



Main Office

P.O. Box 7186

Missoula, MT 59807

(406) 543-0054

28 December 2001

Dear TU State Council Member:

Our early winter meeting is Saturday, January 12, at the Central School Museum in Kalispell. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. and wind up around 4 p.m.

This is going to be a particularly interesting meeting and one you should attend. Chris Hunter, the new administrator of FWP's fishery division, will be on hand to discuss fishery issues with us. Chris, who is familiar to many TU members, recently took over for Larry Peterman who moved up as FWP's chief of operations. In addition, Wade Fredenberg, a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Creston, will be discussing native fish conservation in Northwest Montana – perhaps the most vexing fishery management challenge in that part of the state.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions and discuss your chapter's issues with two of the top agency fishery professionals in Montana.

Among other things, John Wilson will be reporting on an analysis that details the electoral profile of TU's membership in Montana. It will definitely generate some interesting discussion. We will also finalize our native fish policy (see enclosed) and discuss what we're doing in 2002. Hopefully, as the enclosed annual report demonstrates, we'll do as well in 2001.

To get to the Central School Museum, turn east on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street E. in downtown Kalispell. The museum, a brick building, is two blocks from Highway 93 and on the left. If you're going to stay the night before or after, the Flathead Valley Chapter recommends the Aero Inn (755-3798) or the Red Lion Inn (755-6700).

This will be the first ever-state council meeting in the Flathead. The Flathead Valley Chapter members have been traveling all over the state to attend our meetings. Please show them you can do the same.

See you in Kalispell.

Happy New Year,

Bruce Farling

**Agenda**

**Montana Council of Trout Unlimited**

**January 12, 2002**

**Central School Museum, 124 Second Ave. E.  
Kalispell**

- 10:00 Introductions and approval of agenda – Kirk Evenson, Chairman
- 10:10 Approval of minutes from 9-29-2001 – Bill Janeck, Secretary
- 10:20 Financial report and 2002 budget changes -- Kate Grant and Bruce Farling
- 10:45 Final Asset Management Plan – John Wilson
- 11:15 Executive Director and Conservation Director's Reports
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:15 Presentation and Q and A with Chris Hunter, Fishery Division Administrator,  
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- 2:15 Presentation by Wade Fredenberg, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Creston –  
Northwest Montana's Native Fish
- 3:15 Montana Conservation Voters analysis of TU voters – John Wilson
- 3:45 Finalize Montana native fish policy – Farling
- 4:00 Adjourn



Main Office

Executive Director

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Memo

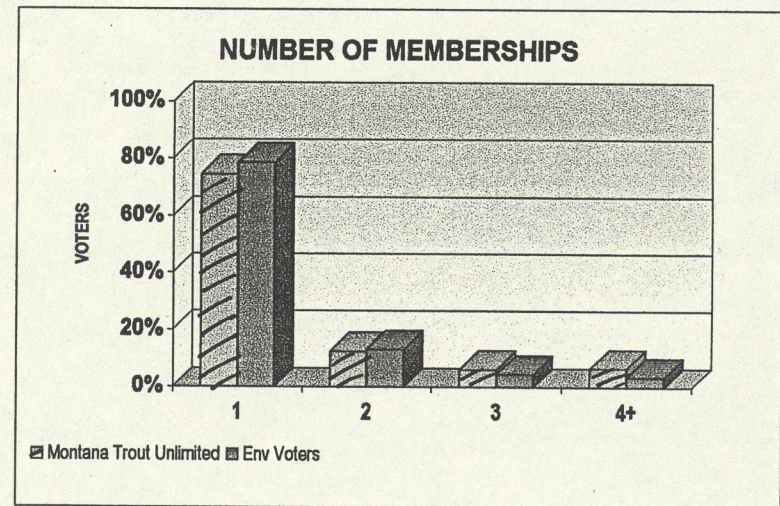
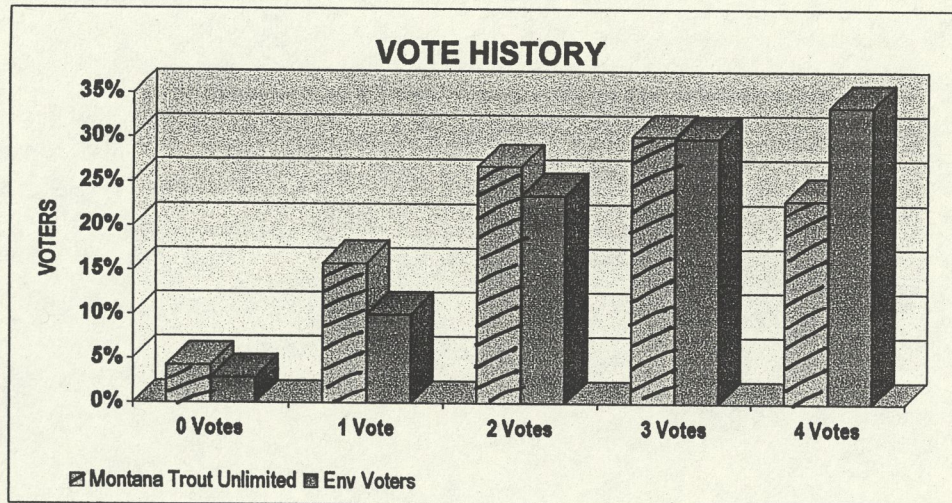
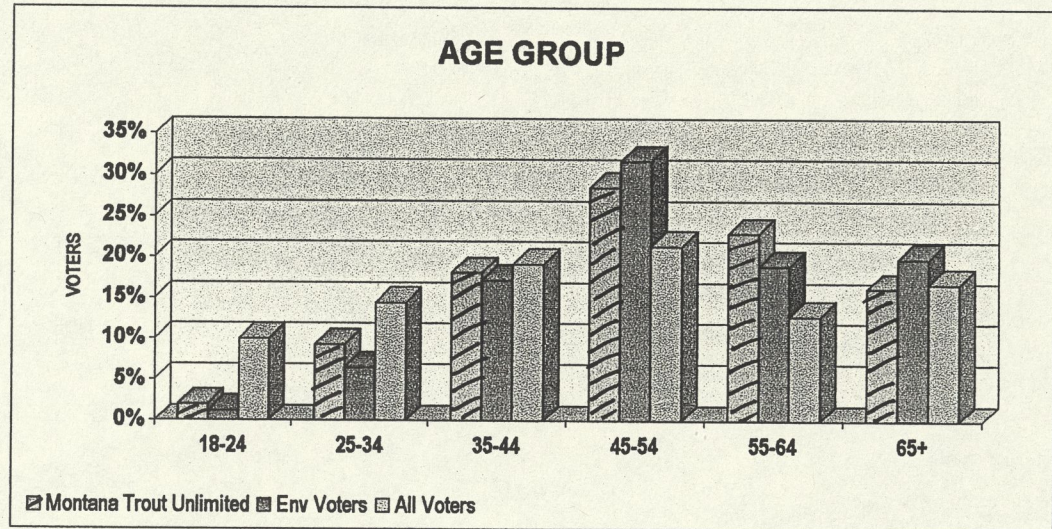
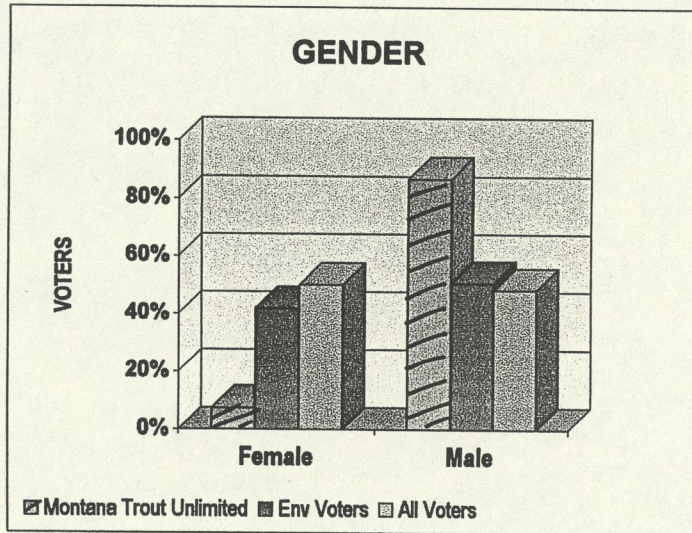
To: Montana TU State Council/ Stewardship Directors  
From: John Wilson, Conservation Director *ow*  
RE: Montana Conservation Voters "List Enhancement Project"  
Date: December 28, 2001

The Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund (a nonpartisan, non-profit organization) received a grant to help Montana conservation groups better understand their membership by analyzing the groups' respective membership lists. The goal of MCVE's project is to increase the ability of conservation groups to use their own enhanced data. The "List Enhancement Project" was free to Montana TU; our list remains confidential and will not be sold or used by any other groups or organizations.

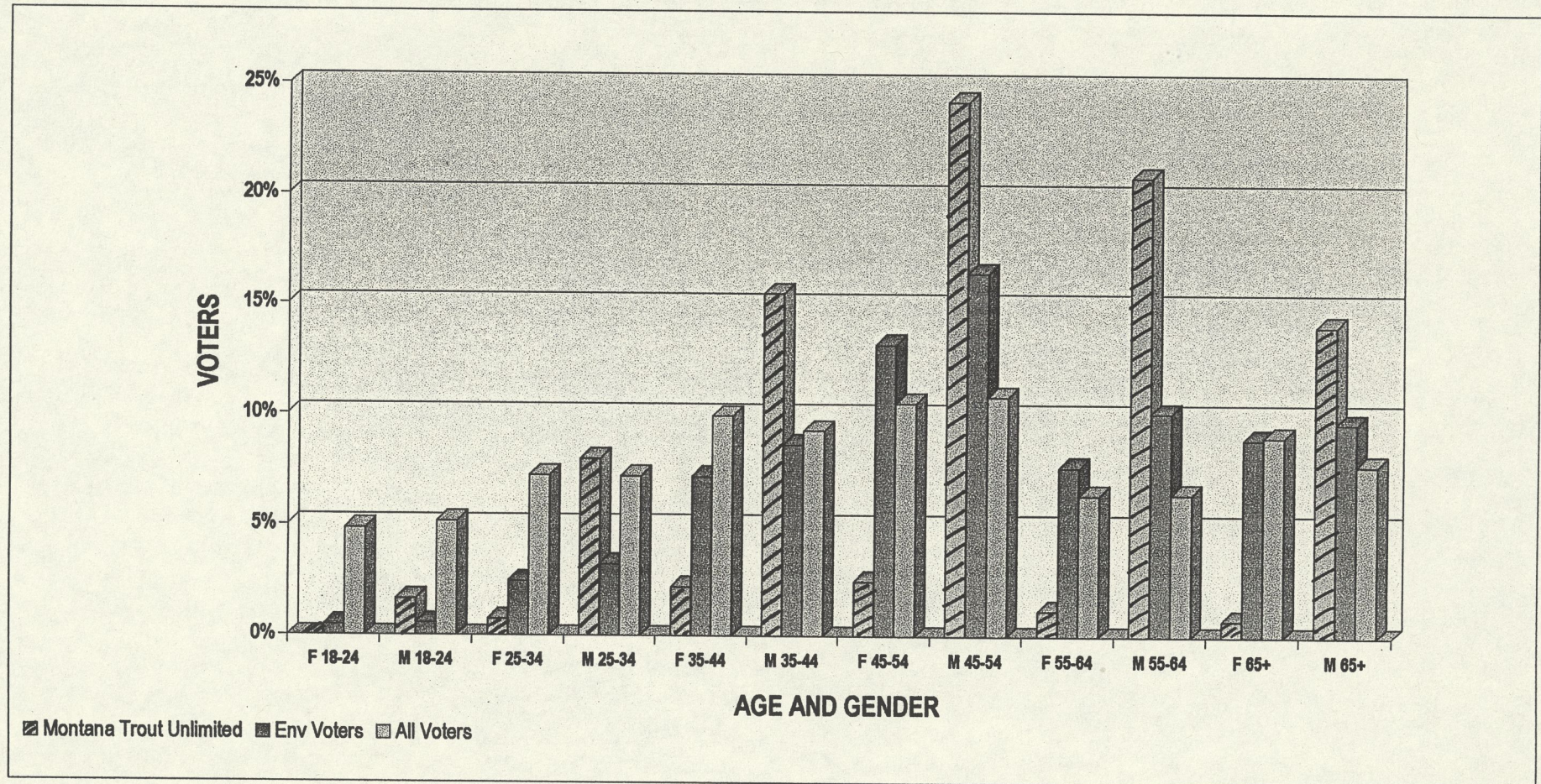
Through the List Enhancement Project, Montana TU's membership list has been disaggregated into several categories and cross tabbed with geographic, demographic, voting and other data to give us a clearer view of our members: who they are, where they live and their level of voter participation. Perhaps more importantly, it reveals where MTU does *not* have strong membership representation. This information will provide new opportunities for membership growth, etc.

