

FUELING OUR MISSION: A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 SUPPORTERS

GRANTORS AND FOUNDATIONS

\$100,000 PLUS

North American Wetlands Conservation Act
NRCS Agricultural Land Easement Program
Whitefish Community Foundation - Great Fish Community Challenge

\$25,000 - \$99,999

Grace Fund of Park City Community Foundation
Flathead Audubon Society
Flathead Lakers
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

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Whitefish Community Foundation - Community Grant Program

INDIVIDUALS:

\$50,000 PLUS

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Estate of Carol Clintworth Myhre

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Gary & Lynn Havens
David and Betsy Krehbiel

Dr. Tom Little
Frances McAllister
David & Linda Peterson
Larry & Becky Williams

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\$500 - \$2,500

Trees for Life, Inc.
Kehoe's Agate Shop
Forestation, Inc.

UP TO \$499

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Montana Raft Company
Schellinger Construction, Inc.
Anonymous
Open Land Law, PLLC
McCabe Excavation, Inc.
The Simple Chef Catering/ Farm to Fork
Kroger, Inc.
Behron, LLC
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CONSERVATION EASEMENT STEWARDSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Sally C. Ericsson and Tom Garwin
Iron Horse
Charles and Renate Jaquette
Paul Johnson & Candace Greene
Mark Schmidt
John Weaver
Luci Yeats

★Preservation Partner Monthly Donor

♦ On behalf of Doug Chadwick in gratitude for his many years of excellent service to the Foundation's Advisory Board

✖ In honor of Diane Conradi for her participation on a Swan Watershed panel

2024 ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Your support has helped us gain ground and provide lasting conservation for places worth protecting. Here are highlights from 2024.

★ In January, we partnered with **Charles and Renate Jaquette** to place their 497-acre farm just east of Kalispell under conservation easement. Containing some of the richest topsoil in the valley, the easement adds to a growing network of conserved farms in the highly productive Creston area. Encompassing over a mile of Egan Slough, the property provides excellent bird habitat and is strategically located for both birds and wildlife at a landscape scale.

★ In February, we completed a conservation easement with Montana DNRC to permanently protect the 405-acre **Owen Sowerwine** property east of Kalispell. This beloved block of school trust land, with its intact forested river bottom and riparian habitat, has been a community treasure enjoyed by the public for decades. The dream to see it permanently protected has now been realized, thanks to help from our partners and community supporters who stepped up big to help us raise over \$970,000 for the purchased conservation easement.

★ In April, we partnered with **Luci Yeats** to permanently protect 76-acres of her family's agricultural land near the Bad Rock Canyon Wildlife Management Area east of Columbia Falls. The "Heart Rock Ridge" conservation easement safeguards a vital wildlife corridor as well as scenic open space and a long legacy of working farmland.

★ Also in April, a 122-acre ranch and wildlife haven in the Mission Valley, once platted for subdivision, was protected in perpetuity with a conservation easement. **John Weaver**, distinguished retired conservation biologist and land steward, partnered with FLT by adding this parcel along Mission Creek just east of the National Bison Range to his conservation portfolio. This parcel is adjacent to Dr. Weaver's other 159-acres of protected land, conserved with an FLT conservation easement in 2015.

★ In August, a 51-acre prime parcel of forested land was protected along Swan Lake. FLT partnered with **Paul Johnson and Candice Greene** to place the ecological gem under a conservation easement, forever protecting habitat for birds, wildlife and scenic views as well as the exceptional water quality of Swan Lake.

★ In November, FLT partnered with two landowners to protect a total of 66-acres of important riverfront land near Whitefish. **Sally Ericsson and Tom Garwin** placed their 36 acres along the Stillwater River under conservation easement, followed by **Mark Schmidt**, who conserved his 30-acre parcel along the Whitefish River. Both properties protect prime agricultural lands and riparian habitats, providing wildlife habitat security and connectivity.

★ Our **education and outreach programs** were especially popular and reached many across the Flathead Valley. The **Bird Education Program** helped to educate over 300 7th and 8th graders about birds and conservation from West Valley, Bigfork, Evergreen and Two Eagle River School in the Mission Valley.

FLATHEAD LAND TRUST'S FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN FOR 2024:

