborative power of diverse public-private partnerships. With a presence in 11 western states, IWJV plays a key role in building the field delivery, science, and communications capacity for the Sage Grouse Initiative and has contributed to the 485,315 acres of sage-grouse habitat conservation in Montana.



**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

*Representative: Ryan Zinke*  
*Senators: Jon Tester, Steve Daines*  
*Governor: Steve Bullock*

**Montana 114th Congressional Districts with USFWS Locations**



- ▲ Wetland Management District (WMD)
- National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)
- Law Enforcement
- H Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET)
- \* Partners for Fish and Wildlife State Office
- \* Partners for Fish and Wildlife Location
- National Fish Hatchery (NFH)
- ◆ Land Acquisition Office, Realty Division
- Fisheries Office
- F Fire Staff
- CA Conservation Area (CA)
- Ecological Services Office

