

STATE BANK OF TERRY, 1906 WING

101 SOUTH LOGAN AVENUE, TERRY

Notice of Public Comment—Montana State Historic Office (SHPO) Grant

The Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) invites public comment related to a proposed SHPO Grant for the State Bank of Terry Foundation and Masonry Repair Project. The historic Bank of Terry is located at 101 Logan Avenue South, Terry, MT (TERRY ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, S16, T12 N, R51 E, BLOCK 040, Lot 007, 41 LOT 7AP OF COS #41 MUSEUM). The grant would assist in rehabilitating the historic building's physical features and restoring the building to usable conditions. A draft environmental checklist is available upon request and online at https://mhs.mt.gov/shpo/news. Interested public is invited to register on the same page for the online meeting to be held on May 21, 2025, and/or to submit public comment between April 21, 2025 and May 21, 2025 by emailing SHPO Ream Streng SHPOGrant@mt.gov or sending written comments to Montana SHPO, 225 North Roberts St, Helena, MT 59620. Comments must be submitted to the Montana SHPO no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, May 21.

Scope of Work

The 1906 State Bank of Terry is the bank's original single-story wing built of unreinforced masonry; it is the subject of this grant. The bank added a larger, adjacent brick addition in 1916. Prairie County owns and Prairie County Museum manages both wings. The 1906 wing requires the following scope of work for accessibility, safety, functionality, and longevity: 1) foundation stabilization, 2) drainage system installation, 3) masonry repair, 4) plaster repair, 5) window repair, 6) and electrical upgrade.

Award: \$55,000



ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

MEPA NEPA Checklist

PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. Type of proposed action.

Development	
Renovation	X
Maintenance	
Land Acquisition	
Equipment Acquisition	
Other (Describe)	

2. If appropriate, agency responsible for the proposed action.

Montana Historical Society - SHPO

3. Name, address phone number and E-mail address of project sponsor.

Kate Hampton, MT SHPO, 225 N Roberts, Helena, MT 59620-1201

4. Name of project.

"State Bank of Terry Foundation and Masonry Repair Project"

5. If applicable:

Estimated construction/commencement date

June 15, 2025

Estimated completion date

May 1, 2027

Current status of project design (% complete)

95%

6. Location affected by proposed action (county, range and township). Prairie County, ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, S16, T12 N, R51 E, BLOCK 040, Lot 007, 41 LOT 7AP OF COS #41 MUSEUM

- 7. Project size: estimate the numbers of acres that would be directly affected that are currently:
 - (a) Developed: residential.....<u>0</u> acres industrial.....<u>0</u> acres commercial less than one acre
 - (b) Open Space/Woodlands/ Recreation.....<u>0</u> acres
 - (c) Wetlands/Riparian Areas.....<u>0</u> acres
- (d) Floodplain<u>0</u> acres
- (e) Productive: irrigated cropland.....<u>0</u> acres dry cropland<u>0</u> acres forestry<u>0</u> acres rangeland<u>0</u> acres other...<u>0</u> acres
- 8. Map/site plan: attach an original 8 1/2" x 11" or larger section of the most recent USGS 7.5' series topographic map showing the location and boundaries of the area that would be affected by the proposed action. A different map scale may be substituted if more appropriate or if required by agency rule. If available, a site plan should also be attached.
- 9. Narrative summary of the proposed action or project including the benefits and purpose of the proposed action.

The draft project specifications, drawings, and photos are enclosed. Attached materials describe work that includes:

Exterior stone and mortar repair; Foundation repair; drainage correction. plaster repair and painting (tasks to be considered by this MEPA analysis but not

funded with this project)

The project will benefit the community by stabilizing and bringing a historic building into productive use.

10. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the MEPA-required no action alternative). At a minimum, the following three alternatives must be presented.

a). Preferred Alternative: Fund project as described in narrative and application materials.
b). No-action Alternative: No funding provided by SHPO, project does not go forward.
c). Additional Alternatives: Project moves forward without funding as described in application. Time period extended, no federal or state oversight, project likely will not be completed, and building will continue to deteriorate, potentially causing a hazard.

11. Listing of each local, state or federal agency that has overlapping or additional jurisdiction.

(a) Permits		
Agency Name:	Permit:	Date Filed:
Town of Terry Planning	Building Permit	TBA
Department	Excavation Permit	
_		

(b) Funding	
Agency Name:	Funding Amount:
MTHS-SHPO	\$55,000

(c) Other Overlapping or Additional Jurisdictional Responsibilities					
Prairie County	Type of Responsibility:				
	Property Owner				

12. Name of Preparer(s) of this Environmental Checklist:

Kate Hampton

14. Date submitted. 4/10/2025

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Land Resources" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on land resources. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects of the action as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

1. LAND RESOURCES		IMI				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?		Х				
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil which would reduce productivity or fertility?		Х				
c. Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		Х				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?		Х				
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		Х				
f. Other		X				

While some excavation limited to a small area immediately adjacent to the existing building will take place, the disturbance will not be large enough to result in soil instability or changes in the geologic substructure. The project will not affect the productivity or fertility of potential agricultural land, nor affect any unique features or bodies of water, as the project is confined to an urban parcel. Qualified contractors will ensure the stability of the building and soil, and to rule out any hazards.

Because the project is limited to the footprint and a small extension adjacent to an existing building, none of the 3 alternatives will result in alteration to land resources.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Air" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on air resources. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects of the action as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

2. AIR		IM				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (also see 13 (c))			Х		yes	
b. Creation of objectionable odors?		X				
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		Х				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		X				
e. Any discharge that will conflict with federal or state air quality regs?		X				
f. Other		Х				

Under Alternatives 1 and 3, air quality may be temporarily and minorly affected due to dust and exhaust from equipment but will be confined to construction days and will have no lasting effects. No significant impacts to air quality are anticipated. No odors will emanate as a result of this project.

Because the project is limited and existing building's footprint, none of the 3 alternatives will result in alteration of air movement, moisture, temperature patterns, change in climate, adverse effects on vegetation, nor discharges in conflict with air quality regs.

Should the project expand to include painting and plastering, the proponents will comply with the need for lead testing and asbestos testing. If present, the lead and asbestos will be mitigated according to state regulation and best practices.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Water" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on water resources. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

3. WATER		IM				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?		Х				
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?		X				
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of floodwater or other flows?		X				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		Х				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		Х				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		Х				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		X				
i. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		Х				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		X				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		X				
l. Effects to a designated floodplain?		Х				
m. Any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations?		X				
n. Other:		Х				

Because the project is limited to the footprint of the existing building the project Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 will have no effect on discharge, drainage, flooding, or groundwater. The property stands outside the floodplain identified on the attached FEMA firmette.

Should the project expand to include painting and plastering, the proponents will comply with the need for lead testing and asbestos testing. If present, the lead and asbestos will be mitigated according to state regulation and best practices.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Vegetation" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on vegetative resources. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

4. VEGETATION		IN				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?		Х				
b. Alteration of a plant community?		Х				
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		Х				
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		Х				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?			Х		yes	
f. Effects to wetlands or prime and unique farmland?		Х				
g. Other:		Х				

Because the project is limited to the footprint and a small extension of the existing building, and workers vehicles will be limited to paved roads and parking lots, the project will not have direct impacts to vegetation. A search of the Montana Natural Heritage database found noxious plant species of concern in the immediate project area. They include: Canada Thistle (Cirisium arvense), observed in 1932 and 2003; Field Bindweed (Convolvulus arvensis), observed 2003 and 2024; Leafy Spurge (Euphorbia virgata), observed 1963. A search in the wider Terry area, including the Yellowstone River to the north of town, revealed additional

A search in the wider Terry area, including the Yellowstone River to the north of town, revealed additional noxious weeds, including Russian Olive (Euphorbia virgata) observed in 2013; and Salt Cedar (Tamarix ramosissima) observed in 1997, 2000, and 2001. For additional species of concern and noxious/invasive species listings see attached Environmental summary.

There is a small risk of vehicles transporting seeds and noxious plant material inadvertently with the vehicle tires, etc. The short duration of the work time, limited disturbance, and use of paved and compacted roads and lots, will minimize the potential spread. No action (Alternative 2) would not increase the number of vehicles in the project area.

Information from <u>http://mtnhp.org</u>: "Montana Generalized Observations Report, Generalized Observations for Mammals = ALL Mammals and Birds = ALL Birds and Reptiles = ALL Reptiles and Amphibians = ALL Amphibians and Fish = ALL Fish and Invertebrates = ALL Invertebrates and Vascular Plants = ALL Vascular Plants and Bryophytes = ALL Bryophytes and Lichens = ALL Lichens Within Lat/Long: (46.77181,-105.25223) to (46.80462,-105.35999)", Natural Heritage Map Viewer. Montana Natural Heritage Program. Retrieved on April 8, 2025, from https://mtnhp.org/MapViewer/GenOBSReport.aspx. **PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT.** At the bottom of this "Fish/Wildlife" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on fish and wildlife resources. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

5. FISH/WILDLIFE		IM				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		X				
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		Х				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		Х				
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		X				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		Х				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		Х				
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?		Х				
h. Adverse effects to threatened/endangered species or their habitat?		X				
i. Introduction or exportation of any species not presently or historically occurring in the affected location?		Х				
j. Other:						

Because the project is limited to the footprint of the existing building and just a few feet beyond, and workers and their vehicles will be limited to paved roads and previously disturbed parking lots and driveways, the project will not have direct impacts to wildlife or habitat. A review of the immediate project area, one half-mile in each direction, indicated several species of concern and potential species of concern have been observed locally. The observed birds include American white pelican (Pelecanus erythrorhynchos) noted in 2012 and 2022; the Baird's sparrow (Centronyx bairdii) observed in 1894; black-and-white warbler (Mniotilta varia) seen in 2020; bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus); brown creeper (Certhia americana) observed in 2020; chimney swift (Chaetura pelagica) with multiple sightings between 2010 and 2024; eastern screech owl (Megascops asio) in 2017 and 2019; golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) noted in 1975 and 2022; and the Tennessee warbler (Leiothlypis peregrina) viewed in 2011, 2020, and 2022. More than 50 years ago, observers registered sightings of additional species of concern in the reptile, amphibian, and invertebrate categories, including the greater short-horned lizard (Phrynosoma hernandesi) in 1955; northern leopard frog (Lithobates pipiens) in 1918; and the monarch butterfly (Danaus Plexippus) in 1972.

Under Alternatives 1 and 3, workers will:

• Promptly clean up any project related spills, litter, garbage, debris, etc.

• No overnight camping within the project vicinity, except in designated campgrounds, by any crew member or other personnel associated with this project

Based on a review of the <u>Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program Mapper</u> the proposed project is not mapped in an Executive Order (EO) Area for Sage Grouse Habitat. The project's location within exempt community boundaries indicates Sage Grouse are not anticipated to be adversely affected by this work. **HUMAN ENVIRONMENT.** At the bottom of this "Noise/Electrical Effects" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects of noise and electrical activities. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

6. NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS		IN				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Increases in existing noise levels?			Х		yes	
b. Exposure of people to severe or nuisance noise levels?		Х				
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		X				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		Х				
e. Other:						

Under Alternatives 1 and 3, There will be construction noise related to the project. No additional permanent increase in noise will occur as a result of construction activities and these activities are anticipated to be short-term and will occur during daylight hours. Because the project will involve only limited digging and masonry repair, no equipment will interfere with electrostatic or electromagnetic levels. No impacts are anticipated regarding radio/television interference.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Land Use" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on land use. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects.

7. LAND USE		IN				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		Х				
b. A conflict with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		Х				
c. A conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		Х				
d. Adverse effects on, or relocation of, residences?			Х		yes	
e. Compliance with existing land policies for land use, transportation, and open space?		Х				
f. Increased traffic hazards, traffic volume, or speed limits or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		Х				
g. Other:						

The project area is an urban parcel within a residential neighborhood. The project will not conflict with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance, nor with existing land uses. Effects on neighboring residences would be limited to short-term noise during the project. A secondary, longer-term effect may be increased foot and vehicular traffic volume related to improved accessibility to the building.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Risk/Health Hazards" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects of risks and health hazards. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects of the action as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

8. RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS		IN				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?		Х				
b. Effects on existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan or create need for a new plan?		Х				
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?		Х				
d. Disturbance to any sites with known or potential deposits of hazardous materials?		Х				
e. The use of any chemical toxicants?		Х				
f. Other:						

This rehabilitation project will consist of restoration within the building's original footprint and a few feet beyond its perimeter. The project scope of work does not include the use of hazardous substances. Should the project expand to include painting and plastering, the proponents will comply with the need for lead testing and asbestos testing. If present, the lead and asbestos will be mitigated according to state regulation and best practices.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Community Impact" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on the community. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT	IMPACT					
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		Х				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		Х				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		Х				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		Х				
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		Х				
f. Other:						

While the immediate project impact will provide construction jobs to local residents, long-term, the project also has the potential to have a beneficial impact on the community by enhancing local services. Terry boasts parking and road capacity appropriate to accommodate the immediate construction project and increased commercial activity, such that there will be no increase in traffic hazards, effects on facilities, nor patterns of movement.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Public Services/Taxes/Utilities" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on public services, taxes and utilities. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES	IMPACT					
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. An effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered, governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If so, specify:		Х				
b. Effects on the local or state tax base and revenues?		Х				
c. A need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		Х				
d. Increased used of any energy source?		Х				
e. Other.						

The proponents for the project (Alternatives 1 and 3) do not anticipate an effect upon or need for new or altered governmental services in the short term or the long term. The project will not require changes or upgrades to fire/police protection or other public maintenance facilities or utilities. The project will result in improvements to the appearance and stability of the building. While the use of power tools may increase electricity consumption for the property during the course of the project, that increase will be minimal and temporary. Gasoline consumption necessitated by travel for the work crews again will be minimal and temporary.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Aesthetics/Recreation" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on aesthetics & recreation. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

11. AESTHETICS/RECREATION		IMPACT				
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?		X				
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		Х				
c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report)		Х				
d. Adverse effects to any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails or wilderness areas?		Х				
e. Other:						

The project entails preserving and restoring original, aesthetically pleasing features of an existing building, and therefore will not alter scenic vistas, and will improve the public view of the community. The historic character of the property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will also be preserved. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.

