



# Ravalli County Open Lands Bond Program

## Project List February 2025

*Projects that allow public access  
are specifically noted*



# Wood Family Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 1

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- **Landowners:** Janet Wood Farley & Laurie Wood-Gunlack
- **Location:** North of Corvallis
- **Acres:** 265
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2009





# Lost Horse Creek Conservation Easement Project # 2

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- **Landowners:** Stan and Sherrie Swartz
- **Location:** South of Hamilton
- **Acres:** 428
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife and stream habitat, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2009





# Sawtooth Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 3

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- **Landowners:** Joe & Carrie Grover
- **Location:** Hamilton
- **Acres:** 840
- **Conserved for:** Forested woodlands, fish, wildlife and stream habitat, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- **Completed:** 2009





# Bell Family Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 4

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- **Landowners:** Marvin & Agnes Bell and Patricia Rouse
- **Location:** Sleeping Child drainage, east of Hamilton
- **Acres:** 46
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, wildlife and stream habitats, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2010





# Skalkaho Confluence Conservation Easement Project # 5

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- **Landowners:** Marvin & Agnes Bell, and Patricia Rouse
- **Location:** Bitterroot River, south of Hamilton
- **Acres:** 98
- **Conserved for:** Wildlife & fisheries habitat, Bitterroot River frontage, streams and wetlands, working agricultural lands, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2010





# Lodmell Conservation Easement Project # 6

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- **Landowners:** Don & Joni Lodmell
- **Location:** South of Hamilton
- **Acres:** 55
- **Conserved for:** Wildlife habitat, wetlands, streams (Sawtooth Creek), scenic open space and agricultural working lands
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2010





# Triple J Bar Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 7

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- **Landowners:** The Downey Family
- **Location:** Willow Creek, Corvallis
- **Acres:** 160
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, wildlife & fisheries habitat, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- **Completed:** 2011





# Severson's Flying E Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 8

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- **Landowners:** Dan & Debbie Severson
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 354
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- **Completed:** 2011





# Sunset Bench Conservation Easement Project # 9

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- **Landowners:** Jim & Sharon Schroeder
- **Location:** Burnt Fork/Sunset Bench, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 365
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, streams, and scenic open space.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- **Completed:** 2012





# Popham Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 10

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- **Landowners:** Robert and Jane Popham
- **Location:** Corvallis
- **Acres:** 185
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, soils of importance, national registered historic place, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- **Completed:** 2012





# KBK River Property Conservation Easement Project # 11

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- **Landowners:** Beatrice Evans
- **Location:** Bitterroot River,  
Between Hamilton and Darby
- **Acres:** 158
- **Conserved for:** Critical wildlife  
habitat and fisheries & stream  
habitat, open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands  
Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2013





# Holloron Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 12

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- **Landowners:** Jerry Holloron & Mike & Amanda McArthur
- **Location:** Corvallis
- **Acres:** 168
- **Conserved for:** Agricultural working lands, scenic open space, & wildlife habitat
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- **Completed:** 2013





# St. Clair Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 13

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- **CE grantor:** Dave and Mari Laursen
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 244
- **Conserved for:** Irrigated agricultural land, productive soils, open space, and wildlife, stream and wetland habitat.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program
- **Completed:** 2014



