

# Grant Funding Updates for Carnivore Conflict Prevention in MT

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Heart of the Rockies Initiative



# Grant Details

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)  
~\$5M for grizzly conflict prevention through July 2027

- Awarded to Montana FWP
  - Subaward to Heart of the Rockies Initiative → contracts with partners
  - Focus on community implementation
  - Contracts beginning December 2024

NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)  
\$6M for grizzly/wolf conflict prevention through May 2029

- Awarded to Heart of the Rockies Initiative
  - Producer contracts with NRCS
  - First batching period closes Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> for work starting in May/June 2025

Electric fencing/mats

Carcass Management

Range Riding

Bear-resistant Infrastructure

Education/Outreach

Electric fencing/mats

Range Riding

Carcass Management



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

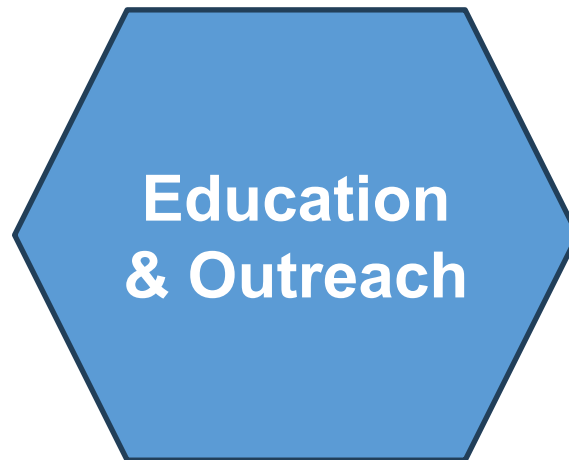
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# Simple Fits

## NFWF Grant



Working group of NGO  
& Agency Partners



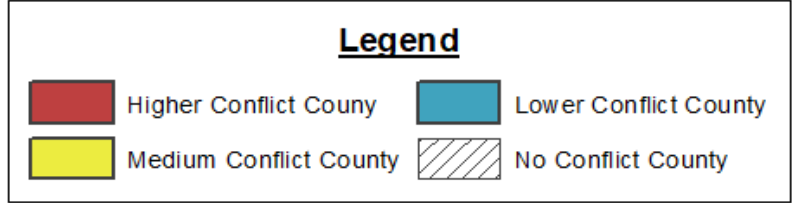
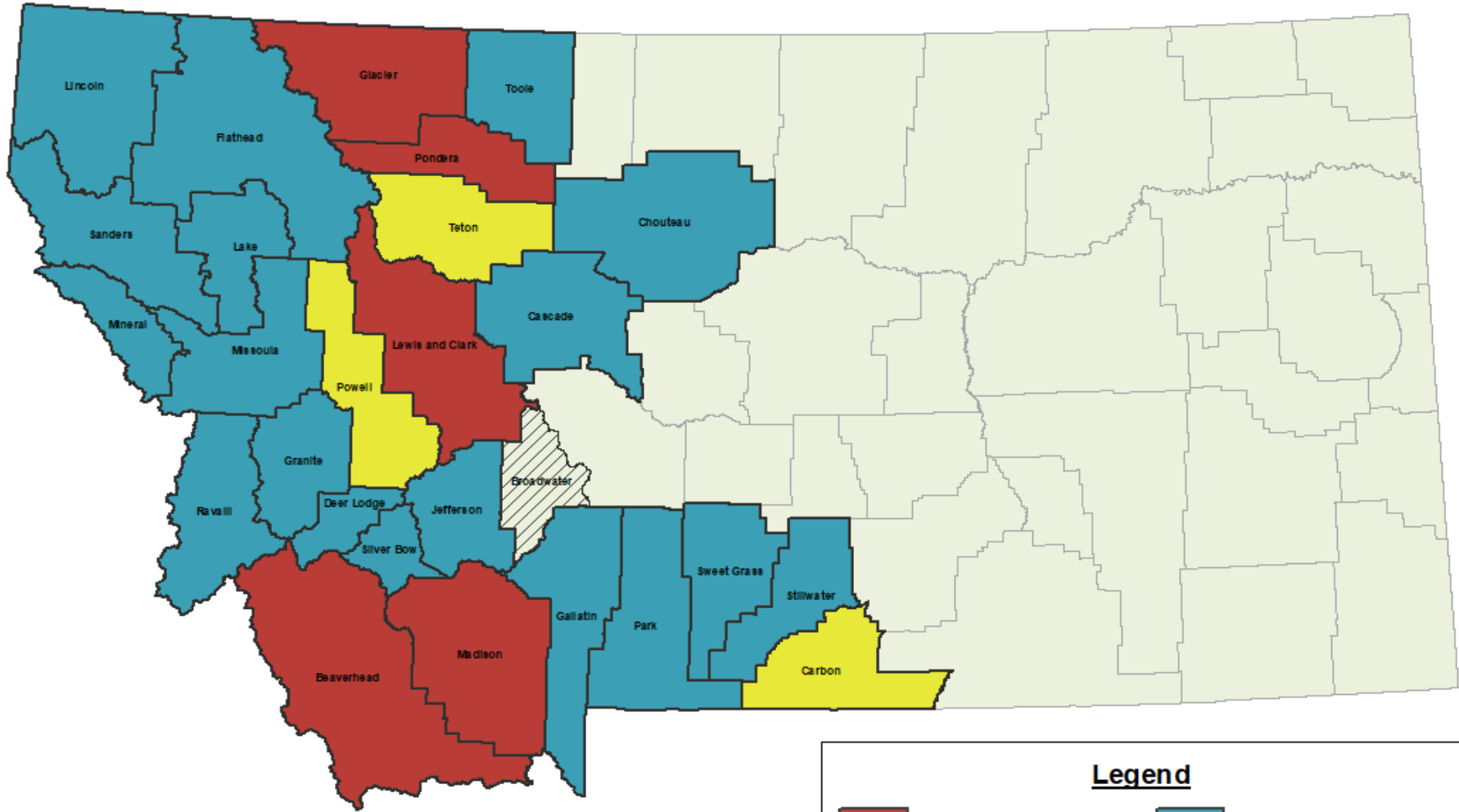
Producer/Watershed  
Groups & NGOs



