

# Montana Beaver Working Group

*Connecting and providing resources to people interested in the role of beavers  
in watershed and riparian health*

## Stories and News

### Collaborative Project Addresses Beaver Conflicts at Council Grove State Park

In early June a team led by Elissa Chott of the Clark Fork Coalition and Council Grove State Park managers installed a double-culvert exclusion fence at Council Grove State Park near Missoula, MT. Elissa designed this structure with counsel from Mike Callahan, as part of her training with the [Beaver Institute](#).

Thanks to Defenders of Wildlife, one of the collaborative project partners, video footage of the installation and reflections from participants is now available in [this short video!](#) (Thanks to Heidi Perryman's sharp eyes for catching the swimming muskrat that snuck into the B-roll footage; this will be fixed shortly in the posted video!)



Learn more about the Montana Beaver Conflict Mitigation Project [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### BEING BEAVER: THE ECOLOGY & BEHAVIOR OF A KEYSTONE SPECIES

**6:30 pm MDT, July 6, 2020**

Rob Rich of Swan Valley Connections will join Flathead Lakers, Flathead Lake Biological Station, and Flathead Lake Brewing Co. for a special virtual "Science On Tap" ZOOM presentation.

Registration link: <https://flathead-lakers.networkforgood.com/events/21488-virtual-science-on-tap-flathead>

Learn about the busy world of beavers, an animal with an integral role to play in watershed health.

### LOW-TECH WET MEADOW RESTORATION: READING THE LANDSCAPE TO RECOGNIZE OPPORTUNITIES

**10:00 am MDT, July 22, 2020**

Want to learn how to read the landscape to identify wet meadow restoration opportunities? This webinar is for you!

Registration link: <https://www.sagegrouseinitiative.com/webinar-low-tech-wet-meadow-restoration-reading-the-landscape-to-recognize-opportunities/>

Wet or mesic habitats are rare but disproportionately important habitats within western range-lands. Gully erosion and channel incision are widespread problems reducing nature resiliency and water storage capacity, which is impacting wildlife and working lands. Simple, low-tech restoration methods using sticks and stones provide effective tools for protection and restoring meadow systems. While there is no shortage of degraded areas that need help across the West, there is a shortage of time and money to address them. In this webinar, Jeremy and Shawn will introduce participants to how to use Bill Zeedyk's principles of "Reading the Landscape and Thinking Like Water" to recognize and prioritize meadow restoration.

Co-presenters:

Shawn Conner, Restoration Ecologist, BIO-Logic, Inc., Montrose, CO

Jeremy Maestas, Ecologist, USDA-NRCS, Portland, OR

Hosted by: Mandi Hirsch, Sagebrush Collaborative Conservation Specialist, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Lander, WY

Sponsors: NRCS Working Lands for Wildlife & Intermountain West Joint Venture

Please send stories, upcoming events, and other resources to:

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MT Beaver Working Group newsletters are posted online at:

<https://www.nwf.org/Northern-Rockies-and-Pacific-Region/Conservation/Beavers>

