

## Montana Land Acquisitions and Conservation Easements funded by USFS Forest Legacy Money

Year	Where	Acres	Type of Transaction	Description	Partners / Supporting Parties	Program Investment	Total Investment
2012	Stimson Forestlands Conservation Project, Troy, MT	27,992	Working Forest Conservation Easement	Stimson Lumber Company is offering to sell a conservation easement on 28,000 acres of highly productive timberland that it owns near Troy, MT. Montana's State Assessment of Forest Resources rated this land as MT's highest priority for forestland protection. The project area contains some of the best wildlife habitat in MT, supporting 8 federally listed or candidate T & E species and numerous other rare, sensitive, and game species. Despite its many noncontiguous parcels, the project lands function as a single unit, with an extensive network of public roads providing easy access and allowing timber management activities to be conducted in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The lands are also highly developable and at risk of being converted to non-forest uses, with Stimson now in the process of liquidating much of its remaining MT land holdings. The proposed conservation easement would allow Stimson to retain these core timberlands, preclude development, ensure continued timber management, sustain local wood-product jobs, protect incredible wildlife habitat and key landscape connectivity, and provide permanent public access to extraordinary recreation lands.	American Wildlands and numerous local conservation and sporting groups; Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; Kootenai National Forest, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho; Montana Wildlife Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Trout Unlimited; The Nature Conservancy of Montana,; Vital Ground Foundation.	\$6,500,000	\$17,600,000
2003	Thompson Fisher, Lincoln, Sanders and Flathead County, MT	140,480	Conservation Easement held by MFWP	Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MFWP), Plum Creek Timber Company, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and The Trust for Public Land have collaborated to place in public ownership a permanent conservation easement on 140,480 acres of timberland in two river valleys of northwestern Montana. The project presents an unprecedented opportunity to preserve critical wildlife and fisheries habitat, ensure recreational traditions, and continued commercial forest harvest for future generations. Located in Northwestern Montana, the Thompson-Fisher Corridor includes valuable river valleys and low elevation forests, some of northwestern Montana's most significant wildlife winter range, as well as important habitats for federally listed species. Protection of this commercial forest meets Montana's Forest Legacy goal of protecting important forest resources while "providing for the continued working of Montana's forest lands". It also meets virtually all of the objectives outlined in Montana's Assessment of Need. The project was first approved by the State Stewardship Committee in August 1999 and was ranked #1 by that Committee and the State in 2002. The Conservation easement is held by MFWP.	MFWP, Plum Creek Timber, RMEF, Trust for Public Land	\$15,768,533	\$34,459,970
2004	Schiemann, Darby, MT	540	Conservation Easement donated by landowner, and partial donation of land to Bitterroot Natl Forest	The Schiemann property is a 540 acre parcel in the Bitterroot Valley of western Montana adjacent to the Bitterroot NF. The owner will donate a conservation easement on a 320 acre parcel to the Montana Land Reliance and proposes to sell the remaining 220 acres in fee title to the Bitterroot NF. The property is 100% forested with two riparian areas traversing the property. Deer, moose, elk and bear use the property. Of the 13 objectives for the Montana Forest Legacy Program, this property assists in reaching seven. This project was approved by the State Stewardship Committee in February 2001.	Not identified	\$950,000	\$1,600,000
2005	Blackfoot - Clearwater Wildlife Management Forest Legacy Project, Missoula & Powell Counties, Montana	4,124	Land Acquisition and Conservation Easement	Critical forested winter range for elk and mule deer, occupied habitat for grizzly bear and gray wolf, a valued public hunting area; and a key component of the working forest landscape in the Blackfoot watershed.	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; The Blackfoot Challenge; The Nature Conservancy	\$3,254,000	\$4,500,000