For your convenience I have enclosed selected summary charts from the project. The project is much broader than what you see here; however, this sample gives you a sense for the data and some time prior to the Council meeting to reflect upon the information. We have allocated time on the agenda for discussion.

**Figure 1A. Summary  
Montana Trout Unlimited**



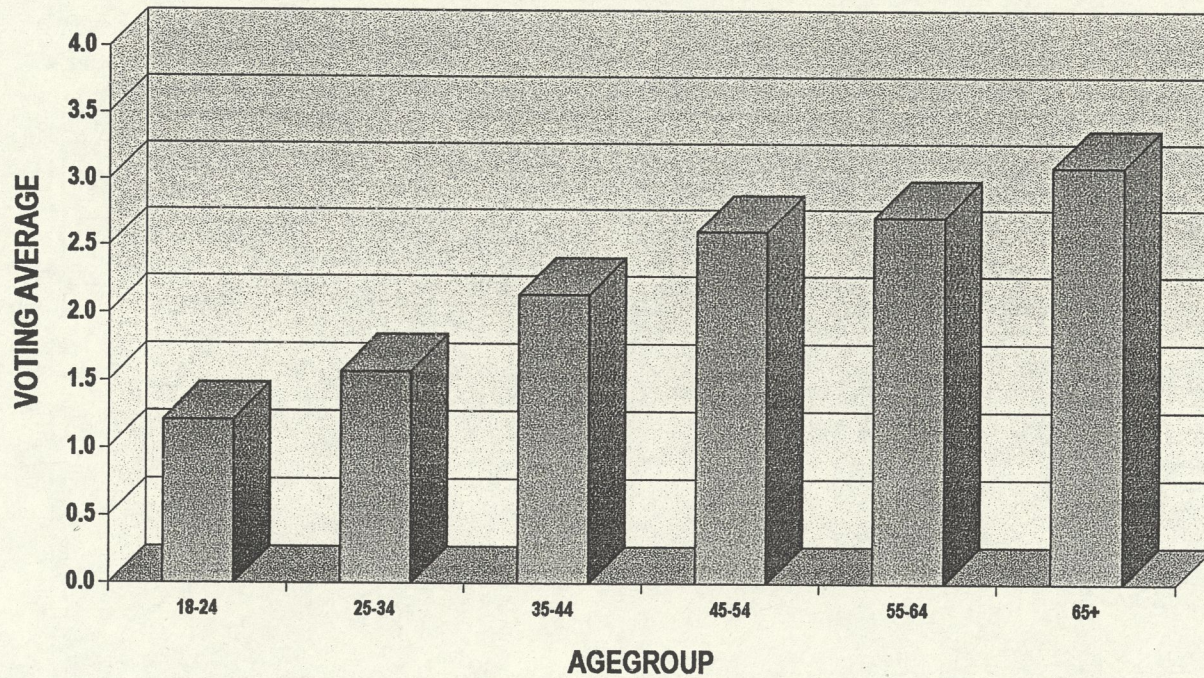
**Figure 1B. Members by Age and Gender  
Montana Trout Unlimited**



**Montana Trout Unlimited Voters**

F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
18-24	18-24	25-34	25-34	35-44	35-44	45-54	45-54	55-64	55-64	65+	65+
0	24	11	115	32	223	36	349	17	300	11	202
0.0%	1.7%	0.8%	8.0%	2.2%	15.5%	2.5%	24.2%	1.2%	20.8%	0.8%	14.0%

**Figure 1C. Voting Average by Age Group  
Montana Trout Unlimited**

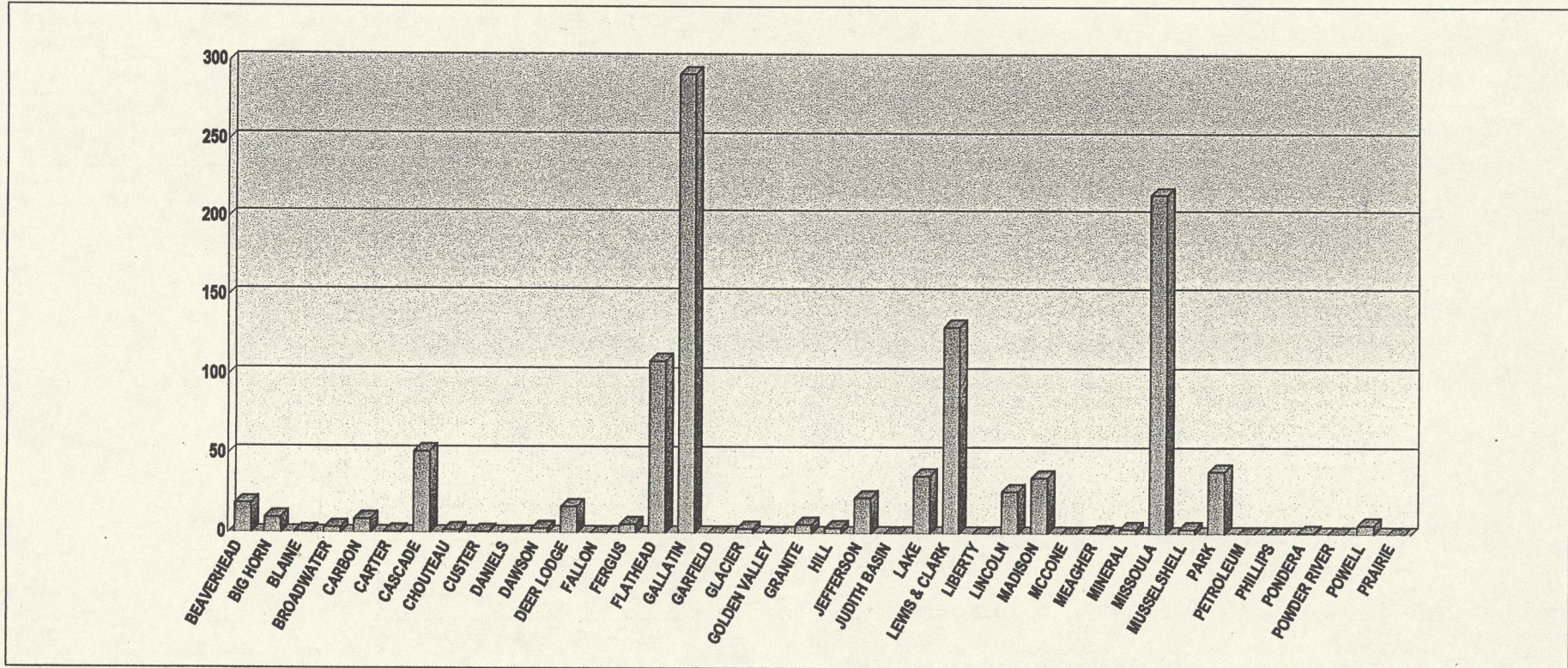


**Montana Trout Unlimited Voters**

Voting average (0-4) based on available data for:  
Primary 1998, General 1998, Primary 2000, General 2000

18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
1.21	1.57	2.14	2.61	2.72	3.10

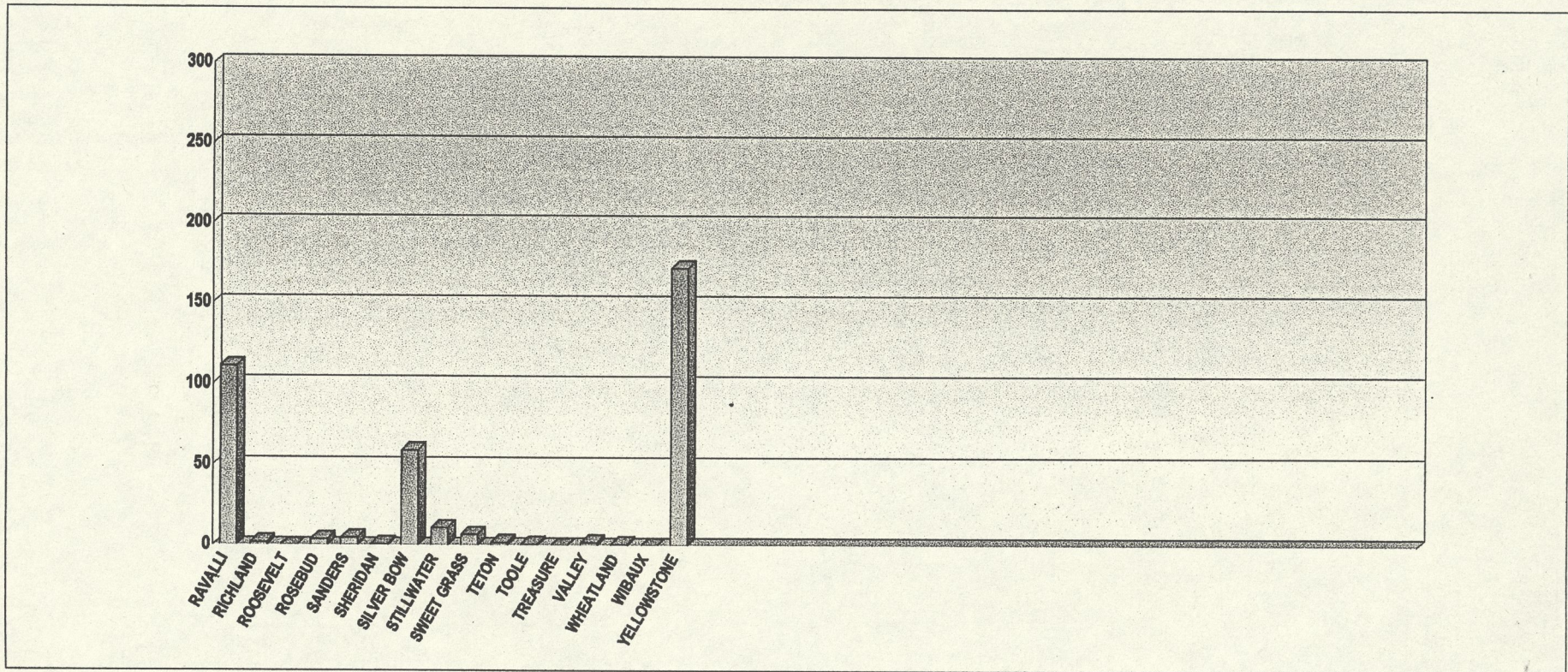
Figure 4A. Members by County  
Montana Trout Unlimited



