



Megaloads Roll, Citizens Rally

Megaloads, the transport of giant equipment used in mining the Alberta tar sands are unfortunately still proceeding down our highways, but with growing resistance. In the wee hours of March 14, Montana Sierra Club members were among 80 citizens and climate action activists who performed a traditional Native American round dance on Reserve Street in Missoula, stopping the shipment for 20 minutes. Three women were arrested when they refused to leave the street.

This was the third of eight Omega Morgan megaloads slated to travel from Oregon and Idaho into Montana via Hwy 93 over Lost Trail Pass. The loads have met resistance along the entire route, beginning in December when the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla and local environmental groups protested the loads in Oregon. The March 14th action was the third and largest to date in Missoula; it was coordinated by Indian Peoples Action, an alliance between Native American tribes and environmental organizations resisting the megaloads.

Last summer, Idaho Rivers United, Friends of the Clearwater, and Wild Idaho Rising Tide joined the Nez Perce to block megaloads on the tribe's ancestral lands adjacent to Route 12 in Idaho. In September 2013, Idaho Rivers United backed by the Nez Perce won a temporary injunction against the Clearwater National Forest stopping the megaloads. Shipments along Route 12 have been stopped until regulatory processes necessary to protect the Lochsa and Clearwater Wild and Scenic River corridor are completed.



Weighing in at over 750,000 pounds and 250 feet long, the Omega Morgan loads were relative small fry. Another company, Mammoet, is now trying to identify a route and obtain permits for three 1.6 million pound, 400-foot megaloads on route to the Calumet refinery in Great Falls.

Mammoet's proposed route through Idaho along East Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive would require an environmental assessment. To avoid the assessment, they are considering an alternate route along U.S. 95 to Route 200. That route will cross onto the Flathead Reservation near Perma, Montana. Indian People's Action and allies in the environmental community will be waiting.

The 2013 legislature removed environmental assessment requirements for megaloads, claiming they had no effect on our highways. An interim committee is now looking at transport rules to make the permitting system easier on the movers of oversize loads. But this is opening up a broader discussion. According to an article in the Missoulian, the panel charged with presenting a preliminary budget to next year's legislators plans to set aside time for public comment on this issue at a meeting in Helena on May 6.

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Newsletter Information

The Montana Sierran (TMS) is published twice a year by the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club, a division of the national Sierra Club.

Submission deadlines are **April 1** for the Spring/Summer issue and **October 1** for the Fall/Winter issue.

Please send relevant articles and photos by the deadlines to
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or
The Montana Sierran
P.O. Box 7201
Missoula, MT 59807

The Montana Sierran reserves the right to edit or reject submissions at its discretion.

Submissions must include first and last name, city, phone number and e-mail address.

Send digital photographs at 300 ppi in .jpg format. Photos must include credit (e.g. photographer's name and/or source). Please also provide text describing the photo.

Thank you for your support of the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club and *The Montana Sierran*.

Newsletter Committee. Janet Fiero, Liz Rantz, John Wolverton, Bob Hopkins, Diana Vanek; Bob Clark, Advisor

Newsletter design by Dan Funsch



The Big Sky Documentary Film Festival Wild 50 Strand

A Celebration of 50 Years of Wilderness Through Film

A year of celebration in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the Wilderness Act was launched with a Wild 50 film strand featured in the 2014 Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. The annual event saw record crowds this year with 25,000 moviegoers attending the ten-day Missoula festival. The Wild 50 wilderness films were viewed by more than 1200 people, and were free to the public thanks to coordination and sponsorship led by the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Other sponsors included Great Burn Study Group, the Montana Wilderness Association; the Society for Wilderness Stewardship, the Wilderness Society and Rocky Mountain Front Coalition, and the Northern Region of the Forest Service. Wilderness Watch and Arthur Carhart Wilderness Training Center provided services and support.