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2006	Coyote Forest Condon, MT	80	Conservation easement on private lands	Project area is the forested lands of private ownership (Bud Moore) in Northern Swan River Valley, Montana. It is a donated easement which will be used as non-federal match for Swan Valley State Forest Initiative, Phase III, FY2006.	The Vital Ground Foundation	\$0	\$214,000
2006	Birch Creek Demonstration Forest, Kalispell, MT	160	Conservation easement on private lands	Birch Creek provides outstanding opportunities for continued forest management, a stewardship demonstration forest, public recreation, wildlife habitat, and a wildfire buffer. Located 4 miles from the Flathead Valley (Kalispell), the 2nd fastest growing county in Montana, and includes 1,465 acres of private land in 3 ownerships. DNRC's State Assessment documents loss to development as the greatest danger to forestland in the county. We have a limited opportunity to conserve this forest and secure its use for continued public benefits. The properties are located next to the county's Heron Park equestrian center, a venue for national competitions as well as a recreation and training facility. The project reestablishes an historic Forest Service supply trail that runs from Flathead Valley to Blacktail Mountain, providing more than 25 miles of public trail linking Heron Park with National Forest System land. An educational forest will provide an opportunity for students and landowners to learn about and implement forest management. As a teaching tool, the demonstration forest will impact jobs and stewardship far beyond its own boundary. This combination of values will contribute to the USFS More Kids in the Woods Program.	Flathead County; Flathead Valley Community College; Foys-to-Blacktail Trails (a group dedicated to preserving the historic trail); Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks; Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Montana Department of Transportation; Montana Forest Owners Association, Montana Tree Farm Association; Stoltz Land and Lumber Co. (a neighbor & family-owned timber company); The cities of Kalispell, Whitefish and Columbia Falls; The MT Logging Association; two federal agencies, Flathead National Forest and Glacier National Park	\$0	\$500,000
2007	Salmon Prairie, Lake County, MT	294	Conservation easement on private land in coordination with MFWP and Montana Land Reliance	This 294-acre parcel is located in the Swan River Valley of northwestern Montana. The Swan Valley supports the entire array of species that were present at the time of European settlement along with traditional economic uses of the forest resources. The Swan Valley was identified as a Tier 1 focus area in Montana's comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy due to its abundant wildlife populations and key habitats. The Montana Land Reliance completed a Forest Legacy conservation easement on the property in cooperation with the landowner who wished to conserve the forested resources on their land and the public values associated with the property. This easement provides additional nonfederal match for the North Swan River Valley project.	Landowner; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; Montana Land Reliance	\$0	\$860,000
2007	Pierce Lake, Missoula County, MT	444	Conservation easement on private land in coordination with MFWP and Montana Land Reliance	This 440-acre parcel is located in the Swan River Valley of northwestern Montana. The Swan Valley supports the entire array of species that were present at the time of European settlement along with traditional economic uses of the forest resources. The Swan Valley was identified as a Tier 1 focus area in Montana's comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy due to its abundant wildlife populations and key habitats. The Montana Land Reliance completed a Forest Legacy conservation easement on the property in cooperation with the landowner who wished to conserve the forested resources on their land and the public values associated with the property. This easement provides additional nonfederal match for the North Swan River Valley project.	Landowner; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; Montana Land Reliance	\$0	\$1,300,000

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2007	Cooney Creek Property, Condon, MT	428	Conservation easement on privately held lands	This 318-acre parcel is located in the Swan River Valley of northwestern Montana. Vital Ground completed a bargain sale of a Forest Legacy conservation easement on the property, in cooperation with the landowner who wished to conserve the forested resources on their land and public values the property supports. This easement will be used as part of the nonfederal match for the North Swan River Valley project. The Swan Valley supports the entire array of species that were present at the time of European settlement. Because of the diverse biological communities in the valley, the Swan was identified as a tier-one focus area in Montana's comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy.	Oberweiler, William H. Donner, Steele-Reese, and Cinnabar Foundations; Wildlife Land Trust, Montana Coffee Traders, Montana Land Reliance, Vital Ground	\$0	\$1,476,500