Montana Trout Unlimited Voters

COUNTY							
BEAVERHEAD	19	CUSTER	1	GARFIELD	0	LEWIS & CLARK	131
BIG HORN	10	DANIELS	0	GLACIER	3	LIBERTY	0
BLAINE	1	DAWSON	3	GOLDEN VALLEY	0	LINCOLN	27
BROADWATER	4	DEER LODGE	17	GRANITE	6	MADISON	36
CARBON	9	FALLON	0	HILL	4	MCCONE	0
CARTER	1	FERGUS	6	JEFFERSON	23	MEAGHER	1
CASCADE	52	FLATHEAD	109	JUDITH BASIN	0	MINERAL	3
CHOUTEAU	2	GALLATIN	292	LAKE	37	MISSOULA	215
						MUSSELSHELL	3
						PARK	40
						PETROLEUM	0
						PHILLIPS	0
						PONDERA	1
						POWDER RIVER	0
						POWELL	6
						PRAIRIE	0

**Figure 4B. Members by County  
Montana Trout Unlimited**



**Montana Trout Unlimited Voters**

COUNTY									
RAVALLI	111	SWEET GRASS	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
RICHLAND	2	TETON	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROOSEVELT	0	TOOLE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROSEBUD	4	TREASURE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SANDERS	5	VALLEY	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHERIDAN	1	WHEATLAND	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
SILVER BOW	59	WIBAUX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STILLWATER	11	YELLOWSTONE	172	0	0	0	0	0	0



**Montana Trout Unlimited**  
**State Council Meeting**  
September 29, 2001  
Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman

Present: Nancy Alston, Glen Anacker, Tom Anacker, Bloom Bloom, Bushly Bushly, Mary Ellen Carter, Matt Clifford, Cooper Cooper, Earl Dorsey, Kirk Evenson, Bruce Farling, Kate Grant, Bill Janecke, Jerry Kustich, Byron Mazurek, Harry Murphy, Wilson, Ziemer Ziemer, Les Zuck

- I. Evenson called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.
- II. Additions to Agenda: Chapter Financial Reports must be to National TU by 11/15/01. Bloom moved to accept the addition, Cooper seconded, passed unanimously.
- III. Minutes from previous meeting were approved as submitted.
- IV. **Financial Report – Grant, Farling**

Grant went over the assets on the budget. During the discussion we noted that:

  - A. The State Council Clackcraft drift boat needs to be added to the asset list.
  - B. Two chapters that always commit have yet to make contributions to the State Council for fiscal year 2001.
  - C. There was a discussion about the impact of State Council assets on the actions of the chapters, especially in terms of their donations. Concern was expressed that the chapters have a mistaken view of the financial situation of the State Council.
    - D. A consensus was reached that all State Council members need to do a better job of communicating the benefits that the State Council provides. A suggestion was made that Trout Line should be used to highlight State Council activities and that it might be helpful to include an executive report outlining accomplishments and costs.
- V. **2002 Budget – Farling, Grant**
  - A. The Grayling recovery program was discussed relative to a long-term commitment to fund \$5,000 per year.
  - B. Boulder Mine funding for water quality and fisheries was discussed.
  - C. Cooper moved and Bloom seconded a motion to revise how the Boulder Mine funding is handled in the budgeting for State Council. Cooper moved we report Boulder Mine funding as a net amount in the budget and that the detail be explained in foot note disclosure. Passed unanimously.
    - D. Farling discussed the expense of the "Trout in the Classroom" project. The project includes three aquariums placed in three schools in the Helena area.
    - E. The State Council will continue to contribute \$1,000 per year to the restoration programs aimed at expanding populations of Westslope Cutthroats in the Elkhorns.
    - F. Legal and professional fees are projected to increase from \$6,000 to \$12,000 due to stream access work, bookkeeping costs for payroll, and the expectation that some consulting will be included in this category.
    - G. The expense side does not include raises for personnel.
    - H. Operating and travel costs are up due to the new office for Wilson and John's upcoming trip to CA.
    - I. Several Council members expressed concern about whether enough money had been allocated for professional training and development.
    - J. Bloom moved and Alston seconded that the budget be accepted as presented. Passed unanimously.
- VI. **Executive Director's Report – Farling**
  - A. Boulder telemetry project discussed.
  - B. Spawning tributaries in the Clark Fork: Bruce noted that the tributaries around Missoula seemed to be some of the most productive ones and that the Rattlesnake is important.
- VII. **Western Water Project Update – Laura Ziemer**
  - A. Drought throughout the region has created additional work for Ziemer.
  - B. Georgetown Lake has required a great deal of attention.
  - C. WWP has finalized a big water lease on the Sun Ranch.
  - D. Ziemer recently wrote an op-ed piece on the benefits of instream flow for agriculture.
  - E. WWP explored the purchase of a small hydro facility but determined it didn't fit our purposes well.
  - F. Future WWP plans include the adjudication of conflicting water claims in several state basins.
  - G. The North Fork of the Blackfoot project has been funded.
  - H. Drought plans have held up well despite the stress caused by the continuation of the drought situation.

VIII. **Conservation Director's Report – John Wilson**

Wilson highlighted the following:

- A. His recent move into a new office in Helena.
- B. His work with the Montana Conservation Voters.
- C. Fishing regulation comment period ends 10/2; chapters should be making comments. Attendance Commission meetings is strongly advised.
- D. He is currently working with Ziemer and Bradshaw on a project to protect Smith River streamflows.

IX. **Native Fish Policy First Draft – Farling**

- A. Farling presented the draft and asked all to review it closely and make any suggestions to him so that we can finalize this at the next State Council meeting.
- B. Wilson noted that genetic information would be the basis for protecting native local populations.
- C. It was suggested that we create a picture gallery of the native species for our web site.

X. **Stream Restoration Funding Guide –Farling**

The Funding Guide, which was put together by Grant and Farling, identifies sources of funding for stream restoration. The guide was very well received by the Council members. Many Council members offered suggestions for further distribution of the manual to groups like conservation districts, FWP personnel, etc. The guide will be periodically updated on the State Council web page.

XI. **Stewardship Directors Proposal – Wilson**

- A. Bloom moved and Bushly seconded to adopt the Stewardship Director program as presented. Passed unanimously.
- B. Stewardship Directors will receive minutes, meeting notices, etc., but there is no expectation or requirement that they actively participate, nor will they be expected to donate to the State Council.
- C. Each chapter president should be allocated two nominations for Stewardship Directors.
- D. The idea of capping the number of Stewardship Directors was discussed. Bill Janecke moved that this be done. Bushly seconded the motion. Passed. A limit of 20 was moved by Bloom and seconded by Matt Clifford. Passed.
- E. Various people were named as possible candidates for Stewardship Director positions. Nominations for members not on the original list included George Grant and Paul Roos. Both were approved.

XII. **Asset Management Proposal – Wilson**

- A. Changes from the written document presented to the Council:
  1. Funds may not be loaned.
  2. Membership Development will be added to the Legal, Govt., and Educational Fund.
  3. The name of the Legal, Government and Education. fund was changed to the Legal Defense Fund
- B. The proposed program solves problems for fundraising:
  1. It provides specific areas for donors to consider.
  2. Expedites the management of the funds.
  3. Shows how we expect to spend funds.
- C. Concern was expressed for:
  1. The comfort of the staff with the proposed changes.
  2. The possibility that this made State Council appear too big and too institutional with too many resources, and that we are moving away from our grass roots support. All agreed that this is an issue but that we can't hide from our size and our success, and that we are better off being prepared than pretending that we are still a small outfit.
- D. Bloom moved and Bushly seconded that State Council create an asset management program contingent upon cleaning up the documents, making "State Council" part of the name, and the establishment of an effective oversight committee. Passed.

XII. **Economy and Natural Resources – John Duffield**

- A. Duffield suggested Montana TU host a conference/symposium to develop economic arguments for conservation.
  - B. Duffield said the economic benefit of conserving the state's resources are evident but that the arguments in support of this relationship are poorly developed and never heard because they do not further any particular commercial interest.
  - C. Duffield contrasted direct uses of resources with passive use values and concluded that passive use values are very hard to quantify but tend to be quite significant.
  - D. Duffield agreed to work with us to help develop economic arguments in support of conservation.
  - E. Duffield recommended the book "Post Cowboy Economics" by Tom Powers, published by Island Press.
- XIV. This meeting was adjourned at 3:12 pm. Everyone was urged to help at the banquet and to attend if at all possible.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bill Janecke

*Final Draft*

**Native Fish Policy of Montana Trout Unlimited**

*Bruce Farling*

*December 2001*

### Montana's Native Fish

Montana's waters hold 93 species of fish, including 56 that are native, two that might be native and 35 that have been introduced by humans. *Native fish* are those fish species that are indigenous to the state's waters. These include species that are managed as sport fish or labeled "non-game" fish by state fishery managers. *Wild fish* are populations of both native and introduced species that reproduce in the wild.

For the purposes of this policy, populations of a species that is native to Montana but which exists in an area where it historically did not occur will be considered *introduced*. The only exception will be in those cases where a scientifically defensible native fish restoration project requires the introduction of a fish into historically barren water that is within the species' range (such as above a barrier falls in a drainage where the species is native).

Montana Trout Unlimited is most concerned with the conservation of native species in the trout family (salmonidae), including the trouts, char, grayling and whitefish. Species in the salmonid family native to Montana are:

- Westslope cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki lewisi*) – a trout native to the upper Columbia basin and to the upper Missouri basin above the Musselshell drainage.
- Yellowstone cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki bouvieri*) – a trout native to the Yellowstone basin, including and above the Tongue River drainage.
- Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) – a char native to the upper Columbia basin and Oldman River drainage (St. Mary, Belly and Waterton Rivers).
- Interior redband trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki gairdineri*) – a trout native to the Kootenai River drainage.
- Lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) – a char native to the Old Man River drainage, Waterton Lakes, Twin Lake (Big Hole River drainage) and Elk Lake (Red Rock River drainage).
- Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) – native to the upper Missouri basin including and above the Sun River.
- Mountain whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*) – Native to coldwater habitats on both sides of the Continental Divide in the western half of Montana
- Pygmy whitefish (*Prosopium chupeaformis*) – Native to lakes in Northwest Montana.

The cutthroats, grayling, bull trout and interior redband trout occupy just a small fraction of their historical range.

Native fish populations have been harmed by habitat loss, habitat fragmentation, harvest, pollution, dewatering, and disease and by threats such as genetic introgression, predation and competition posed by introduced and non-native fish.

### **Montana Trout Unlimited's Native Fish Policy**

1. The conservation of Montana's native fish is a priority of Montana Trout Unlimited and its 13 chapters. Montana Trout Unlimited believes native fish of all species are important components of the state's aquatic communities. Native fish have important cultural, recreational, scientific, economic and bequest values.
2. Montana Trout Unlimited endeavors to ensure Montana's native fishes, especially those species in the trout family (*Salmonidae*), persist over time in both numbers and geographic scope so that they can be enjoyed by future generations for sporting, scientific, cultural, economic and esthetic purposes.
3. Montana Trout Unlimited's native fish policy complies with Trout Unlimited national's Wild Salmonid Policy (Trout Unlimited, as amended, 1998)
4. Montana Trout Unlimited supports federal, state and private efforts that conserve and restore Montana's native fish.
5. Montana Trout Unlimited makes it a priority to support and promote native fish conservation that preserves genetic and life history diversity.
6. Montana Trout Unlimited believes all native salmonid populations that currently exist within their historical range should be conserved. Further, Montana Trout Unlimited believes that the number of viable populations of native cutthroats, grayling, bull trout and interior redband trout in Montana should be increased within their historical ranges.
7. Montana Trout Unlimited believes species viability is only a short-term goal for native fish restoration, and that Montana should eventually re-establish populations that can sustain sport fishing and limited harvest.
8. Montana Trout Unlimited supports restoration of native fish populations within their historical ranges when it is done in a fashion that balances the statewide need to protect the Montana's highest quality non-native wild trout fisheries.
9. Montana Trout Unlimited supports native fish conservation projects only if the aim is to protect, increase or create self-sustaining wild populations. Montana Trout Unlimited does not consider put and take programs for native fish as restoration.