The day before the opening, the Missoulian featured the Wild 50 film strand on the front page of the Montana section. As part of the sponsorship we were able to table in the lobby, providing information and visiting with moviegoers about Wilderness 50.

The Wild 50 documentaries served as education and entertainment. Titles included legends such as:

- Wilderness Idea
- Wild By Law
- Arctic Dance: The Mardy Murie Story
- Echoes of the Tongass
- A number of shorts, most produced by the National Park Service.

The Wild 50 finale, which played to a near full house in the Wilma 1, was particularly exciting and resonated in the community. Pianist Molly Morrison accompanied Trail Riders of the Wilderness, a 1920's silent film by noted Forest Service photographer K.D. Swan. Two films by long-time Sierra Club member, Libby Langston, were also shown: The World of KD Swan and Wilderness Dreams. The finale premiered Meaning of Wild by Ben Hamilton.

Wild 50 films presented an unfolding of the history of the Wilderness Act. It highlighted the dedication and passion needed to protect these lands, as well as issues and responsibilities of wilderness management. Throughout the Wild 50 film strand, audiences learned about the origins of the Wilderness Act, gained a greater appreciation of wilderness, and were encouraged to support and visit these national treasures.

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, events are being planned all around Montana. The Chapter plans to bring Wilderness films to gateway communities around the state. Please contact Claudia Narcisco



A packed house turned out to watch the Wild 50 film strand.

Success of the Wild 50 film strand required collaboration on many levels. Claudia Narcisco, Montana Chapter Sierra Club volunteer, served as project coordinator. Doug-Hawes Davis, Executive Director of BSDFF, provided guidance to meet festival standards and timelines. Ralph Swain, Forest Service Region 2 Wilderness and Rivers coordinator posted a catalogue of films on the Wilderness 50 website that got us started. A small committee of wilderness advocates stepped forward to begin previewing films in summer 2013. The committee included Jerome Walker of Wilderness Watch; Tom Carlson of Society for Wilderness Stewardship; Steve Kimball and Joni Packard of Northern Region Forest Service; Libby Langston, filmmaker and long time Sierra Club member who brought knowledge and films to viewings. Many sponsors stepped forward to generously support it. Dru Carr, President of BSDFF Board of Directors and Independent filmmaker curated the Wild 50 and took its success to heart.

(cnarcisco(at)yahoo.com) if you want to help with arrangements in your community! You can learn more about all these events by visiting <http://www.wilderness50th.org/>.

Sierra Club 2014 Outings

By Janet Fiero, Volunteer Outings Coordinator

Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club outings are free and open to the public. This year, 2014, we are celebrating a half-century of preserving pristine backcountry through the 1964 Wilderness Act. Montana is home to 16 designated wilderness areas, comprising roughly 3.5 million acres (about 3.75 percent) of the state's lands. They include the highest peaks in the Treasure State, as well as low-lying marshland suited for wildlife refuges. These wilderness areas are home to thousands of species of flora and fauna, a number of them threatened or endangered. Each outing will have an educational feature about the wilderness or wildlife that you are visiting.

Liability release signatures are required. Please sign up in advance through the contact person on the outing you are interested in. All trips are limited in size to 10-12 participants. No pets are allowed. Bring your own food, water, and raingear. The outing leaders will email you more information after you have signed up.

May 31, Saturday: Stuart Peak-Wallman Trail Loop, Rattlesnake National Recreation Area:

This loop day hike begins at the main Rattlesnake trailhead, parallels Spring Gulch for a couple of miles, passes through several pocket meadows, then climbs gently before descending back to the main Rattlesnake trail. We will not reach the summit of Stuart Peak. Nice views of Lolo Peak on the descent. Shallow water crossing required. 8 miles with 500 feet of elevation gain. Learn about management challenges in the 61,000 acre Rattlesnake National Recreation Area and Wilderness. Contact Janet Fiero, janetfiero77(at)gmail.com or 203-2164.