2007	Condon Creek, Missoula, County, MT	160	Conservation Easement on land owned by Vital Ground Foundation in coordination with Missoula County	This 160 acre parcel is located in the Swan River Valley of northwestern Montana. The Swan Valley supports the entire array of species that were present at the time of European settlement along with traditional economic uses of the forest resources. The Swan Valley was identified as a Tier 1 focus area in Montana's comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy due to its abundant wildlife populations and key habitats. Vital Ground completed a Forest Legacy conservation easement on the property in cooperation with the landowner who wished to conserve the forested resources on their land and the public values associated with the property. This easement provides additional nonfederal match for the North Swan River Valley project.	The Vital Ground Foundation, the landowners, Missoula County	\$0	\$288,000
2008	Nevada Creek - Blackfoot Phase II, Helmville, MT	4,891	Conservation Easement on Plum Creek Land	* This 4.891 acre conservation easement project comprises the disposition strategy of the Blackfoot Challenge, with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks as a partner, for the Nevada Creek Area of the Blackfoot Community Project. The project is separate from the Blackfoot-Clearwater project, but is referred to as Blackfoot Phase II because the project is within the larger 89,000 conservation project area delineated by the Blackfoot Challenge and The Nature Conservancy. * Risk of future subdivision is very high. Numerous recreational/residential lots have already been parceled around Nevada Reservoir. Plum Creek Timber Company has clearly demonstrated its intent to continue parceling lands in locations where residential and recreational development are deemed of 'higher and better use' than commercial forest management. * Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) sees this habitat as fall-winter-spring habitat for approximately 150 elk; 200 mule deer; and 100 white-tailed deer, as well as many other species. The property is vegetated with a complex of native riparian, aspen, juniper and Douglas Fir vegetation types interspersed with native bunchgrass parks	* Montana Fish, Wildlife&Parks; * The Blackfoot Challenge; * The Nature Conservancy; * U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	\$1,379,000	\$3,996,000
2009	Glacier Creek, Condon, MT	641	Conservation easement on lands owned by Montana Land Reliance in coordination with MFWP	This 640 acre parcel is located in the Swan River Valley of northwestern Montana. The Swan Valley supports the entire array of species that were present at the time of European settlement along with traditional economic uses of the forest resources. The Swan Valley was identified as a Tier 1 focus area in Montana's comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy due to its abundant wildlife populations and key habitats. The Montana Land Reliance completed a Forest Legacy conservation easement on the property in cooperation with the landowner who wished to conserve the forested resources on their land and the public values associated with the property. This easement provides additional nonfederal match for the North Swan River Valley project. (Note - This project closed 12-19-08 but was not entered into FLIS until 11-04-09. Regional Program Manager made the decision to put 11-04-09 as closing date)	Supporting parties are Montana Land Reliance, property owners and MFWP.	\$0	\$3,540,000

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2009	Abbott Creek Conservation Easement, Martin City, MT	113	Conservation easement on lands owned by Montana Land Reliance and MFWP	The property includes a spruce-dominated, high-quality riparian forest with a series of beaver dams along Abbott Creek. It is surrounded by the Coram Experimental Forest, part of the Flathead National Forest. The property has high habitat value for a variety of priority species including elk, deer, black bear, grizzly bear, mountain lion, gray wolf, great blue herons, trumpeter swan, tundra swan, beaver, mink, and marten. Conservation of this property as a working forest helps maintain the integrity of the Coram Experimental Forest on the outskirts of Martin City, MT. (This project closed on 12-26-2008 but was not added to FLIS until 11-05-2009. Regional Program Manager choose 11-05-09 as closing date)	The landowners, Montana Land Reliance, and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.	\$0	\$1,000,000