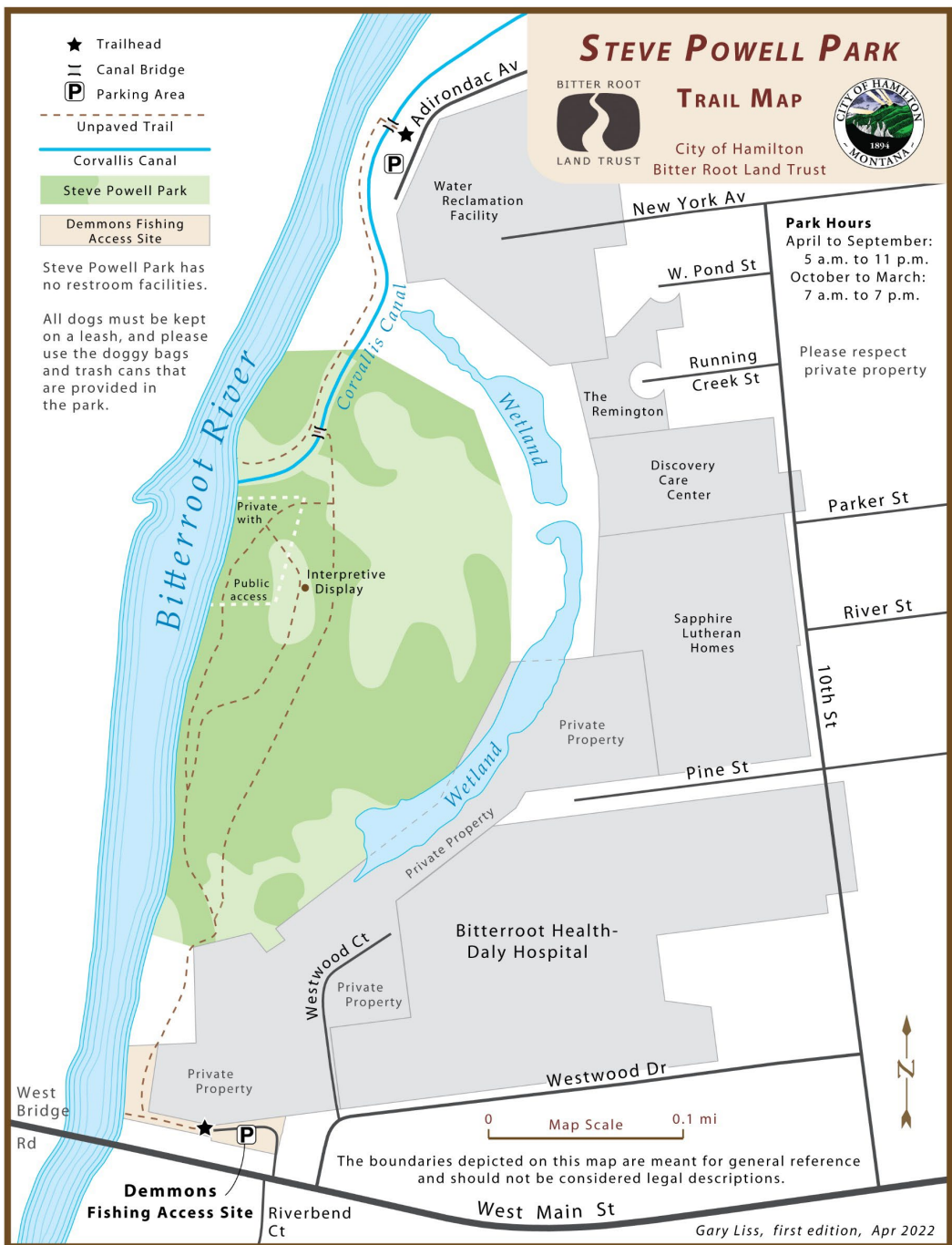


# Gingerich Farm Conservation Easement Project #14

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- **Landowners:** Bob & Corrine Gingerich
- **Location:** Corvallis
- **Acres:** 74
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2014





# Steve Powell Park

**Landowner:** City of Hamilton; previously Lynn Taber Sherwood & Jeannie Taber Green

**Location:** Hamilton, along the Bitterroot River – access via Demmons Fishing Access Site or Adirondack Ave.

**Acres:** 22

**Conserved for:** Public open space, recreational lands, and wildlife habitat

**Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program, Connell Foundation, GSK, MT Fish and Wildlife, Estler Group, Travelers for Open Land, Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital

**Park Opened:** 2014

[Project # 15 – Public Access](#)





# Lazy J Cross Ranch Conservation Easement Project # 16

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- **Landowners:** Sterling Wetzsteon
- **Location:** Sula
- **Acres:** 1,080
- **Conserved for:** Agricultural working lands, wildlife habitat, open space, historic significance (Ross' Hole), and *public hunting access via FWP Block Management program*
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program, Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, several local organizations and private foundations, and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks-Access Public Land Program.
- **Completed:** 2015





# Farrell (Kerslake) Ranch Conservation Easement Project #17

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- **Landowners:** Hattie Farrell; now owned by Dan & Sari Kerslake
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 93
- **Conserved for:** Agricultural working lands, productive soils, important wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2015