June 7, Saturday: Canyon Lake, Bitterroot Mountains.

This moderately strenuous hike will take us to beautiful Canyon Lake. Starting out rather leisurely, the trail begins a moderate climb to the lake at the three mile mark. We will pass a 400 foot waterfall along the way. Approximately 10 miles round trip, 2500 feet of elevation gain. Learn about fir ecology and how the 2000 fires spared this gem of a valley. Contact Bob Hopkins aardvark1649(at)gmail.com

June 28, Saturday: Refrigerator Canyon Trail near Helena:

Explore the Gates of the Mountains Wilderness! We will hike for 3 hours from the trailhead toward Bear Meadow. We will lunch and return. The trail is spectacular at the beginning, following a narrow slot canyon with 70-meter-high limestone cliffs, which keep things cooler (hence the name) in the summertime. There is some rocky trail, some packed dirt trail, some trail over rock, and some forested switchbacks, with moderate climbing and descending. We will likely cover about 12 miles round trip (depending on pace), with an elevation gain of about 1200 feet. Learn about how the prominent gray cliffs along the Missouri River in the Gates of the Mountains are formed by Madison Limestone. Contact Jonathan Matthews, jmatthews(at)carroll.edu.

June 29, Sunday: Clark Fork River Float Trip, Bonner/Milltown.

Enjoy a leisurely float, camaraderie and river-side lunch on this beautiful local waterway through the newly reopened section over the former Milltown Reservoir. For ages 12 and up. BYO raft, canoe or kayak. Learn how resource extraction has and will affect this river corridor and how you can help. Contact John Wolverton yodelingdog(at)hotmail(dot)com

July 4-6, Friday-Sunday: Our Lake, Bob Marshall Wilderness, Car Camping and Day Hikes:

Our Lake sits at 7,295 feet, in an ice-scoured alpine tundra basin surrounded by scraggy subalpine firs. In late July, meadows fill with wildflowers, while mountain goats traverse cliffs above the lake. We will drive up on Friday, hike the 5 mile round-trip trail on Saturday and return home on Sunday. Elevation gain of 1506 feet. Learn about the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's proposal to delist grizzly bears in the northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. Contact Janet Fiero janetfiero77(at)gmail.com or 203-2164.

July 9, Wednesday: Learn to Survive in the Outdoors Class, Missoula:

This class will cover the basics of survival, including the three priorities--shelter/warmth, water, and signaling--and putting together a survival kit. This class is something that everyone who utilizes the backcountry should attend. Missoula Public Library from 6-8 PM. The class may be taken alone or may be combined with the two-day outing. Contact Mike at jarnevic(at)earthlink.net.

July 12-13, Saturday to Sunday: Welcome Creek Wilderness, Missoula: Learn important Outdoors survival skills on this outing. This is a follow-up to the class. We will hike into Welcome Creek Wilderness, set-up standard backpacking equipment, and then demonstrate survival techniques to include field-expedient first aid. Participants will be given the opportunity to sleep in an expedient shelter, construct a fire, and learn other techniques of survival. Maximum 10 people. The outing may be taken alone or may be combined with the class on July 9. Contact Mike at jarnevic(at)earthlink.net.

Wednesday, 16 July: Carlton Lake, Bitterroot Mountains: This moderately strenuous hike will take us to beautiful Carlton Lake, which sits at the base of Lolo Peak. The wildflowers should be blooming in all their glory. 9.5 miles round trip, with 2600 feet of elevation gain. Get an update on the continued threat of ski resort development on National Forest land around Lolo Peak and Carlton Ridge. Contact Mary Owens at trekker320(at)aol.com (preferred) or 493-1139

