




**BEAVERHEAD TRAILS
COALITION INC**

Annual Report
2020

PO BOX 586
DILLON, MT 59725
www.beaverheadtrails.org

HISTORY AND MISSION

The Beaverhead Trails Coalition formed in 2009 as a group of community members that recognized the need for more recreation opportunities and improvement of health. For the last ten years, the coalition they created has developed a few projects like the High Trails System, the In-Town Trails and Routes System, and support programs like the Walking School Bus under the same vision:



Improved quality of life for everybody's enjoyment with easy access to safe routes, trails and public space

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Downey – President
Craig Simonsen – Vice President
Joyce Connors – Treasurer
Pat Carrick – Secretary
Ed Mooney – Member
Dan Pence – Member
Pamela Laursen – Member

Celine Beaucamp-Stout – Executive director



PROJECTS UPDATE

- **The High Trails System**

The High Trails Land Acquisition Project began in August of 2014 when the BTC entered a Buy/Sell agreement with a local, private landowner to purchase over 1,100 acres of land in three phases. As BTC obtains each stage, it turns the area into public access land, used for hiking, running, biking, horseback riding, education, and conservation of wildlife habitat.

As BTC has acquired land, it worked diligently to create a unique trail system, add proper signage and maps, educated users on the area, host trail-work and weed-pull days, and also host 5K/15K fundraising runs. In the six years since BTC has begun the project, the number of users has increased exponentially, and community members have welcomed and embraced the area with enthusiasm. Community members once had to drive 10-15 miles to reach such a space. Now they can walk or ride minutes from their home and community.



- Over 10 miles of trail were added when the Northwest Passage Trail was completed, thanks to our partners, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conversation fire crew!

In 2021, we hope to start planning for a second trailhead, work on a right-of-way to access BLM land on the northwest of our land and organize the 2nd edition of the Pronghorn Pursuit Trail Run 5K/15K.

- **Cornell Park**

BTC has taken over the deed for Cornell Park! We are working in partnership with FWP to take care of the park, including replacing the latrine, streambank restoration, and landscaping. We are currently raising funds for this.



- **The Dillon Trail Connectivity Program**

The Trail Connectivity Program envisions a community where residents and visitors to Dillon can enjoy an interconnected system of safe and accessible walking and biking trails and routes, encouraging healthy lifestyles and reducing traffic. BTC has developed maps and concepts for a large number of connectivity projects within and around Dillon.



- **Noble Avenue Trail**
BTC received a grant from Montana State Parks Recreational Trails Program (RTP) as well as support from the LOR Foundation, Union Pacific Foundation, United Way of Beaverhead County, Dillon Rotary, Patagonia, R.E. Miller and Sons, the city of Dillon, and Beaverhead Golf Course to build

the South section of the project. Funds are being raised to complete the middle section of the trail.

- **Selway Park**

The Selway Park Project started in summer 2018 as a partnership between BTC, the Montana Department Of Transportation, and Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The project aimed to restore the pioneered fishing access on the corner of Laknar Lane and Selway Drive. One picnic table and a bike rack were installed in 2020!

- **Walking School Bus**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Walking School Bus program was put on hold.

2020 EVENTS

- April: The southern part of the Noble Avenue Trail was completed.
- July: Workdays to maintenance the High Trails and Selway Park.
- September: The Northwest Passage Trail located on the High Trails is completed by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC).
- December: Our Giving Tuesday fundraiser garnered over \$2000 for Noble Avenue Trail.

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2020 to December 2020

- **Income**

Grants	\$81,500.00
Donations	\$11,330.61
Membership	\$3,460.00
Sales (Tee-shirts)	\$60.00
Sponsor an Acre	\$15,725.00
Events	\$4,225.94
Total	\$116,301.55

- **Expenses**

Contracted services (Noble Av. Trail construction)	\$19,798.33
Payroll	\$11,784.98
Advertising	\$1,338.60
Operations supplies	\$11,688.40
Office and Admin	\$1,747.90
Insurance	\$1,444.00
Property Taxes	\$208.87
Total	\$48,011.08

Net Income

\$68,290.47

***Notable other entries:**

Land acquisition \$70,218.00

High Trails parcel J– 127 acres

Membership

Membership fees were as follow:

- Students: \$10
- Single: \$20
- Family: \$30
- Membership + T-shirt: \$50
- Business membership: \$100
- T-shirt: \$20



As per December 2020, BTC counts:

- **123 memberships**
- **139 members ***

*Since January 2019, BTC reports memberships number (previously used as "members") VS members number, according to the following: A family membership counts for two members. In 2019, BTC also decided to grant a one-year membership to participants of the sponsor-an-acre program.

- **Sponsor an acre**

Sponsor An Acre: Individuals can help with the funding of land acquisition in the High Trails project by sponsoring an acre for \$550. 3 acres were sponsored in 2021!

- **Bench memorial**

Sponsor a memorial bench on one of our project location (upon availability). Contact us at beaverheadtrails@gmail.com for more information.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust
LOR Foundation
Great Harvest University
United Way of Beaverhead County
Union Pacific Foundation
Steele-Reese Foundation
Kendeda Foundation
Patagonia.com
Tim Speyer
Montana Department of Commerce
City Of Dillon
Beaverhead County
Beaverhead Chamber Of Commerce
Beaverhead-Deerlodge US Forest Service
Montana Youth Challenge Academy
Pivot Plus
Bureau of Land Management - Dillon Field Office
Dillon Jaycees
The Erb Family
Beaverhead County High School
Beaverhead Brewing Company
Best of the West Properties
Montana Department Of Transportation
Montana Fish, Wildlife And Parks
Southwest Montana Arts Council
Dillon Liquor Store
Mammoth wool
Dillon's KOA

Beaverhead Lodge
Barrett Hospital
The Honeypot
Brit's Bake Shop and Cakery
Town and Country Foods
Beaverhead Marathon
1% For The Planet
University Of Montana Western
Bike Walk Southwest Montana
Southwestern Montana Family YMCA
Montana Rural Health Initiative
Safe Route To School
Amazon Smile

And to all our amazing members, sponsor an acre participants, and the community members for your support!