No designated nor proposed Wilderness Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, nor trails are in the project area. (<u>https://data.fs.usda.gov/geodata/other_fs/wilderness/stateMap.php?stateID=MT</u> and <u>https://www.rivers.gov/</u>) The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail runs approximately one half-mile north of the project along the Yellowstone River, but outside the APE.

(https://nps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d89951079a374f28ab4a3b9fc41025dd) Given the relatively contained nature of the project, no impacts to wilderness, rivers, nor trails is anticipated.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT. At the bottom of this "Cultural/historical Resources" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects on cultural/historical resources. Even if you checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

12. CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES	IMPACT					
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Destruction or alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric historic, or paleontological importance?		Х				
b. Physical changes that would affect unique cultural values?			Х		yes	
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		Х				
d. Adverse effects to historic or cultural resources?		X				
e. Other:						

Because the project will take place on an existing developed lot and adhere to the SOI Standards for Rehabilitation, the proponents do not anticipate any physical changes that will adversely affect unique cultural values or religious/sacred uses of the area. The project scope of work includes minimal ground disturbance, and care will be taken to ensure the no archaeological resources nor underground cultural or paleontological resources will be affected. Should the project encounter such resources, the appropriate intervention will take place. The project will result in the restoration of a National Register-listed property, and therefore benefit the property's unique cultural values. **HUMAN ENVIRONMENT.** At the bottom of this "Summary Evaluation of Significance" checklist, provide a narrative description and evaluation of the cumulative and secondary effects. Even if you have checked "none" in the above table, explain how you came to that conclusion. Consider the immediate, short-term effects as well as the long-term effects. Attach additional pages of narrative if needed.

13. SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE	IMPACT					
Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources which create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		Х				
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		Х				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		Х				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		Х				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		Х				
f. Have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy?		Х				
Additional information requested:						
g. List any federal or state permits required.						

The relatively limited potential area of effect and limited scope of the project contribute to the determination that Alternatives 1 and 3 will have no substantial cumulative effect to the area environment. Significant effects identified throughout this checklist/report consistently bear a beneficial effect to the human environment. Overall, however, the project seeks to contribute to the stabilization of a single building, rather than a largescale transformation and development.

PART III. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST CONCLUSION SECTION

Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this Environmental Checklist (Part II), is an EIS required?

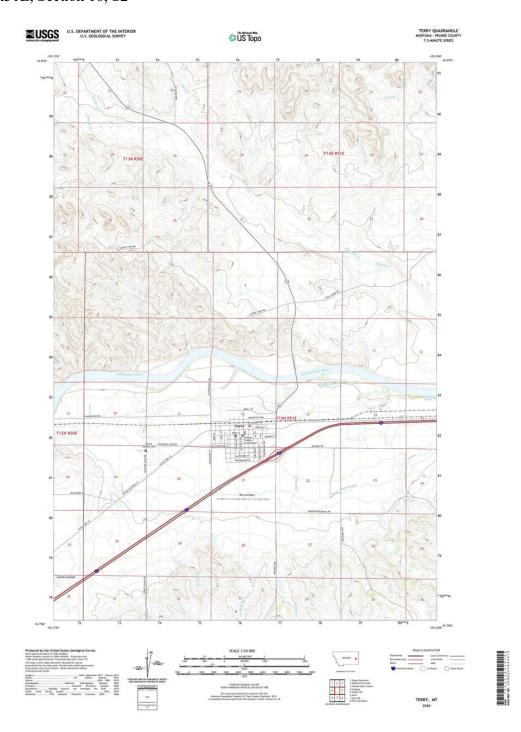
YES

NO X_

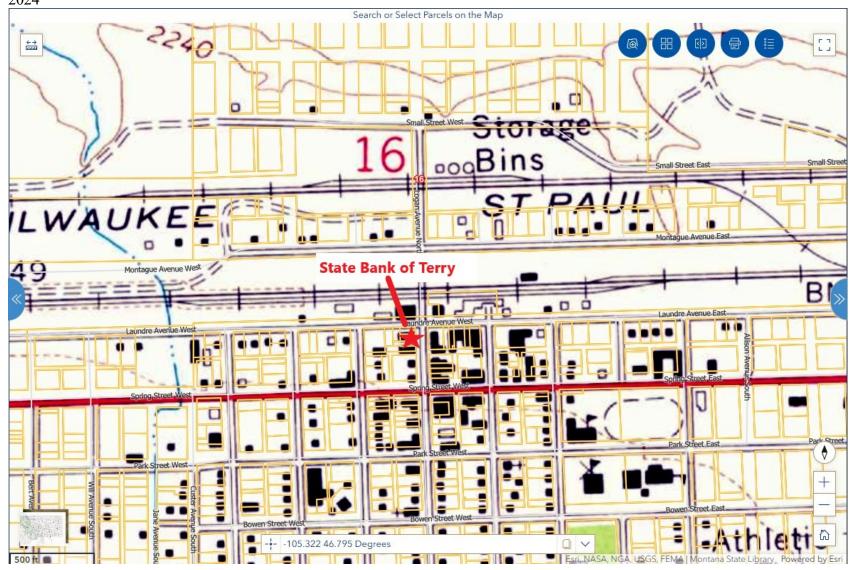
If an EIS is not required, explain why the current checklist level of review is appropriate.

The checklist process allowed for consideration of the project's potential for effects on the environment. Through the course of the research required, no substantial or unmitigable potential adverse effects were identified. Instead, several benefits to resource were summarized in the review. The project (Alternatives 1 and 3) will provide a long-term positive benefit to the cultural resource and the community.

The Montana Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office will initiate a 30-day public comment period for the project, a dedicated webpage with links to relevant documents, and a public meeting. All public comments will be duly considered and integrated in the final environmental checklist for the project. That final document will include: a description of the nature of the public comments received during the official public comment period; a number tally of comments in support of the project and the numbers against; and a summary of the most important comments received and responses to these comments. Copies of all public notices and comments received will be kept on file. Topographic Map detail Southwest Great Falls Quadrangle 2024 T12N R51E, Section 16, S2



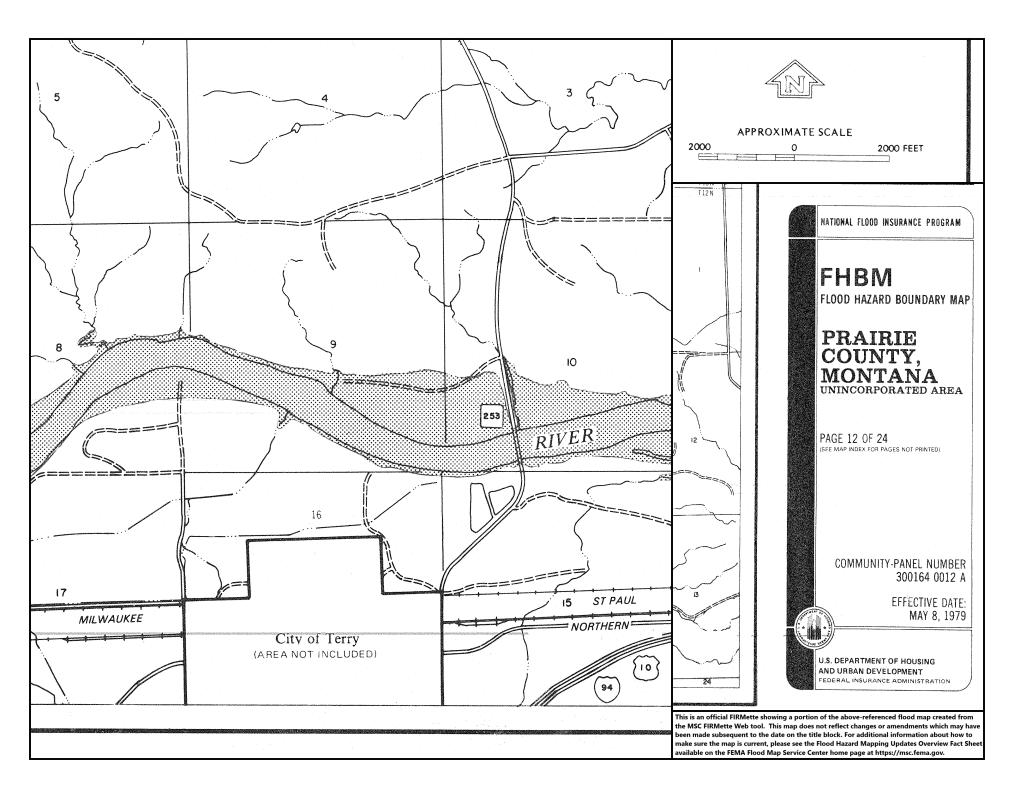
Topographic map detail Terry Quadrangle 2024



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Parcel Location Montana Cadastral Mapping Project 101 Logan Avenue, Terry, MT 59349 Geocode: 45-2173-16-3-44-35-0000 Legal Description: TERRY ORIGINAL TOWNSITE, S16, T12 N, R51 E, BLOCK 040, Lot 007, 41 LOT 7AP OF COS #41 MUSEUM





Application Form

Property name:	1906 State Bank of Terry	Request Amount:	\$72,478
Address:	101 S Logan Ave PO Box 368	Matching Funds:	\$16,700
City:	Terry	Total Project Cost:	\$89,011
Zip Code:	59349		

Check boxes that apply:

□Property is listed in the National Register individually or as contributing to a district. Check <u>here</u> to see if your property is listed.

Name of historic district if within a district:

Property is not listed in the National Register; the owner consents to their property being listed.

The applicant is pursuing Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits and has submitted a final draft Part 2 to SHPO.

□Applicant is the property's sole owner.

□Applicant co-owns the property and has attached a letter(s) approving this application signed by all co-owners.

Applicant does not own the property and has attached an owner(s) letter(s) approving this application.

□Optional letters of support are attached.

⊠The owner(s)/applicant are aware of SHPO Grant stipulations that include:

- -- compliance with The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Preservation;
- -- nomination of the property to the National Register if property is not already listed;
- -- installation of a SHPO-provided National Register interpretive panel on grant-funded property;
- -- SHPO review and inspection of property treatments for a duration based on the grant award;
- -- the property and project are insured.
- --Subject property has no liens on it.
- Applicant understands that if selected, they will complete the Montana Environmental Protection Act (MEPA) process prior to SHPO awarding a grant.

⊠Applicant is submitting MEPA documents from a previous review of the same scope of work presented here.

□ A copy of the fiscal sponsor's board resolution to sponsor this application is attached (if applicable).

All application materials and supporting documents must be submitted through <u>SHPO's Cultural Resources Database</u>.

Applicant's name:	Prairie County Museum	Email:	jerusha@pcmuseum.org
Signature and date:	Jerusha Shipstead	Phone:	406-561-1013
Address:		City, State, Zip	
	101 S Logan Ave PO Box 368		Terry, MT 59349

Photos: The first four (4) photos should capture the building exterior from all four sides. Captions should indicate which side of the building is shown, e.g. *North Elevation*. An "elevation" is an exterior wall of a building.



Photo # 1 Photo subject: 1906 Bank of Terry/Prairie County Museum/ East Facing Side of Building Exterior Elevation/Front of Bank Exterior Elevation

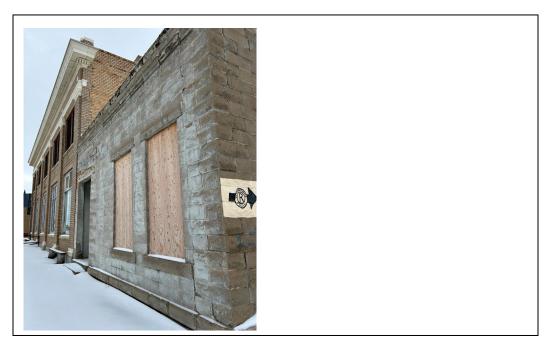


Photo #2 Photo subject: 1906 Bank of Terry Front of Building/East Facing Exterior Elevation



Photo #3 Photo subject: 1906 Bank of Terry/North Facing Corner Exterior Elevation



Photo # 4 Photo subject:

1906 Bank of Terry/North Facing Side of Building Exterior Elevation

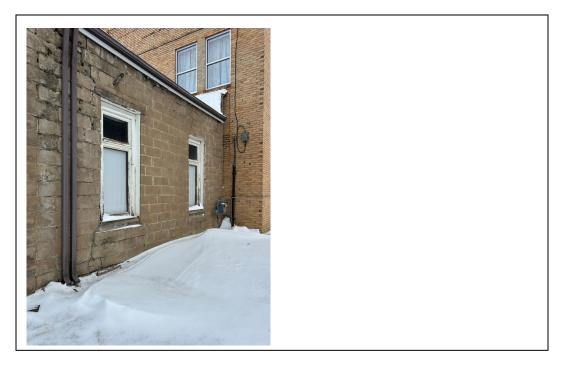
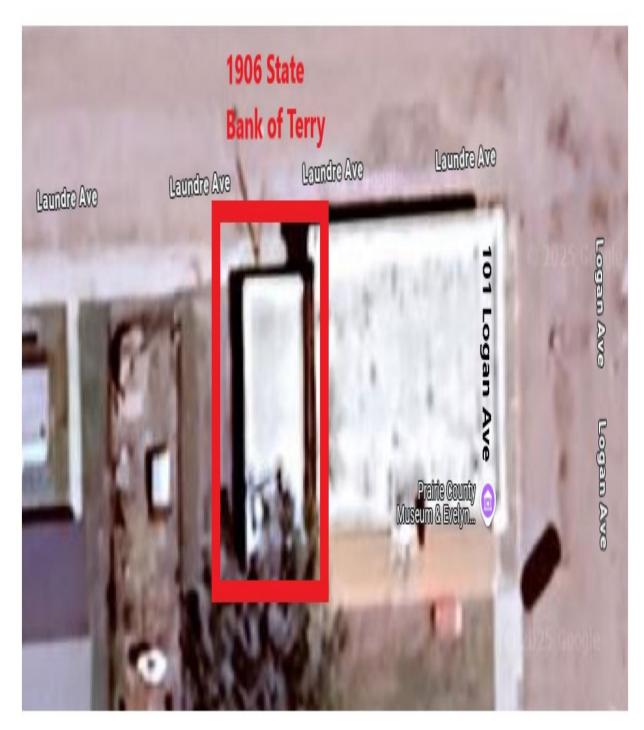


Photo #5	Photo subject:	1906 Bank of Terry/West Facing Side of Building/Behind
		Prairie County Museum Exterior Elevation



Photo #6 Photo subject: 1906 Bank of Terry/West Facing Exterior Elevation

Site Plan: Depict the property's physical context. Google maps are acceptable. Mark the property clearly on the map.