2010	Cedar Creek, Columbia Falls, MT	157	Conservation easement on lands owned by Vital Ground Foundation in coordination with MFWP	This property contains a wide diversity of forest species due to the influence of pacific maritime climates that dominate the area. About 0.4 miles of Cedar Creek run through the property and includes 5 distinct wetlands. The property has abundant cover and forage for wildlife of the area, and past management activities have increased openings where huckleberries are thriving, providing forage for both black and grizzly bears. The property also receives heavy use by moose, elk, and deer. There is an abundance of large snags on the property which show use by cavity dwellers and likely offer denning habitat for black bears. National forest lands border three sides of the property.	Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and; the property owners.; Vital Ground Foundation	\$0	\$259,000
2010	Windfall Creek Condon, MT	80	Conservation easement on private lands	These two parcel totaling 80 acres are located in the Swan River Valley of western Montana. The Swan Valley supports the entire array of species that were present at the time of European settlement along with traditional economic uses of the forest resources. The Vital Ground Foundation completed a Forest Legacy conservation easement on the property in cooperation with the landowner who wished to conserve the forested resources on their land and the public values associated with the property.		\$0	\$280,000
2010	North Swan River Valley, Swan Valley, MT	9,416	Part of a larger project to acquire private lands along with conservation easements.	<b>Located between the Bob Marshall and Mission Mountain Wilderness Areas, the Swan Valley is one of the most ecologically diverse areas within the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem. Until recently, land ownership here formed a checkerboard pattern—one square mile sections alternating in private and public ownership.</b> The Swan Valley contains natural and public resource values at significant risk of loss. The valley is home to 6 federally listed T and E species, and many other rare fish, wildlife, and plant species. Project lands provide raw materials and yearlong outdoor recreation opportunities vital to regional economies. The first two phases secured 7,204 acres of private working forest under a conservation easement. Subsequent FLP phases have acquired fee ownership of 3 select parcels. In addition to the 30% matching funds listed in this brief, Montana accepted 3 easements (\$1.6 million) donated as FLP match in 2006, furthering conservation in the valley on another 558 FLP acres. Six more donated FLP easements on 2,035 acres are scheduled to close this year. To date, other Swan Valley accomplishments include 6,000 acres of privately donated conservation easements, 8,200 acres acquired by the Forest Service using \$40 million from LWCF, and \$12.2 million and 2,081 acres of conservation funded by Bonneville Power Administration. FLP is a vital partner in a landscape-level conservation initiative being implemented in the Swan River Valley of northwest Montana. FY09 funding will finish this FLP project.	Flathead Nat. Forest, MT Dept. of Natural Resources, Bonneville Power Admin.; local and regional sporting and conservation groups; Montana Senators Baucus and Tester; Plum Creek, TPL, Foundations, MT Fish Wildlife and Parks, Swan community; private landowners who have voluntarily placed 8,000 acres under easement.	\$15,659,000	\$24,594,672

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Year	Where	Acres	Type of Transaction	Description	Partners / Supporting Parties	Program Investment	Total Investment
2011	Clearwater Forest Legacy Project, Seeley Lake, MT	10,236	Acquisition at the request of the Governor. Title to be held in trust by MFWP	The Clearwater Forest Legacy Project (CFLP) contains natural and public resource values at significant risk of loss. The area is home to 6 federally listed or candidate T and E species. The CFLP provides wood products and yearlong outdoor recreation opportunities vital to regional economies. CFLP is 10,236 acres of productive forestland West of Seeley Lake, Montana. This Forest Legacy project is part of the larger 24,300 acre Clearwater Lands Project or Marshall Block (see map). The proposal is for fee acquisition at the request of the Governor. The Title will be held by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. This project will be part of The Nature Conservancy/Trust for Public Lands Montana Working Forest effort to purchase 310,000 acres of Plum Creek Timber Co. land, the largest forest conservation project in U.S. history. The objectives of the project are to conserve natural resources; maintain traditional forest management and ensure public recreational access. The area is subject to residential development. It is approximately 10 miles from one of the last family owned lumber mills in Montana. Forest Legacy dollars will be highly leveraged as part of the larger Montana Working Forest project.	