10. Montana Trout Unlimited will not support land-uses or fishery management that jeopardizes populations of rare "non-game" native fish.
11. Montana Trout Unlimited will not support fishery management that jeopardizes important populations of the state's native cool-and warm-water game species.
12. Montana Trout Unlimited believes conservation of the state's native amphibians, mollusks and other invertebrates and vertebrates is important, and as such will examine all proposals for native fish restoration to ensure they have minimal impacts on other native fauna.
13. Montana Trout Unlimited opposes the stocking of any species, native or non-native, in waters where they could pose significant harm to indigenous fish or amphibian species
14. Montana Trout Unlimited supports scientifically defensible projects that require removal of non-native species from state waters. To this end, Montana Trout Unlimited supports the use of angling, electrofishing and trapping as well as the judicious application of piscicides that remove non-native fish and set the stage for reintroduction of native species.
15. Before supporting the use of piscicides, Montana Trout Unlimited will examine individual projects for scientific soundness and make a determination as to whether the use of chemicals is the only reasonable alternative.
16. Montana Trout Unlimited supports using locally adapted native fish or eggs from local populations as the most desirable sources for reintroduction efforts. When fish or eggs from local populations are not available, Montana TU supports the "near neighbor" concept as the next available source. When local or "near neighbor" genetic material is not available for native fish restoration, Montana TU will decide whether to support reintroduction projects on a case by case basis.
17. Montana Trout Unlimited will ensure that the native fish restoration projects it supports, especially those using piscicides, comply with all applicable federal and state statutes including but not limited to the Montana and federal environmental policy acts, state and federal water quality statutes, the Endangered Species Act and the Wilderness Act.

The State Council of Montana Trout Unlimited approves this policy on this day

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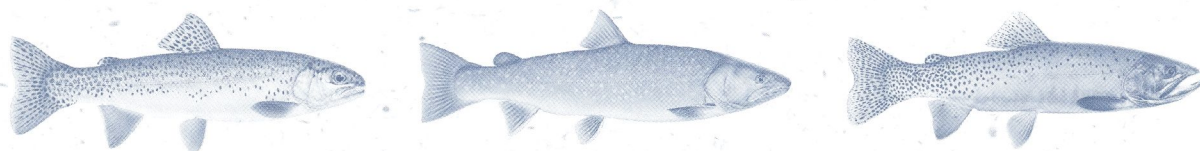
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kirk Evenson, chairman

# Montana Trout Unlimited

conserve·protect·restore



2001 Annual Report





**Our mission: Montana Trout Unlimited works to conserve, protect and restore Montana's world-class coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.**



**A message from  
the Chairman**

A Great Falls native who works at the Pentagon recently wrote to say how important it was to him that in the wake of September 11 the trout rivers of Montana are still being cared for. His simple, heartfelt note reminds us of how important rivers and trout are as emotional anchors. And, significantly, how vital it is during difficult times to not only cherish the things that are meaningful to us, but to also act to make certain they endure. And so today all anglers should reaffirm and strengthen their support for trout conservation while celebrating the freedom we have to enjoy our magnificent rivers.

After a challenging third consecutive year of severe drought, Montana TU made significant strides in the past year. Arguably it has been our best year ever. This report chronicles our gains.

Our 2001 accomplishments were greater in number and more diverse than in past years. Our staff is experienced, dedicated and skilled, and is perhaps our strongest asset. They get things done, Montana style. We have added a dozen Stewardship Directors (see list on page 7) to provide additional wisdom, connections and watchful eyes for the rivers. We have become more thoughtful in both collaborative conservation, and in making decisions on holding the line for fish. We are getting more done, becoming more recognized for our leadership, and increasing our network of friends.

The heart of Montana TU is its membership—conservation minded anglers who live and fish here. They care deeply for our world-class fisheries and they make sacrifices to ensure the tug on your line is hearty and frequent. The story of the Big Blackfoot River's revival (see back cover) illustrates what can be done when our members put their minds to it.

We are truly indebted to those who share their time, talent and financial support to make us one of the most effective river and trout conservation organizations in the nation.

Have a good 2002 and see you on the river;

Kirk Evenson

**About Montana  
Trout Unlimited**

Montana TU is a statewide, grass-roots conservation organization that blends protection and restoration of wild trout habitat with scientific approaches to fishery management and fish-health issues (i.e. whirling disease). Using professional and innovative advocacy, scientific research, and collaborative private and public partnerships, Montana TU has distinguished itself as a national leader in trout conservation.

Montana TU is a nonprofit corporation governed by directors from each of the state's 12 Trout Unlimited Chapters, representing more than 2,500 TU<sup>®</sup> members. We employ a professional, four-person staff and maintain offices in Missoula and Helena.

Montana TU is affiliated with Trout Unlimited national. We collaborate with our national organization on conservation projects, support its mission, use some of its services and operate under its tax-deductible umbrella. But Montana TU is also an independent organization. We have our own board of directors, our own conservation priorities and raise our own funds, most within Montana, to meet our mission. **All financial contributions to Montana TU are used exclusively in Montana to support conservation of the state's wild trout.**



# conserve

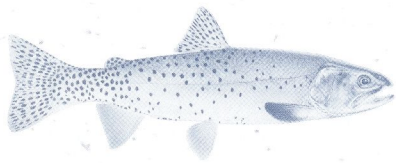
Montana is blessed with legendary rivers and some of the best wild trout fisheries in the world. Conserving these resources is Montana TU's highest priority. Our conservation work is varied, ranging from direct collaboration with private landowners and watershed groups to creating innovative public policy aimed at protecting wild trout. Much of our efforts focus on protecting and improving water quality, stream flows and wild trout habitat.

MISSOURI GALLATIN BIG HOLE MADISON YELLOWSTONE: LONG-TERM CONSERVATION BITTERROOT CLARK FORK KOOTENAI



John Lambing

## 2001 Conservation Highlights



**Conserving the Yellowstone River.** Montana TU collaborated with other conservation groups in developing a strategy for long-term conservation of the Yellowstone River through promotion of wise land use practices and protection from ill-conceived development.

**Preserving and improving the fishery of the Boulder River watershed.** In a precedent-setting arrangement with landowners and a mining company, Montana TU is providing scientific monitoring aimed at detecting potential harm to the fishery posed by a new mine south of Big Timber. The studies will also be used as the basis for proactively addressing habitat and fishery problems in the drainage.

**Providing leadership in revising angling regulations.** Montana TU was instrumental in helping develop and implement new angling regulations for protecting wild fish in the Missouri, Jefferson and Beaverhead Rivers, as well as in the Flathead drainage.

**Conserving rare fish.** Montana TU continues to be a leader in native fish conservation ventures benefiting cutthroats in the Elkhorn Mountains and arctic grayling in the upper Missouri drainage.

**Trout in the classroom.** Montana TU started a pilot project in public school classrooms using eggs, live fish, aquaria and a progressive curriculum that enables kids to learn about the biological needs and natural history of wild and native trout.

**Water efficiency and instream flow leases.** Working collaboratively with TU national, Montana TU is helping advance efficiency in water use while also securing instream flows with water transfer agreements.

protect

History tells us that habitat degradation is one of the main reasons healthy wild trout fisheries have been lost throughout the nation and in Montana. Protecting Montana's world-class fisheries from ill-conceived development is critical. Montana TU challenges harmful proposals and development policies that diminish trout habitat.

BOULDER BIGHORN BIG HOLE BEAVERHEAD MADISON: THREE DOLLAR BRIDGE STRETCH SMITH BLACKFOOT GALLATIN MISSOURI YE



Will van Overbeek

### 2001 Protection Highlights



**Three Dollar Bridge on the Madison River.** Working jointly with TU national, River Network and Orvis, Montana TU is helping secure three miles of popular Madison River frontage to permanently protect riparian habitat, open space and angling access.

**Mitigating for drought.** Montana TU continued its leadership in protecting the state's wild trout from record low stream flows by pushing policy makers to adopt water conservation programs, helping watershed groups implement measures that provide water for fish and helping prevent the draining of Georgetown Lake, a popular flat-water trout fishery in western Montana.

**Speaking for wild fish at the Montana Legislature.** At the 2001 legislative session, Montana TU ensured that the state's fishery habitat protection program was funded for \$2 million, expanded our ability to lease water rights for fish and fought attacks on key laws that protect trout and water quality.

**Doing pipeline crossings right.** Montana TU is pushing to ensure a proposed gas pipeline crossing several trout rivers, including the Dearborn, the primary spawning tributary of the Missouri, doesn't spread whirling disease and has minimal impact on trout habitat.

**Keeping cyanide out of the Blackfoot River.** Montana TU is intervening in litigation that challenges the citizen-approved initiative that now protects the Blackfoot River from cyanide leach gold mining.

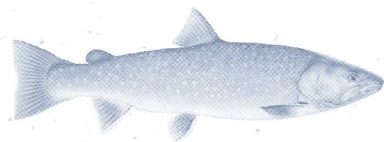
Though Montana is acclaimed for having some of the nation's best wild trout fisheries, the state also is pocked with waters that produce far fewer fish than they should because of habitat and water quality degradation. Our restoration initiatives are geared toward increasing the numbers of high quality waters available to anglers, thereby reducing angling pressure on our most famous fisheries.

YELLOWSTONE MADISON SMITH CLARK FORK JEFFERSON: AN AILING RIVER BITTERROOT KOOTENAI BLACKFOOT BOULDER BIGHORN



Bruce Farling

### 2001 Restoration Highlights



**Reviving the Jefferson River.** In partnership with TU national and Orvis, Montana TU initiated a comprehensive venture to restore stream flows, spawning areas and riparian habitat in the Jefferson River system, thus helping ensure an improved future for this renowned yet ailing Montana river.

**Bringing back the Clark Fork.** In collaboration with state biologists, Montana TU is working to eliminate fish migration barriers and bull trout losses in ditches in Rattlesnake Creek, the highest value tributary for wild trout in the middle Clark Fork drainage. Montana TU is also pushing to ensure that portions of a landmark \$130 million settlement available for restoring the mining-plagued upper Clark Fork basin are used for improving water quality and fish habitat.

**Removing the Milltown Dam.** Working with local government and other conservationists, Montana TU is actively advocating for removing the Milltown Dam and the contaminated sediments it impounds. If successful, this campaign will eliminate harmful pollution and a significant barrier to migratory trout in the Clark Fork and Blackfoot Rivers.

**Spreading the word on funding for habitat restoration.** Recognizing that restoring fisheries requires collaboration between private and public interests, Montana TU published the first-ever Montana guide to funding sources for habitat improvement projects.

