



*Shaping the Future of the West*

201 South Wallace Ave.  
Suite B3C. Bozeman, MT



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

**June 7-8, 2011**

**Best Western Great Northern, Helena, MT**

# **Planning**

## **4**

# **People & Wildlife**

*“The movement for the conservation of wildlife and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose, and method.”*

*Theodore Roosevelt*





# Planning for People and Wildlife

## Purpose

The Planning for People and Wildlife workshop will provide wildlife managers, elected officials, planners, citizens, rural landowners, and the conservation community with the knowledge to effectively manage rural development to conserve ecologically important lands.

## Goals

- Understand economic value of fishing and wildlife to state economy.
- Understand purpose of Montana's Comprehensive Fish & Wildlife Conservation Strategy.
- Comprehend the broad context and challenges of habitat protection.
- Understand the role of both state and local government in habitat protection.
- Knowledge of growth management tools.
- Understand importance of community support in local habitat protection efforts.
- Knowledge of public engagement strategies.



*P4PW is being co-sponsored by Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.*

## Why Is Planning for Wildlife Important?

Montana is valued by both residents and visitors for its natural beauty, rich heritage, and outdoor recreational opportunities. In fact, wildlife in Montana is big business contributing over \$1 billion annually to the economy. As a result of this high quality of life, the Northern Rockies region is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. Most striking has been a change in the development pattern with growth extending into previously undeveloped rural areas including ecologically important landscapes and wildlife corridors.

In Montana, conservation of wildlife and their habitat is critical to attracting and maintaining tourism and recreation revenues, promoting economic prosperity, and maintaining a high quality of life for residents. Thus the impacts of this more recent pattern of growth on wildlife, habitat, and important ecological processes are of concern to many Montanans. While the purchase of private land and voluntary conservation easements remains a key strategy for preserving critical lands, the immense scope of Montana's conservation challenge demands that we utilize other tools. However, local communities are frequently unaware of what options and resources are available to help them.



# Planning for People and Wildlife

## Curriculum

The Community Planning for Wildlife workshop is structured around the exploration of:

- Why is protecting habitat important?**
- What is the role of the State and local governments in habitat conservation?**
- How can community planning protect habitat?**
- How do we build community support for wildlife protection?**

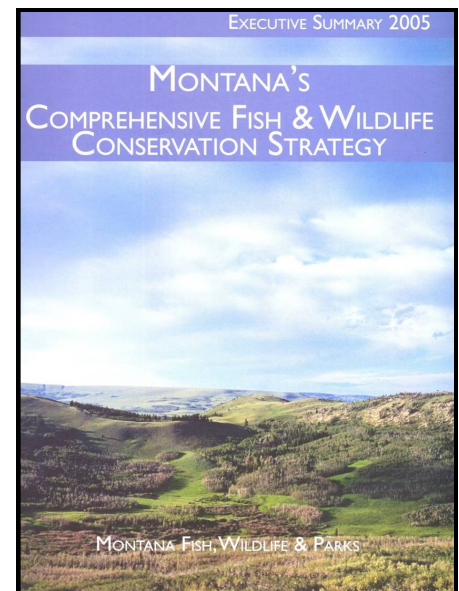
Training sessions will include:

- Overview of Montana's Comprehensive Fish & Wildlife Conservation Strategy
- Hands on experience with FWP Crucial Areas Planning System (CAPS) online mapping tool
- Growth management tools for wildlife protection
- Defining your community wildlife protection goals
- Communicating about community values
- The legal framework for wildlife protection
- Eligibility for FWP P4PW mini-grants

*An agenda will be posted on the Sonoran Institute website soon!*

## Who Can Apply?

The Sonoran Institute believes a broad coalition of community leaders is necessary for successful collaborative decision-making. The workshop is a team-based training with each team having a minimum of three to a maximum of six members from a community. Teams should be representatives from communities that are interested in moving toward a vision for wildlife protection. Team members can be as diverse and representative a group as your community feels necessary and may include elected officials, planning staff, FWP biologists, conservation districts, watershed groups, citizen groups, conservation organizations, and planning board members.



Montana's comprehensive conservation idea is based on two simple and well-accepted notions: living things affect other living things in shared habitats and no state, no matter how well intended, has the funding to conserve all species one by one, place by place, year by year. Montana's Comprehensive Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy very broadly identifies over 600 species of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles and the places where they live. CAPS is an informational tool for the early planning stage of development projects and conservation opportunities. To explore CAPS go to:

<http://fwp.mt.gov/wildthings/conservationInAction/crucialAreas.html>



# Planning for People and Wildlife

## Selection Criteria

Acceptance to the workshop is based on all of the following criteria:

- The applicant team demonstrates how attendance at the workshop will support implementation of an upcoming or current community planning effort related to wildlife and habitat protection.
- The applicant team's region has a high resource-conservation value. Preference will be given to teams from communities within the Institute's priority geographic areas of the Northern Rockies and/or teams that have partnered with the Institute.
- The applicant team demonstrates its leadership potential by being composed of diverse individuals such as; elected officials, wildlife resource specialist, conservation groups, community leaders, planning staff and planning board members.

## Costs

All training material, room and meal costs will be covered for participants by the Sonoran Institute. Individual travel to and from the workshop is the responsibility of participating teams.