July 19, Saturday: Reservation Divide Trail, West Missoula: Ch-paa-qn (pronounced “ch-pock-qwin”), or Squaw Peak, as it is historically named, is the familiar symmetrical pyramid west of Missoula, sitting high atop the Ninemile drainage on the Reservation Divide. Round trip is 3.5 miles, with 1838 feet of elevation gain. Learn about Glacial Lake Missoula, the largest of several lakes impounded by the Cordilleran Ice Sheet during the Quaternary Period. Contact Lori Rustvold frontdesk(at)missoulanews.com

July, 23, Wednesday: St. Mary Peak, Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness: Come celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act by hiking to the top of St. Mary Peak. We will enter the wilderness at the 2 mile mark. This moderately strenuous hike will top out at 9300 feet elevation. There is a working fire lookout at the top, and the views are some of the best in the Bitterroot. 7.5 miles round trip with 2400 feet of elevation gain. Learn about the signs of altitude sickness and how to avoid it. Contact Mary Owens at trekker320(at)aol.com (preferred) or 493-1139.

August 1-3, Friday- Sunday, Great Burn Backpack Trip. Backpack along the Montana/Idaho border above Cache Creek and Crooked Fork in the wildest reaches of the northern Bitterroot Mountains. Spectacular scenery, wildlife, and natural history abound in this 250,000 acre inter-state roadless area. This 15 mile trip will be moderately strenuous with some off-trail travel required. Hikers will learn about forest management plans and efforts to further protect this unique wildland. Contact John Wolverton at: yodelingdog(at)hotmail(dot)com

August 8-11, Friday to Monday: Car Camping Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness with Day Hikes (women only): We will stay in US Forest Service Campgrounds and take day hikes. The area serves as the northeastern gateway to Yellowstone National Park and is home to the Beartooth Scenic Byway, Red Lodge Ski Resort, and four national recreation trails. Learn about the Club’s effort to restore wild bison. Contact Karen Kearney at 396-3945.

August 13, Wednesday: Welcome Creek, Day Hike (women only): We will drive up the Sapphire Mountains through Clinton on Forest Road 4243, to the Eightmile Saddle, where we park. We will hike along the ridge with spectacular views and enter the Welcome Creek Wilderness area. Round trip is 6 miles with 1200 feet of elevation gain. Learn how quickly nature heals the wounds that civilization has inflicted. Contact janetfiero77(at)gmail.com or 203-2164.

August 16, Saturday: Trapper Peak Day Hike: At 10,157’ elevation, Trapper Peak is the highest mountain in the Bitterroots within the 1.4 million acre Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. The view from the summit is awe-inspiring. First protected in 1964 with the passage of the Wilderness Act, the SBW provides critical yet shrinking habitat for alpine species such as pikas and marmots. Join us and learn more! Hikers should expect 3800’ of elevation gain over 6 miles on the standard route (trail #133). Round-trip is 12 miles. Learn about critical yet shrinking habitat for alpine species such as pikas and marmots. Contact Bob Clark, bob.clark(at)sierraclub.org

September 6, Saturday: Stony Creek Day Hike: 10 miles roundtrip with gradual elevation gain along Crystal Creek and through high meadows near Skalkaho Pass. It ain’t the Bitterroots; it’s the Sapphires! Learn about the Skalkaho Game Reserve and see deer, elk and maybe mountain goats. Contact Lorie Rustvold at frontdesk(at)missoulanews.com (M-F 9-5) or 728-6157

Get involved! To find out more about participating in the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club Outings Program or tell us about a favorite wild place contact Outings Coordinator Janet Fiero, janetfiero77(at)gmail.com

To learn about other hikes recently added go to <http://montana.sierraclub.org/outings>

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

— Wilderness Act of 1964

Year-Round Habitat for Yellowstone Bison Still Undecided

Nearly a year ago, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) and the Montana Department of Livestock released an historic proposal to allow wild bison year-round access to over 420,000 acres of land in Montana adjacent to Yellowstone, primarily on the Gallatin National Forest. This proposal was a result of over a year of sustained work by the Bison Citizens Working Group, including the Sierra Club, to create more space and tolerance in Montana for wild bison.