**Friends of Montana's world-class rivers and wild trout.**

**The following individuals and organizations have contributed graciously to the well being of Montana's rivers and wild trout and to the successes of Montana Trout Unlimited.**

**We thank them and our dedicated volunteers. We especially thank our member chapters.**

**Individuals**

- Joe Abbrescia
- Gary Aitken
- Tim Anderson
- Val Atkinson
- Leslie & Rutgers Barclay
- Richard Barker
- Charles Bear
- David E. Beckwith
- Douglas P. Beighle
- Ted Birr
- Susan Blackwood
- Sherwood M. Boudeman
- Herb & Grace Boyer
- Beau Breck
- Elbert Bressie
- R. T. Breuner
- Ross Bruner
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- Bill & Linda Hale Bucklin
- Steve Buich
- Mike & Lori Bushly
- Lowell Chamberlain
- Rod Cochran
- Wayne Clayton

- Shirley Cleary
- Matt Clifford
- Gil Crain
- Roger Cruwys
- John & Cheryl Dale
- William D. Dana, Jr.
- Kate Davis
- Monte Dolack
- Earl Dorsey
- Bob Dunnagan
- Dane J. Durham
- Tom Eggemeyer
- Daniel Ellison
- David Englund
- Beth & Kirk Evenson
- Dr. Stanley Falkow & Lucy Tompkins
- Peter J. Fitzpatrick
- Howard Friedlañd
- Paul Gringas
- David & Alena Goeddel
- Douglas Grey, M.D.
- Dick & Sallie Griffith
- George & Shirley Hagar
- Lisa Ernst Harpole
- Diane Hausmann

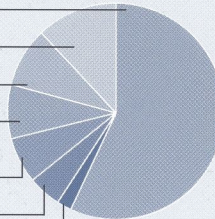
- Charlene Harvey
- Harold J. Haynes
- James A. Highland
- Jack Hines
- Bill & Lynda Hutton
- Thomas Hyde
- Bob Jacklin
- Jack A. Jaffe
- Jan Janura
- Ron Jenkins
- David Ash Johnson
- Ellen & Robert Knight
- David Kohr
- Jerry Kustich
- Douglas M. Lange, M.D.
- David R. Langlois
- J. Stephen Lauck
- Dick Lauritzen
- Huey Lewis
- Land M. Lindbergh
- Donald L. Lodmell
- Fred Lurie
- Helena Maclay & John Larson
- Robert Maier
- Matthew Mallow
- Charles Matby

**2001**

**Financial Report for fiscal year ending September 30, 2001**

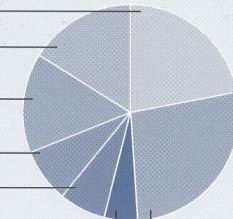
**Sources of Funds**

Donors	\$ 138,238
TU Chapters	\$ 28,000
Foundations	\$ 21,000
Jefferson River Project	\$ 20,000
Banquet	\$ 16,200
Investment Income	\$ 13,389
Membership	\$ 4,837
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 241,664</b>



**Use of Funds**

Conservation Advocacy	\$ 52,084
Communication & Conservation Education	\$ 38,115
Habitat Restoration & Enhancement Projects	\$ 36,664
Administration	\$ 20,060
Fund Raising	\$ 17,868
Operations	\$ 12,560
Conservation Reserve	\$ 64,313
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 241,664</b>



**how you can help**

There are many ways for individuals, businesses, foundations and others to help support Montana TU's conservation work. Contributions to Montana TU are tax deductible and used exclusively in Montana for conservation, protection and restoration of coldwater fisheries and their habitat. **Montana TU is financially independent of national TU**, though it is organized under national TU's nonprofit status.

Contributions may be sent to either address on the back cover. **TU's tax identification number is 38-1612715.**

**Direct Gifts**

- Cash contributions
- Securities, land or other property
- Bequests
- A good car or truck

**Planned gifts\***

- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Annuity Trusts
- Pooled Income Fund Trusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Unitrusts
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Paid-up Life Insurance Policies
- Life Estates

\* For planned gift assistance and information, contact John Wilson at 406-449-9933.

**Specific Gifts**

Donors wishing to direct their gifts can choose from the following special purpose funds:

**Habitat Protection & Enhancement Fund**

This fund's income is used for water quality and streamflow protection, habitat enhancement, and watershed projects.

**Wild Trout Stewardship Fund**

This fund's income is used for wild and native trout conservation, education, outreach, communication and research projects.

**Legal Defense and Government Policy Fund**

Financial support for legal or government policy action that specifically conserves, protects or restores Montana trout.

**Montana TU Foundation Endowment Fund**

A permanent endowment fund comprised of planned gifts and used for mission related activities. Individual and business donors are eligible for a Montana income **tax credit** up to a maximum of \$10,000 in addition to federal income tax deduction.

Gordon B. & Sheila Mann  
 Robert R. Mausshardt  
 Clay McGill  
 Denny & Ruth McLeod  
 Bernard H. Mendik  
 Gregg Messel & Anita DeClue  
 Curt Meyer  
 Mike Milodragovich  
 William J. & Desiree Moore  
 Edwin & Linda Morgens  
 Marvin Morgenstein &  
 Ann Van Balen  
 Scott Murdock  
 Charles L. O'Bert  
 Roy O'Connor  
 Kelly Palmer  
 Darryl & Sherrie Parker  
 Dr. Harrison H. Payne  
 Gale & Loenora Pike  
 Harry Piper, III  
 Harry & Cindy Poett  
 Don & Sandy Putnam  
 Chuck & Marcia Raches  
 Bob. & Peggy Ratcheson  
 Don Ream  
 Kim & Ruth Reineking

John & Sandra Roe  
 Claude Rosenberg  
 Cliff Rossberg  
 Dr. Alan Shaw  
 David Slaughter  
 Farwell Smith & Linda McMullen  
 Fritz & Nancy Snideman  
 Paul & Marolyn Stanley  
 Marie & Harold Stevenson  
 Rich Stevenson  
 Roy Stokes  
 Lee Stroncek  
 Lexi & Bernie Sundell  
 James S. Taylor  
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 David Toms  
 Richard Tumbleston  
 Laura Way Wathen  
 Dr. Irving Weissman  
 Walt K. Weissman  
 Ross & Beverly Whaley  
 Cory Wheeler  
 Leland Wilson  
 Michael Wise  
 Gerald G. Wing

### Foundations, Organizations & Companies

Abenaki Publishers  
 Anglers Book Supply  
 Dan Bailey's Fly Shop  
 Barrett Productions  
 Big Sky Carvers  
 Diana & Richard I. Beattie Fund  
 Bozeman Angler  
 Bushnell  
 Cinnabar Foundation  
 Clackacraft Driftboats  
 The Complete Flyfisher  
 Devine Bros. Distributing Inc.  
 Fanwood-Foundation/West  
 Fish Brewing Company  
 Flyway Ranch  
 Gran Tree Inn  
 Greycliff Publishing  
 Grizzly Hackle  
 H.S. Trask & Company  
 Hyde Driftboats  
 Inkstone Design  
 Kesel's Four Rivers Fly Shop  
 Meadow Lake Resort

Missouri River Foundation  
 Montana Flygoods  
 Montana Trout Foundation  
 Tom Morgan Rodsmiths  
 Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc.  
 Paraid  
 Peregrine Capital Management  
 Fund of the Minneapolis  
 Foundation  
 Planet Earth  
 Potosi Hot Springs  
 The Rivers Edge  
 Rocky Mountain Wildlife  
 Creations  
 Paul Roos Outfitters  
 Simms  
 Trout & Salmon Foundation  
 theTroutshop.com  
 Thomas & Stacey Siebel  
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 Umpqua Feather Merchants  
 Winston Rod Company  
 W.O.O.D. Foundation  
 Yellowstone Drifter

## directors, chapters, and staff

### Executive Committee

**Kirk Evenson**, Great Falls  
 Chairman  
**Dan Paschke**, Kalispell  
 Vice Chairman  
**Bill Janecke**, Anaconda  
 Secretary  
**Frank Cooper**, Helena  
 Treasurer  
**Matt Clifford**, Missoula  
 National Resource Board  
**Mike Bushly**, Great Falls  
 Past Chairman

### Montana TU Staff

**Bruce Farling**  
 Executive Director  
**John Wilson**  
 Conservation Director  
**Kate Grant**  
 Program Assistant  
**Mary Ellen Carter**  
 Staff Assistant

### National TU's Montana Staff

**Laura Ziemer**  
 Western Water Project  
**Stan Bradshaw**  
 Western Water Project  
**Bruce Rehwinkel**  
 Jefferson River Project  
**Scott Yates**  
 Western Native Trout Program

### Presidents and Chapters\*

**David Dedmon**, Stevensville  
 Bitterroot Chapter  
**Harry Poett**, Ovando  
 Big Blackfoot Chapter  
**Glen Anacker**, Kalispell  
 Flathead Valley Chapter  
**Byron Mazurek**, Butte  
 George Grant Chapter  
**Lee Watson**, Livingston  
 Joe Brooks Chapter  
**Bill Dodson**, Troy  
 Kootenai Valley Trout Club  
**Matt Greemore**, Twin Bridges  
 Lewis & Clark Chapter  
**Nancy Alston**, Bozeman  
 Madison-Gallatin Chapter  
**Les Zuck**, Billings  
 Magic City Fly Fishers  
**Ken Small**, Great Falls  
 Missouri River Flyfishers  
**Earl Dorsey**, Helena  
 Pat Barnes-Missouri  
 River Chapter  
**Bill Barber**, Missoula  
 Westslope Chapter

\* Presidents are  
 Montana TU Directors.

### Montana Trout Unlimited Stewardship Directors\*\*

*Elected September 29, 2001*

#### Shirley Cleary

Conservationist and artist  
 Helena, MT

#### Monte Dolack

Conservationist and artist  
 Missoula, MT

#### Dr. Stanley Falkow

Professor of Microbiology,  
 Stanford University  
 Hamilton, MT, and  
 Portola Valley, CA

#### George Grant

Acclaimed angler, flytier and  
 a founder of Montana TU and  
 the Big Hole River Foundation  
 Butte, MT

#### Jerry Lappier

Co-owner Missouri River  
 Trout Shop  
 Craig, MT

#### Bud Lilly

Noted angler and  
 conservationist  
 Bozeman, MT

#### Johan Miller

Investment advisor; DADCO  
 Great Falls, MT

#### Tom Morgan

Flyrod, reel and boat  
 designer/builder  
 Manhattan, MT

#### Roy O'Connor

Rancher; business owner  
 and conservationist  
 Clinton, MT

#### Paul Roos

Outfitter and conservationist  
 Ovando, MT

#### Paul Stanley

Angler; conservationist and  
 retired business owner  
 Bozeman, MT, and  
 Piedmont, CA

#### E. Neale Streeks

Author and fishing guide  
 Great Falls, MT

#### Dr. Irving Weissman

Professor of Pathology,  
 Stanford University,  
 angler and conservationist  
 Hamilton, MT, and  
 Redwood City, CA

\*\*Stewardship directors monitor  
 rivers, provide technical advice  
 and identify conservation  
 opportunities.

Montana trout illustrations courtesy  
 of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.  
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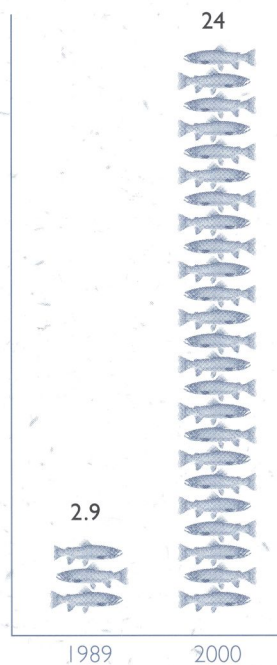


Michael Gallacher

## The Blackfoot River Restoration a template for success

### Westslope Cutthroat Trout Density for the Blackfoot River, Scotty Brown section

Fish > 6 inches, per 1,000 feet, estimated



A dozen years ago the Blackfoot River was a great place for a scenic float, but the trout fishing in this once great river couldn't match its scenery. Suffering from habitat damage and overfishing, the trout population had declined to the point where many anglers simply avoided the river.

But thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Big Blackfoot TU Chapter, the Blackfoot Challenge, ranchers, new and old-time landowners, and dedicated agency biologists, the Blackfoot's wild trout have rebounded dramatically. This flagship restoration effort provides Montana TU with a template that we are exporting to other troubled rivers.

Non-adversarial approaches, local control and nearly \$5 million in on-the-ground investment have keyed the success on the Blackfoot. The eight main "tools" used in the Blackfoot revitalization have been:

1. Restoration of stream channels
2. Installation of fish screens on diversions
3. Restoration of riparian habitat
4. Enhancement of stream flows
5. Removal of fish migration barriers
6. Improved grazing management
7. Reclamation of old mines
8. Establishment of conservation easements on 75,000 acres of private land

In addition, TU, landowners and other groups have successfully protected the river by preventing construction of a large cyanide-leach gold mine in the river's headwaters. TU and landowners have also collaborated on a landmark voluntary drought management plan that benefits the river.

