

PROTECTING THE WATER, WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT.



Action Alert: Flathead Still Open for Coal Mining Despite 2011 Ban

Dear Friend:

Remember the British Columbia ban on mining and energy development in the Flathead River Valley? It was legislated by the B.C. legislature one year ago in November 2011 after a long campaign -- with your help -- that included a successful petition to the World Heritage Committee.

Headwaters Montana celebrated that achievement as historic. And it truly was.

Yet a block of Canadian federally-owned land in the Canadian Flathead - called the "Dominion Coal Blok" (DCB) - remains open to mountain top removal coal mining and coalbed methane development.

It has come to our attention that this coal block is currently being appraised, possibly for development !

Take Action: Please write [Senator Max Baucus](#) Today! (See "What You Can Do" below.)

The 2011 B.C. legislation *has no legal effect* over the 6,290 hectares (15,543 acres) of a federally-owned DCB. The legislation effects only provincial lands.

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society ([CPAWS](#) - one of our Transboundary Flathead partners) has written the Canadian federal minister of Natural Resources, Joe Oliver, asking that the federal government impose the same ban on development imposed by B.C.

Read the [press release](#)

Read the [Missoulian](#) story

The coal block stretches across the globally-significant wildlife corridor that stretches between Glacier National Park and Banff National Park in Alberta.

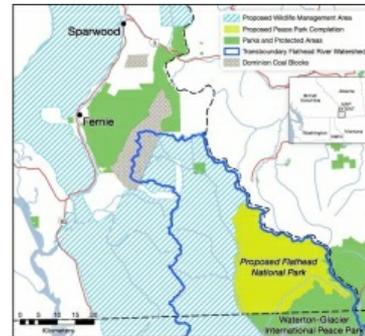
See the map of the [Dominion Coal Block](#)

When the B.C. government passed their mining and energy ban for the Flathead in 2011 they claimed that "The Flathead is now protected." The issue of the DCB illustrates what *Headwaters Montana* and the [Flathead Wild Team](#) have maintained all along, that the job of completing protection for the Flathead remains incomplete.

The remaining pieces include:

- A ban on mining and energy in the Dominion Coal Block,
- Completing Senate Bill 233, the North Fork Watershed Protection Act,
- Doubling the size of Waterton Lakes National Park into the B.C. Flathead, and
- Protecting the wildlife corridor in the Whitefish Range.

What You Can Do!



Dominion Coal Block Threat

The Canadian federal government still holds title to about 6,290 hectares (15,543 acres) of coal-bearing lands in the very headwaters of the North Fork Flathead River. As federal property, the DCB is NOT subject to the B.C. mining ban passed in 2011. This 'coal block' is currently being appraised for possible development. **Please take action today to complete protection for the Transboundary Flathead!** (Map: CPAWS-BC)



The Go-To Guy for the North Fork

Please write Sen. Baucus today to urge him to:

Contact Sec. State Clinton about the DCB

&

Pass Senate Bill 233, the North Fork Watershed Protection Act.

See instruction bottom left of main story. ~ Thank YOU!



As a U.S. citizen you can help by contacting [Sen. Max Baucus](#) today and asking him to:

- Discuss the Dominion Coal Block with U.S. Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham-Clinton, and
- Pass Senate Bill 233, the North Fork Watershed Protection Act, before the end of this year to complete our responsibility to protect our transboundary watershed!

These two actions will help move the Canadian government to action to ban exploitation of the DCB, and fulfill Montana's reciprocal commitment to B.C.'s mining ban on provincial lands.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 406-837-0783

~ Thank you! Please [take action](#) to protect the Transboundary Flathead! ~



Water as Clear as Air

Our mission has been - in large part - the protection of the North Fork Flathead River watershed. An amazing place... A special place. Please take a moment to [write](#) Sen. Baucus today to express your concern.

(Photo: Joel Sartore / NGS Stock with Wade Fredenberg)

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Please donate before the end of 2012 to help us meet the Cinnabar Challenge Grant.

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~Thank You!~

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