# Bailey Farm Conservation Easement Project #18

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- **Landowners:** Elizabeth, Bob & Arlene Bailey
- **Location:** Corvallis
- **Acres:** 209
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2015





# Lazy Burnt Fork Ranch Conservation Easement Project #19

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- **Landowners:** Steve Peckinpaugh
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 334
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, wildlife & fisheries habitat, streams, and open space.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resources Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2016





# Weber Ranch Conservation Easement Project #20

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- **Landowners:** Brien and Gayle Weber
- **Location:** Calf Creek/Hamilton Heights area, Hamilton
- **Acres:** 460
- **Conserved for:** Wildlife habitat, rangeland/agricultural lands, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Grasslands of Special Significance
- **Completed:** 2016





# Sixty-One Bar Ranch Conservation Easement Project #21

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- **Landowners:** Dick & Karen Smith
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 507
- **Conserved for:** Highly productive agricultural lands, open space, and wildlife & stream habitat
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2017





# Auch Angus Ranch Conservation Easement Project #22

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- **Landowners:** Dwight and Darlene Auch
- **Location:** Corvallis
- **Acres:** 84
- **Conserved for:** Irrigated agricultural working lands, wildlife, and scenic open spaces
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2018





# Hancock Ranch Conservation Easement Project #23

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- **Landowners:** Tad & Fabby Hancock
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 74
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife, wetland & stream habitat, open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2018





# Curdy Farm Conservation Easement

## Project #24

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- **Landowners:** Mary Curdy Rodriguez, & Curdy Land & Cattle Co.
- **Location:** Corvallis
- **Acres:** 105
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program
- **Completed:** 2018





# Griffin Ranch(Burnham) Conservation Easement Project #25

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- **CE grantors:** Troy and Dena Griffin
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 202
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife, stream habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2019





# Running Bear Ranch Conservation Easement Project #26

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- **Landowners:** Doug and Janis Astle
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 217
- **Conserved for:** Agriculturally productive soils, working lands, wildlife habitat, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2019





# Gates Family Farm Conservation Easement Project #27

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- **Landowners:** The Gates Family
- **Location:** Lone Rock-Three Mile, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 160
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife & stream habitat (Three Mile Creek), and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2019





# Paddock Ranch Conservation Easement Project #28

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- **Landowners:** Anna Mae Paddock
- **Location:** Lake Como, Darby
- **Acres:** 216
- **Conserved for:** Exceptional wildlife habitat, working agricultural lands, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program; Cinnabar Foundation
- **Completed:** 2020





# Skalkaho Bend Park

**Landowner:** City of Hamilton (gifted by BRLT)

**Location:** Hamilton; Bitterroot riverfront adjacent to River Park

**Acres:** 70.5

**Conserved for:** Wildlife habitat, *public recreation*, open space, fishing access

**Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program, and a broad array of both public and private sources; small and large gifts from local private donors