With a wide variety of partners, Montana TU is launching similar watershed initiatives for the Jefferson, Boulder (near Big Timber) and Clark Fork Rivers. We are continuing our long-standing obligation to protect Montana's great trout rivers, while expanding our role as an organization that makes ailing rivers better.

Cover: MISSOURI RIVER McMillanStudio.com



#### Montana Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 7186, Missoula, MT 59807  
Phone/Fax: 406-543-0054  
E-mail: [montrout@montana.com](mailto:montrout@montana.com)

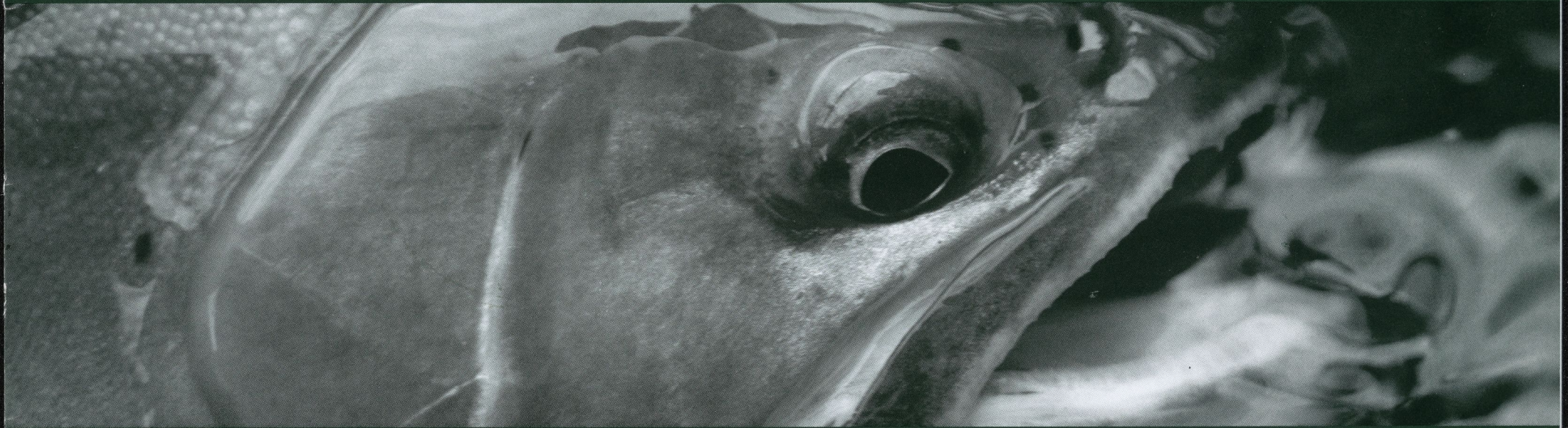
Visit our website: [www.montanatu.org](http://www.montanatu.org)

#### Helena Office

P.O. Box 412  
432 Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59624  
Phone: 406-449-9933 Fax: 406-449-8383  
E-mail: [john@montanatu.org](mailto:john@montanatu.org)



Montana Trout Unlimited



2007 Accomplishments for Trout Conservation in Montana

## Chairman's Message

### **Conserve. Protect. Restore.**

Our mission is to conserve, protect and restore Montana's coldwater fisheries and watersheds. We employ advocacy, education, and creation of policy and legislation that benefits clean water, instream flows and healthy habitat. In the past year, we have defended wild trout against dewatering, pollution and ill-advised water and fish management. We've worked with landowners, industry and agencies to create progressive land-use and water policy, and we've designed, financed and developed projects that restore instream flows and improve habitat. We work every day to ensure that Montana's remarkable rivers and streams support healthy populations of wild trout, including native species such as cutthroat trout, bull trout and grayling.

Drought in 2007 continued the cycle Montana has been experiencing for nearly a decade. The persistence of low streamflows and high water temperatures has reinforced the critical nature of our efforts to conserve, protect and restore our coldwater resources. As a result, Montana TU continues its key role in finding workable solutions for protecting streamflows.

In 2007 we advocated for coordinated reservoir management in the upper part of the Bighorn Basin in Wyoming to benefit downstream flows, while also supporting pending federal legislation that requires a minimum flow for this remarkable tailwater fishery. This legislation also acknowledges that the Bighorn River trout fishery is equal in priority with flood control, irrigation, power generation and the reservoir recreation behind Yellowtail Dam. This year we also ensured that the recently ratified water compact between the state

of Montana and the U.S. Forest Service includes language for establishing future instream flow rights on national forests, including crucial headwaters of many of our best trout streams.

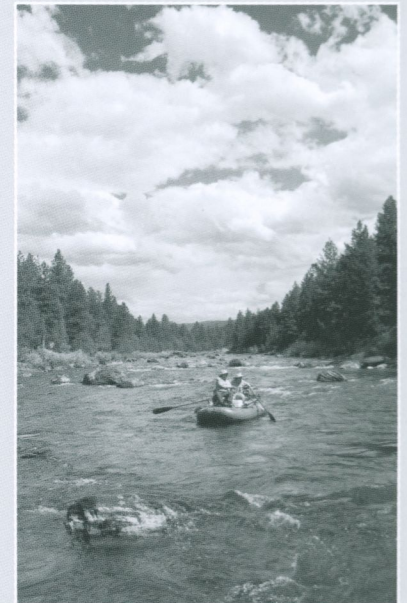
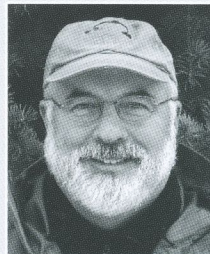
Acrimonious battles between groundwater users and surface water appropriators loom large in a number of western states such as Idaho and Colorado. However, Montana TU is working diligently to ensure Montana avoids these high-stakes conflicts. In the 2007 Montana Legislature we succeeded in convincing lawmakers to pass a groundbreaking measure that helps protect streams from groundwater development that threatens surface water. The Legislature also established an interim committee to examine alternatives for improving water management and protection of streamflows. Montana TU is actively following this effort.



On the native fish front, the state of Montana finalized a new conservation plan in 2007 for both Yellowstone and westslope cutthroat trout. At our urging, the new plan contains measurable benchmarks and provisions for monitoring the results of restoration efforts. It also includes triggers that reorient conservation efforts if objectives are not being met. We are optimistic this plan, which we are signatories of, will provide the foundation for successfully recovering dwindling populations of our state fish.

I have scratched only the surface of our achievements from the past year. However, none of our successes would be possible without incredible commitments of time and energy from our volunteer members as well as the generosity of our financial supporters. I am pleased to report that Montana TU continues to be on sound fiscal footing. We remain steadfast in our dedication to conserve and protect our fisheries from today's—and tomorrow's—challenges. Thanks to all who support our efforts.

Tom Anacker, Chairman



Though habitat protection and restoration continues to be Montana TU's top priority, our toughest long-term challenge is finding ways to stem the harm done to fisheries by growing populations of unwanted introduced species, such as lake trout and northern pike. Montana TU is the only conservation organization in Montana seeking solutions for reducing unwanted predation and hybridization of wild and native trout from introduced species.



## Conserve

**Protecting streamflows on national forests.** After years of negotiation, the U.S. Forest Service and state of Montana finalized a compact that establishes the legal nature of instream flow rights on Montana's national forests. Though the accord didn't automatically assign instream flow protections to as many streams as we urged, our advocacy resulted in legal language that allows the Forest Service to continue pursuing instream flow rights on additional streams. The Forest Service adopted our recommendations for the first round of streams it will seek protection for, including key native trout tributaries in southwest Montana.

**Sustaining a critical bull trout population.** We are partners in an effort that is developing critical research, educational outreach and management options aimed at protecting the migratory population of bull trout in Swan Lake. This effort is producing innovative management techniques that could help weaken the impacts an exploding nonnative lake trout population could have on one of the nation's most important bull trout strongholds.

**Promoting progressive fishery management.** Montana TU continued to advance the wild trout credo in its recommendations—some which were recently adopted—for new angling regulations in Montana, while also blunting efforts to steer scarce angler dollars into questionable hatchery projects in the state.

**Preserving a bedrock conservation law.** Montana TU filed a critical legal brief—while also providing important funding—for a landmark case in the Montana Supreme Court in which some landowners are seeking to dramatically reduce the sweep of one of the state's most critical conservation statutes, Montana's Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (the "310 law").

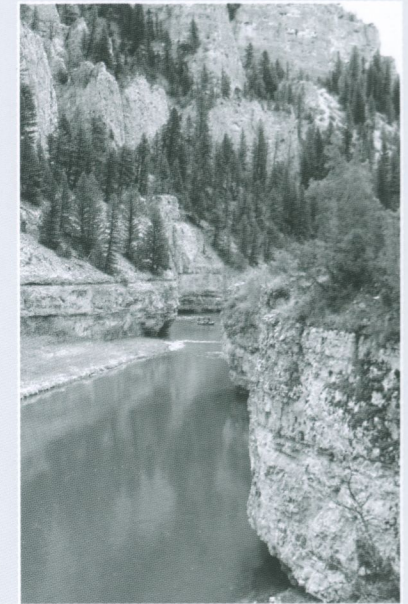
## Protect

**Defending streams from groundwater development.** Montana TU's advocacy during the 2007 Montana Legislature resulted in the passage of a landmark bill that now requires developers to ensure they are not reducing streamflows when they tap into groundwater that recharges trout streams.

**Protecting the Bighorn's flows.** Working with Sen. Max Baucus and local anglers, Montana TU has helped prod the Bureau of Reclamation to no longer ignore the world-class tailwater fishery of the Bighorn River in the agency's single-minded management of the reservoir behind Yellowtail Dam.

**Advocating for traditional angler access.** Montana TU continued to lead the effort at the Montana Legislature and elsewhere in protecting from attack the legal rights of anglers to access rivers and streams at public rights-of-way at bridges.

**Fending off damaging energy development.** Montana TU filed formal protests and legal appeals after the U.S. Bureau of Land Management accelerated its leasing of public lands for oil and gas development—including headwater areas for native fish and near the banks of the Beaverhead River.



Until Montana TU challenged the state of Montana's practices for issuing permits for groundwater development, little attention was paid to the crucial role aquifers play in recharging famous trout streams such as the Smith, Gallatin and Bitterroot rivers. Montana TU's continuing efforts in the groundwater arena have solidified our standing as the state's leading advocate for conservation-oriented water policy.

Though individual projects that fix damaged habitat or improve streamflows remain the bread and butter of Montana TU's restoration efforts, we constantly seek landscape-level approaches that tie projects together and incorporate the latest science. Montana TU's role in creating a groundbreaking proposal for managing the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest—and headwater streams of the Big Hole, Beaverhead, Ruby and Madison rivers—with a restoration-first emphasis is an example of this broad-scale thinking.



## Restore

**Creating revolutionary management for a national forest.** A groundbreaking proposal to manage the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest came closer to fruition in 2007, making habitat restoration, sustainable forest practices and permanent wilderness protection for key headwaters a priority. Developed by a unique partnership of Montana TU, two other conservation groups and five local timber mills, the proposal has been endorsed by surrounding counties, Montana's leading political figures, and could be adopted through legislation introduced in Congress.

**Finding cash for habitat restoration.** Montana TU's efforts in the 2007 Legislature were essential in ensuring the state's program for fishery restoration was adequately funded, while additional funding sources benefiting native fish restoration were established.

**Improving key trout habitat.** Montana TU helped fund important projects in key trout streams such as the Little Blackfoot River, Jefferson River, upper Ruby River and DePuy's Spring Creek. We also continued our long-term investment in the Sun Ranch cutthroat conservation hatchery—the only source of westslope cutthroat available for reestablishing wild populations of this disappearing native into its historical habitats.