Historic Significance: What qualities make the property significant? Explain the property's significant associations with any (a) significant events or patterns of history, (b) significant persons, and/or (c) significant achievements or representative examples of architectural styles, trends, architects, or engineering. *Limit: 2500 characters*

Early inhabitants (ca. 1877) of the Terry area, then known as Joubert's Landing, supplied riverboats and provisioned federal troops. The town was renamed Terry in 1880. The arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in Terry on October 8, 1881, heralded the first population boom in the town. By 1883 the townsite of Terry was platted (Tracing Terry Trails, pp. 5-8). In 1905, a second population and building boom occurred prior to the Milwaukee Railroad being constructed. The State Bank of Terry was established December 11, 1905 (Figure 8), and its first building was constructed in 1906 of cement blocks (Terry Does Exist, §3 p. 7.)

The Bank was essential to the success of the next wave of settlers in the area seeking homesteads following the Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909 which increased the size of a homestead from 160 to 320 acres (Homesteading this Dry Land, p. 254). The Town of Terry was incorporated in 1910 and the county of Prairie was created in 1915. The State Bank of Terry was able to withstand the widespread bank closures of the 1920s due to drought years that began in 1917 (Homesteading Act Launches a New Era in Montana). The Bank remaining open when so many closed contributed to Terry's resilience.

The historical significance of this small building cannot be overstated. It is one of the earliest and one of the only remaining cement brick buildings erected in Terry. Preserving this building will ensure the continued remembrance of the hearty businesses and homesteaders that made Eastern Montana what it is.

The town of Terry was designated a Preserve America Community in January 2006. The Museum is interested is pursuing state and national historical designations.

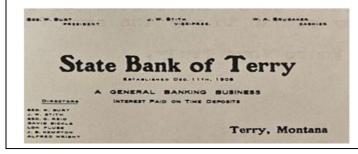
Architectural Description: An architectural description reflects the building's setting, shape and form, number of stories, structural, cladding, and finish materials, and architectural features such as windows, brackets, porches, builtins, etc. Describe the property as it looks today and its condition. List dates of original construction, historic, or contemporary modifications. *Limit: 3000 characters*

"Located near the Yellowstone River and adjacent to the Northern Pacific Railway tracks, Terry, Montana exhibits the classic "T-shaped" plan common to railroad towns across the US West. In 1906, shareholders constructed the original State Bank of Terry at the southwest corner of Laundre and Logan Avenues, at the heart of the city. The bank owners had the building moved to the west end of the lot in 1916 to allow for the construction of another, larger, bank building. As a result, the 1916 bank obscures the east elevation.

The 1906 State Bank of Terry's rectangular footprint stands on a concrete foundation. Constructed of cast concrete blocks, the bank displays Neoclassical Revival detailing common to bank architecture, including a corner entrance, stepped cornice, and rusticated quoining around the entrance and at the corners. Rusticated blocks also appear as sills and lintels, as the course below the cornice, and in the pronounced water table at the foundation line. The bank's move in 1916 resulted in the original, arched corner entrance being obscured on its east side, and filled in with brick above the springing line on the north side. A thin skim coat of concrete covers the brick infill.

The bank's north elevation faces Laundre Avenue and retains its original openings. The recessed, canted entry sits at the northeast corner and contains the original pair of one light over three-panel doors, two-light transom, and two-light sidelights. Wood-frame fixed-single-light windows below single-light transoms fill the two openings at the north elevation's west side. Above, a rusticated top course sets off the two-course high parapet. The west elevation presents a single original window opening, infilled with brick, off center to the north. A stepped parapet follows the flat roof's shallow pitch down to the south. The south elevation contains two original, evenly-spaced windows similar to those on the north façade: one-light below a one light transom, with a rusticated sill and lintel" (Kate Hampton).

"The existing 24' wide by 36' deep building consists of a masonry foundation, masonry exterior walls, a woodframed floor, and a wood-framed roof with metal panels covered in spray foam. The interiors are well preserved, but there is some cosmetic water damage and evidence of settlement. The worst settlement is located on the SW corner of the building and is most likely a result of roof drainage being directed to this area with gutters and downspouts, but not extended away from the building – this saturation of soils paired with seasonal freeze/thaw cycles is causing the building to slowly sink" (SDI Architects + Design).



Project Summary: Describe the scope of work, its importance to the property and community, and how you will accomplish it. *Limit: 750 characters*

The project's scope of work is to address six structural and system deficiencies: 1) foundation stabilization, 2) drainage system installation, 3) masonry repairs, 4) plater repairs, 5) window repairs, 6) and electrical upgrades. As the Bank is a museum exhibit that houses artifacts, safe access and weather proofness is critical to visitor welfare and artifact security. Due to the foundation settling and window and mortar deterioration, plaster damage inside the Bank is present creating an unsafe and unsightly environment. The Bank's floor has a noticeable slant and has buckled in a few places, an uneven floor is detrimental to equitable access and visitor and worker safety. A stable roof is critical to the continued use of the building as an artifact and exhibit space.

Budget Table & Narrative: Provide a budget overview including estimates based on verifiable, reasonable, and allowable costs. Explain the basis of estimates listed in the table, how you plan to fund the project combining SHPO funds and other sources. List all other sources and whether they are secured. The value for in-kind services is \$30.84 per hour, and up to \$100 per hour for professional in-kind services. *Limit: 1000 characters*

	SHPO Funds	Matching Cash	Matching In-Kind	Total
Labor	\$2,478	11,022		\$13,500
Materials	\$50,000		\$5,511	\$55,511
Reporting/Planning	\$20,000			\$20,000
Other				
Total	72,478	11,022	\$5,511	\$89,011

The budget overview is based on the estimated costs from SDI Architects out of Miles City. The Museum has cash on hand to cover the cash match (\$11,022) and the six directors will provide in-kind labor (\$5,511). However, if awarded the SHPO grant, the Museum will work with local and regional organizations to generate additional funding and donations to cover some or all of the cash match.

Foundation	30,000
Drainage	3,500
Masonry	25,000
Plaster repairs	5,000
Windows	4,500
Electrical	2,500

Project timeline: List the start of work, estimate project milestones, and completion of work. Describe future phases beyond SHPO-funded work. Limit: 2500 characters

The work can begin as early as the spring with the adequate funding in place. The phases of the project will start with the five structural and system deficiencies. These deficiencies are all exterior. Due to the insufficient and damaged drainage system, rain from the roof is being directed to the foundation on the SW corner where there is evidence of settling and soil erosion. The settlement is causing the exterior masonry to crack and separate from the building, threatening the structure's integrity. It is feared this may eventually cause a collapse. The foundation stabilization, the installation of a proper drainage system, and the masonry repairs will address the structural issues of the building. The lot seems to be properly sloped away from the building but soil erosion and sinking due to soft, wet soil and heaving due to weather is apparent. To stabilize the foundation, the specialist recommends "the installation of 8-70 kip (ultimate) HELI-PILE® helical piers (1 ¹/₂" w/8" helix ¹/₂" x 80 ksi) with underpinning brackets on the southwest corner of the 24'x 36' building to a depth of 28. Piers were designed at 5' spacing. We would excavate, install piers, and raise and stabilize the building with the integrity in mind and what the foundation and walls can tolerate. Stabilization may be the main goal. We would backfill and compact to rough grade. Negative and/or neutral drainage around the building should be corrected in the future". Once the foundation issue is addressed, rectifying the drainage system will ensure water is directed away from the foundation. A contractor will be consulted to determine if one gutter is sufficient or if additional drainage from the roof is necessary. Once the gutter and downspout configuration is decided, drainage away from the foundation must be effected by the installation of a drainage system to direct rain and surface water away from the foundation to prevent water from collecting and saturating the ground below. To address masonry issues, a professional mason will assess the building to determine the status of the mortar and concrete bricks. The cracking and deteriorating mortar will need to be repaired and resealed. Depending on this assessment, repairs can include repairing/replacing joints, removing deteriorated mortar, repointing/tuckpointing, and re-sealing. Once these structural repairs are completed, the Bank's roof and windows will be assessed and repaired. A roofing professional will be consulted to determine if the roof requires repairs or replacement. Depending on a professional assessment, work on the roof may include repairing the existing roof or complete demolition and construction of a new roof. There is no blatant evidence that the roof is not water- or weather-tight, but it was installed ca. 1970s and is overdue for maintenance or replacement. The window frames, sills, and panes are not original to the building but all attempts will be made to maintain their character. The outside frames are quite deteriorated and there is evidence of leaking inside the building near the sills. Repairing and replacing or installing storm windows will address this issue. All improvements will be in accordance with the The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties recommendations, and work will adhere to the stabilizing and protecting and maintaining measures.



Figure 6. ca. 1906 picture of the Bank's NW corner (State Bank, 1996, Front).

Project Feasibility: Demonstrate how you will complete the project within the grant's timeframe and with the given resources, while meeting SHPO Grant requirements. Justify your budget to show costs as necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Indicate whether the project will rely on professional or non-professional labor. *Limit: 3500 characters*

We envision there to be flux in the bidding process due to the fact that we are a rural county in Eastern Montana. This project will require the professional services of approximately five Montana Contractors to complete. The scope of work includes specialists in mudjacking, masonry, and roofing as well as general contractors for windows and drainage systems. Due to the complexity of the project there will be a mix of local and regional contractors needed. The Museum is confident that the project can be completed within the grant timeline. The Museum worked with SDI Architects + Design in Miles City to develop a building assessment and to reach out to a mudjacking professional (Appendix B). The Museum has also reached out to Board-by-Board Construction in Miles City to generate estimates for roof and window repair or replacement. SDI provided contacts and an estimate of professional masons. Written in the grant budget are the administrative services of Eastern Plains Economic Development Corporation (EPEDC). EPEDC has extensive experience writing and administering grants. This will free up the six Board Directors and allow them to provide in-kind support during the grant's lifecycle. The project is estimated to be completed within 18 months from selecting contractors to construction completion. Because the Museum has already contacted potential contractors and received one quote and estimates, this timeline should be sufficient to begin and conclude the project. Additionally, receiving these funds will demonstrate to Prairie County residents and businesses that the Museum is deemed a good investment by the state and will hopefully increase local support. If the Museum is not awarded this grant, we will continue to pursue grants and loans to preserve the Bank and other Museum assets. The phases of this project would be the different construction stages. 1. The first stage is to stabilize the foundation at a cost of \$30,000. 2. The second stage is to repair the masonry at a cost of \$25,000 3. The third stage is to repair the roof at a cost of \$19,000 (telephone quote with Board by Board Construction), windows \$19,000 (telephone quote with Board by Board Construction), and drainage system \$3,500 (Internet search), which can be performed concurrently. As the project scope is to preserve the Bank, all construction will be done in consultation with The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Improvements will only include "measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property" (Secretary, p. 27). The Bank building has remained extraordinarily unchanged since its construction. A project in the 1990s revitalized the interior but no significant work has been done to the building since. The concrete bricks were made in Terry and all effort will be made to match these as well as the original mortar. If the window frames are too deteriorated for repair, replacements will match the style of the originals. No visible changes will be made to the Bank's location or setting. The building's design and aesthetic will remain unchanged, and all materials will conform to the original character of the building.

Project Urgency: How will the project address needs of and threats to the property and the surrounding community? What would become of the property if the project does not move forward? What preservation challenges exist in the community, and how will the project address those factors? *Limit: 2500 characters including spaces*.

SHPO funding is necessary for the preservation and continued use of the Bank. As the Museum does not receive financial support from the county but operates solely on donations from visitors and patrons, addressing the five discrepancies to the necessary standards is not possible. The Museum is a nonprofit cultural organization managed by a six-member Board of Directors who volunteer significant time and energy. SHPO Grant and fundraising funding for this project will free up Museum funds to effect interior repairs and cosmetic updates. The Museum will propose to the county at least one mill levy to fund utility and building maintenance in the fall of 2024. If the mill levy passes, the Museum will be able to pursue more improvement projects and community initiatives. Without the critical repairs to the foundation, drainage system, masonry, roof, and windows, the building's slow collapse will continue. If funded, this project will demonstrate that Terry is worth investing in and that our historical buildings are worth preserving. It is hoped that additional Terry businesses and organizations will see the value of preserving the character of our downtown business district. The Museum is a member of the Prairie County Chamber of Commerce as well as other Eastern Montana tourism groups. Participating in these groups keeps the Museum apprised of current and future town and regional initiatives. The Museum works closely with these groups to further our mission and vision as well as the development and revitalization efforts of Terry and Prairie County. The Museum's mission is to "collect and preserve the history of Prairie County, Montana and the shared history of adjacent counties, and to ensure this history is accessible to visitors and local residents." Our vision is "to keep open a window to our collective past by preserving the history of Prairie County through its collection of the objects, the documents of its people and the land, and by sharing it with visitors and local residents alike." The mission and vision will guide the strategic plan's goals and objectives. The County Commissioners have voted to put the building on the registry as a sign of their commitment to preserving the building. However, the town of Terry has a Median Household Income of \$37,250 which is well below the Very Low Income rate of \$49,250.

Project Sustainability: Explain the project's long-lasting benefits to the property, and how the property owner intends to maintain the property. How will the project sustain its economic benefit to the community? *Limit: 2500 characters including spaces*.