A. Lolo National Forest Supervisor Deborah Austin; B. Rocky Mountain Research Station, Missoula. Dr. John Squires; C. Missoula County Commissioners; D. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service through its grants programs; E. Pyramid Mountain Lumber; F. The Blackfoot Challenge; G. The Nature Conservancy; H. Trust for Public Lands; I. Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited; J. Clearwater Resource Council; K. Montana Wildlife Federation; L. Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; M. Hellgate Hunters & Anglers	\$5,900,000	\$7,909,267
2011	Wolf Creek Big Fork, MT	185	Four donated conservation easements by family member owners of the property	The two Wolf Creek properties are located along the foothills of the Swan Mountains, six miles northeast of Bigfork, Montana. Both properties are actively managed under approved stewardship plans to promote both fiber growth in the timber and wildlife habitat along the riparian corridor. This land abuts Flathead National Forest land and adds to a total of four donated conservation easements from related family members. The property consists of lower elevation forests important for deer, elk, moose, mountain lion, black and grizzly bears, a variety of small mammals and forest carnivores, mountain grouse, and numerous neo-tropical migrant songbirds. Wolf Creek also supports both west slope cutthroat and brook trout.		\$0	\$305,250
2014	Murray Davis Conservation Easement Drummond, MT	10,727	Conservation Easement held by MFWP via Plum Creek Timber Company.	The Murray - Douglas conservation easement project comprises 9,594 acres of forested land within the Garnet Mountains in the south-central Blackfoot River watershed of Montana. The easement will be held and monitored by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The proposal is asking for \$2,900,000 from the Forest Legacy Program. The Murray-Douglas Conservation Easement Project is part of the disposition component of the larger Blackfoot Challenge Blackfoot Community Project for the south-central Blackfoot watershed. Plum Creek Timber Company reorganized as a Real Estate Investment Trust in 1999, had identified thousands of acres in western Montana as having "higher and better uses" than commercial forestry, and was actively marketing timberland in the Blackfoot for private development. The Challenge initiated the Blackfoot Community Project in the fall of 2002 as a proactive response to the progressive parceling of these timberlands and to allow the Blackfoot community a voice in guiding their future ownership and use.	Project supported by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Project supported by Powell County; Project supported by Four Private Landowners; Project supported by the Blackfoot Challenge; Project supported by The Nature Conservancy; Project supported by U.S. Bureau of Land Management; Public scoping to date shows strong support	\$2,900,000	\$4,150,000

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Year	Where	Acres	Type of Transaction	Description	Partners / Supporting Parties	Program Investment	Total Investment
2016	Haskill Basin Watershed Project, Whitefish, Flathead County, MT	3,020	Conservation Easement onf FH Stoltze Lumber Co land.	A CONSERVATION EASEMENT will protect 3,020 acres of highly productive commercial forestland in the heart of the Crown of the Continent eco-region - one of the last intact ecosystems in North America and a high conservation priority for more than 100 government agencies, scientists, NGOs and place-based partnerships. The property lies next to the City of Whitefish, MT (pop. 6,460) and is the source of more than 75% of the city's municipal water supply. It provides important habitat for various species of concern (including the federally-listed grizzly bear and Canada lynx) and is sustainably managed by the F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber Co. - Montana's oldest, family-owned wood products company. It is also highly threatened by development, with the internationally acclaimed Whitefish Mountain Resort and several exclusive subdivisions located immediately next door. The project will help to sustain local timber jobs, conserve important wildlife habitat and scenery, and protect the City of Whitefish's primary water supply. It will also secure continued public access to an area that is already heavily used by the local community for hiking, mountain biking, hunting, horseback riding, berry picking and groomed cross country skiing.	