Since then, over 100,000 people have commented on the proposal – the vast majority being in favor of expanded habitat. And new science regarding disease transfer, retirement of many cattle allotments in the area, and updated federal regulations for livestock

producers make it common sense to move into a new era of bison management in Montana. Nevertheless, the proposal has not moved forward. The Montana Board of Livestock (BOL) continues to ask for 'more information' while taking a preliminary vote of 'no action' in recent meetings. Yet no compelling reasons have been advanced by the BOL (or anyone else) for not moving forward and allowing bison access to this habitat.

It's time to allow bison room to roam in Montana outside of the park, particularly on public lands owned by all Americans and even more so when no conflicts with cattle exist. Doing so would mean Montana would be taking a significant step forward in treating

bison as valued native wildlife and recognizing the important ecological role they play. Fewer taxpayer dollars would be wasted on inhumane hazing, capture and slaughter of bison; more economic opportunities from wildlife viewing would be opened up, and fair-chase hunting opportunities would result. Not moving forward, given all the major changes and public opinion strongly in favor of year-round habitat in Montana, would be a great setback and failure for the State.

If you have not yet contacted Governor Bullock and urged him to allow wild Yellowstone bison access to year-round habitat in Montana, please take a moment to do so at governor@mt.gov. Thank you!

Montana Continues to Suppress Wolf Population

News of Idaho's notorious wolf management makes Montana's look moderate. Still, Montana continues to ramp up wolf 'control' efforts to negate any growth in the wolf population, hovering around 625 for the state. Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) liberalized the 2013-2014 wolf hunt, increasing the number of wolves that could be killed by a single hunter to 5 in nearly all hunting areas, and extending the trapping season. As a result, 329 wolves were killed in 2013; 241 from "harvest", and 75 from predator control. For every two wolves that survived, one was killed. The number of breeding pairs also dropped from 39 in 2011 to 28 in 2013.

Due to public outcry, proposals for snaring and trap baiting were dropped by MFWP last year. Despite declines in wolf population, breeding pairs, and livestock predation by wolves, don't be surprised if proposals for more liberalized hunts show up again, perhaps in the MFWP 2014-2015 wolf hunt proposal to be released on May 11.

Numbers are only part of the story. Montana's 2013 legislature passed a shoot-on-sight bill allowing landowners to kill wolves deemed to be a 'potential' threat by the landowner. MFWP is revising Montana's wolf management rules to adopt this new law. In the process, the agency changed the definition of breeding pair to "a male and female and two cubs", removing language specifying that the pair 'had produced' the cubs. This has genetic implications and could artificially raise the number of breeding pairs. In response to public comment against this proposed change, MFWP is reworking the definition to be consistent with the USFWS and Montana Gray Wolf Management Plan. The final revised rule is still in the mill.

At the national level, FWS proposed delisting gray wolves except for a Southwest population. Over a million comments were received. An independent peer review panel temporarily thwarted the delisting based on insufficient scientific research. Due to extreme wolf management practices in Idaho, Defenders of Wildlife is petitioning USFWS for a status review of the Northern Rocky Mountain wolf population segment, delisted in 2011. Prospects for the USFWS to withdraw the proposal to delist the gray wolf nationally, or to relist the NRM population are not good. Be alert for any calls to action to help in this effort.

On June 28-29, 2014, there will be a wolf rally in Arch Park in Gardner, Montana. Speak for Wolves: Yellowstone 2014 is billed as an opportunity to unite and hear why we need to reform wildlife management, at the state and federal level, and how to do it.

Montana Chapter Participating in Collaborative For the Flathead National Forest Plan Revision

The Flathead National Forest sits on the Crown of the Continent, an ecologically intact landscape that includes the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) and adjoining Glacier and Waterton Parks, both designated biosphere reserves and a World Heritage Site. It is home to a full suite of animals present before settlement by Europeans, including threatened species such as the grizzly bear.

In November, the Flathead National Forest initiated the forest plan revision under the 2012 Planning Rule. The forest plan is important because it mandates how this public land will be managed for the next 15 to 20 years. The forest hosted four field trips last summer, and held two meetings. One in December oriented the collaborative group on the planning process, and the second in January formed stakeholder-working groups for resource areas.

The Montana Chapter executive committee discussed the growing trend of 'collaboratives' in forest planning at our annual meeting in February. We have concerns about, perceived preference to local stakeholders over the interest of many people not present, including a national constituency who owns our national forests, and that such collaboratives could undermine the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which provides for analysis and public comment of major actions on federal lands. We decided to participate with reservation in select collaborative efforts, mainly to give a voice to the voiceless – wildlife, soil, water, and wild lands. We consider participation in the collaboration for Flathead NF forest plan revision as a pre-NEPA step.

Flathead National Forest Staff and Meridian Institute consultants are coordinating the collaborative meetings. The process is streamlined and fast tracked, and is not consensus based. The quick pace belies the complexity of the process, and its consistency with existing direction and the 2012 planning rule is sometimes questionable. While a required comprehensive Assessment needed to inform plan components was not released until April 16, the collaborative group defined desired conditions and objectives over the winter. The Forest denied a request to delay collaborative meetings scheduled for the weeks of April 21 and May 12 to allow time for review of the 600 page document.

The Flathead National Forest appears to have dropped Amendment 19 (A-19) to the Forest Plan. A-19 sets road density standards in grizzly bear core areas, requiring road decommission in order to meet those standards. A-19 has been approved in Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinions and remains the only motorized standard for grizzly habitat in the NCDE. By contrast, Amendment 24 allowing extended snowmobiling is being carried forward.



We have concerns that meeting documentation does not necessarily reflect all views expressed. Notes for desired conditions appear skewed toward motorized and commodity use. At the March meeting, the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act was put on the table as an objective to include all Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRA's) as recommended wilderness, but was not in the notes posted on the website. We have expressed these concerns with the planning team. For more information on the plan revision visit the Forest Website: <http://tinyurl.com/lr8jy97> or the Meridian Institute Website: <http://tinyurl.com/mjcv5el>

The Montana Chapter has signed onto the Citizen reVision authored by Swan View Coalition (SVC) and Friends of the Wild Swan. "The Citizen reVision is based upon sound scientific and economic principles and defines a sustainable future for the Flathead NF that emphasizes the outstanding wild, natural and recreational values, while taking advantage of opportunities to create new jobs through restoration work." You can view SVC findings and guiding principles for revising the Flathead Forest Plan at <http://www.swanview.org> under Reports and Documents, as a good source for information.

The next two meetings are very important, particularly the May meeting when management areas will be drawn. We will work on geographic area desired condition the week of April 21-24 and on management areas the week of May 12-15. This collaborative effort will result in the proposed action/proposed plan, which will be released for environmental analysis and public comment through the NEPA process.

Collaboration on the Flathead NF forest plan revision is an opportunity to work with the community to help protect this extraordinary landscape. This collaborative effort will result in the proposed action/proposed plan, which will be released for environmental analysis and public comment through the NEPA process. If you are interested in helping, please contact Claudia Narcisco, at cnarcisco@yahoo.com. Participation and support of all members is encouraged.



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Claudia Narcisco tabling at the Documentary Film Festival.



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Out-of-state Corporation Poisoning Water in Colstrip, MT

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) must create an effective and enforceable strategy to clean up coal ash contamination of ground and surface water around the Colstrip coal-fired power plant.

Coal has many pollution problems beyond those associated with climate change. For far too long, Pennsylvania-based PPL Corporation has threatened Montana families by polluting water wells, groundwater, and surface water near its power plant. Families and ranchers in Colstrip have lived under the threat of leaking toxic coal waste impoundments for decades, even as PPL continues to earn huge profits (\$1.5 billion in 2012).