## Application Process

The 1.5 day workshop is from June 7-8, 2011 at the Best Western Great Northern Hotel located in Helena, Montana. The application follows on pages 6&7 or can be downloaded as a word document at [www.sonoraninstitute.org](http://www.sonoraninstitute.org)

**Applications are due May 1, 2011.**

Mail, fax or email to:

Marjo Curgus

629 C Street

Salida, CO 81201

Fax: 406-587-2027

Email: [mcurgus@sonoraninstitute.org](mailto:mcurgus@sonoraninstitute.org)



*The Sonoran Institute* is a nonprofit organization established in 1990, the Institute provides technical and organizational support to communities grappling with land and resource decisions.

The Institute has found the most effective, enduring community solutions result from sound information, meaningful public participation and collaboration.

For more information: [www.sonoraninstitute.org](http://www.sonoraninstitute.org)



## **FWP Planning for People and Wildlife Mini-Grant**

### **Mini-Grant Program Purpose**

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) has received \$24,000 in funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, to give interested communities in western Montana an opportunity to use the Crucial Areas Planning System (CAPS) informational tool and more fully integrate wildlife values into their land use, watershed, and community development programs.

FWP will make six mini-grants of \$4,000, under the guidelines outlined below. Desired outcomes, over the long run, are a healthy local economy, healthy habitats, and continued enjoyment of Montana's wildlife populations and outdoor recreation resources.

### **Eligibility**

Mini-grants will be competitively awarded to communities who attended either the 2009 P4PW workshop in Butte or will attend the 2011 P4PW workshop in Helena.

### **Examples of Eligible P4PW Projects**

- Assemble and publish a community resource atlas that features local wildlife resources.
- Prepare or update the wildlife portions of a growth policy.
- Assess wildlife movement obstacles and opportunities in a watershed.
- Develop or update local land use regulations that contain habitat conservation standards.
- Assemble and publish a set of *Living with Wildlife* guidelines for how to avoid or minimize human/wildlife conflicts.
- Conduct a series of community field trips or educational sessions about local wildlife populations, their habitat requirements, and how to avoid or minimize human/wildlife conflicts.
- Prepare or update guidelines for a local open space conservation program.

### **Mini-Grant Application Instructions and Award Criteria**

In their P4PW Challenge Statement, successful applicants will address **all of the following**:

- How the project will utilize CAPS and help their community effectively integrate wildlife resources into their land use, watershed, and community development programs.
- Their partnership approach to the project.
- How they will increase public understanding of local wildlife resources and *Living with Wildlife* principles.
- Their capacity to cover total project costs, and complete all or most of the project by 11/30/2011.

**Eligible Mini-Grant Expenses** do not cover staff salaries or routine operating expenses.

**Successful FWP P4PW mini-grant applicants will be notified by June 30, 2011 of their award.**

For questions about the mini-grant program, contact Doris Fischer at (406) 842-7467 or [dofischer@mt.gov](mailto:dofischer@mt.gov)



# P4PW Application

## Application Instructions

Submit only one complete application per community team. If you are interested in also applying for a FWP P4PW mini-grant, please also address the grant award criteria in Question #2. If you are not applying for a FWP P4PW mini-grant, skip Question #2. You may download a word version of the application at: [www.sonoraninstitute.org](http://www.sonoraninstitute.org)

A complete application consists of the following items:

- **Team Challenge Statement**
- **Team Participant Form**
- **Supporting Materials (Optional)** If there are articles, reports, information, resumes, awards, etc. that you feel are relevant and supports your application, you are welcome to include it.

All completed applications must be received by the Sonoran Institute by **5 p.m. on May 1, 2011**. Mail, fax or email applications to:

Marjo Curgus  
629 C Street  
Salida, CO 81201  
Fax: 406-587-2027  
Email: [mcurgus@sonoraninstitute.org](mailto:mcurgus@sonoraninstitute.org)

Participants will be notified by May 15, 2011 of their acceptance. Successful FWP P4PW mini-grant applicants will be notified by June 30, 2011 of their award.





**Challenge Statement**      **Community Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** *Please complete these questions as a team. Submit only **one** Challenge Statement per team. You may respond to these questions on a different page or download a word document from [www.sonoraninstitute.org](http://www.sonoraninstitute.org)*

1. Please briefly describe an upcoming or current planning effort or initiative that your community is undertaking — or is interested in undertaking—what it is, what it will accomplish and the timeline for its completion. Include your perception of community support and potential challenges affecting the success of this effort.

2. If you are applying for the FWP P4PW mini-grant, please respond to the mini-grant award criteria described on page 5.

3. Please describe how your team’s participation in the workshop will support the success of the community effort described above.

4. Is your community currently working with the Sonoran Institute or FWP on any community planning efforts?  
\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No If yes, describe briefly.

5. Is this challenge statement also an application for an FWP P4PW mini-grant ?  
\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No



# P4PW Application

## Team Participants

### *Team Leader and Primary Contact*

Name:	
Organization/Title:	
Address:	
City/State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone:

### *Team Participants (\*please indicate if any team members would be willing to share a room)*

Name:	
Organization/Title:	
Address:	
City/State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone:
Name:	
Organization/Title:	
Address:	
City/State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone:
Name:	
Organization/Title:	
Address:	
City/State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone:
Name:	
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Address:	
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Name:	
Organization/Title:	
Address:	
City/State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone: