



# HOAs & Habitat

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*Conserving wildlife habitat in HOA open spaces.*



## The Program

Partnering with HOAs and the Gallatin County Weed District, the Alliance aims to enhance wildlife habitat in HOA open space by leading an invasive species management effort for a three-year period. The goal is to assist the HOA with education and technical assistance to kick start habitat improvement.

In the Big Sky area, habitat fragmentation and loss are fundamental threats to wildlife survival. When ecosystems are dramatically impacted by human activities, such as development, wildlife may no longer be able to provide the food, water, cover, and places to raise young that they need to survive. The threat of invasive species to wildlife habitat (forage reduction, changes in water quality and availability, and disruption of seasonal migration patterns) is only increasing as Big Sky continues to grow. With the increasing threats to ecosystems in the Big Sky area, existing open space (e.g., areas managed by HOAs) is proving to be a critical component of preserving important habitat.

## 2018-2020 HOA Efforts

For three years, the Alliance focused on assisting two HOAs in the Big Sky area: Ramshorn and Antler Ridge. Working closely with interested landowners, the effort was successful in reducing noxious weed populations, educating and engaging landowners, and setting the stage for future success.

## Ramshorn HOA

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Weed Pull</b> # of people / pounds pulled	<b>Matching Treatment Costs</b> (provided by GISA & GCWD)
2018	14 people / 317 pounds	\$1,947
2019	12 people / 180 pounds	\$1,695
2020	Did not happen - COVID	\$1,420
<b>3 Year Total</b>	<b>26 people / 497 pounds</b>	<b>\$5,062</b>

## Antler Ridge HOA

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Resident Contribution</b>	<b>Matching Treatment Costs</b> (provided by GISA & GCWD)
2018	7 volunteers	\$1,947
2019	12 volunteers	\$1,695
2020	9 volunteers	\$1,420
<b>3 Year Total</b>	<b>28 volunteers</b>	<b>\$5,062</b>

### 3 Year Total

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54 volunteers  
497 pounds of noxious weeds pulled  
\$10,124 worth of noxious weed treatment



The effort was facilitated by the Alliance with the assistance of our long time partner, the Gallatin County Weed District.



The decreasing trend in pounds pulled, observed populations of noxious weeds, and costs of treatment speak to the success of the effort.

**The Alliance is thankful for these HOAs partnering with us  
to protect open space habitat!**