As a result of a lawsuit, the operators of Colstrip now must pipe Yellowstone river water approximately 30 miles to the city in order to provide drinking water that is not contaminated with coal ash. Neighboring ranchers, however, still must rely on the groundwater for livestock. Unless DEQ comes up with an effective strategy to contain and clean up the mess, these ranchers are at risk of losing their livelihood.

Our state has a long history of bad corporate actors coming into Montana, devastating our communities with contamination, declaring bankruptcy and then leaving behind a toxic legacy and legal nightmare. Asbestos pollution in Libby, cyanide spills by Zortman-Landusky, and now decades of leaking coal ash waste poisoning the water beneath homes and businesses in Colstrip.

PPL has unsuccessfully tried to sell Colstrip. It wants to high-tail it out of Montana, leaving a toxic legacy. We urge you to learn from our state's past and ensure that we put Montana first by requiring PPL to clean up its dirty coal ash mess.

What does MDEQ need to do?

- Take control of the coal ash cleanup and start responding to public comment and PPL's submittals.
- Define the extent of the contamination and the projected movement of the groundwater plumes.
- Determine appropriate background water quality base-line. PPL's 2011 background study chose background levels for pollutants that are the highest possible level of pollutants in any area well. The selection of a high base-line would result in modest to no cleanup action.
- Define cleanup criteria and remediation requirements.
- Obtain a bond sufficient for remediation and reclamation work.

Take Action!

Send this Post Card or

**Call Tracy Stone-Manning, MDEQ director
at: (406) 444-2544**

Dear Director Tracy Stone-Manning,

Montana's clean water is precious. No one wants to see more of the kind of contamination we've seen at sites like the Berkeley Pit or the Zortman-Landusky mines, and no one wants more big taxpayer bills for cleanup. That's why I'm so concerned about the toxic coal waste pollution from PPL's coal power plant in Colstrip that's been pouring into the community's groundwater for decades. Once again, an out-of-state corporation is causing the pollution. That same corporation has been trying to unload the plant and leave Montanans with ruined water. Please put Montana communities first and make PPL clean up its coal waste mess now.

Sincerely,

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Celebrate Wilderness With a Monte Dolack Poster

Monte Dolack fine art poster commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act is available for purchase from the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club. A portion of the costs will support our local work!

\$25.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping

This fine art poster by Montana-based, internationally-acclaimed artist Monte Dolack, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act and is available to order through your Montana Chapter. The poster is a reprint of Dolack's original artwork. The artist's study shown here is a rough painting of the final piece, which will bear the 50th anniversary logo and titling.



Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act – Purchase the Monte Dolack special addition print from the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Fundraising Committee Save The Dates Announcements!

Tuesday July 1st: Draught Works Brewery is hosting the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club for their Cheers For Charity Event. They will donate a portion of their beer sales from 5:00 – 8:00 pm to the Montana Chapter! Bring a friend, have a beer, and a bite to eat at the Burns St. Bistro on site! 915 Toole Ave., Missoula

Monday October 27th: Montgomery Distillery is hosting the Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club for their weekly community fundraising event, Moscow Mondays. \$1 of every drink is donated to the Montana Chapter all day long! Bring your friends and

come inside to warm up with a specialty cocktail and some good company. This is Halloween week, so of course you can dress up if you want! 129 W. Front St., Missoula

There will be a Sierra Club information table with volunteer sign-up at these venues from 5pm to 8pm.

\$.34
postage

Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality
Attn: Tracy Stone-Manning
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901



Annual Executive Committee Meeting at the Montana Learning Center at Canyon Ferry Lake, in February. Pictured left to Right around the table: Diana Vanek, Bonnie Rice, Claudia Narcisco, Janet Fiero, Bob Hopkins, John Wolverton, Rod Jude, and Jonathan Matthews.