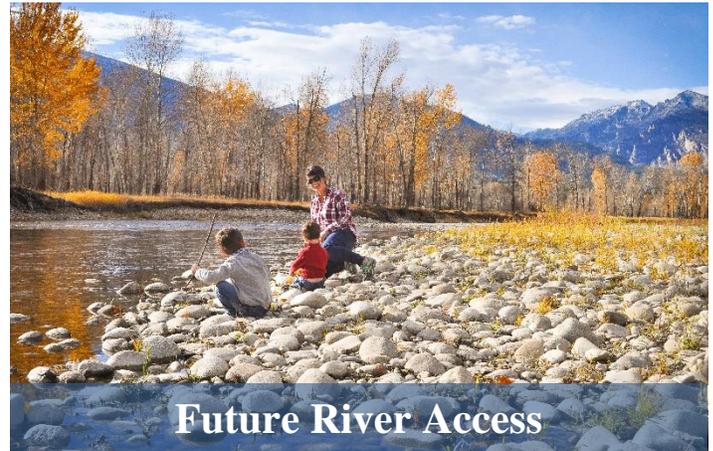


December 5, 2017



Happy December!

We're rapidly approaching the end of another incredibly successful year here at the Bitter Root Land Trust, one that has been highlighted by celebrations of our 20th Anniversary. It has been exceedingly gratifying to celebrate this milestone with so many of you during events this year:



- **The Story:** In April, we watched the history of Montana private land conservation unfold at our film festival in the Victor auditorium;
- **The Party:** In June, we gathered with over 300 of you to celebrate 20 years of conservation with our first ever Barn Dance at Middle Bear Farms;
- **The Outdoors:** We enjoyed the beauty of the Skalkaho and Sleeping Child creeks during our 8th annual Tour of the Bitterroot bike ride in July; and
- **The Gratitude:** Last month we thanked you for your continued investment in our community's water, wildlife, and working lands in the agricultural heart of the valley - the Wild Mare in Corvallis.

It has been a year of celebration, hard work, and incredible new opportunities. BRLT was built upon the belief that our shared connection to the Bitterroot Valley - our river, streams, mountains, farms and ranches, and open spaces - is worth passing on to future generations. Each of us connects to this place in our own way—physically, mentally, spiritually. **These connections call on us now to play a critical role in how we pass the Bitterroot on to the next generation.** You can make a positive impact on the future of our community by supporting the Bitter Root Land Trust this year.

Here's where your gift will make a difference in 2018:

- Working closely with **next generation farmers and ranchers** to ensure locally grown food always has a place in the Bitterroot's culture, economy, and way of life;
- **Creating new opportunities for people to experience, fish, and explore the Bitterroot River:** In 2018, BRLT has an unprecedented opportunity to purchase 75 acres of riverfront land in Hamilton, providing public recreational and fishing access to over a mile of the river (*see photos this page*);
- **Maintaining healthy fisheries and habitat for wildlife to thrive** by partnering with landowners from Florence to Sula on new opportunities along the East and West Forks and multiple tributaries of the Bitterroot River; conserving thousands of acres of winter range for elk and mule deer; and crucial habitat for birds and a host of other wildlife;



- Helping landowners **conserve the agricultural fabric of our valley** on thousands of acres of productive soils in the valley’s “bread basket” between Stevensville and Corvallis (*see photos this page*);
- Working to find the intersection of community and conservation to **enable all Bitterroot residents to access and enjoy the natural beauty of the valley.**

These are just a handful of the two dozen projects that BRLT is working hard to complete right now. We need your help to make these legacies possible! **Your generous gift today will leave a legacy of clean water, wildlife, and working lands we can all be proud to pass on to the next generation.**

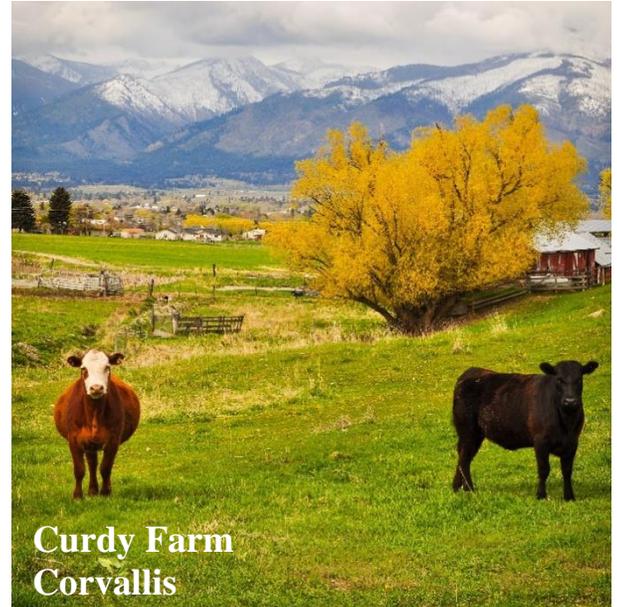
Happy Holidays and thank you so much for supporting conservation, community, and the Bitter Root Land Trust.

Sincerely,



Gavin Ricklefs
Executive Director

[Make your donation HERE!](#)



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