

Rolling Stone Ranch

Box 148 • Ovando, Montana 59854

April 9th, 2007

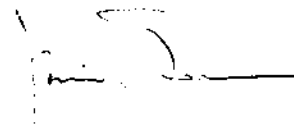
Blackfoot Landscape Stewardship Work Group
c/o Tina Bernd-Cohen
729 Power Street
Helena, MT. 59601

Dear Blackfoot Landscape Stewardship Work Group and the Montana Congressional Delegation,

I support the Blackfoot Landscape Stewardship Pilot Project and ask the Montana Congressional Delegation to sponsor and enact legislation and appropriations to implement key pieces of the proposal including wilderness boundary expansion, funding for a co-generation facility and for restoration and stewardship projects, and formal authorization for USFS to serve on the Blackfoot Challenge Board of Directors.

The Blackfoot Valley has been a model for cooperative resource management for generations; this proposed project is another step in insuring the protection of the natural beauty and rural lifestyle in this watershed. I am grateful to see that a landscape-wide project such as this brings multiple partnerships together to address the natural resource, recreation and industrial benefits to all of our communities. The traditional notion that we can be sustainable by ourselves, is changing in the west, we have to be willing to look across our own boundaries and help our neighbors. It is exciting to see this shift taking place and it will not only be for Montanan's; but the rest of the nation to be a model for cooperative conservation. We urge the Montana Congressional Delegation to work together to enact the Blackfoot Stewardship Pilot Project legislative package. Thank you.

Sincerely,



(Jim Stone