No Minimum Size or Length



Wild and Scenic Eligibility



"Eligible" Streams Must Be:

- 1. Free-flowing
- 2. Possess one or more "Outstandingly Remarkable Values" (ORVs), in combination with its adjacent land area



Eligible Rivers Receive Administrative Protections





WILD AND SCENIC ELIGIBLE RIVERS IN WESTERN MONTANA



Threats: New Dams and Hydropower



 Potential new hydropower capacity in the United States (higher-energy-density stream-reaches w MW per reach, aggregated to HUC08 subbasins for illustration).

Threats: Public Lands Initiatives



Threats: De-designation, Merced River, CA



Threats: Floods, Droughts, Over-allocation and Dewatering



Proposed Dam Site: East Rosebud Creek, MT



Proposed Dam Site: Upper Green River

Proposed Dam Site: Teton Canyon, ID

Proposed dam site: Bear River, ID



Proposed Dam Site: Susitna River, AK

Protected Rivers: Key Components in a Climate Adaptation Strategy



While U.S. annual average precipitation has increased about 5 percent over the past 50 years, there have been important regional differences as shown above.

Montanans for Healthy Rivers



Rivers Proposed for Wild and Scenic Designation in Montana

Data and Barres

Mouse over a river for its name; click on a river for more information and a photo. For a complete list of rivers in table format, please click HERE,

An AW story 💼 🖉 🖉

Montana Wild and Scenic Proposal

Montanans for Healthy Rivers is a coalition of citizens, sportsmen, businesses and conservationists working to conserve the last, best free-flowing rivers in western Montana - to keep Montana the way it is for future generations. We have spent the past 5 years developing this proposal to designate roughly 50 new Wild and Scenic Rivers and streams in the state (blue on the map) as a compliment to the 4 current Wild and Scenic Rivers (purple). We encourage you to explore the proposal, let us know what you think, and to endorse our proposal on behalf of yourself or your business.

The Flathead



Give Us Your Feedback

The Citizens' Proposal needs your input in order to be successful. Please share your thoughts (general and specific!) in the comment box below:

Fields marked with an * are required

Support for River Protection: Montana's Economy

• MT's Services Industries

-account for 67% of MT's economy, and growing, in part due to MT's natural amenities

- MT's Outdoor Recreation Economy

 -\$5.8 Billion & 64,000 jobs
- MT's Agriculture Economy -\$4.6 Billion & 40,000 jobs

From the Headwaters Economics (1 & 2), Outdoor Industry Association & MT Dept. of Agriculture



Montana Voter Support for River Protection

Key Findings from a Statewide Voter Survey Conducted February 20-23, 2014

DAVE METZ & LORI WEIGEL

Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates - FM3 Public Opinion Research & Strategy

SANTA MONICA · OAKLAND · MADISON · MEXICO CITY



Most see rivers as highly important to Montana's economy and way of life

And how important do you think clean and healthy rivers are to Montana's economy and way of life?



Most Montanans have enjoyed recreational activities on Montana rivers at least once in the past year.



Three-quarters of Montana voters support the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

Congress has the power to protect special rivers under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Act prevents new dams, water pollution, and other activities that would harm a river's special values, <u>without</u> affecting private property rights. It has been used to protect two rivers in Montana, the Upper Missouri and Upper Forks of the Flathead. In general, do you support or oppose the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act?



Seven in ten western Montanans have a more favorable view of an official who backs more Wild and Scenic Rivers.



Q16. Greater Yellowstone & American Rivers: Generally speaking, would you view an elected official who supports new Wild and Scenic designations for rivers flowing across Montana's federal public lands more favorably, or less favorably?

Montanans broadly support the designation of additional Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Currently, only four segments of Montana rivers enjoy status as Wild and Scenic Rivers, and the last one was designated 40 years ago. Do you support or oppose permanently protecting more of Montana's rivers that flow across federal public lands using the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act?



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Currently, only four segments of Montana rivers enjoy status as Wild and Scenic Rivers, and the last one was designated 40 years ago. Do you support or oppose permanently protecting more of Montana's rivers that flow across federal public lands using the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act?





Montana voters have extremely high rates of participation in outdoor recreation.



Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates – FM3



Q20. I am going to read you a list of recreational activities. Please tell me how often you participate in each activity: frequently, occasionally, rarely, or not at all

Protecting drinking water quality is Montanans' top environmental concern.

■Ext. S	er. ∎V	ery Ser.	□ Smwt	t. Ser.	■ Not ⁻	Too Ser.	/DK/NA	Ext./Very Ser.
drinking water	24	%	35%	6	21%		20%	59%
forests, lakes her public land	19%	19% 32%		23%		2	6%	51%
ing wilderness	18%)	29%		23%		%	47%
ss of farmland	16%		31%		26%		7%	47%
s and streams	18%		27%		29%		6%	45%
and rivers for ng and fishing	17%	2	27%		30%		5%	45%
itat like winter range	15%	25	25%		28%		%	40%
limate change	17%	15%	<mark>5%</mark> 24%		430			33%
l development	12%	18%	3	3%	3		, 0	30%
Air pollution	12%	15%	<mark>5%</mark> 30%		44			26%
arbon pollution	9%	16%	<mark>%</mark> 26%		49%			25%
	0%	20%	40%	6	60%	80%	100)%

*Protecting clean c

Loss of access to national and oth Protectir

Los

*Pollution of rivers, lakes

Loss of access to lands huntir Loss of critical wildlife habi

*Cli

Unplanned growth and

*Car

Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates – FM3 PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH & STRATEGY



Q1. I'd like to read you some specific environmental problems facing Montana that people have mentioned. Please tell me whether you think it is an extremely serious problem, a very serious problem, somewhat serious problem, or not too serious a problem in Montana. *Split Sample

MHR's Proposal is the Result of Six Years of Outreach





Endorsements

- 1300 citizens
- 300+ MT businesses
- 4 Chambers of Commerce
- 13 public meetings : Billings, Bozeman (2), Condon, Ennis, Kalispell, Missoula (2), Ovando, Red Lodge, Rock Creek, Seeley Lake, and Whitefish.
- Wild & Scenic Rivers events in Billings, Big Sky, Bozeman, Livingston, Missoula, Red Lodge and Whitefish.

FQI

Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana



BUSINESS FOR MONTANA'S





Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks



Questions, Feedback, Discussion

Other Resources:

- Selway WSR Logging Project
- Primer on WSRA for CGWG

Charles Wolf Drimal cdrimal@greateryellowstone.org 406.556.2817