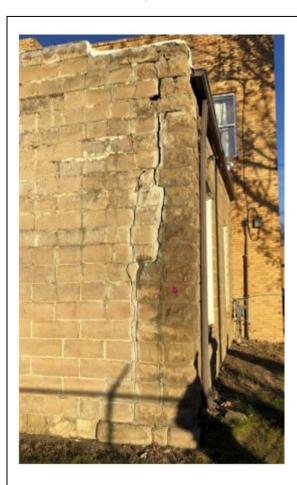
The Museum is a member of the Yellowstone Trail, Terry Chamber of Commerce, Visit Southeast Montana, the Montana Museum Association, and other organizations focused on the development of the area. The Museum garners over 700 visitors annually and contributes significantly to the tourism industry in Terry and Prairie County. Preserving the Bank will ensure this contribution continues. Terry residents are proud of town's history and appreciative of preservation efforts, as evidenced in the letters of support. Only three properties in Prairie County are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Museum would like to pursue such a designation to increase awareness and knowledge of the area. The museum has a dedicated board that already gives much of their own time to the museum as volunteers. It should be noted that these issues are "inherited" issues that once the building is fixed will be maintained through in kind and dedicated museum board. The larger issue is getting things fixed so that they can then be maintained. The preserved Bank will benefit visitors with a safe exhibit, the region with a cultural heritage building, and the community with a symbol of identity and pride. Once the exterior improvements are effected, the Museum will work with contractors and volunteer labor to repair the damaged plaster and a thorough cleaning. Once the interior is finished, the building will be immediately available as an exhibit.

Photo Key: Photos are necessary to show the architectural features described in the **Detailed Project Description** in the next section. Plot each photo location on the relevant floorplan with the photo number and view direction.



Figure 2. 1917 and 1906 State Bank of Terry buildings.

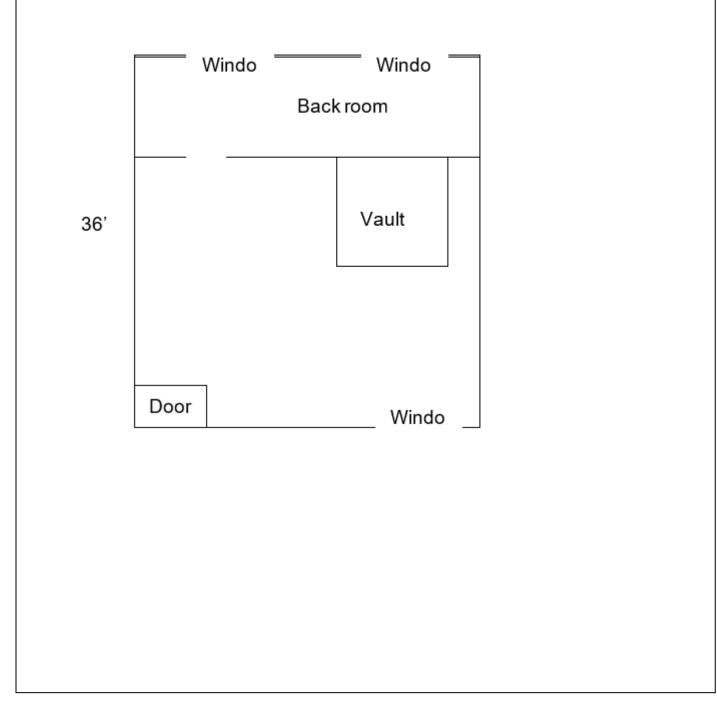
Site plan with exterior photo locations



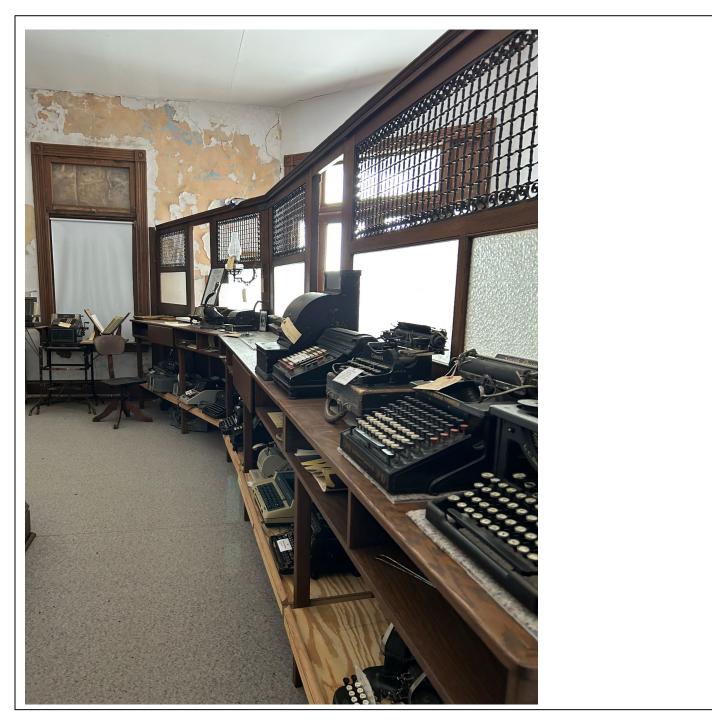
Floor level:



Floor level:



Floor level/Roof:



Floor level/Roof:

Detailed Project Description – Describe all aspects of the project by feature, including items not paid for by SHPO funds. Examples of features are foundation, masonry, siding, roof, windows, entries, finishes, flooring, trim, stairs, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, interior spaces, etc. Copy and renumber tables as needed. Drawings are optional and may be provided as a PDF attachment and referenced in the "drawing number(s)."

1. Feature:	Front Exterior	Date of feature:	1/2025
Photo Number(s):	1	Drawing Number(s):	

Describe the feature and its condition:

The front of the building 1906 Bank of Terry and the Prairie County Museum. The masonry on the SW Corner is pulling away from the structure on both sides and some bricks have become dislodged.

Describe proposed work and the impact that work will have on the feature:

Due to the insufficient and damaged drainage system, rain from the roof is being directed to the foundation on the SW corner where there is evidence of settling and soil erosion. The settlement is causing the exterior masonry to crack and separate from the building, threatening the structure's integrity. It is feared this may eventually cause a collapse. The foundation stabilization, the installation of a proper drainage system, and the masonry repairs will address the structural issues of the building. The lot seems to be properly sloped away from the building but soil erosion and sinking due to soft, wet soil and heaving due to weather is apparent. To stabilize the foundation, the specialist recommends "the installation of 8-70 kip (ultimate) HELI-PILE® helical piers (1 1/2" w/8" helix 1/2" x 80 ksi) with underpinning brackets on the southwest corner of the 24'x 36' building to a depth of 28. Piers were designed at 5' spacing. We would excavate, install piers, and raise and stabilize the building with the integrity in mind and what the foundation and walls can tolerate. Stabilization may be the main goal. We would backfill and compact to rough grade. Negative and/or neutral drainage around the building should be corrected in the future".

5	1/2025	Date of feature:	SW Corner of Exterior Elovation	2. Feature:
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Photo Number(s): 2 Drawing Number(s):

Describe the feature and its condition:

The single gutter and two downspouts are insufficient and do not direct water away but rather straight into the SW corner of the Foundation

Describe proposed work and the impact that work will have on the feature:

The Bank was moved back from the street corner of Logan and Laundre ca. 1916 as a new, larger state bank was being constructed. This move and the passage of time has impacted the building's integrity. A building assessment of the Bank details its current condition as "the existing 24' wide by 36' deep building consists of a masonry foundation, masonry exterior walls, a wood Prairie County Museum & Evelyn Cameron Gallery . A framed floor, and a wood-framed roof with metal panels covered in spray foam. The interiors are well preserved, but there is some cosmetic water damage and evidence of settlement. The worst settlement is located on the SW corner of the building and is most likely a result of roof drainage being directed to this area with gutters and downspouts, but not extended away from the building – this saturation of soils paired with seasonal freeze/thaw cycles is causing the building to slowly sink".

3. Feature:	Front of Bank with Windows	Date of feature:	1/2025	
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Photo Number(s): 3

Drawing Number(s):

Describe the feature and its condition:

N Front of 1906 Bank of Terry with deteriorating window frames.

Describe proposed work and the impact that work will have on the feature:

The window frames, sills, and panes are not original to the building but all attempts will be made to maintain their character. The outside frames are quite deteriorated and there is evidence of leaking inside the building near the sills. Repairing and replacing or installing storm windows will address this issue.

4. Feature:	Inside of Bank Drawing	Date of feature:	1/2025
Photo Number(s):	4	Drawing Number(s):	1
Describe the featur Inside detail of 190	re and its condition: 6 Bank of Terry		

Describe proposed work and the impact that work will have on the feature:

5. Feature:	Interior wall with issues due to water	Date of feature:	1/2025
Photo Number(s):	5	Drawing Number(s):	

Describe the feature and its condition:

Interior wall with issues due to water damage	

Describe proposed work and the impact that work will have on the feature:

In this interior work there would need to be new plaster and the outside of the building will need to have all water directed away from building to stop future water issues.

6. Feature:	Date of feature:
Photo Number(s):	Drawing Number(s):
Describe the feature and its condition:	

Describe proposed work and the impact that work will have on the feature:



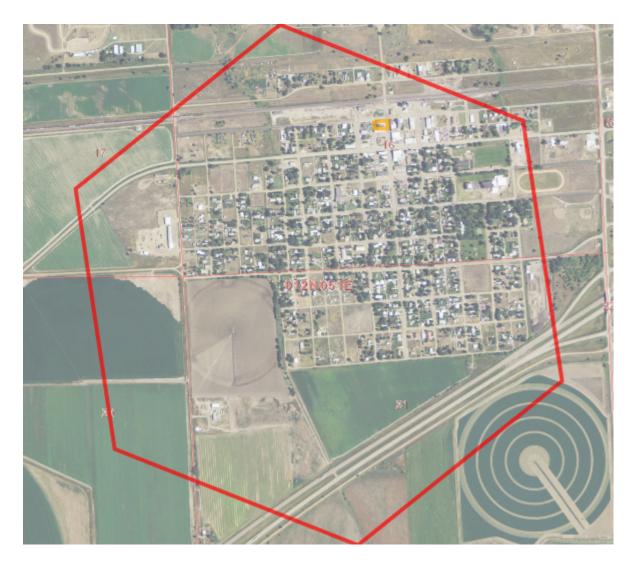
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R LLAN	Latitude	Longitude
ALCOLD.	46.77974	-105.30408
KKITELLI	46.79666	-105.32970
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Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)



Suggested Citation

Montana Natural Heritage Program. Environmental Summary Report. for Latitude 46.77974 to 46.79666 and Longitude -105.30408 to -105.32970. Retrieved on 4/10/2025.

The Montana Natural Heritage Program is part of the Montana State Library's Natural Resource Information System. Since 1985, it has served as a neutral and non-regulatory provider of easily accessible information on Montana's species and biological communities to inform all stakeholders in environmental review, permitting, and planning processes. The program is part of the NatureServe network that is composed of over 60 member programs across North America that work to provide current and comprehensive distribution and status information on species and biological communities.





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Introduction to Environmental Summary Report

Environmental Summary Reports from the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) provide information on species and biological communities to inform all stakeholders in environmental review, permitting, and planning processes. For information on environmental permits in Montana, please see permitting overviews by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Index of Environmental Permits for Montana and our Suggested Contacts for Natural Resource Management Agencies. The report for your area of interest consists of introductory and related materials in this PDF and an Excel workbook with worksheets summarizing information managed in the MTNHP databases for: (1) species occurrences; (2) other observed species without species occurrences; (3) other species potentially present based on their range, presence of associated habitats, or predictive distribution model output if available; (4) structured surveys that follow a protocol capable of detecting one or more species; (5) land cover mapped as ecological systems; (6) wetland and riparian mapping; (7) land management categories; and (8) biological reports associated with plant and animal observations. If your area of interest corresponds to a statewide polygon layer (e.g., watersheds, counties, or public land survey sections) information summaries in your report will exactly match those boundaries. However, if your report is for a custom area, users should be aware that summaries do not correspond to the exact boundaries of the polygon they have specified, but instead are a summary across a layer of hexagons intersected by the polygon they specified as shown on the report cover. Summarizing by these hexagons which are one square mile in area and approximately one kilometer in length on each side allows for consistent and rapid delivery of summaries based on a uniform grid that has been used for planning efforts across North America.

In presenting this information, MTNHP is working towards assisting the user with rapidly assessing the known or potential species and biological communities, land management categories, and biological reports associated with the report area. Users are reminded that this information is likely incomplete and may be inaccurate as surveys to document species are lacking in many areas of the state, species' range polygons often include regions of unsuitable habitat, methods of predicting the presence of species or communities are constantly improving, and information is constantly being added and updated in our databases. **Field verification by professional biologists of the absence or presence of species and biological communities in a report area will always be an important obligation of users of our data**. Users are encouraged to only use this environmental summary report as a starting point for more in depth analyses and are encouraged to contact state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies for additional data or management guidelines relevant to your efforts. Please see the Appendix for introductory materials to each section of the report, additional information resources, and a list of relevant agency contacts.