# Now Things Become More Complicated....



# RCPP Conflict County Ranking 2024



**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Data was created from the total annual cattle and sheep losses due to grizzly bear and wolf between 2014-2023 as reported from the Montana Livestock Loss Board. Mountain lion losses and losses attributed to anything other than cattle and sheep were not included in this ranking.



# RCPP Ranking Criteria

- Range riding > Carcass Management > Electric fencing/mats
- Project proximity to connectivity zones
- Previous documented conflicts? What species?
- Additional partner contributions or Historically Underserved?



Photo courtesy of Centennial Valley Association



Photo courtesy of Erika Ruoff, Centennial Valley Association

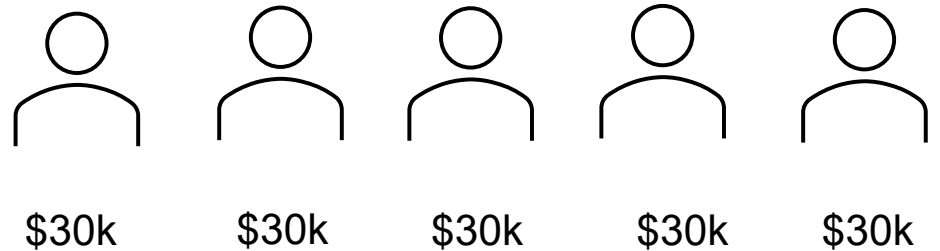
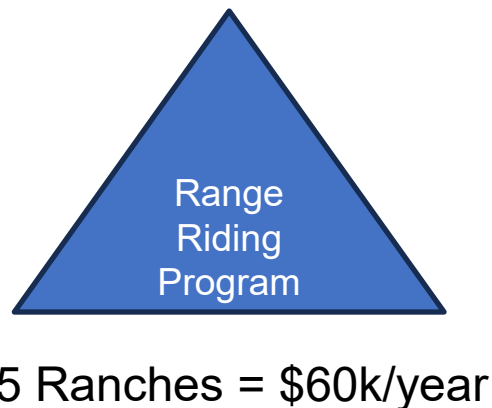


Photo courtesy of the Blackfoot Challenge



# Funding Strategy Complexities

- RCPP *may* support community-implemented conflict prevention programs
- Multiple RCPP producer contracts within the **same** community program may cover program costs, but could also exceed them and shrink the pie for everyone else



# General Funding Strategy

RCPP Workload Prioritization Tool		
HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
High Conflict County + Range Riding + Carcass Management and/or Electric Fencing & Mats	High Conflict County + Carcass Management + Electric Fencing & Mats	High Conflict County + Electric Fencing & Mats ONLY
High Conflict County + Range Riding	High Conflict County + Carcass Management	Medium Conflict County + Electric Fencing & Mats ONLY
	Medium Conflict County + Range Riding + Carcass Management and/or Electric Fencing & Mats	Low Conflict County + Any practice
	Medium Conflict County + Range Riding	
	Medium Conflict County + Carcass Management + Electric Fencing & Mats	





# THANK YOU



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