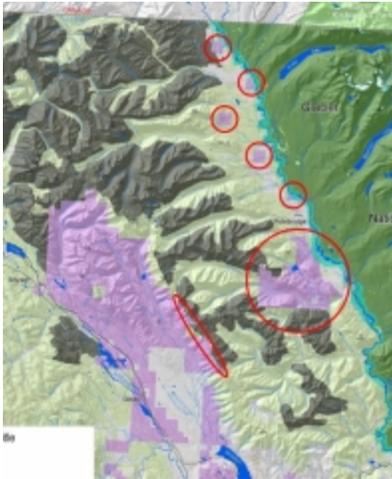


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PROTECTING THE WATER, WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT.



Targeted for Conservation

The Montana DNRC controls about 17,000 acres of land in the North Fork Flathead River (land in red circles above).

Headwaters Montana is spearheading the effort to permanently withdraw subsurface minerals from possible future exploitation to meet the commitment made in the historic B.C. - MT MOU signed during the Vancouver Olympic Games in February 2010. (Click on map for larger image. Map Credit: Headwaters Montana)

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The Devil's in the Details: Resolving State Mineral Rights in the North Fork Flathead Valley

September 13, 2011

Dear [member_name_first]:

When Gov. Schweitzer and BC Premier Gordon Campbell signed the historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the North Fork Flathead River in February 2010 *Headwaters Montana* heralded that event as an "historic breakthrough". And indeed it was. But like all signed agreements, the MOU was only a beginning.

Unless fulfilled (i.e. made concrete with legislation and other actions) the MOU and the protections it promised could be lost for another generation to fight. *Headwaters Montana* is not going to let that happen.

One very important detail: *How to remove State of Montana mineral rights in the North Fork Flathead from possible future exploitation?* Today, *Headwaters Montana* is moving a solution forward.

MOU Historical Thumbnail



The Devil's in the Details

Headwaters Montana leads the effort to:

- retire DNRC mineral rights in the Flathead, and
- establish permanent conservation legislation for the 400,000 acres of the Whitefish Range

Please contribute your financial support today to continue this work.

~ Thank You! ~

North Fork state lands would be extinguished by S. 233.

- The US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is compiling a list of its properties that could be subject to such an exchange.
- Montana's Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department has begun evaluating the fish and wildlife habitat values of such an exchange.
- An exchange will likely take federal legislation.
- Legislation could be introduced before 2012.

As you can imagine, the devil's in the details, not least of which is ensuring that various political interests across Montana, and even the US as a whole, are properly approached and included.

Local Action

Headwaters Montana plays the local field here in the Flathead. We need your support today to keep making progress on this detail of the historic MOU. Over the next few months *Headwaters Montana* will be responsible for the following activities:

- Ensuring that the BLM prioritizes the mineral exchange issue;
- Working with FWP's to verify that fish and wildlife values are not compromised (in the Flathead or elsewhere in Montana) through a mineral exchange;
- Engaging all stakeholders to build support for the exchange and the legislation required to implement it.

How You Can Help

Do you remember how good it felt when the historic BC-MT MOU was announced in 2010? It was akin to the feeling "We Won!" And we did, we were the first

with your tax-exempt, charitable donation today to carry the game all the way to the end. Please click [here](#) to make your donation or the red button at left.

We welcome and greatly appreciate any contribution large or small.

~ *Thank You!* ~

Office: 545 Holt Drive, Bigfork, MT 59911 | Invoices, etc: PO Box 4310, Whitefish, MT 59937
info@headwatersmontana.org | www.headwatersmontana.org

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