



Wildlife Resources

High quality habitat is essential to keeping wildlife healthy and thriving on your lands and in the region. Habitat requirements include access to food, water, cover and space to roam; as well as ensuring that wildlife can transition across your property and access connectivity corridors throughout the landscape. Maintaining or enhancing wildlife habitat on your land can ensure a more diverse and healthier ecosystem now and into the future.

Agency Information Sources

[Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks](#) – Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, through its employees and citizen commission, provides for the stewardship of the fish, wildlife, parks, and recreational resources of Montana, while contributing to the quality of life for present and future generations. Contact: [FWP Region 3 Office](#), Phone: 406-994-4042 or 406-994-4043

MT FWP - [Wildlife Habitat Programs](#)

- [Living with Wildlife](#): Provides resources to help reduce conflicts between humans and wildlife.
- [Fish & Wildlife Conservation and Management](#): Provides information on how MT-FWP manages various wildlife species in Montana.
- [Block Management](#): Is a cooperative hunter access program that incentivizes private landowners to allow public hunting opportunities.
- [Hunter-Land Owner Stewardship Program](#): Provides resources about how to build and maintain positive working relationships between hunters and private landowners.

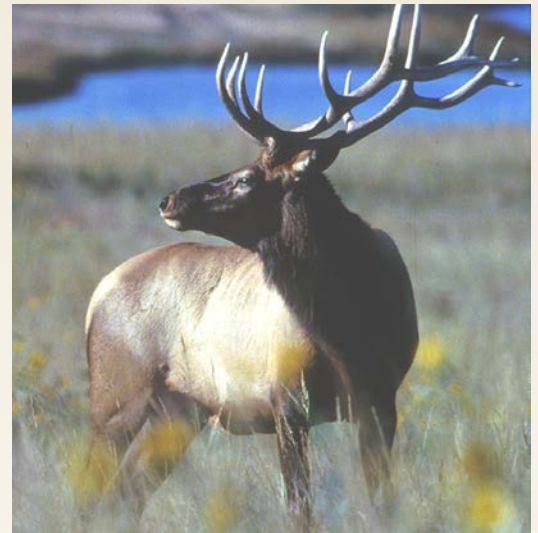


Photo: Bull Elk, MT FWP

[MSU Wildlife Extension Program](#) - The MSU Wildlife Extension provides information about improving wildlife habitat on private lands.

[Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation](#), Habitat Stewardship - Healthy habitat is essential for healthy elk and other wildlife, RMEF helps fund and conduct a variety of projects to improve essential forage, water, cover and space components of wildlife habitat, and supports research and management efforts to help maintain productive elk herds and habitat. Contact: [Director of Conservation](#) 800-225-5355, Ext. 443

[Guide to Wildlife Friendly Fencing](#) – This document is a helpful guide on how to build fences with wildlife in mind.

[People and Carnivores](#) – Successful carnivore conflict mitigation takes many partners working together. This website highlights several successful Montana examples and links to resources that help reduce conflicts between carnivores and livestock.

[Montana Natural Heritage Program](#) – MTNHP provides extensive scientifically collected data on all plants and animals in Montana, as well as providing an online key to identify plants, animals and various ecosystem types in Montana. MTNHP is always looking to compile natural history data from private landowners, get online today and submit your unique observations to help update species distribution maps throughout Montana: [submit data today](#).

Avian Resources

MT FWP – [Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program](#), The goal of the Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program is to efficiently and responsibly conserve and enhance upland game bird habitats and populations, providing quality public hunting opportunities for present and future generations.

- [Ring-necked Pheasant Release](#): In 2001, Montana's Legislature revamped the state's Upland Game Bird Release Program. The program can reimburse landowners for raising and releasing pheasants in suitable habitats. [Application](#)

[Sage Grouse Initiative](#) – SGI represents a partnership of ranchers, universities, non-profit groups, and businesses that embrace a common vision: wildlife conservation through sustainable ranching.

[AVIAN Science Center](#), The Avian Science Center promotes informed decision-making based on ecological research – the collection, synthesis, and communication of knowledge about birds and their ecosystems – for conservation of natural resources.

[Montana Raptor Conservation Center](#), MRCC's mission is to improve the welfare of raptors across Montana through rehabilitation of injured birds, community education, and partnerships for raptor conservation and research.

[National Audubon Society](#), Audubon's Mission: To conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

[The Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#), The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is a world leader in the study, appreciation, and conservation of birds.

Cost Share and Funding Sources

[Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program](#) (WHIP), USDA NRCS - The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program is a voluntary program for conservation-minded landowners who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on agricultural land, non-industrial private forest land, and Indian land.

Contact: [Kris Berg](#), Program Specialist, Phone: 406-587-6849

[Montana FWP Wildlife Habitat Programs](#)

Please contact GVLT Stewardship staff with any questions you may have regarding agency information or cost share sources for your wildlife habitat needs; Contact: peter@gvlt.org