

# BAD ROCK CANYON

## CONSERVATION PROJECT

**772 ACRES**  
OF CRITICAL LANDSCAPE  
CONNECTIVITY

HABITAT  
PROTECTION FOR  
**43 SPECIES**  
OF SPECIAL CONCERN

SECURE  
**PUBLIC**  
ACCESS AND  
RECREATION

### HELP US PROTECT 772 ACRES OF CRITICAL HABITAT ALONG THE FLATHEAD RIVER AT A FOCAL POINT OF LANDSCAPE CONNECTIVITY & CREATE A NEW PUBLIC WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.

This strategically located land at the mouth of Bad Rock Canyon provides important habitat for wildlife and helps safeguard water quality in the Flathead River and Lake. Flathead Land Trust, MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Flathead Lakers, and other R2L partners are working together to keep this key habitat intact and create a new public Wildlife Management Area. However, we have a limited opportunity to obtain the funding needed to have a conservation outcome so the property is not sold and subdivided into highly sought after riverfront lots.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.**





**T**he project protects key habitat and connectivity for a plethora of wildlife including two threatened species, grizzly bears and bull trout. The project also protects habitat for 43 Species of Greatest Conservation Need as well as important winter range for a herd of elk and white tailed deer. It conserves key habitat for 192 species of birds for breeding, wintering, and as a vital stopover to refuel on their migration including 59 species identified as conservation priorities. In addition, the wetlands and quality riparian habitat on the property help safeguard the healthy function and excellent water quality of the Flathead River and Flathead Lake, rare gems unmatched anywhere else in the western U.S.

The project will also create new public access and recreational opportunities as the land will be owned by MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks in the future. If we are successful in raising the necessary funding, Fish, Wildlife and Parks will seek public input on the types of public access opportunities that will be available on the property, such as a trail for hikers, bikers, and birdwatchers, and continuation of the unique youth and disabled hunting opportunities for deer and elk each fall.



However, the area is highly threatened by subdivision, with development around the project area booming and land values soaring. From 1990 to 2016, the area experienced a 65% increase in population size. The city of Columbia Falls, which is adjacent to the project property, grew by 82% during this same time period. The project property is highly developable as it has gently rolling terrain, waterfront, stunning views, and a remote feel only minutes from towns, shopping, and commercial transportation. The property also includes Hwy. 2 frontage which would be highly developable into commercial real estate as the highway is the main access to Glacier National Park.



**THE "BAD ROCK CANYON PROJECT" BORDERS 1.1 MILES OF THE FLATHEAD RIVER AND CONTAINS 700 ACRES OF RIPARIAN FOREST INCLUDING 120 ACRES OF EXCEPTIONAL COTTONWOOD GALLERY FOREST, 80 ACRES OF WETLANDS, AND A MILE OF WARM SPRING CREEK.**

The Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. has given Flathead Land Trust and MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks two years to obtain the funding to purchase the property to have a conservation outcome. We have obtained \$5.3 million towards the purchase so far. We need \$500,000 in non-Federal match to bring this important conservation project to fruition and get this vital 772 acres in MT Fish, Wildlife, & Parks ownership by Dec. 2021 so it is not sold, subdivided and developed into highly sought after riverfront lots.

## **YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT CONSERVATION PROJECT**

**PLEASE DONATE TO THE R2L CONSERVATION FUND**

online at [www.FlatheadRivertoLake.org](http://www.FlatheadRivertoLake.org).

**FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT FLATHEAD LAND TRUST AT 406.752.8293.**