**Protecting and enhancing through education.** Our conservation outreach, which includes sponsoring a kids' conservation camp, educational presentations at schools and universities, and regular invites to participate in science and conservation forums, has expanded to include media outreach and a traveling program on the effects of global warming on Montana's coldwater fish.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Place  
Stamp  
Here



PO Box 7186  
Missoula, MT 59807

**Yes!** I would like to help conserve, protect and restore  
Montana's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Please choose a donor level below:

- Salmonfly (\$1000 and above)
- Golden Stone (\$500)
- Green Drake (\$250)
- Caddis (\$100)
- Mayfly (\$50)
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_



***Thank You*** for your tax deductible contribution!  
All donations are used in Montana for trout conservation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, OR

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my VISA MC AMEX DISC (circle one)

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

OR, I will call (888) 504-0054 with my credit card information

- Check here** if we may add your e-mail to our action alert database.
- Check here** if you would like information on how you can help Montana TU and reduce your taxes by contributing through estate planning, planned giving or our endowment.

## Friends of Montana Trout Unlimited

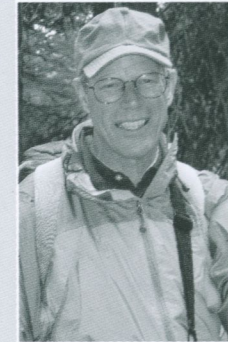
If nothing else, Montana Trout Unlimited is a people organization. In 2007, several special friends and partners were acknowledged for their contributions to conservation. At TU National's annual meeting in Boise last September, Craig and Jackie Mathews, founders of Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone, received our parent organization's Trout Conservation Volunteer of the Year Award. This long-overdue honor recognizes the Mathews for years of passionate advocacy for wild trout and Montana's rivers, as well as their effective work encouraging businesses to contribute funds to conservation efforts.

More recently, old TU hand and Helena resident Stan Bradshaw was named by *Outdoor Life* magazine as one of the nation's top 25 influential outdoors people. Stan, a longtime leading advocate for progressive water policy, was program director for Montana TU in the late 1980s and early 90s. He now works for TU National's Western Water Project. Along with Bozeman colleague Laura Ziemer, Stan has been a valuable partner in our efforts to improve instream flows and water policy.

And finally, without forward-thinking landowners our ability to conserve and improve important habitat would be severely constrained. This year, Blackfoot Valley ranchers, Bill Potter of the E/L Ranch near Greenough, and the Mannix Family Ranches of Helmville, received awards from the Montana Good Neighbors Program, a new private-public partnership that annually highlights landowners who practice outstanding land stewardship, open-minded approaches towards public access to private land, and exceptional collaborative conservation. Both the E/L and Mannix ranches are under conservation easements, they are participants in restoration efforts and their respective families have been long-standing practitioners of building bridges among conservationists, anglers, hunters and traditional agriculture.

Through the kindness and generosity of these fine conservationists—and all of our TU friends—we continue to look to a healthy future for Montana's (and the nation's) world-class coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Many of our best achievements result from partnerships with forward-thinking landowners and the talented staff of Trout Unlimited National.



Stan Bradshaw



Bill Potter of E/L Ranch



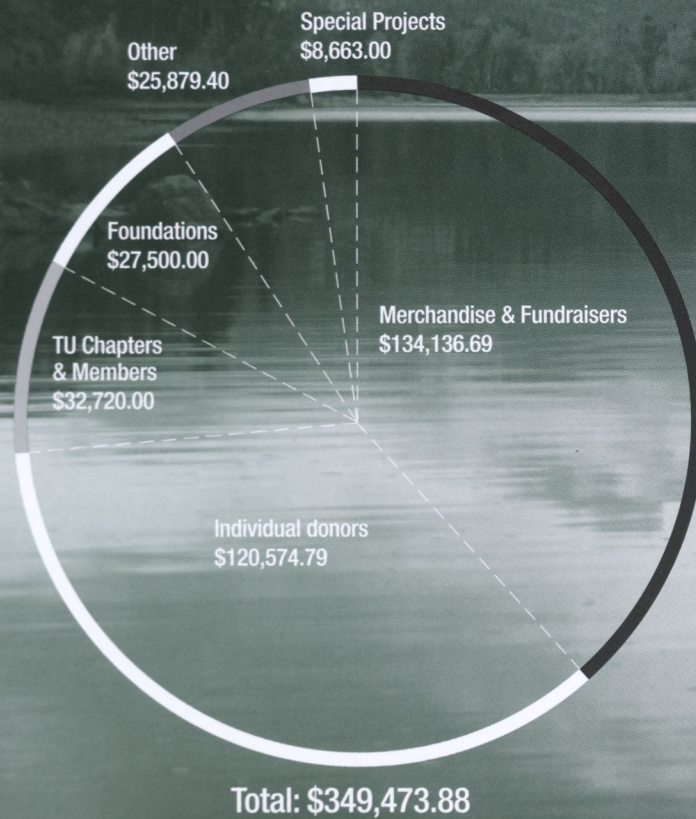
Three generations of Mannixes and their spouses

Montana Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect and restore Montana's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

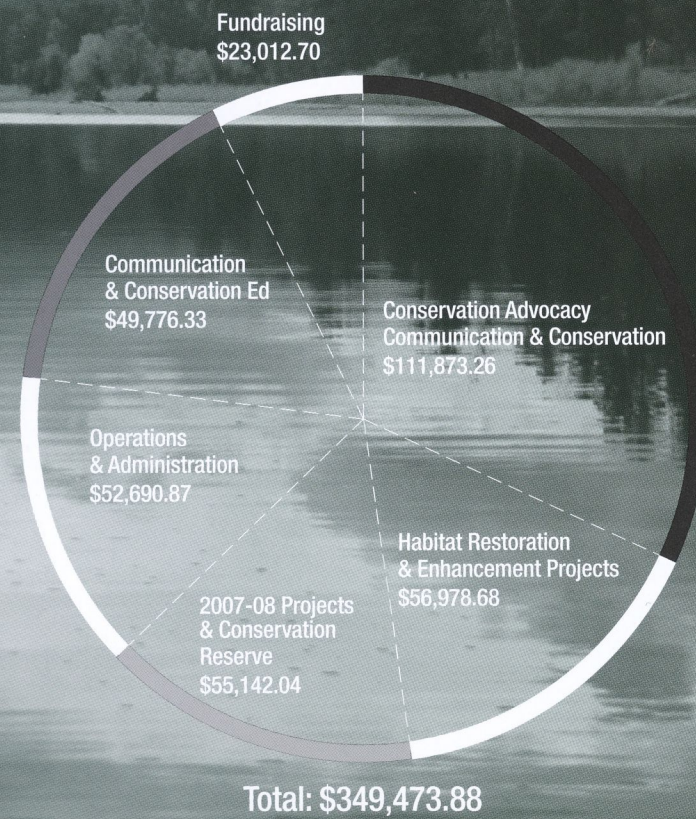


# Financial Report 2007

## Sources of Funds



## Use of Funds





## Invest in Montana's remarkable legacy of wild trout.

Contributions to Montana TU are used exclusively to conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries in Montana.

About 80 percent of Montana TU's budget hits the ground directly to benefit rivers and wild trout.

No matter how you choose to support Montana TU, you are supporting local work that you can be proud of every time you wander along a stream or hook a big rainbow. Montana TU is financially independent of TU National. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to either address on the back cover of this report. TU's tax identification number is 38-1612715.

### General Gifts

- Cash contributions
- Securities, land or other property
- A car or truck

### Planned Gifts

For planned gift assistance and information, contact Sara McComas at 406-543-0054.

- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Annuity Trusts
- Pooled Income Fund Trusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Unitrusts
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Paid-up Life Insurance Policies
- Life Estates

### Directed Gifts

Donors wishing to direct their tax-deductible gifts can choose from the following special-purpose funds.

#### Habitat Protection & Enhancement Fund

Income from this fund is directed to restoration ventures that improve water quality, streamflows, watershed health and trout habitat.

.....\$ 131,617

#### Steve Bryant Wild Trout Stewardship Fund

Named after the late state council chairman and inveterate conservationist, income from this fund is directed to efforts that conserve wild and native trout, or for education, communication and research.

.....\$ 103,529

#### Legal Defense and Government Policy Fund

Income and principle from this fund supports necessary legal action or development of policies that conserve, protect or restore Montana's wild trout.

.....\$ 34,497

#### Montana TU Foundation Endowment Fund

This is a permanent endowment fund comprised of planned gifts. It is used for mission related activities. Individual and business donors are eligible for a Montana income tax credit in addition to a federal income tax deduction.

.....\$ 17,768



## Friends of Montana's Rivers and Wild Trout

Without gracious individual supporters and organizations, Montana TU's ability to fulfill its mission would be difficult. We are grateful for the support provided by the 13 TU chapters in Montana, individual donors, hundreds of volunteers around the state and the efforts of Trout Unlimited National and its Montana staff.

### Individuals

Nancy Aagenes  
& Jason Jonas  
Tom Anacker  
David Baltimore  
& Alice Huang  
Craig Barfoot  
Bill & Pat Barringer  
Betsy Baur  
Richard & Diana Beattie  
Douglas P. Beighle  
& Kathleen Pierce  
Howard Bethel  
Ted Birr  
Brian Boyle  
Stan & Glenda Bradshaw  
Samuel & Helen Breck  
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Fred Brinkman  
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MTU staff, left to right: Bruce Farling, Mark Aagenes, Sara McComas and Michael Gibson

## About Montana TU

Founded in 1964, Montana Trout Unlimited is a statewide grassroots organization dedicated to conserving and restoring Montana's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Montana TU is comprised of 13 chapters and approximately 3,400 Trout Unlimited members. As a Trout Unlimited affiliate, we work closely with our national organization on conservation priorities. Montana TU is financially independent of TU National and governed by directors from each of the state's TU chapters. All contributions to Montana TU support conservation, protection and restoration efforts exclusively in Montana.



[www.montanatu.org](http://www.montanatu.org)

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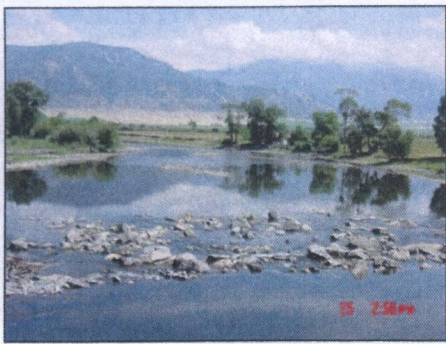
Photography donated by Blackfoot River Outfitters and Rita Garvin

# Jefferson River, Montana

## Legend

- Jefferson River Watershed
- Forest Service Land

- Tributary restoration
- Fishery monitoring
- Irrigation efficiency and flow monitoring



### Drought response:

Trout Unlimited has worked with local irrigators, business people, anglers, and agency staff to form the Jefferson River Watershed Council and create and implement a Drought Management Plan. This past summer saw especially low flows and very high air temperatures. Although the Jefferson River at Waterloo Bridge experienced at least 22 days below our 50 cfs flow target, we had considerable assistance from the agricultural community, or the results would have been much worse. Preliminary calculations indicate that water users donated approximately 5,000 acre feet of water to sustaining the river. TU also secured funding to install a new water gauge on the lower Big Hole River, which will provide essential data for a successful



### Monitoring the fishery:

Regular electro-fishing occurs on several stretches of the Jefferson River (1a through 1e) to track fish population trends and evaluate how population numbers respond to restoration efforts. Monitoring has shown rainbow trout numbers increasing 600% since 2003, in spite of the continuing drought conditions. Brown trout numbers have stabilized at about 30 percent of the high populations documented in the mid-1980's.