Native Species

Summarized by: **State Bank of Terry** (*Custom Area of Interest*) Filtered by:

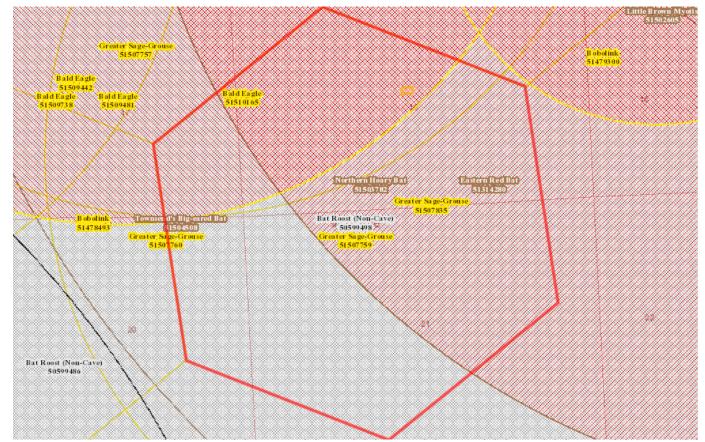
Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern, Special Status, Important Animal Habitat, Potential SOC

Historical

Num Obs Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m)

+ indicates

additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-10,000m)



Species Occurrences

•					
	USFWS Sec7 # S0) # Obs	Predicted Model	Range	e
M - Eastern Red Bat (Lasiurus borealis) SOC	1	l		S	M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps					
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G3G4 State: S3B BLM: SENSITIVE					
Delineation Criteria Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence (mistnet captures, definitively identified acoustic recordings, and definitively identified roosting individuals) of adults or juveniles during the active season. Point observation location is buffered by a minimum distance of 3,500 meters in order to be conservative about encompassing the maximum reported foraging distance for the congeneric Lasiurus borealis and otherwise buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Jun 26, 2024)					
Predicted Models: 0 100% Optimal (inductive)					
M - Northern Hoary Bat (Lasiurus cinereus) SOC	1			S	Μ
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps					
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G3G4 State: S3B BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3					
Delineation Criteria Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence (mistnet captures, definitively identified acous individuals) of adults or juveniles during the active season. Point observation location is buffered by a minimum distance of 3,500 meter the maximum reported foraging distance for the congeneric Lasiurus borealis and otherwise buffered by the locational uncertainty asso distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Dec 26, 2024)	rs in order to be	conserva	ative about (encomp	assing
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)					
B - Bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus) SOC	1			S	М
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps					
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA; BCC10; BCC11; BCC17 FWP SWAP: SGCN3 I	PIF: 3				
Delineation Criteria Confirmed breeding area based on the presence of a nest, chicks, or territorial adults during the breeding seaso	n. Point observa	tion locat	tion is buffe		

Delineation Criteria Confirmed breeding area based on the presence of a nest, chicks, or territorial adults during the breeding season. Point observation location is buffered by a minimum distance of 150 meters in order to conservatively encompass male territory size reported for the species and otherwise is buffered by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Dec 20, 2024)

Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)

M - Townsend's Big-eared Bat (Corynorhinus townsendii) SOC	1 Not Assessed
View in Field Guide View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S3 USFS: Sensitive - Known in Forests (LOLO) BLM:	: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3
Delineation Criteria Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence (mistnet captures, definitively ider individuals) of adults or juveniles. Point observation location is buffered by a distance of 4,500 meters in order to encompase reported for the species in California and otherwise by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a ma- involved, point observations are mapped in the center of a one-square mile hexagon to protect the exact location of the cav- and associated regulations (U.S. Code Title 16 Chapter 63, Code of Federal Regulations Title 43 Subtitle A Part 37). The out 4,500 meters and otherwise by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,00 this buffered area are presented as the Species Occurrence record. (Last Updated: Dec 26, 2024)	entified acoustic recordings, and definitively identified roosting ss the 95% confidence interval for nightly foraging distance aximum distance of 5,000 meters. When cave locations are ve entrance as per the Federal Cave Resource Protection Act ter edges of the hexagon are then buffered by a distance of
B - Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) SSS	3 2 Not Assessed Y
View in Field Guide View Range Maps Special Status Species - Native Species Global: G5 State: S4 USFWS: BGEPA; MBTA USFS: Sensitive - Know Delineation Criteria commonly used for renesting. Only nesting observations with a locational uncertainty of 1,000 meters or less will be used to	e about encompassing the breeding territory and area
B - Greater Sage-Grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus) SOC	4 Not Assessed Y
View in Field Guide View Range Maps USFS: Sensitive - Known in Forests (BD) Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G3G4 State: S2 Species of Conservation Concern in Forests (BD)	(CG) BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN2 PIF: 1
Delineation Criteria Confirmed breeding area based on the presence of a nest, chicks, juveniles, or adults on a lek. Point hexagon to protect the exact locations of leks. The outer edges of this hexagon are then buffered by a distance of 6,400 me females typically nest within this distance of a lek and that lek numbers are negatively impacted by fossil fuel drilling activit associated with the observation is greater than 5,000 meters, the observation is not valid for creation of a species occurrence buffered area are presented as the Species Occurrence record. (Last Updated: Jan 10, 2025)	eters in order to encompass a body of research indicating that ties within this distance of a lek. If the locational uncertainty
O - Bat Roost (Non-Cave) (Bat Roost (Non-Cave)) IAH	1 Not Assessed
View in Field Guide Important Animal Habitat - Native Species Global: GNR State: SNR <u>Delineation Criteria</u> Confirmed area of occupancy based on the documented presence of adults or juveniles of any bat sp trace), and above around human created react click (or mixed), and above around human created react click (or mixed)).	

l

trees), below ground human created roost sites (e.g. mines), and above ground human created roost sites (e.g., bridges, buildings). Point does rotation are buffered by a distance of 4,500 meters in order to encompass the 95% confidence interval for nightly foraging distance reported for Townsend's Big-eared Bat (a resident Montana bat Species of Concern) and otherwise by the locational uncertainty associated with the observation up to a maximum distance of 5,000 meters. (Last Updated: Oct 22, 2019)



Legend	
Model Icons	Habitat Icons
Nuitable (native range)	Common
Optimal Suitability	Occasional
Moderate Suitability	
Low Suitability	
Suitable (introduced range)	

ange Icons	Num Obs
Native / Year-round	Count of obs with 'good precision'
Summer	(<=1000m)
Winter	+ indicates
Migratory	additional 'poor
Native / Year-round Summer Winter Migratory Non-native	precision' obs (1001m-
Historical	10,000m)

Native Species

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest) Filtered by: Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern, Special Status, Important Animal Habitat, Potential SOC

Ra S M M

Other Observed Species

B - Eastern Screech-Owl (Megascops asio) PSOC		# Obs 2	Predicted Model	Range Y	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Predicted Models: 100% Optimal (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: G5 State: S3S4 USFWS: MBTA PIF: 3				
B - Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica) PSOC		10		S	м
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Predicted Models: 100% Optimal (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: G4G5 State: S3S4B USFWS: MBTA; BCC11 FWP SWAP: SGIN PIF: 3				
B - Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) PSOC		1		S	M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Predicted Models: 100% Moderate (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: G5 State: S4B USFWS: MBTA				
B - Tennessee Warbler (Leiothlypis peregrina) PSOC		2	Not Assessed	[м
View in Field Guide View Range Maps Potential Species of Concern - Native Species	Global: G5 State: S3S4B USFWS: MBTA				



Legend	
Model Icons	Habitat Icons
Nuitable (native range)	Common
Optimal Suitability	Occasional
Moderate Suitability	
Low Suitability	
Suitable (introduced range)	

 Range Icons
 Num Obs

 Mative / Year-round
 Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m)</td>

 Winter
 + indicates

 Migratory
 additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-Historical
 1001m-10,000m)

Native Species

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (*Custom Area of Interest*) Filtered by: Native Species reports are filtered for Species with MT Status = Species of Concern, Special Status, Important Animal Habitat, Potential SOC

Other Potential Species

ther Potential Species			Predicted Model	Range
R - Plains Hog-nosed Snake (Heterodon nasicus) SOC				Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: Predicted Models: 100% Optimal (inductive) View	V Range Maps S2 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN2, SGIN			
B - Black-billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus erythropthalmus) SOC				SN
	Range Maps S3B USFWS: MBTA; BCC11; BCC17 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3, SGIN	PIF: 2		
B - Dickcissel (Spiza americana) PSOC				SN
Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: Predicted Models: 2 100% Optimal (inductive)	/ Range Maps : G5 State: S4B USFWS: MBTA			
M - Little Brown Myotis (Myotis lucifugus) SOC				Y
	I Range Maps Ite: S2S3 USFS: Sensitive - Known in Forests (BD, BRT, KOOT) FWP SWAP: SGCN	3		
M - Merriam's Shrew (Sorex merriami) SOC				Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive) State:	7 Range Maps S3 FWP SWAP: SGCN3			
M - North American Porcupine (Erethizon dorsatum) PSOC				Y
	Range Maps : G5 State: S3S4 FWP SWAP: SGIN			
M - Swift Fox (Vulpes velox) SOC				Y
	V Range Maps S3 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3			
B - Sharp-tailed Grouse (Tympanuchus phasianellus) SOC				Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive) State:	<u>r Range Maps</u> S3S4 FWP SWAP: SGCN1 PIF: 2			
V - Chenopodium subglabrum (Smooth Goosefoot) SOC				Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G3G4 Sta Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive) Sta	r Range Maps ate: S2 Plant Threat Score: Unknown CCVI: Highly Vulnerable			
V - Psilocarphus brevissimus (Dwarf woolly-heads) SOC				Y
	V Range Maps S2S3 Plant Threat Score: No Known Threats			
B - American White Pelican (Pelecanus erythrorhynchos) So	oc			SN
	V Range Maps S3B USFWS: MBTA FWP SWAP: SGCN3 PIF: 3			
B - Eastern Bluebird (Sialia sialis) PSOC				SN
	r Range Maps : G5 State: S4B USFWS: MBTA			

B - Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) SOC			SM
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3 USFWS: MBTA FWP SWAP: SGCN3 Deside of Models Models Global: G5 State: S3 USFWS: MBTA FWP SWAP: SGCN3			
Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive) B - Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius Iudovicianus) SOC			SM
	-		:
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3 PIF: 2 Predicted Models: 100% Moderate (inductive)			
B - Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) PSOC			SM
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S4B USFWS: MBTA PIF: 3 Predicted Models: 100% Moderate (inductive)			
□ B - Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus) SOC			SM
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3B USFWS: PS: LT; MBTA BLM: THREATENED FWP SWAP: SGCN3, SGIN PIF: 2 Predicted Models: 100% Moderate (inductive)			
□ I - Danaus plexippus (Monarch) SOC			S
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S2S3 USFWS: P USFS: Sensitive - Migratory in Forests (BD, BRT, KOOT)		-	
Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive) B - Whooping Crane (Grus americana) SOC	7		M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G1 State: S1M USFWS: LE; MBTA BLM: ENDANGERED FWP SWAP: SGCN1 Predicted Models: 100% Moderate (inductive) 100% Moderate (inductive) State: S1M State: S1M SFWS: LE; MBTA BLM: ENDANGERED FWP SWAP: SGCN1	; 🖬		: [141]
□ M - Dwarf Shrew (Sorex nanus) PSOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S2S3 Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) State: S2S3			
M - Long-eared Myotis (Myotis evotis) SOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps			
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3 Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)			
M - Long-legged Myotis (Myotis volans) SOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4G5 State: S3 Descripted Models User (induction) State: S3			
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) M - Prairie Shrew (Sorex haydeni) PSOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3S4	<u>.</u>	• <u> </u>].	:
			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G3G4 State: S3	<u>.</u>		: 00
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) B - Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus) PSOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S4 USFWS: MBTA; BCC11; BCC17 PIF: 3 Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	÷		: 19
R - Greater Short-horned Lizard (Phrynosoma hernandesi) SOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3, SGIN Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive) State: S3 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3, SGIN			
R - Snapping Turtle (Chelydra serpentina) SOC			
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native/Non-native Species - (depends on location or taxa) Global: G4G5 State: S3 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SV Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) Global: Global: G4G5 State: S3 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SV	NAP: SG	CN3, SGIN	
R - Western Milksnake (Lampropeltis gentilis) SOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S2 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN2 Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive) State: S2 State: S2 State: S2			
A - Northern Leopard Frog (Lithobates pipiens) SOC			Y
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3S4 USFS: Sensitive - Suspected in Forests (KOOT, LOLO) BLM: SENSITIVE Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) View Range Maps	FWP SWA	P: SGCN1	

I - Bombus suckleyi (Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee) Soc	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G2G3 State: S1 USFWS: P	
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	
V - Elodea bifoliata (Long-sheath Waterweed) SOC	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4G5 State: S2? Plant Threat Score: No Known Threats	
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	
V - Potentilla plattensis (Platte Cinquefoil) SOC	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S3 Plant Threat Score: No Known Threats CCVI: Highly Vulnerable	
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	
M - Spotted Bat (Euderma maculatum) PSOC	
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S4 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3, SGIN	
Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S4 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3, SGIN Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	
□ B - Common Poorwill (Phalaenoptilus nuttallii) PSOC	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S4B USFWS: MBTA FWP SWAP: SGIN PIF: 3	
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)	
B - Ferruginous Hawk (Buteo regalis) SOC	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA; BCC17 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3 PIF: 2	
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)	
B - Least Tern (Sternula antillarum) SOC	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S2B USFWS: DM; MBTA BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN1, SGIN PIF: 1	
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	
□ B - Long-billed Curlew (Numenius americanus) SOC	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G4 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA; BCC11 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3 PIF: 2	
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)	
B - Plumbeous Vireo (Vireo plumbeus) PSOC	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Potential Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3S4B USFWS: MBTA PIF: 3	
Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive) B - Red-headed Woodpecker (Melanerpes erythrocephalus) SOC	
	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA; BCC11; BCC17 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3 PD	(F· 7
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)	
B - Veery (Catharus fuscescens) SOC	S M
View in Field Guide View Predicted Models View Range Maps	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G5 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3 PIF: 2	
Predicted Models: L 100% Low (inductive)	
B - Sprague's Pipit (Anthus spragueii) SOC	7 Not Assessed S M
View in Field Guide View Range Maps	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G3G4 State: S3B USFWS: MBTA; BCC11; BCC17 BLM: SENSITIVE FWP SWAP: SGCN3	
M - Northern Myotis (Myotis septentrionalis) SOC	7 Not Assessed
View in Field Guide	
Species of Concern - Native Species Global: G2G3 State: S1S2 USFWS: LE BLM: ENDANGERED	



Structured Surveys

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) records information on the locations where more than 80 different types of well-defined repeatable survey protocols capable of detecting an animal species or suite of animal species have been conducted by state, federal, tribal, university, or private consulting biologists. Examples of structured survey protocols tracked by MTNHP include: visual encounter and dip net surveys for pond breeding amphibians, point counts for birds, call playback surveys for selected bird species, visual surveys of migrating raptors, kick net stream reach surveys for macroinvertebrates, visual encounter cover object surveys for terrestrial mollusks, bat acoustic or mist net surveys, pitfall and/or snap trap surveys for small terrestrial mammals, track or camera trap surveys for large mammals, and trap surveys for turtles. Whenever possible, photographs of survey locations are stored in MTNHP databases.

