

FLATHEAD LAKE'S NORTH SHORE

The North Shore of Flathead Lake is a unique and special place. Its wildlife, water and natural beauty are key to the Flathead's prosperity.

Flathead River to Lake Initiative partners and land owners are working together to conserve the North Shore's special qualities in the area extending from Somers to the Flathead River between Flathead Lake and Highway 82.



Scenic Vistas

The North Shore's open fields, shimmering waters and surrounding mountain peaks enthrall long-time residents and visitors alike.

Hunting Heritage

The North Shore is the single most heavily used public hunting area for ducks, geese and pheasants north of the lake. It's a place any family may enjoy Montana's hunting heritage.



Clean Water

Flathead Lake's famous clear water depends on the quality of upstream lands. Healthy wetlands and floodplains along the Flathead River and the North Shore help protect our treasured lake.

Prime Farm Land

The productive soils adjacent to the Flathead Waterfowl Production Area are some of the richest in Montana. Conserving these soils helps keep farmers on the land.

Wildlife

The North Shore's unique combination of wetlands, lakeshore and farm fields is a magnet for birds: This habitat is important for waterfowl and up-land bird hunters, as well as people who simply thrill at the sight of a bald eagle or tundra swan on the wing.



Our Vision

The purpose of the North Shore Conservation Project is to protect this special landscape for future generations to use, enjoy and appreciate. Together, we can achieve this vision.

Conservation Goals

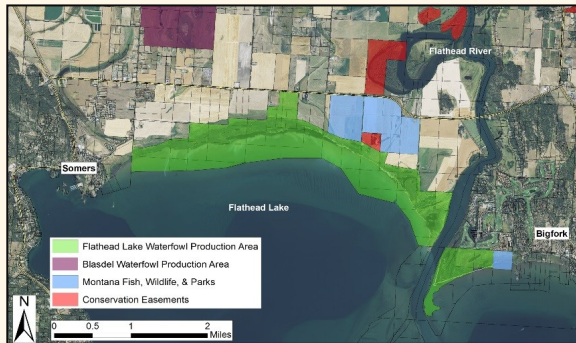
- Conserve farm lands and open space by securing viable options and financial incentives for land owners.
- Protect and restore critical waterfowl and wildlife habitat.
- Protect water quality.
- Enhance public access and maintain traditional hunting opportunities.
- Provide new public recreational opportunities, such as trails and a park.
- Connect local communities and augment economic vitality.



CONSERVING THE NORTH SHORE

It's a mistake to think the North Shore is already protected from large-scale development. While part of the area is included in the Flathead Lake Waterfowl Production Area, over 1,200 acres of surrounding farmland is at risk.

Development is encroaching on the North Shore, putting its irreplaceable public values at risk. We have a window of opportunity to conserve this priceless treasure. Once broken, we cannot put the pieces back together again.



North Shore land owners are embracing a conservation vision for the North Shore. They are working with partners to achieve practical solutions that sustain the North Shore's farming tradition, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, hunting heritage and clean water.

Since 2003, partners have conserved nearly 500 acres on the North Shore, adjacent to the federal Waterfowl Production Area.

Development is changing the face of the Flathead – we need to plan ahead to keep our home special.

North Shore Conservation Project Partners & Supporters

North Shore land owners

Flathead Land Trust

Flathead Lakers

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Montana Land Reliance

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

American Bird Conservancy

Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Flathead Audubon

Intermountain West Joint Venture

For more information about how you can support the North Shore, please contact:



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SHORE SPECIAL

A SPECIAL PLAN
FOR A SPECIAL PLACE

Land People Water Wildlife