**Park Opened:** July 3, 2020

***Project # 29 – Public Access***



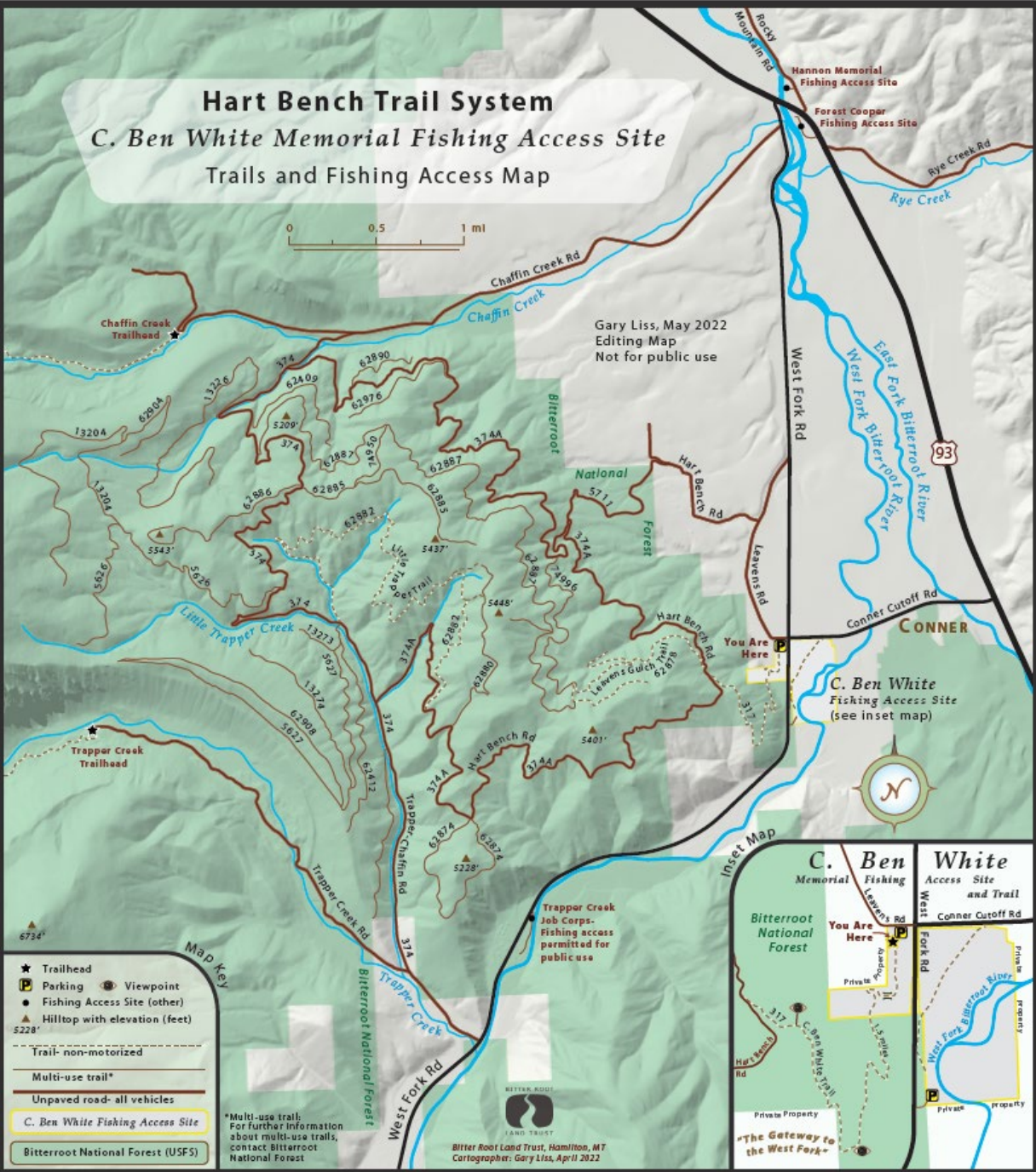
# Hart Bench Trail System

## C. Ben White Memorial Fishing Access Site

### Trails and Fishing Access Map

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Gary Liss, May 2022  
Editing Map  
Not for public use



# C. Ben White Fishing Access Site

**Landowner:** The Stomberg & White families; a MT FWP acquisition facilitated by BRLT

**Location:** West Fork Bitterroot River, Conner; at junction of West Fork Road and Conner Cutoff

**Acres:** 96.5

**Conserved for:** River bottom stream habitat, upland ponderosa forest habitat, *public recreation access* (fishing, hunting, hiking, horseback, camping, day use)

**Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program & Various public and private sources

**Closed & Transferred to FWP:** September 2020

*Project # 30 – Public Access*





# Mogan Farm Conservation Easement Project #31

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- **Landowner:** Frank Mogan
- **Location:** Lone Rock – Three Mile, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 161
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife habitat (Three Mile Creek), and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2020





# South Burnt Fork Ranch Conservation Easement Project #32

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- **Landowners:** Larry and Sheilah Melsness
- **Location:** Burnt Fork, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 301
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife & stream habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2021





# Yoder Angus Ranch Conservation Easement Project #33

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- **Landowners:** Jake & Fannie Yoder
- **Location:** Illinois Bench, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 150
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2021





# Sutherlin Farms Conservation Easement Project #34

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- **Landowners:** Laurie & Bob Sutherlin
- **Location:** South of Stevensville
- **Acres:** 377
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, highly productive soils, wildlife habitat, and open space as seen from Eastside Highway.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2021





