

Delivering federal investments in grizzly bear conflict prevention in MT through partnerships

Nate Owens

Heart of the Rockies Initiative



Heart of the Rockies Initiative



Partnership of 29 independent land trusts spanning the Central Rockies from northern Utah into Alberta and British Columbia



Show Me the Money!

America the Beautiful
Challenge (AtBC)

➔ ~\$5M to MT for grizzly bear
conflict prevention

NRCS Regional Conservation
Partnership Program (RCPP)

➔ \$6-7M to MT for grizzly bear
& wolf conflict prevention

Bear-resistant
Infrastructure

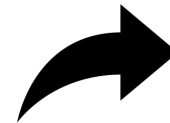
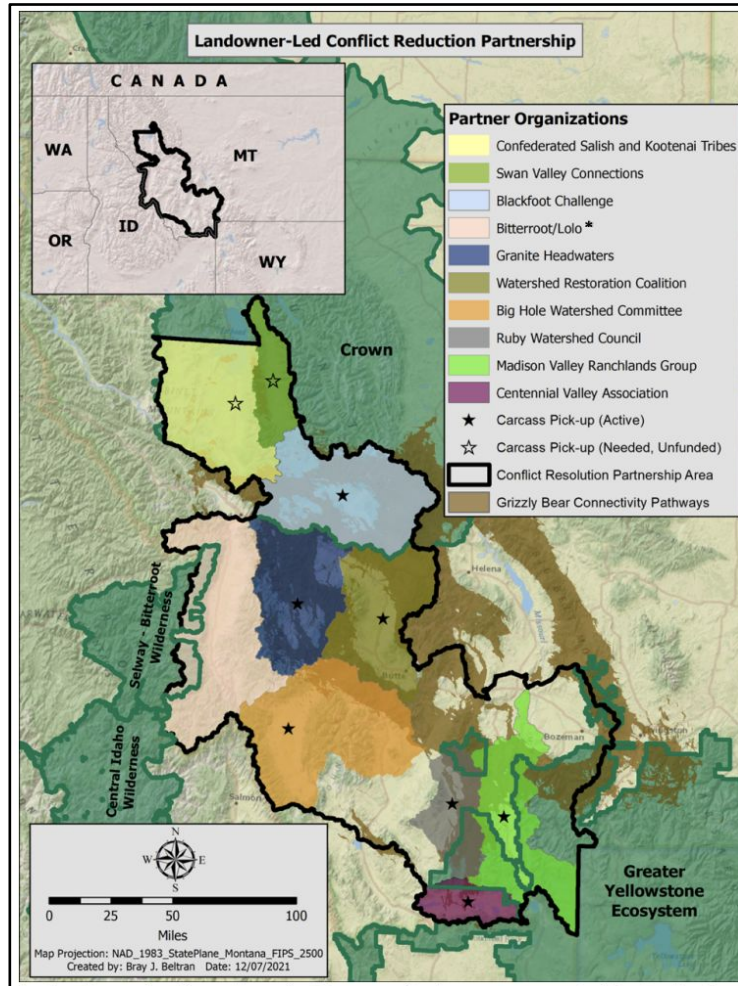
Electric fencing

Local Capacity

Carcass Management

Range Riding

Taking a Step Back to Identify the Need



Locally-Led Conflict Reduction Needs Assessment

A report for the Landowner-Led Conflict Reduction Partnership



Authors:

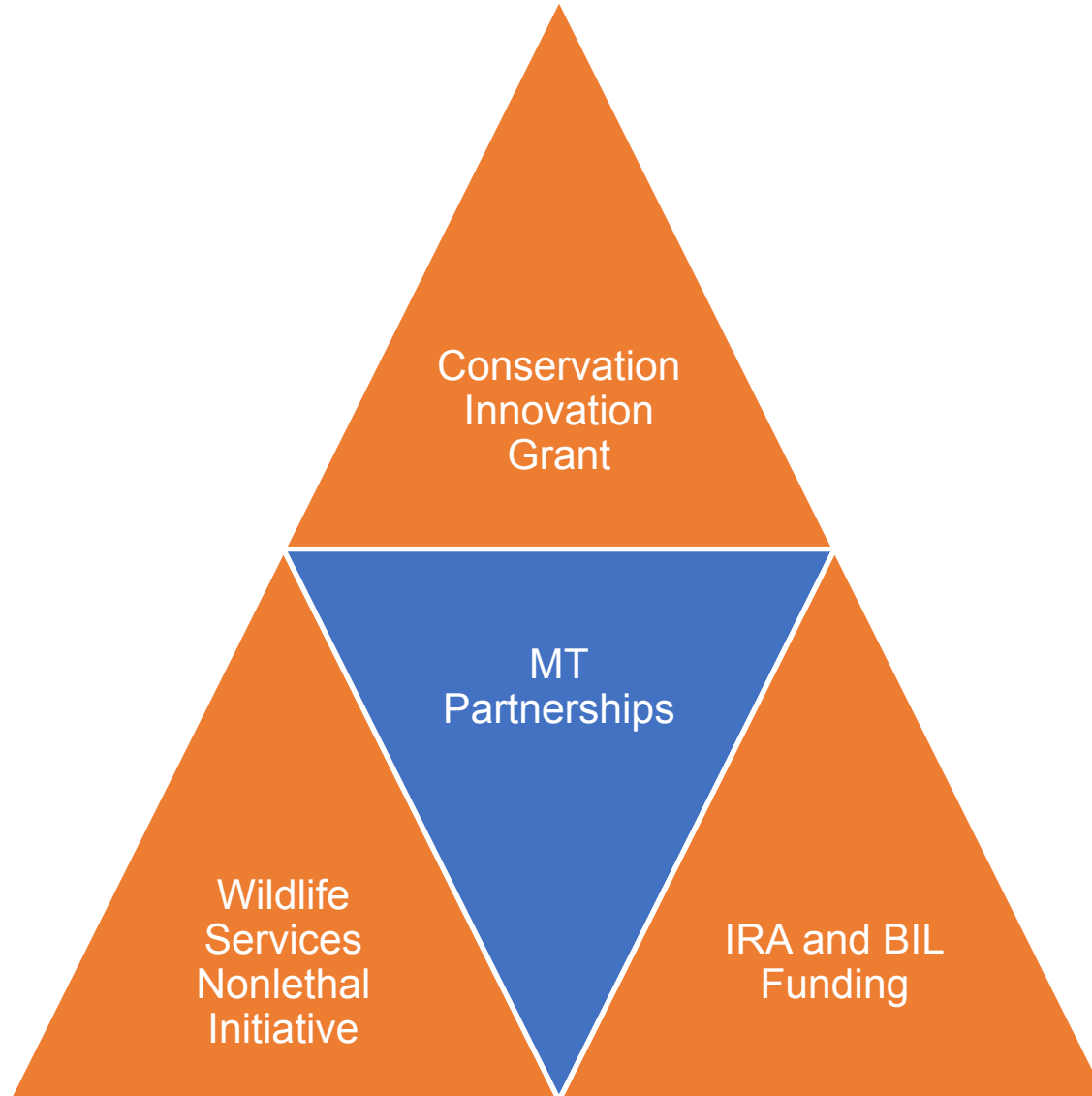
The survey, interviews, analysis, and writing were conducted by a team of four individuals: Emily Harkness, Heart of the Rockies Initiative; Kara Maplethorpe, Centennial Valley Association; and Amy McNamara and Minah Choi, Natural Resources Defense Council.

Acknowledgements:

The authors would like to extend their gratitude to the many individuals and programs who contributed their time through the survey, interviews, information sharing, and reviews to make this report as comprehensive and accurate as possible. *Photo credit: Erika Nunlist of Centennial Valley Association.*



Mobilize Support and Build Partnerships



Creating Space for Dialogue and Trust

Save the Date: June 14-15, 2023

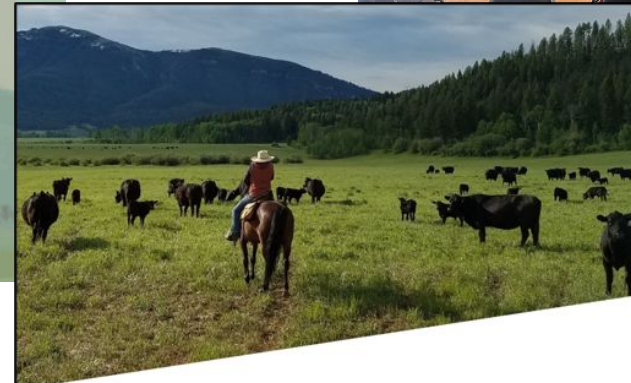
University of Montana, Missoula

Delivering Carnivore Conflict Prevention: A Workshop to Advance Partnerships and Solutions



A workshop to explore and advance coordination, funding, and technical assistance for carnivore conflict prevention. Join landowners, Tribes, state and federal agencies and NGOs collaborating to support the West's wild and working lands. Emphasis will be placed on how these solutions can benefit grizzly bears and working lands in Montana.

- Day 1: Share and discuss innovative solutions and partnerships that have emerged to support working lands and carnivores, including grizzly bears.
- Day 2: Explore opportunities to apply lessons learned and expand conflict prevention solutions to more communities in Montana and throughout the West.
- *Optional Social on June 13*



DELIVERING CARNIVORE CONFLICT PREVENTION

A WORKSHOP TO ADVANCE PARTNERSHIPS AND SOLUTIONS

OCTOBER 2023



Back to that funding...