US Senator Max Baucus; US Senator Jon Tester; US Representative Steve Daines; Governor Steve Bullock; City of Whitefish; United States Fish & Wildlife Service; Flathead National Forest; Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee; Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes; Whitefish Legacy Partners; Citizens for a Better Flathead; Haskill Basin Watershed Council; The Wilderness Society; The Nature Conservancy of Montana; National Parks Conservation Association; Yellowstone To Yukon Conservation Initiative; Montana Land Reliance; Montana Wilderness Association; Montana Wildlife Federation; American Rivers; Flathead Lakers; Northwest Connections; Cinnabar Foundation; Headwaters Montana; Flathead Conservation District; Center for Large Landscape Conservation; Whitefish Lake Institute; Flathead Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited; Glacier Nordic Club; Summer Wheeled Motorized Recreation; Forestoration, Inc.; Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; The Sustainability Fund; North Fork Compact; Montana Logging Association; Flathead Snowmobile Association; North Fork Preservation Association; Whitefish Range Partnership; Whitefish Area Fire Safety Council	\$7,000,000	\$21,980,000
2016	Clear Creek Conservation Project, Helmville, Powell County, MT	760	The Nature Conservancy will temporarily purchase the land and MTFWP will purchase.	The 760 acre fee simple Clear Creek Conservation Project (CCCP) is part of an important landscape with high natural and public resource values that face significant risk of loss. Part of a wildlife travel corridor, the CCCP will protect important habitat for federally listed or recovered T & E species--grizzly bear, Canada lynx, and gray wolf. The community will directly benefit from wood products and recreational opportunities that help support local economies. These parcels are former industrial timberlands held on an interim basis by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) as part of a larger 89,000-acre forest conservation initiative. Known as the Blackfoot Community Project (BCP), a local partnership that included Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MTFWP) urged TNC to temporarily purchase these lands because the risk of conversion to non-forest uses was extremely high; 95% of this Initiative has now been completed. This Forest Legacy Program (FLP) project will allow MTFWP to purchase the CCCP property, strategically connecting a state wildlife management area (WMA), US Forest Service (USFS) land, and an adjacent FLP conservation easement into a continuous block of high value undeveloped habitat, and a linkage between two forest complexes.	The Helena National Forest; The Blackfoot Challenge (over 300 landowners, 46 org's, and 23 gov. agencies); Senator John Tester; Helena Hunters and Anglers Association; Prickly Pear Land Trust; The Trust for Public Land; Hellgate Hunters and Anglers; The Mule Deer Foundation; Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; Three letters of support from adjacent private landowners; 13 letters of support from individuals of surrounding communities	\$595,000	\$800,000

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2017	Trumbull Creek Watershed Project Columbia Falls, Flathead County, MT	7,150	Conservation Easement on land owned by FH Stotze Lumber Co.	A CONSERVATION EASEMENT will protect 7,150 acres of highly-productive commercial forestland in the heart of the Crown of the Continent eco-region, one of the last intact ecosystems in North America and a high conservation priority for more than 100 agencies, scientists, NGOs and place-based partnerships. The property is owned by FH Stoltze Land & Lumber Co. and is located in the Trumbull Creek drainage near the cities of Whitefish and Columbia Falls - immediately east of the 3,020-acre Haskill Basin project, which is ranked as the nation's top FLP priority for FY15. The two sister projects provide very similar, high-priority FLP values and benefits. Permanent protection of the Trumbull Creek property would complement the Haskill Basin project and greatly enhance the partners' efforts to conserve two of the largest, contiguous and highly-developable blocks of private forestland in the Flathead Valley. It would also help to sustain local timber jobs, preserve important scenery, safeguard local drinking water supplies and protect critical habitat for various species of concern, including grizzly bear & Canada lynx. Permanent public access to a property that is already heavily used by the local community would also be guaranteed.	