MTNHP does not typically manage information on structured surveys for plants; surveys for invasive species may be a future exception.

Within the report area you have requested, structured surveys are summarized by the number of each type of structured survey protocol that has been conducted, the number of species detections/observations resulting from these surveys, and the most recent year a survey has been conducted.

B-Chimney Swift (Chimney Swift Survey)	Survey Count: 4	Obs Count: 4	Recent Survey: 2024
E-Eastern Heath Snail (Eastern Heath Snail Survey)	Survey Count: 3	Obs Count:	Recent Survey: 2012
E-Noxious Weed, Road-based (Noxious Weed Road-based Visual Surveys)	Survey Count: 9	Obs Count: 17	Recent Survey: 2003
I-Bumble Bee (Bumble Bee Collection Surveys)	Survey Count: 1	Obs Count: 1	Recent Survey: 2015



Land Cover

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)



Great Plains Floodplain



This system occurs along the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers and their larger tributaries, including parts of the Little Missouri, Clark's Fork Yellowstone, Powder, Tongue, Bighorn, Milk, and Musselshell rivers. These are the big perennial rivers of the region, with hydrologic dynamics largely driven by snowmelt and rainfall originating in their headwater watersheds, rather than local precipitation events. In the absence of disturbance, periodic flooding of fluvial and alluvial soils and channel migration will create depressions and backwaters that support a mosaic of wetland and riparian vegetation, whose composition and structure is sustained, altered and redistributed by hydrology. Dominant communities within this system range from floodplain forests to wet meadows to gravel/sand flats, linked by underlying soils and flooding regimes. In the western part of the system's range in Montana, the overstory dominant species is black cottonwood (Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa) with narrowleaf cottonwood (Populus angustifolia) and eastern cottonwood (Populus deltoides) occurring as co-dominants in the riparian/floodplain interface near the mountains. Further east, narrowleaf cottonwood and Plains cottonwood become dominant. In relatively undisturbed stands, willow (Salix species), redosier dogwood (Cornus sericea) and common chokecherry (Prunus virginiana) form a thick, multi-layered shrub understory, with a mixture of cool and warm season graminoid species below.

In Montana, many occurrences are now degraded to the point where the cottonwood overstory is the only remaining natural component. The hydrology of these floodplain systems has been affected by dams, highways, railroads and agricultural ditches, and as a result, they have lost their characteristic wetland /riparian mosaic structure. This has resulted in a highly altered community consisting of relict cottonwood stands with little regeneration. The understory vegetation is dominated by non-native pasture grasses, legumes and other introduced forbs, or by the disclimax western snowberry (Symphoricarpos occidentalis) and rose (Rosa species) shrub community.

Vegetation (primarily grasses) planted in developed settings for recreation, erosion control, or aesthetic purposes. Impervious surfaces account

for less than 20% of total cover. This category often includes highway and railway rights of way and graveled rural roads.



Human Land Use Developed

Developed, Open Space



Grassland Systems

Lowland/Prairie Grassland

Great Plains Mixedgrass Prairie

The system covers much of the eastern two-thirds of Montana, occurring continuously for hundreds of square kilometers, interrupted only by wetland/riparian areas or sand prairies. Soils are primarily fine and medium-textured. The growing season averages 115 days, ranging from 100 days on the Canadian border to 130 days on the Wyoming border. Climate is typical of mid-continental regions with long severe winters and hot summers. Grasses typically comprise the greatest canopy cover, and western wheatgrass (Pascopyrum smithii) is usually dominant. Other species include thickspike wheatgrass (Elymus lanceolatus), green needlegrass (Nassella viridula), blue grama (Bouteloua gracilis), and needle and thread (Hesperostipa comata). Near the Canadian border in north-central Montana, this system grades into rough fescue (Festuca campestris) and Idaho fescue (Festuca idahoensis) grasslands. Remnants of shortbristle needle and thread (Hesperostipa curtiseta) dominated vegetation are found in northernmost Montana and North Dakota, and are associated with productive sites, now mostly converted to farmland. Forb diversity is typically high. In areas of southeastern and central Montana where sagebrush steppe borders the mixed grass prairie, common plant associations include Wyoming big sagebrush-western wheatgrass (Artemisia tridentata ssp. wyomingensis/ Pascopyrum smithii). Fire and grazing are the primary drivers of this system. Drought can also impact it, in general favoring the shortgrass component at the expense of the mid-height grasses. With intensive grazing, cool season exotics such as Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis), smooth brome (Bromus inermis), and Japanese brome (Bromus japonicus) increase in dominance; both of these rhizomatous species have been shown to markedly decrease species diversity. Previously cultivated acres that have been re-vegetated with non-native plants have been transformed into associations such as Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis)/western wheatgrass (Pascopyrum smithii) or into pure crested wheatgrass (Agropyron cristatum) stands.



Recently Disturbed or Modified Introduced Vegetation

Introduced Upland Vegetation - Annual and Biennial Forbland

Land cover is significantly altered/disturbed by introduced annual and biennial forbs. Natural vegetation types are no longer recognizable. Typical species that dominate these areas are knapweed, oxeye daisy, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, pepperweed, and yellow sweetclover.

Additional Limited Land Cover

1% (9 Acres) Commercial / Industrial

- 1% (9 Acres) Railroad
- 1% (8 Acres) High Intensity Residential
- 1% (8 Acres) Pasture/Hay



Wetland and Riparian

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)



Wetland and Riparian Mapping

P - Palustrine

EM - Emergent

C - Seasonally Flooded (no modifier) <1 Acres PEMC

<1 Acres

P - Palustrine, EM - Emergent Wetlands with erect, rooted herbaceous vegetation present during most of the growing season.



Land Management

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)



Land Management Summary

	Ownership	Tribal	Easements	Other Boundaries (possible overlap)
🗉 🗀 Public Lands	28 Acres (4%)			
🗉 🧰 Local	28 Acres (4%)			
🗉 🗀 Local Government	28 Acres (4%)			
Local Government Owned	28 Acres (4%)			

Private Lands or Unknown Ownership 611 Acres (96%)



Biological Reports

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)

Within the report area you have requested, citations for all reports and publications associated with plant or animal observations in Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) databases are listed and, where possible, links to the documents are included.

The MTNHP plans to include reports associated with terrestrial and aquatic communities in the future as allowed for by staff resources. If you know of reports or publications associated with species or biological communities within the report area that are not shown in this report, please let us know: <u>mtnhp@mt.gov</u>

No Biological Reports were found in the selected area



Invasive and Pest Species

Summarized by: State Bank of Terry (Custom Area of Interest)

Legend

Model Icons

Nuitable (native range)

Optimal Suitability

Low Suitability Suitable (introduced range)

atic Invasive Species					i# Obs	Model	Range
V - Myriophyllum spicat	um (Eurasian Water-milfoil) N	12A/AIS					
	View Predicted Models / 2A - Aquatic Invasive Sp	View Range Maps ecies - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State:	SNA			
Predicted Models: 1000	% Low (inductive)						
tious Weeds: Priority 1A V - Centaurea solstitialis	S (Vellow Starthistle) N1A						
		Minu Dawas Mana			i.		
	View Predicted Models (1A - Non-native Species	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA					
Predicted Models: 0 100							
V - Isatis tinctoria (Dyer	s Woad) N1A						
	View Predicted Models / 1A - Non-native Species % Optimal (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA					
V - Phragmites australis	ssp. australis (European C	ommon Reed) N1A					
Noxious Weed: Priority Predicted Models: 2100	View Predicted Models / 1A - Non-native Species % Optimal (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: G5T5 State: SNA					
ious Weeds: Priority 1B V - Lythrum salicaria (Pa	urple Loosestrife) N1B				i		
· · · · ·	, ,	View Dance Mans					
	View Predicted Models / 1B - Non-native Species % Optimal (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: G5 State: SNA					
V - Polygonum cuspidat	tum (Japanese Knotweed) N1	IB					
	View Predicted Models / 1B - Non-native Species % Moderate (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: GNRTNR State: SNA					
V - Cytisus scoparius (S	. ,						
		View Bange Mane			· · · ·		
	View Predicted Models 7 1B - Non-native Species % Low (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA					
tious Weeds: Priority 2A V - Ranunculus acris <i>(T</i> a	all Buttercup) N2A						
Noxious Weed: Priority	View Predicted Models / 2A - Non-native Species	View Range Maps Global: G5 State: SNA					
Predicted Models: M 100	. ,						
V - Rhamnus cathartica	(Common Buckthorn) N2A						
	View Predicted Models / 2A - Non-native Species % Moderate (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA					
V - Lepidium latifolium	(Perennial Pepperweed) N2A						
Noxious Weed: Priority	View Predicted Models / 2A - Non-native Species	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA					
Predicted Models: L 1000	. ,						
v - Myriophyllum spicat	um (Eurasian Water-milfoil) N	12A/AIS					
		View Range Maps ecies - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State:	SNA			
vious Weeds: Priority 2B							
V - Convolvulus arvensi	s (Field Bindweed) N2B				10		
Noxious Weed: Priority	View Predicted Models / 2B - Non-native Species	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA					
Predicted Models: 2 100	% Optimal (inductive)						
V - Acroptilon repens (F	Russian Knapweed) N2B						

Habitat Icons Range Icons Common Non-native

Common

Occasional

Num Obs Count of obs with 'good precision' (<=1000m)

+ indicates additional 'poor precision' obs (1001m-10,000m)

Latitude

Longitude

46.77974 -105.30408

46.79666 -105.32970

-	V - Centaurea diffusa (Diffuse Knapweed) N2B			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
-	V - Centaurea stoebe (Spotted Knapweed) N2B			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
-	V - Cirsium arvense (Canada Thistle) N2B	7		N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: G5 State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
-	V - Euphorbia virgata (Leafy Spurge) N2B	1		N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
-	V - Lepidium draba (Whitetop) N2B			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
-	V - Linaria dalmatica (Dalmatian Toadflax) N2B			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: G5 State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
-	V - Tamarix ramosissima (Salt Cedar) N2B			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State: SNA		
	Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)			
	V - Berteroa incana (Hoary False-alyssum) N2B			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		
	Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species	Global: GNR State: SNA		
_	Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)			_
		a) N2R		
	V - Cynoglossum officinale (Common Hound's-tongue			N
•	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models	View Range Maps		N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species			N
	View in Field Guide View Predicted Models Noxious Weed: Priority 2B - Non-native Species Predicted Models: 100% Low (inductive)	View Range Maps Global: GNR State: SNA		
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□ I - Oberea erythrocephala (Red-headed Leafy Spurge Stem Borer) BIOCNTRL

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 View in Field Guide
 View Predicted Models
 View Range Maps

 Biocontrol Species
 Non-native Species
 Global: GNR
 State: SNA

Predicted Models: M 100% Moderate (inductive)

Introduction to Montana Natural Heritage Program



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INTRODUCTION

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is Montana's source for reliable and objective information on Montana's native species and habitats, emphasizing those of conservation concern. MTNHP was created by the Montana legislature in 1983 as part of the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) at the Montana State Library (MSL). MTNHP is "a program of information acquisition, storage, and retrieval for data relating to the flora, fauna, and biological community types of Montana" (MCA 90-15-102). MTNHP's activities are guided by statute as well as through ongoing interaction with, and feedback from, principal data source agencies such as Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Montana University System, the US Forest Service, and the US Bureau of Land Management. Since the first staff was hired in 1985, the Program has logged a long record of success, and developed into a highly respected, service-oriented program. MTNHP is widely recognized as one of the most advanced and effective of over 60 natural heritage programs that are distributed across North America.

VISION

Our vision is that public agencies, the private sector, the education sector, and the general public will trust and rely upon MTNHP as the source for information and expertise on Montana's species and habitats, especially those of conservation concern. We strive to provide easy access to our information to allow users to save time and money, speed environmental reviews, and make informed decisions.

CORE **V**ALUES

- We endeavor to be a single statewide source of accurate and up-to-date information on Montana's plants, animals, and aquatic and terrestrial biological communities.
- We actively listen to our data users and work responsively to meet their information and training needs.
- We strive to provide neutral, trusted, timely, and equitable service to all of our information users.
- We make every effort to be transparent to our data users in setting work priorities and providing data products.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All information requests made to the Montana Natural Heritage Program are considered library records and are protected from disclosure by the Montana Library Records Confidentiality Act (MCA 22-1-11).

INFORMATION MANAGED

Information managed at the Montana Natural Heritage Program is botanical, zoological, and ecological information that describes the distribution (e.g., observations, structured surveys, range polygons, predicted habitat suitability models), conservation status (e.g., global and state conservation status ranks, including threats), and other supporting information (e.g., accounts and references) on the biology and ecology of species and biological communities.

Data Use Terms and Conditions

- Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) products and services are based on biological data and the objective
 interpretation of those data by professional scientists. MTNHP does not advocate any particular philosophy of natural
 resource protection, management, development, or public policy.
- MTNHP has no natural resource management or regulatory authority. Products, statements, and services from MTNHP are intended to inform parties as to the state of scientific knowledge about certain natural resources, and to further develop that knowledge. The information is not intended as natural resource management guidelines or prescriptions or a determination of environmental impacts. MTNHP recommends consultation with appropriate state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies and authorities in the area where your project is located.
- Information on the status and spatial distribution of biological resources produced by MTNHP are intended to inform parties of the state-wide status, known occurrence, or the likelihood of the presence of those resources. These products are not intended to substitute for field-collected data, nor are they intended to be the sole basis for natural resource management decisions.
- MTNHP does not portray its data as exhaustive or comprehensive inventories of rare species or biological communities. Field verification of the absence or presence of sensitive species and biological communities will always be an important obligation of users of our data.
- MTNHP responds equally to all requests for products and services, regardless of the purpose or identity of the requester.
- Because MTNHP constantly updates and revises its databases with new data and information, products will become
 outdated over time. Interested parties are encouraged to obtain the most current information possible from MTNHP,
 rather than using older products. We add, review, update, and delete records on a daily basis. Consequently, we
 strongly advise that you update your MTNHP data sets at a minimum of every four months for most applications of
 our information.
- MTNHP data require a certain degree of biological expertise for proper analysis, interpretation, and application. Our staff is available to advise you on questions regarding the interpretation or appropriate use of the data that we provide. See <u>Contact Information for MTNHP Staff</u>
- The information provided to you by MTNHP may include sensitive data that if publicly released might jeopardize the welfare of threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or biological communities. This information is intended for distribution or use only within your department, agency, or business. Subcontractors may have access to the data during the course of any given project, but should not be given a copy for their use on subsequent, unrelated work.
- MTNHP data are made freely available. Duplication of hard-copy or digital MTNHP products with the intent to sell is prohibited without written consent by MTNHP. Should you be asked by individuals outside your organization for the type of data that we provide, please refer them to MTNHP.
- MTNHP and appropriate staff members should be appropriately acknowledged as an information source in any thirdparty product involving MTNHP data, reports, papers, publications, or in maps that incorporate MTNHP graphic elements.
- Sources of our data include museum specimens, published and unpublished scientific literature, field surveys by state and federal agencies and private contractors, and reports from knowledgeable individuals. MTNHP actively solicits and encourages additions, corrections and updates, new observations or collections, and comments on any of the data we provide.
- MTNHP staff and contractors do not enter or cross privately-owned lands without express permission from the landowner. However, the program cannot guarantee that information provided to us by others was obtained under adherence to this policy.

