

MONTANA WATER



2008

About this calendar and the Montana Water Center

The theme of the 2008 Water Center Calendar is watershed restoration. Restoration contributes to a healthy state economy, as well as a healthy environment. When watershed restoration is done properly, often by allowing natural stream and bank processes to occur, we can witness the amazing renaissance of “the healthy aquatic lifestyle.” After restoration, bull trout might return to a mountain stream; native grasses could hold their own against the encroachment of invasive species.

The photographs presented here were contributed by watershed groups, agencies and individuals from throughout the state. We thank each of them for their submissions. All photos were taken in color, and then converted to black-and-white images for use in the calendar.

The mission of the Montana University System Water Center is to generate water knowledge to benefit the people and resources of Montana and the region. Located at Montana State University, the Montana Water Center was established by the Water Resources Research Act of 1964 which funded Water Resources Research institutes at land grant universities in 54 states and territories. We work to mobilize the resources of Montana’s public universities to solve the state’s water problems by sponsoring research, providing training and education for current water professionals, and educating future water professionals. Please visit the Montana Water Center website at <http://watercenter.montana.edu/>.

Would you like your photo featured in the 2009 Montana Water calendar? Simply send us an email at water@montana.edu, or call 406-994-1772.

*Students at the 2007 Water Summit.
Photo: Montana Watercourse.*



COVER SHOT:

Silver Bow Creek

Photo: Chris Gammons, Montana Tech

Contaminated tailings from a century of mining in Butte left 22-mile-long Silver Bow Creek nearly devoid of aquatic life or streamside vegetation. Approximately five million cubic yards of metal-contaminated tailings were deposited along the creek between Butte and the Warm Springs Ponds. During the past eight years, there has been a major effort to remove streamside tailings. Some reaches are now well-vegetated and coming back to life, supporting both terrestrial and aquatic life. ARCO, EPA, DEQ, NRDP and the Greenway Service District of Butte and Anaconda have worked since 1999 to restore this severely contaminated stream corridor, expending nearly \$80 million.

Tailings and eroded banks at Silver Bow Creek, June 1997.

Photo: Gregory Mullen, Montana Department of Justice, Natural Resource Damage Program.





Kleinschmidt Creek Restoration Project

Photos: Greg Neudecker

Kleinschmidt Creek, a valuable location for over-wintering livestock in the Blackfoot Watershed, had a long history of intensive riparian grazing. Prior to restoration, the creek supported very low numbers of brook, brown, and cutthroat trout and had a high density of tubifex worms, the primary carriers of whirling disease.



(Above) Kleinschmidt Creek before restoration activities. Fine sediment accumulations and heavy aquatic plant growth were persistent problems.

(Below) Immediately after channel modifications along Kleinschmidt Creek. Although riparian vegetation has not yet been restored, decreased channel width and increased channel sinuosity were clearly visible.

Find more at:

http://wildfish.montana.edu/Cases/browse_details.asp?ProjectID=26

JANUARY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

DECEMBER

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New Year's Day

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Martin Luther
King, Jr. Day



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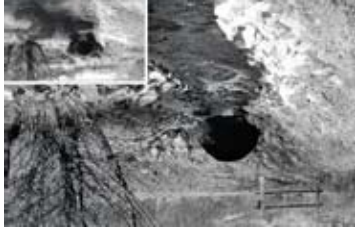
FEBRUARY

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For more water information, visit the MONTANA WATER web site at <http://water.montana.edu/>.

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These photographs were contributed by friends of the Montana Water Center.
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