US Senator Jon Tester; US Senator John Walsh; US Representative Steve Daines; Governor Steve Bullock; Flathead National Forest; United States Fish & Wildlife Service; Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes; City of Whitefish; State Senator Bob Brown; Columbia Falls City Councilman Mike Shepard; Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee; Whitefish Legacy Partners; Haskill Basin Watershed Council; The Wilderness Society; The Nature Conservancy of Montana; National Parks Conservation Association; Montana Wilderness Association; Montana Wildlife Federation; American Rivers; Cinnabar Foundation; Wilberforce Foundation; Headwaters Montana; Center for Large Landscape Conservation; Flathead Land Trust; Whitefish Lake Institute; Flathead Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited; Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; North Fork Compact; Whitefish Range Partnership; North Fork Preservation Association; Flathead Snowmobile Association; Flathead Fat Tires mountain biking club	\$6,500,000	\$16,724,000
2018	Phase 2: Whitefish Lake Watershed Project, Whitefish, Flathead County MT	10,218	Land Acquisition by Trust for Public Lands and Conservation Easement	Phase 2 completes protection of a highly-developable 15,334-acre parcel long identified as a top international conservation priority in the Crown of the Continent eco-region. The project consists of 3 phases: Phase 1 - 8,960 acres ranked #2 in FY17; Phase 2 - 4,454 acres and the subject of this application; and Phase 3 - 1,920 acres which will be purchased in FEE by TPL with a conservation easement donated as match. Phase 2 lands lie at the core of the 15,334-acre property and are designated critical habitat for grizzly bear and Canada lynx, both federally listed as Threatened. Phase 2 lands include rare wetlands and provide an important landscape linkage between the Northern Continental Divide and Cabinet-Yaak grizzly bear recovery areas. This landscape linkage is also important for lynx, wolverine (candidate for ESA listing), gray wolf, mountain lion and elk. Phase 2 conserves another 28% of the Lazy Creek watershed and adds to conservation easement acres from Phase 1, bringing 99% of both watersheds under permanent conservation. These 2 watersheds provide 20% of the Whitefish city water supply. This project will sustain timber jobs, conserve critical habitat, guarantee public access and protect the city's water supply.	US Senator Jon Tester; US Senator Steve Daines; US Representative Ryan Zinke; MT Governor Steve Bullock; Flathead National Forest; United States Fish & Wildlife Service; Glacier National Park; City of Whitefish; Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee; Whitefish Legacy Partners; The Wilderness Society; National Parks Conservation Association; Montana Wilderness Association; Montana Wildlife Federation; American Rivers; Wilberforce Foundation; Headwaters Montana; Center for Large Landscape Conservation; Flathead Land Trust; Whitefish Lake Institute; Whitefish Range Partnership; Flathead Snowmobile Association; Vital Ground; Cinnabar Foundation	\$11,000,000	\$27,774,000
2020	Lost Trail Conservation Project, Mrion, Flathead County, MT	7,256	Conservation Easement onf Weyerhaeuser Land	The Trust for Public Land and MFWP are working to place a conservation easement (CE) on 7,274 acres of highly productive Weyerhaeuser timberland in nw Montana. The proposed project will protect grizzly bear and Canada lynx, threatened species found on the property, two large elk herds, and an important wildlife corridor. Wolves naturally recolonized the project area in 1989, six years before they were reintroduced into Yellowstone National Park and Idaho. <b>Success of this project may leverage a future 55,000-acre CE adjoining the project and surrounding Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) through US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) conservation programs or future FLP phases. The project will complement the adjacent 7,965-acre Lost Trail NWR, the 4,093 acres of Natural Resource Conservation Service-held Wetland Reserve Program easements, and the nearby 142,200-acre Thompson-Fisher Conservation Easement (FLP-FY03).</b> The CE will allow Weyerhaeuser to continue sustainable forest management, preclude development, sustain wood-product jobs, protect incredible wildlife habitat and a key landscape connectivity corridor, and provide permanent public access to extraordinary recreation lands.	US Senator Jon Tester; US Senator Steve Daines; US Representative Greg Gianforte; US Fish and Wildlife Service - Lost Trail National Wildlife Refuge; USFS Flathead National Forest; Glacier National Park; Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; Flathead County Board of Commissioners; Montana Chapter Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; Montana Wildlife Federation; Vital Ground Foundation; Flathead Land Trust; Flathead Audubon; Flathead Wildlife Inc.; Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership; Thompson Chain of Lakes Homeowners Association	\$3,135,000	\$4,550,000