Suggested Contacts for Natural Resource Management Agencies

As required by Montana statute (MCA 90-15), the Montana Natural Heritage Program works with state, federal, tribal, nongovernmental organizations, and private partners to ensure that the latest animal and plant distribution and status information is incorporated into our databases so that it can be used to inform a variety of permitting and planning processes and management decisions. We encourage you to contact state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies in the area where your project is located and review the permitting overviews by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Index of Environmental Permits for Montana for guidelines relevant to your efforts. In particular, we encourage you to contact the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks for the latest data and management information regarding hunted and high-profile management species and to use the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information Planning and Consultation (IPAC) website regarding U.S. Endangered Species Act listed Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate species.

For your convenience, we have compiled a list of relevant agency contacts and links below:

Fish Species	Zachary Shat	tuck zshattuck@	<u>mt.gov</u> (406) 444-	1231					
	or								
	Eric Roberts	<u>eroberts@mt.go</u>	<u>ov</u> (406) 444-5334						
American Bison									
Black-footed Ferret									
Black-tailed Prairie Dog									
Bald Eagle		ristina Smucker <u>KSmucker@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-5209							
Golden Eagle	Kristina Smu								
Common Loon									
Least Tern									
Piping Plover									
Whooping Crane									
Grizzly Bear									
Greater Sage Grouse									
Trumpeter Swan	Brian Wakeli	Brian Wakeling brian.wakeling@mt.gov (406) 444-3940							
Big Game									
Upland Game Birds									
Furbearers									
Managed Terrestrial Game	Adam Messe	r – MFWP GIS Co	pordinator <u>amesser</u>	r <u>@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-0095					
Data									
Fisheries Data and Nongame	Adam Messe	r – MFWP GIS Co	pordinator <u>amesser</u>	r <u>@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-0095					
Animal Data									
Wildlife and Fisheries				eandscientificpermits/scientific					
Scientific Collector's Permits			<u>ksmucker@mt.gov</u>						
	Dave Schmet	terling for Fishe	ries <u>dschmetterling</u>	<u>@mt.gov</u> (406) 542-5514					
Fish and Wildlife	Stevie Burtor	stevie.burton@	<u>mt.gov</u> (406) 594-	7354					
Recommendations for	See <u>https://fw</u>	p.mt.gov/conser	vation/living-with-wi	Idlife/subdivision-recommendations					
Subdivision Development									
Regional Contacts	Region 1	(Kalispell)	(406) 752-5501	<u>fwprg12@mt.gov</u>					
6	Region 2	(Missoula)	(406) 542-5500	<u>fwprg22@mt.gov</u>					
4	Region 3	(Bozeman)	(406) 577-7900	<u>fwprg3@mt.gov</u>					
a har and	Region 4	(Great Falls)	(406) 454-5840	<u>fwprg42@mt.gov</u>					
5 7	Region 5	(Billings)	(406) 247-2940	<u>fwprg52@mt.gov</u>					
2044	Region 6	(Glasgow)	(406) 228-3700	<u>fwprg62@mt.gov</u>					
Pilenne A	Region 7	(Miles City)	(406) 234-0900	<u>fwprg72@mt.gov</u>					

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Montana Department of Agriculture

General Contact Information: <u>https://agr.mt.gov/About/Office-Locations/Office-Locations-and-Field-Offices</u> Noxious Weeds: <u>https://agr.mt.gov/Noxious-Weeds</u>

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Permitting and Operator Assistance for all Environmental Permits: <u>https://deq.mt.gov/Permitting</u> Opencut Mining Web Mapping Application for review of opencut mining applications <u>https://gis.mtdeq.us/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7b60084bc4c444a19c9a7a0867e7635a</u>

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Overview of, and contacts for, licenses and permits for state lands, water, and forested lands: <u>https://dnrc.mt.gov/Permits-Services</u>

Stream Permitting (310 permits) and an overview of various water and stream related permits (e.g., Stream Protection Act 124, Federal Clean Water Act 404, Federal Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10, Short-term Water Quality Standard for Turbidity 318 Authorization, etc.).

https://dnrc.mt.gov/Licenses-and-Permits/Stream-Permitting

Wildfire Resources: <u>https://dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Wildfire</u>

Bureau of Land Management

Montana Field Office Contacts:	Billings	(406) 896-5013	
HAVRÉ	Butte	(406) 533-7600	
GRIAN STREET	Dillon	(406) 683-8000	
A FAITSMAITA	Glasgow	(406) 228-3750	
MISSOURA LINISTOWN	Havre	(406) 262-2820	
7 P MILESOTTY	Lewistown	(406) 538-1900	
STATES 1	Malta	(406) 654-5100	
E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E	Miles City	(406) 233-2800	
	Missoula	(406) 329-3914	

United States Army Corps of Engineers

Montana Regulatory Office for federal permits related to construction in water and wetlands <u>https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Program/Montana/</u> (406) 441-1375

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Environmental information, notices, permitting, and contacts <u>https://www.epa.gov/mt</u> Gateway to state resource locators <u>https://www.envcap.org/srl/index.php</u>

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Information Planning and Conservation (IPAC) website: <u>https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov</u> Montana Ecological Services Field Office: <u>https://www.fws.gov/office/montana-ecological-services</u> (406) 449-5225

United States Forest Service

Regional Office – Missoula, Montana Contacts			
Wildlife Program Leader	Tammy Fletcher	<u>tammy.fletcher2@usda.gov</u>	(406) 329-3086
Aquatic Ecologist	Justin Jimenez	<u>justin.jimenez@usda.gov</u>	(435) 370-6830
TES Program	Lydia Allen	<u>lydia.allen@usda.gov</u>	(406) 329-3558
Interagency Grizzly Bear Coordinator	Scott Jackson	<u>scott.jackson@usda.gov</u>	(406) 329-3664
Regional Botanist	Amanda Hendrix	<u>amanda.hendrix@usda.gov</u>	(651) 447-3016
Regional Vegetation Ecologist	Mary Manning	<u>marry.manning@usda.gov</u>	(406) 329-3304
Invasive Species Program Manager	Michelle Cox	michelle.cox2@usda.gov	(406) 329-3669

Tribal Nations



Natural Heritage Programs and Conservation Data Centers in Surrounding States and Provinces

Alberta Conservation Information Management System British Columbia Conservation Data Centre Idaho Natural Heritage Program North Dakota Natural Heritage Program Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre South Dakota Natural Heritage Program

Wyoming Natural Diversity Database

Invasive Species Management Contacts and Information

Aquatic Invasive Species

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Aquatic Invasive Species staff

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation's Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Program

Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC)

Western Montana Conservation Commission

Noxious Weeds

Montana Weed Control Association Contacts Webpage

Montana Biological Weed Control Coordination Project

Montana Department of Agriculture - Noxious Weeds

Montana Weed Control Association

Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks - Noxious Weeds

Montana State University Integrated Pest Management Extension

Integrated Noxious Weed Management after Wildfires

Fire Management and Invasive Plants

Introduction to Native Species

Within the report area you have requested, separate summaries are provided for: (1) Species Occurrences (SO) for plant and animal Species of Concern, Special Status Species (SSS), Important Animal Habitat (IAH) and some Potential Plant Species of Concern; (2) other observed non Species of Concern or Species of Concern without suitable documentation to create Species Occurrence polygons; and (3) other non-documented species that are potentially present based on their range, predicted suitable habitat model output, or presence of associated habitats. Each of these summaries provides the following information when present for a species: (1) the number of Species Occurrences and associated delineation criteria for construction of these polygons that have long been used for considerations of documented Species of Concern in environmental reviews; (2) the number of observations of each species; (3) the geographic range polygons for each species that the report area overlaps; (4) predicted relative habitat suitability classes that are present if a predicted suitable habitat model has been created; (5) the percent of the report area that is mapped as commonly associated or occasionally associated habitat as listed for each species in the Montana Field Guide; and (6) a variety of conservation status ranks and links to species accounts in the Montana Field Guide. Details on each of these information categories are included under relevant section headers below or are defined on our Species Status Codes page. In presenting this information, the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is working towards assisting the user with rapidly determining what species have been documented and what species are potentially present in the report area. We remind users that this information is likely incomplete as surveys to document native and introduced species are lacking in many areas of the state, information on introduced species has only been tracked relatively recently, the MTNHP's staff and resources are restricted by budgets, and information is constantly being added and updated in our databases. Thus, field verification by professional biologists of the absence or presence of species and biological communities will always be an important obligation of users of our data.

If you are aware of observation datasets that the MTNHP is missing, please report them to the Program Botanist <u>apipp@mt.gov</u> or Senior Zoologist <u>dbachen@mt.gov</u> If you have animal or plant observations that you would like to contribute, you can also submit them via Excel spreadsheets, geodatabases, iNaturalist, or a Survey123 form. Various methods of data submission are reviewed in this playlist of videos: <u>https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRaydtZpHu2qOHPoSPq9cnM9uXGmEXACx</u>

Observations

The MTNHP manages information on several million animal and plant observations that have been reported by professional biologists and private citizens from across Montana. The majority of these observations are submitted in digital format from standardized databases associated with research or monitoring efforts and spreadsheets of incidental observations submitted by professional biologists and amateur naturalists. At a minimum, accepted observation records must contain a credible species identification (i.e. appropriate geographic range, date, and habitat and, if species are difficult to identify, a photograph and/or notes on key identifying features), a date or date range, observer name, locational information (ideally with latitude and longitude in decimal degrees), notes on numbers observed, and species behavior or habitat use (e.g., is the observation likely associated with reproduction). Bird records are also required to have information associated with date-appropriate breeding or overwintering status of the species observed. MTNHP reviews observation records to ensure that they are mapped correctly, occur within date ranges when the species is known to be present or detectable, occur within the known seasonal geographic range of the species, and occur in appropriate habitats. MTNHP also assigns each record a locational uncertainty value in meters to indicate the spatial precision associated with the record's mapped coordinates. Only records with locational uncertainty values of 10,000 meters or less are included in environmental summary reports and number summaries are only provided for records with locational uncertainty values of 1,000 meters or less.

Species Occurrences

The MTNHP evaluates plant and animal observation records for species of higher conservation concern to determine whether they are worthy of inclusion in the <u>Species Occurrence</u> (SO) layer for use in environmental reviews; observations not worthy of inclusion in this layer include long distance dispersal events, migrants observed away from key migratory stopover habitats, and winter observations. An SO is a polygon depicting what is known about a species occupancy from direct observation with a defined level of locational uncertainty and any inference that can be made about adjacent habitat use from the latest peer-reviewed science. If an observation can be associated with a map feature that can be tracked (e.g., a wetland boundary for a wetland associated plant) then this polygon feature is used to represent the SO. Areas that can be inferred as probable occupied habitat based on direct observation of a species location and what is known about the foraging area or home range size of the species may be incorporated into the SO. Species Occurrences generally belong to one of the following categories:

Plant Species Occurrences

A documented location of a specimen collection or observed plant population. In some instances, adjacent, spatially separated clusters are considered subpopulations and are grouped as one occurrence (e.g., the subpopulations occur in ecologically similar habitats, and their spatial proximity likely allows them to interbreed). Tabular information for multiple observations at the same SO location is generally linked to a single polygon. Plant SO's are only created for Species of Concern and Potential Species of Concern.

Animal Species Occurrences

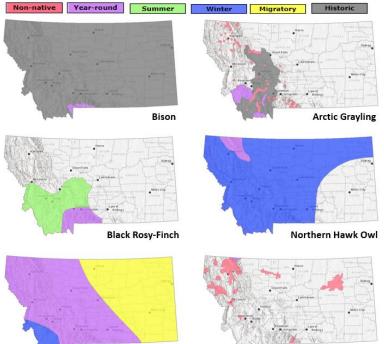
The location of a verified observation or specimen record typically known or assumed to represent a breeding population or a portion of a breeding population. Animal SO's are generally: (1) buffers of terrestrial point observations based on documented species' home range sizes; (2) buffers of stream segments to encompass occupied streams and immediate adjacent riparian habitats; (3) polygonal features encompassing known or likely breeding populations (e.g., a wetland for some amphibians or a forested portion of a mountain range for some wide-ranging carnivores); or (4) combinations of the above. Tabular information for multiple observations at the same SO location is generally linked to a single polygon. Species Occurrence polygons may encompass some unsuitable habitat in some instances in order to avoid heavy data processing associated with clipping out habitats that are readily assessed as unsuitable by the data user (e.g., a point buffer of a terrestrial species may overlap into a portion of a lake that is obviously inappropriate habitat for the species). Animal SO's are only created for Species of Concern and Special Status Species (e.g., Bald Eagle).

Other Occurrence Polygons

These include significant biological features not included in the above categories, such as Important Animal Habitats like bird rookeries and bat roosts, and peatlands or other wetland and riparian communities that support diverse plant and animal communities.