- ~\$12M coming to MT for carnivore conflict prevention efforts through April 2029

AtBC

starting March/April

Local Capacity

Bear-resistant
Infrastructure

RCPP

starting Summer 2025

Electric fencing

Carcass Management

Range Riding

Future Work

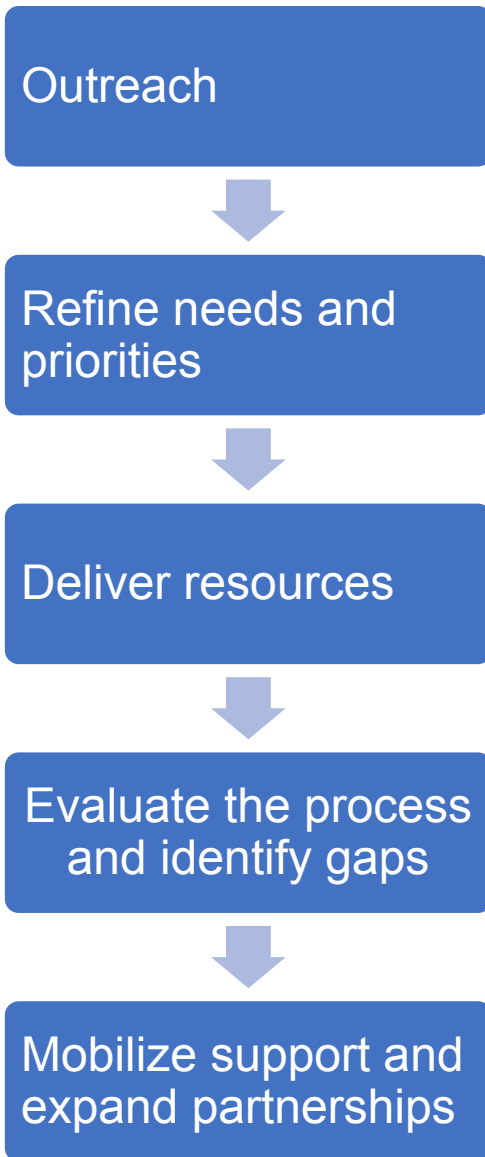


Photo courtesy of
Confederated
Salish and
Kootenai Tribes



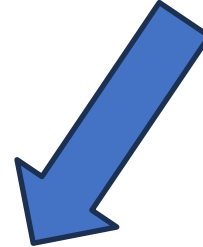
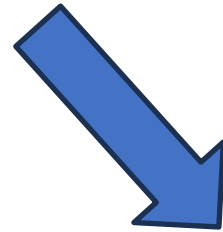
Photo courtesy of the Centennial Valley Association



The Coordination Puzzle: Pooling Needs

Need Being Met

Unmet Need



OVERALL NEED



The Coordination Puzzle: Coordinated Funding



Storytelling



Photo courtesy of Erika Nunlist, Centennial Valley Association



Photo courtesy of Swan Valley Connections



Photo courtesy of the Blackfoot Challenge



Photo courtesy of Centennial Valley Association

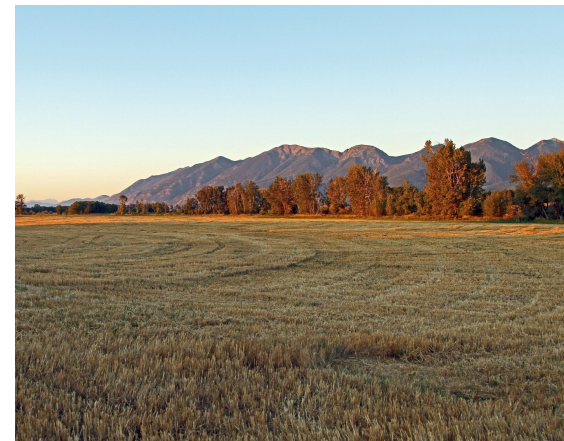


Photo courtesy of Harley Mumma



Bear Smart Communities

Eligible Activities under AtBC funding:

- Bear-resistant garbage infrastructure
- Transfer stations
- Electric fencing
- Outreach & Education
- Planning and local capacity

Considerations:

- Timeline (July 31,2027 deadline)
- Phased Approach
- Sustainability Plan

Research Opportunities

- Conflict prevention practice efficacy in different environments
- Social science/human dimensions research into changing attitudes
- Many more!



Photo courtesy of the Blackfoot Challenge



It Comes Down to this...

- Partnerships are important at all points in the process!
- Effective delivery raises all boats and strengthens existing partnerships.
- Increased coordination around funding and leveraging existing assets can help stretch this new funding.
- Partnerships are a living thing and need attention.



THANK YOU



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