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2021	Kootenai Forestlands Conservation Project, Libby, Lincoln County, MT	49,564	Conservation Easement on Stimson Lumber Land	A conservation easement (CE) would protect 27,289 acres of highly productive Stimson Lumber Company land in northwest Montana. This project would preclude development, ensure continued sustainable timber management, provide wood-product jobs, protect incredible wildlife habitat and key landscape connectivity, and provide free, permanent public access to extraordinary recreation land. It will provide critical habitat for bull trout, grizzly bear, and Canada lynx, ESA-listed Threatened species found on the property. The project complements the FY19 Forest Legacy Program (FLP)-funded and completed Kootenai Forestlands CE (Phase I), as well as the FY03 142,000-acre Thompson-Fisher CE and other FLP projects in MT and ID. It shares 109 miles of border with the Kootenai National Forest and state land, 16 miles with the Thompson-Fisher CE, and is divisible into 696 new parcels; development could have major impacts to the surrounding federal lands and FLP CEs. A network of public roads provides easy access to the property for cost-effective timber management, while also making it highly developable and at increased risk of being converted to non-forest uses. This project has a readiness of 7 and could close the same year it is funded.	US Senator Jon Tester; US Senator Steve Daines; US Congressman Greg Gianforte; Kootenai National Forest; Unanimous support of Lincoln County Commission; British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; Montana Delegation to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council; US Fish and Wildlife Service; US Fish & Wildlife Service Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator; The Vital Ground Foundation; The Nature Conservancy; Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; Kootenai River Development Council; Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative; Flathead Land Trust; Libby Outdoor Recreation Association; Yaak Valley Forest Council; Molpus Woodlands Group	\$12,000,000	\$24,600,000
2021	Bad Rock Canyon Conservation Project, Columbia Falls, Flathead County, MT	772	MFWP Land Acquisition and Conservation Easement	Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) would acquire in FEE 772 acres of forest along 1.6 mi of the Flathead River near Columbia Falls, MT to protect water quality, important fish and wildlife habitat, and provide free public recreation access. The property is highly developable and threatened by the rapidly growing city of Columbia Falls. This project safeguards vital habitat and a travel corridor for bull trout and grizzly bears, ESA-listed Threatened species found on the property, with the bull trout migrating into Canada to spawn. This key corridor is located at a geographic pinch point where the Flathead River flows through a narrow canyon between two mountain ranges. The property currently provides unique youth and disabled hunting opportunities minutes from Columbia Falls which will continue under state ownership. A trail will run through the property to allow access for hikers, bikers, birdwatchers, and others. FWP will manage public access to preserve wildlife use. Timber management will sustain important habitat components of the property. The project is adjacent to a stronghold of public lands and adds to a 12,000-acre network of conserved riparian land along a 43-mile reach of the Flathead River.	US Senator Jon Tester; Flathead National Forest; Flathead County Planning & Zoning; City of Columbia Falls; Glacier National Park; The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes; US Fish and Wildlife Service; Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; The Vital Ground Foundation; The Trust for Public Land; Gateway to Glacier Trail; Flathead Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited; Flathead Audubon Society; Flathead Lakers	\$4,000,000	\$7,260,000

**Total Montana**      289,888

**\$96,540,533**    **\$212,520,659**

Project encompasses a Land Acquisition and Conservation Easement