# Haywire Flats Conservation Easement Project #35

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- **Landowners:** Carola Woolsey-Mielke & Edward Mielke
- **Location:** Burnt Fork-Iron Cap, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 258
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, native rangeland, excellent wildlife & stream habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program; private foundation
- **Completed:** 2022





# Triple D Ranch I Conservation Easement Project #36

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- **Landowners:** Drew & Kaci Lewis; Robin & Gary Beadle
- **Location:** Sunset Bench, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 420
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, productive soils, wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2022





# Triple D Ranch II Conservation Easement Project #37

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- **Landowners:** Drew & Kaci Lewis; Robin & Gary Beadle
- **Location:** Burnt Fork & Sapphire Foothills, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 1260
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, native rangeland, wildlife, stream habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program – Grasslands of Special Significance
- **Completed:** 2022





# Mills Farm Conservation Easement Project #38

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- **Landowners:** Barry & Paulie Mills
- **Location:** Sunset Bench, Stevensville
- **Acres:** 71
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- **Completed:** 2023





# Roy Ranch Conservation Easement Project #39

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- **Landowners:** Daniel Roy
- **Location:** Victor
- **Acres:** 176
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- **Completed:** 2024





# Sweathouse Creek Conservation Easement Project #40 – *Public Access*

- **Landowners:** Molly Hackett, Benjamin Hackett, Scott Hackett and Diane Bessler-Hackett
- **Location:** Victor
- **Acres:** 540
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, fish and wildlife habitat, public access and outdoor recreation, and scenic open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program, Montana Fish & Wildlife Conservation Trust, FWP Habitat Montana Program, Pittman-Robertson Act Funds, Ravalli County Fish and Wildlife Association, and Bitter Root Land Trust
- **Completed:** 2023





# Buker Ranch Conservation Easement Project #42

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- **Landowners:** Y5 Holdings (Antony Sherer & Clarissa Patzer)
- **Location:** Victor
- **Acres:** 157
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, and open space
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- **Completed:** 2025





# Ellison Ranch Conservation Easement Project #43

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- **Landowners:** Ellison Cattle Company & Jean H. Ellison Trust
- **Location:** Stevensville
- **Acres:** 344
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, excellent wildlife & fish habitat, and significant open space with high visibility to the public along Eastside Highway.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Completed:** 2024





# Bolin Ranch Conservation Easement Project #44

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- **Landowners:** Ivan lee Roy Jr, and Marlene Kay Bolin Revocable Living Trust
- **Location:** Stevensville
- **Acres:** 166
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, excellent wildlife & fish habitat, and significant open space with visibility to the public along Ambrose Creek Road.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Target completion:** 2025





# Lazy KD Ranch Conservation Easement Project #45

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- **Landowners:** Lazy KD, LLC
- **Location:** Darby
- **Acres:** 183
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, excellent wildlife habitat, and significant open space with high visibility to the public along U.S Highway 93.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Target completion:** 2025





# Groff Timber Ranch Conservation Easement Project #46

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- **Landowners:** Groff Family LLC
- **Location:** Victor
- **Acres:** 160
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, diverse wildlife habitat, and significant open space with visibility to the public along Pleasant View Drive and Red Crow Road
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- **Target completion:** 2025





# Groff Farm Conservation Easement Project #47

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- **Landowners:** Groff Family LLC
- **Location:** Victor
- **Acres:** 472
- **Conserved for:** Working agricultural lands, diverse wildlife & riparian habitat, and significant open space with high visibility to the public from Highway 93, Chief Victor Camp Road, and Sweathouse Creek Road.
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program and Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
- **Target completion:** 2025





# Groff Park Acquisition

## Project #48 – *Future Public Access*

- **Landowners:** Groff Family LLC; purchase by Bitter Root Land Trust
- **Location:** Victor
- **Acres:** 21
- **Conserved for:** Public Recreational Access, wildlife habitat, and significant open space with high visibility to the public from U.S Highway 93 and other county roads
- **Funding Source(s):** Open Lands Bond Program, Rapp Family Foundation, Bitter Root Land Trust, and private donations
- **Target completion:** 2025

