



CONSERVE OUR CANYON

Gallatin Canyon 2019 Report



A cooperative project by the
Gallatin Conservation District,
Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance
Gallatin National Forest, and
Montana Conservation Corps.

CONSERVE OUR CANYON

A cooperative effort to protect the Gallatin Canyon from the threats of invasive species.

The Upper Gallatin Watershed encompasses some of the most ecologically and economically important resources in our county, which provide vital habitat and water for fish, plants, wildlife, and the people who live and recreate in the area.

The presence of noxious weeds in the Gallatin Canyon is directly attributed to human activity, such as construction, recreation, and travel. Since 2004, the Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance has worked collaboratively with federal, state, county, and local partners to promote the management of noxious weeds by facilitating early detection, timely response, and steadfast management.

Conserve Our Canyon cooperative project aims to facilitate effective management of noxious weeds in the Gallatin Canyon to protect the natural resources to the benefit of all who live, visit, and rely upon it.





Partners

Gallatin Conservation District - GCD
Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance - GISA
Gallatin National Forest - GNF
Montana Conservation Corps - MCC

2019 Effort

Montana Conservation Corps Wildland Restoration Crews worked in the Gallatin Canyon for the Bozeman Ranger District for 2 weeks in June 2019. Funding for the crews was provided by NorthWestern Energy and the Gallatin Conservation District.

The Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance worked closely with the Gallatin National Forest to select sites that have infestations of noxious weeds, are heavily used recreation sites, are critical wildlife habitat or are power-line corridors in the Gallatin Canyon. Sites of particular focus were the Indian Ridge staging/helipad area (for the power-line project) and bighorn sheep habitat (southwest of Highway 191 and Lone Mountain Trail).

The bighorn sheep habitat improvement project, which was initiated by the Gallatin Invasive Species Alliance in 2010, has been assisted by the Gallatin County Weed District, Montana Highway Department, MCC, and Gallatin National Forest crews. The Alliance's 8-year investment of \$14,830 has been matched by partners in the amount of \$124,200, which is a 1:8.4 match. The combined effort has made a marked impact over the years, resulting in the reduction of noxious weeds and the return of native grasses and forbs to the benefit of the Spanish Peaks bighorn sheep herd.

The crews treated a total of 317 acres and sprayed 294 gallons of chemical at 15 different sites over 8 days. Crews experienced particularly good weather this year, allowing them to treat more than in previous years. Noxious weed species treated included hoary alyssum, musk thistle, spotted knapweed, oxeye daisy, Canada thistle, houndstongue, yellow toadflax, and common mullein.

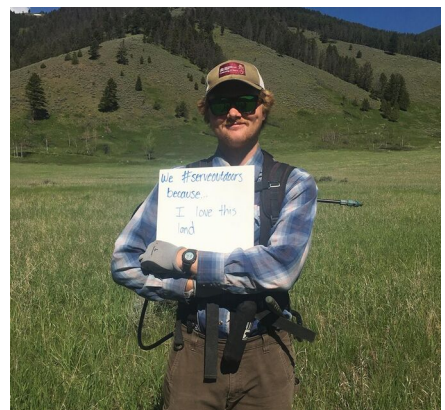
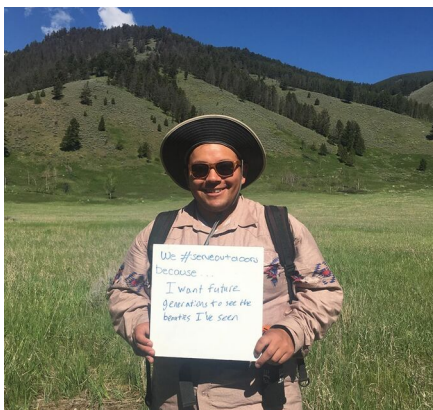
Working with crews in June proved to be highly effective, as it was possible to treat weeds before they began to seed.

Treatments

The following tables show the sites and acres that were treated by MCC crews each week.

SITE	DATE	ACRES	GALLONS
Indian Ridge	3-June	40	42
Hellroaring TH	4-June	2	3
Triangle across from Hellroaring	4-June	1	3
Fishing access S of Hellroaring	4-June	1	3.5
Greek Creek	4-June	15	9.5
35 mph Bridge	4-June	9	8.5
Shenango	5-June	35	31
Durnham meadow	6-June	25	14
Stormcastle Rd logging site	6-June	15	14
	Total	143	128.5

SITE	DATE	ACRES	GALLONS
Doe Creek TH	17-June	5	11
Twin Cabin TH	17-June	10	14
Durnham Meadow	17-June	10	20
Dudley Creek	18-June	15	66
Portal Creek Flats	18-June	6	5.5
Bighorn Sheep Habitat	19-June	12	25
Portal Creek Flats	19-June	7	12
Moose Creek	20-June	2.5	5
Greek Creek	20-June	6.5	7
	Total	174	165.5
	Grand Total	317	294



Costs

The first table summarizes the costs of MCC for the 2 week effort. The second table shows the matching funds for the project by partners.

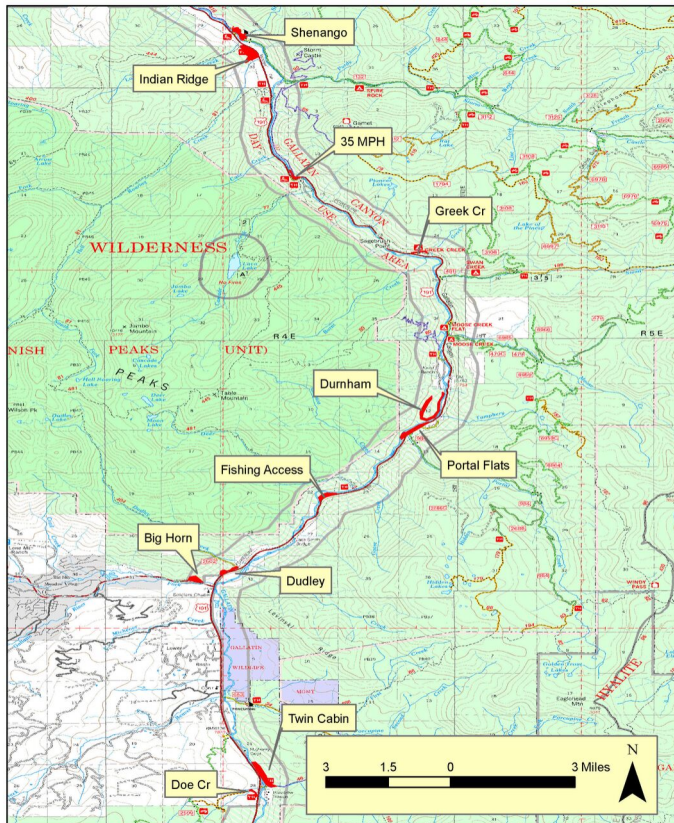
CONSERVE OUR CANYON PROJECT

MCC Staff Crewleader	\$830
MCC Crews	\$2,070
MCC Invasive Coordinator	\$648
Crew travel & meals	\$1,840
MCC Program Ops & Admin	\$2,212
Total	\$7,600

MATCHING FUNDS

GNF Staff (Invasive Plant Specialist, crew member & intern)	\$4,608
GNF Herbicide (@ \$35/acre)	\$11,095
GISA Coordination / Facilitation	\$660
Total	\$16,363

Contract Number _____ Task Order _____ Year 2019



Map Number _____ Name Gallatin Canyon MCC