Butte

### Flow restoration:

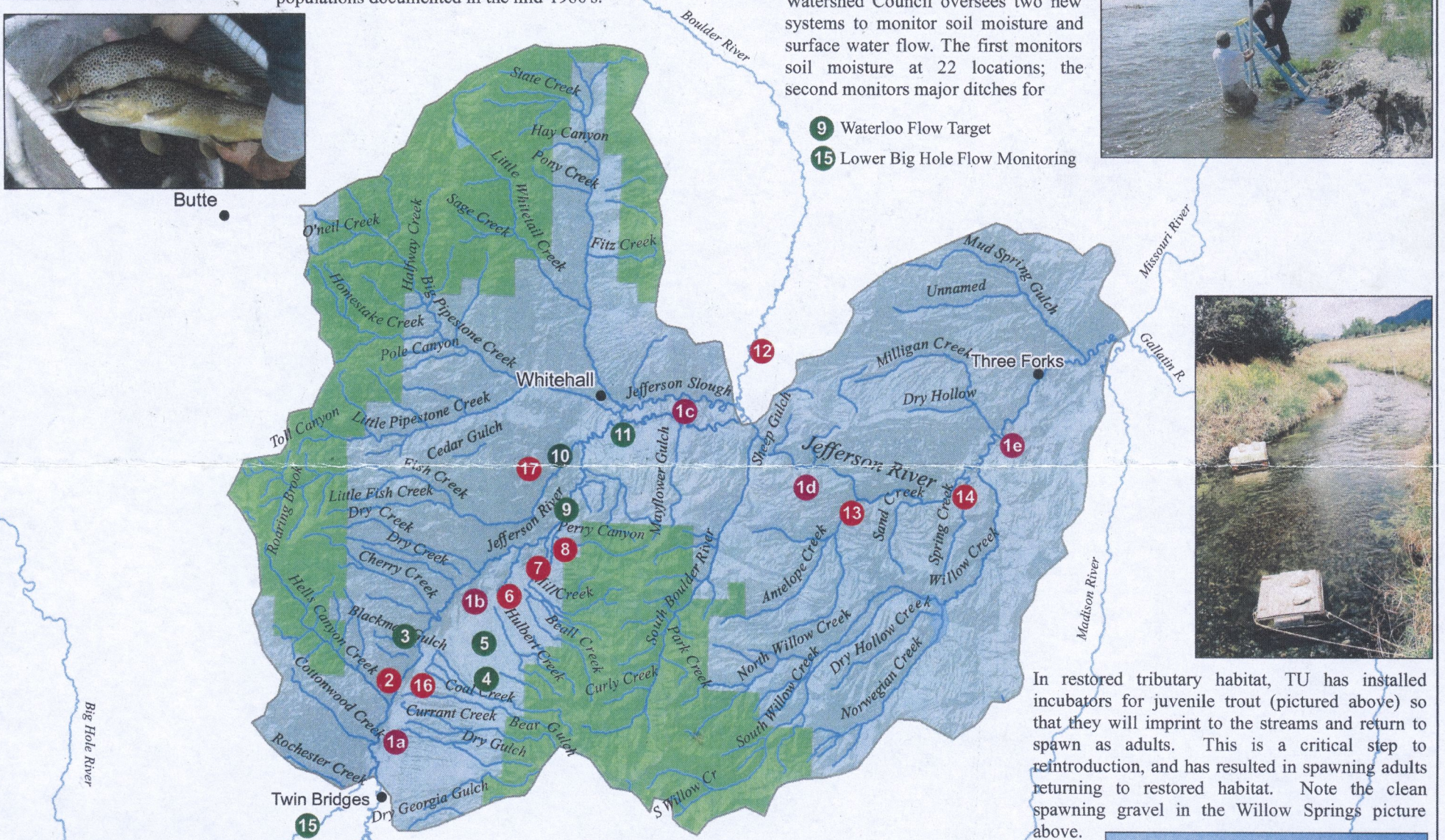
The Natural Resources Conservation Service provided \$400,000 to improve irrigation efficiency and instream flows. Engineering studies of the ditch systems and groundwater/surface water interactions identified several reasonably priced strategies that, if employed, should elevate the drought base-flow to 100 cfs or greater. In 2008, TU, NRCS, and local irrigators will implement

- 3 Creeklyn Ditch Canal Seal
- 4 Parrot Ditch Efficiency Improvement
- 5 Groundwater Study near Waterloo
- 10 Fish Creek/Jefferson Ditch Canal Seal
- 11 Renova Drop Structure Engineering Study

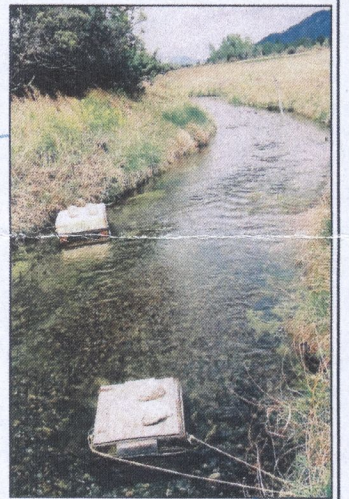
### Flow monitoring:

Monitoring is vital to efficient water management, and the Jefferson River Watershed Council oversees two new systems to monitor soil moisture and surface water flow. The first monitors soil moisture at 22 locations; the second monitors major ditches for

- 9 Waterloo Flow Target
- 15 Lower Big Hole Flow Monitoring



In restored tributary habitat, TU has installed incubators for juvenile trout (pictured above) so that they will imprint to the streams and return to spawn as adults. This is a critical step to reintroduction, and has resulted in spawning adults returning to restored habitat. Note the clean spawning gravel in the Willow Springs picture above.



### Tributary restoration:

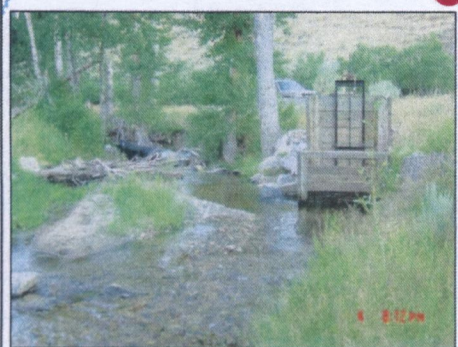
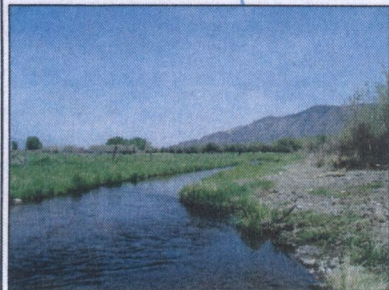
Jefferson River trout rely on small tributaries for spawning and juvenile rearing habitat, and for thermal refuge during warm, low water conditions in the summer. Some streams, e.g. Parson's Slough, have been diverted into irrigation canals, leaving the stream bed dry during certain times of the year. Some irrigation diversions block fish from migrating into streams to spawn. Elsewhere, trout stray into irrigation ditches and become stranded. Where streamside vegetation has been removed, stream banks have eroded, causing streams to become wider, straighter, and shallower and burying critical spawning gravel beneath a layer of sediment. TU has

In Fish Creek, TU has reestablished natural meanders and planted vegetation to stabilize banks. As a result, the stream has become narrower and faster-moving, which maintains clean gravel for spawning.

TU completed stream channel construction on Parson's Slough in spring 2007, which reconnected this tributary to the Jefferson River. TU is now working to install riparian fencing and an alternative water source for the landowner. To the right, top to bottom, are pictures of the re-created Parson's Slough channel, a picture of the historical point of entry into the Jefferson River, and a picture of the re-established connectivity

### Tributary Projects Not Pictured

- 8 Kurnow Diversion Barrier (Reduce loss of trout to Parrot Ditch)
- 7 Willow Springs
- 12 Boulder River
- 13 Antelope Creek
- 14 Sappington Springs
- 16 Hamilton Slough



2 On Hells Canyon Creek, an innovative water conservation project converted the irrigation systems of two key ranches from flood irrigation to more efficient sprinkler systems. "Saved" water was then leased to the state for instream flows, and landowners both improved their irrigation system and increased crop yields. In addition, a fish screen, pictured on the left, was installed on the irrigation diversion. The project kept water in the creek throughout the year and during a



**Richard J. Monroe**

September 11, 2008

Bud and Esther Lilly  
100 Bud Lilly Circle  
Manhattan, MT. 59714

Dear Bud and Esther,

The second Legends of the Headwaters Banquet will be held on Saturday evening, October 25<sup>th</sup>. This year's recipients will be Dan Bailey (posthumously), Bob Jacklin and Syl Nemes.

As you are aware, Headwaters Fly Fishers has ceased to exist, and The Madison Gallatin Chapter of Trout Unlimited has assumed the role of host for the event.

The Board of Directors of MGTU has asked me to extend their invitation to be their guests at the banquet. I do hope that you will accept, The Legends of the Headwaters has become a very special event and your joining us will make it an even more memorable evening.

Val and I are leaving for a week of fishing in Alberta and will return by the 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you could let me know if you will be able to join us as soon after the 22<sup>nd</sup> as possible it would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Dick*

520 Golden Eagle Trail, Belgrade, Montana 59714  
(H) 406-388-9510 (C)406-600-1565  
rjmonroe@littleappletech.com



---

**Sarah Davies**  
*Director, Western Program Development*

July 11, 2008

Mr. Bud Lilly  
100 Bud Lilly Circle  
Manhattan, MT 59741

Dear Bud,

I am writing to update you on Trout Unlimited's work to restore the Jefferson River watershed and its fishery. We have had some great success in the past couple of years and your support has been critical to our successes.

As you know, the Jefferson, Big Hole, Beaverhead and Ruby rivers make up some of America's finest wild trout fisheries, but the entire watershed is suffering from an extended drought, altered flow regimes, and degraded tributary and mainstem habitat. While this year's good snow pack and late run-off offered a welcome break from eight years of drought, we all understand that the system remains stressed. Working with a strong network of local stewards, Trout Unlimited continues to focus on restoring flows and improving tributary habitat in the Jefferson River watershed.

This past winter and spring have proved to be a very busy construction period. Working at break-neck speed through spring snow storms, contractors poured concrete on two new water control structures and installed new steel headgates on a third structure along the 28-mile Parrot Ditch. This work was funded with over \$200,000 in federal dollars through the Natural Resources Conservation Service to improve the ability of the Parrot Ditch to manage its irrigation deliveries while keeping more water in the Jefferson River.

In cooperation with a landowner, we restored 3,600 acre-feet of the degraded channel on Fish Creek. We are currently in the process of developing a third project on Fish Creek and a new project on the lower Beaverhead River. Once we finish the work on Fish Creek, we will have 6 functioning tributaries to the Jefferson. When we started the project in 2001, there were three, out of a total of twelve.

With an eye toward a long-term solution to Jefferson River low flows, we are actively involved in the Ruby Dam Rehabilitation Project with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. We hope to purchase approximately 2,600 acre-feet of stored water for the benefit of instream flows for the Jefferson River, which could ultimately double summer base flows on the river. Several hurdles will need to be negotiated before this idea can become a reality, not the least of which will be some means to ensure water from the dam gets to the Jefferson.


Finally, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Jefferson River Rally was a big success in both building community support for the restoration work and raising funds for the local Jefferson Watershed Council. The event generated about \$7,000 which is approximately one-third of the Council's annual operating budget for the year.

I have attached an article, *Protecting the Jefferson*, which appeared in the *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* on Thursday, June 19, 2008. It shows how the dynamic has changed on the river in the last decade, and why we are so optimistic about the future.

Thank you again for your past support. I hope that you will continue to support Trout Unlimited and the Jefferson River Project. Please feel free to contact Project Manager Bruce Rehwinkel (406-266-4350) or, me (406-522-7291, extension 105) if you have questions or would like any additional information.

I wish you a most enjoyable summer.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'SD', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Davies