Geographic Range Polygons

Geographic range polygons are still under development for most plant and invertebrate species. Native yearround, summer, winter, migratory and historic geographic range polygons as well as polygons for introduced



Barrow's Goldeneye

Lake Trout

populations have been defined for most vertebrate animal species for which there are enough observations, surveys, and knowledge of appropriate seasonal habitat use to define them (see examples to left). These native or introduced range polygons bound the extent of known or likely occupied habitats for non-migratory and relative sedentary species and the regular extent of known or likely occupied habitats for migratory and long-distance dispersing species; polygons may include unsuitable intervening habitats. For most species, a single polygon can represent the year-round or seasonal range, but breeding ranges of some colonial nesting water birds and some introduced species are represented more patchily when supported by data. Some ranges are mapped more broadly than actual distributions in order to be visible on statewide maps (e.g., fish).

Predicted Suitable Habitat Models

Predicted habitat suitability models have been created for plant and animal Species of Concern and are undergoing development for non-Species of Concern. For species for which models have been completed, the environmental summary report includes simple rule-based associations with streams for aquatic species and seasonal habitats for game species as well as mathematically complex Maximum Entropy models (Phillips et al. 2006, Ecological Modeling 190:231-259) constructed from a variety of statewide biotic and abiotic layers and presence only data for individual species for most terrestrial species. For the Maximum Entropy models, we reclassified 90 x 90-meter continuous model output into suitability classes (unsuitable, low, moderate, and optimal) then aggregated that into the one square mile hexagons used in the environmental summary report; this is the finest spatial scale we suggest using this information in management decisions and survey planning. Full model write ups for individual species that discuss model goals, inputs, outputs, and evaluation in much greater detail are posted on the MTNHP's Predicted Suitable Habitat Models webpage. Evaluations of predictive accuracy and specific limitations are included with the metadata for models of individual species. Model outputs should not be used in place of on-the-ground surveys for species. Instead model outputs should be used in conjunction with habitat evaluations to determine the need for on-the-ground surveys for **species.** We suggest that the percentage of predicted optimal and moderate suitable habitat within the report area be used in conjunction with geographic range polygons and the percentage of commonly associated habitats to generate lists of potential species that may occupy broader landscapes for the purposes of landscape-level planning.

Associated Habitats

Within the boundary of the intersected hexagons, we provide the approximate percentage of commonly or occasionally associated habitat for vertebrate animal species that regularly breed, overwinter, or migrate through the state; a detailed list of commonly and occasionally associated habitats is provided in individual species accounts in the Montana Field Guide We assigned common or occasional use of each of the ecological systems mapped in Montana by: (1) using personal knowledge and reviewing literature that summarizes the breeding, overwintering, or migratory habitat requirements of each species; (2) evaluating structural characteristics and distribution of each ecological system relative to the species' range and habitat requirements; (3) examining the observation records for each species in the state-wide point observation database associated with each ecological system; and (4) calculating the percentage of observations associated with each ecological system relative to the percent of Montana covered by each ecological system to get a measure of numbers of observations versus availability of habitat. Species that breed in Montana were only evaluated for breeding habitat use, species that only overwinter in Montana were only evaluated for overwintering habitat use, and species that only migrate through Montana were only evaluated for migratory habitat use. In general, species were listed as associated with an ecological system if structural characteristics of used habitat documented in the literature were present in the ecological system or large numbers of point observations were associated with the ecological system. However, species were not listed as associated with an ecological system if there was no support in the literature for use of structural characteristics in an ecological system, even if point observations were associated with that system. Common versus occasional association with an ecological system was assigned based on the degree to which the structural characteristics of an ecological system matched the preferred structural habitat characteristics for each species as represented in the scientific literature. The percentage of observations associated with each ecological system relative to the percent of Montana covered by each ecological system was also used to guide assignment of common versus occasional association.

We suggest that the percentage of commonly associated habitat within the report area be used in conjunction with geographic range polygons and the percentage of predicted optimal and moderate suitable habitat from predictive models to generate lists of potential species that may occupy broader landscapes for the purposes of landscape-level planning. Users of this information should be aware that land cover mapping accuracy is particularly problematic when the systems occur as small patches or where the land cover types have been altered over the past decade. Thus, particular caution should be used when using the associations in assessments of smaller areas (e.g., evaluations of public land survey sections).

Introduction to Land Cover

Land Use/Land Cover is one of 15 Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure framework layers considered vital for making statewide maps of Montana and understanding its geography. The layer records all Montana natural vegetation, land cover and land use, classified from satellite and aerial imagery, mapped at a scale of 1:100,000, and interpreted with supporting ground-level data. The baseline map is adapted from the Northwest ReGAP (NWGAP) project land cover classification, which used 30m resolution multi-spectral Landsat imagery acquired between 1999 and 2001. Vegetation classes were drawn from the Ecological System Classification developed by NatureServe (Comer et al. 2003). The land cover classes were developed by Anderson et al. (1976). The NWGAP effort encompasses 12 map zones. Montana overlaps seven of these zones. The two NWGAP teams responsible for the initial land cover mapping effort in Montana were Sanborn and NWGAP at the University of Idaho. Both Sanborn and NWGAP employed a similar modeling approach in which Classification and Regression Tree (CART) models were applied to Landsat ETM+ scenes. The Spatial Analysis Lab within the Montana Natural Heritage Program was responsible for developing a seamless Montana land cover map with a consistent statewide legend from these two separate products. Additionally, the Montana land cover layer incorporates several other land cover and land use products (e.g., MSDI Structures and Transportation themes and the Montana Department of Revenue Final Land Unit classification) and reclassifications based on plot-level data and the latest NAIP imagery to improve accuracy and enhance the usability of the theme. Updates are done as partner support and funding allow, or when other MSDI datasets can be incorporated. Recent updates include fire perimeters and agricultural land use (annually), energy developments such as wind, oil and gas installations (2014), roads, structures and other impervious surfaces (various years): and local updates/improvements to specific ecological systems (e.g., central Montana grassland and sagebrush ecosystems). Current and previous versions of the Land Use/Land Cover layer with full metadata are available for download from the Montana State Library's GIS Data List More information on the land cover layer is available at: https://msl.mt.gov/geoinfo/msdi/land use land cover/

Within the report area you have requested, land cover is summarized by acres of Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Ecological Systems.

Literature Cited

Anderson, J.R. E.E. Hardy, J.T. Roach, and R.E. Witmer. 1976. A land use and land cover classification system for use with remote sensor data. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 964.

Comer, P., D. Faber-Langendoen, R. Evans, S. Gawler, C. Josse, G. Kittel, S. Menard, M. Pyne, M. Reid, K. Schulz,
 K. Snow, and J. Teague. 2003. Ecological systems of the United States: A working classification of U.S.
 terrestrial systems. NatureServe, Arlington, VA.

Introduction to Wetland and Riparian

Within the report area you have requested, wetland and riparian mapping is summarized by acres of each classification present. Summaries are only provided for modern MTNHP wetland and riparian mapping and not for outdated (NWI Legacy) or incomplete (NWI Scalable) mapping efforts; <u>described here</u>. MTNHP has made all three of these datasets and associated metadata available for separate download on the Montana <u>Wetland and Riparian Framework</u> web page.

Wetland and Riparian mapping is one of 15 <u>Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure</u> framework layers considered vital for making statewide maps of Montana and understanding its geography. The wetland and riparian framework layer consists of spatial data representing the extent, type, and approximate location of wetlands, riparian areas, and deep water habitats in Montana.

Wetland and riparian mapping is completed through photointerpretation of 1-m resolution color infrared aerial imagery acquired from 2005 or later. A coding convention using letters and numbers is assigned to each mapped wetland. These letters and numbers describe the broad landscape context of the wetland, its vegetation type, its water regime, and the kind of alterations that may have occurred. Ancillary data layers such as topographic maps, digital elevation models, soils data, and other aerial imagery sources are also used to improve mapping accuracy. Wetland mapping follows the federal Wetland Mapping Standard and classifies wetlands according to the Cowardin classification system of the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) (Cowardin et al. 1979, FGDC Wetlands Subcommittee 2013). Federal, State, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands differently than the NWI. Similar coding, based on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conventions, is applied to riparian areas (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2009). These are mapped areas where vegetation composition and growth is influenced by nearby water bodies, but where soils, plant communities, and hydrology do not display true wetland characteristics. **These data are intended for use at a scale of 1:12,000 or smaller. Mapped wetland and riparian areas do not represent precise boundaries and digital wetland data cannot substitute for an on-site determination of jurisdictional wetlands.**

See detailed overviews, with examples, of both wetland and riparian classification systems and associated codes as a <u>storymap</u> and companion <u>guide</u>

Literature Cited

- Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FWS/OBS-79/31. Washington, D.C. 103pp.
- Federal Geographic Data Committee. 2013. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. FGDC-STD-004-2013. Second Edition. Wetlands Subcommittee, Federal Geographic Data Committee and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. 2009. A system for mapping riparian areas in the western United States. Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation, Branch of Resource and Mapping Support, Arlington, Virginia.

Introduction to Land Management

Within the report area you have requested, land management information is summarized by acres of federal, state, and local government lands, tribal reservation boundaries, private conservation lands, and federal, state, local, and private conservation easements. Acreage for "Owned", "Tribal", or "Easement" categories represents non-overlapping areas that may be totaled. However, "Other Boundaries" represents managed areas such as National Forest boundaries containing private inholdings and other mixed ownership which may cause boundaries to overlap (e.g. a wilderness area within a forest). Therefore, acreages may not total in a straight-forward manner.

Because information on land stewardship is critical to effective land management, the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) began compiling ownership and management data in 1997. The goal of the Montana Land Management Database is to manage a single, statewide digital data set that incorporates information from both public and private entities. The database assembles information on public lands, private conservation lands, and conservation easements held by state and federal agencies and land trusts and is updated on a regular basis. Since 2011, the Information Management group in the Montana State Library's Digital Library Division has led the Montana Land Management Database in partnership with the MTNHP.

Public and private conservation land polygons are attributed with the name of the entity that owns it. The data are derived from the statewide <u>Montana Cadastral Parcel layer</u> Conservation easement data shows land parcels on which a public agency or qualified land trust has placed a conservation easement in cooperation with the landowner. The dataset contains no information about ownership or status of the mineral estate. For questions about the dataset or to report errors, please contact the Montana Natural Heritage Program at (406) 444-5363 or <u>mtnhp@mt.gov</u>. You can download various components of the Land Management Database and view associated metadata at the Montana State Library's <u>GIS Data List</u> at the following links:

Public Lands Conservation Easements Private Conservation Lands Managed Areas

Map features in the Montana Land Management Database or summaries provided in this report are not intended as a legal depiction of public or private surface land ownership boundaries and should not be used in place of a survey conducted by a licensed land surveyor. Similarly, map features do not imply public access to any lands. The Montana Natural Heritage Program makes no representations or warranties whatsoever with respect to the accuracy or completeness of this data and assumes no responsibility for the suitability of the data for a particular purpose. The Montana Natural Heritage Program will not be liable for any damages incurred as a result of errors displayed here. Consumers of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the viability of the information for their purposes.

Introduction to Invasive and Pest Species

Within the report area you have requested, separate summaries are provided for: Aquatic Invasive Species, Noxious Weeds, Agricultural Pests, Forest Pests, and Biocontrol species that have been documented or potentially occur there based on the predicted suitability of habitat. Definitions for each of these invasive and pest species categories can be found on our <u>Species Status Codes</u> page.

Each of these summaries provides the following information when present for a species: (1) the number of observations of each species; (2) the geographic range polygons for each species, if developed, that the report area overlaps; (3) predicted relative habitat suitability classes that are present if a predicted suitable habitat model has been created; (4) the percent of the report area that is mapped as commonly associated or occasionally associated habitat as listed for each species in the <u>Montana Field Guide</u>; and (5) links to species accounts in the <u>Montana Field Guide</u>. Details on each of these information categories are included under relevant section headers under the Introduction to Native Species above or are defined on our <u>Species Status</u> <u>Codes</u> page. In presenting this information, the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is working towards assisting the user with rapidly determining what invasive and pest species have been documented and what species are potentially present in the report area. We remind users that this information is likely incomplete as surveys to document introduced species are lacking in many areas of the state, information on introduced species has only been tracked relatively recently, the MTNHP's staff and resources are limited, and information is constantly being added and updated in our databases. **Thus, field verification by professional biologists of the absence or presence of species will always be an important obligation of users of our data.**

If you are aware of observation or survey datasets for invasive or pest species that the MTNHP is missing, please report them to the Program Coordinator <u>bmaxell@mt.gov</u> Program Botanist <u>apipp@mt.gov</u> or Senior Zoologist <u>dbachen@mt.gov</u> If you have animal or plant observations that you would like to contribute, you can also submit them via Excel spreadsheets, geodatabases, iNaturalist, or a Survey123 form. Various methods of data submission are reviewed in this playlist of videos:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRaydtZpHu2qOHPoSPq9cnM9uXGmEXACx

Additional Information Resources

Effects of Recreation on Rocky Mountain Wildlife
Laws, Treaties, Regulations, and Agreements on Animals and Plants
MTNHP Staff Contact Information
Montana Field Guide
MTNHP Species of Concern Report - Animals and Plants
MTNHP Species Status Codes - Explanation
MTNHP Predicted Suitable Habitat Models (for select Animals and Plants)
MTNHP Request Information page
Montana Cadastral
Montana Code Annotated
Montana Fisheries Information System
Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Subdivision Recommendations
Montana Forestry Best Management Practices
Montana GIS Data Layers
Montana GIS Data Bundler
Montana Greater Sage-Grouse Project Submittal Site
Montana Guide to Streamside Management Zone Law and Rules
Montana Ground Water Information Center
Montana Index of Environmental Permits, 21st Edition (2018)
Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)
Montana Environmental Policy Act Analysis Resource List
Montana Native Plant Conservation Strategy
Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Layers
Montana State Historic Preservation Office Review and Compliance
Montana Stream Permitting: a guide for conservation district supervisors and others
Montana Water Information System
Montana Web Map Services
National Environmental Policy Act
Penalties for Misuse of Fish and Wildlife Location Data (MCA 87-6-222)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation (Section 7 Consultation)
Uses of Information from the Montana Natural Heritage Program
Web Soil Survey Tool
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation Resources