

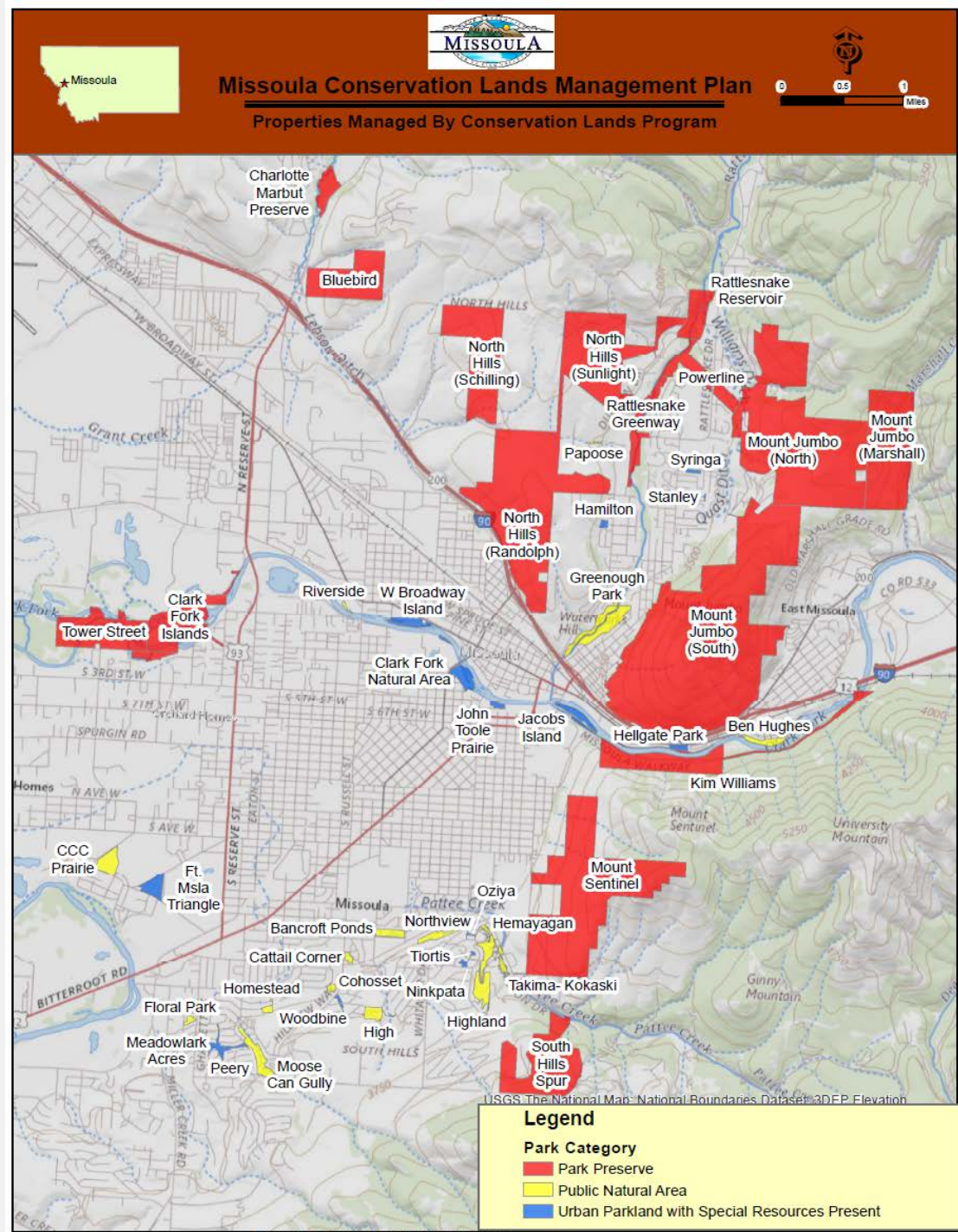
CONSERVATION LANDS PROGRAM: *2019 Maintenance Highlights*

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Missoula Parks & Rec.

Conservation Lands Management Goals

1. Conserve Natural and Cultural Resources
2. Protect and Enhance Native habitats
3. Provide Outdoor Recreational and Educational Opportunities.

- Manage around 4300ac.
 ≈650ac. Coniferous forests
 ≈400ac. Riparian areas
 ≈3100 ac. Grasslands
- Three Categories
 - Park Preserves
 - Public Natural Areas
 - Urban Parklands w/ special resources



The Numbers

- **Revegetation :**
 - Seeded 732 lbs. seed across 48 ac. *(970lbs./86ac. in 2018)*
 - Planted approx. 6,272 native trees & shrubs (783) and herbs (5489) across 5.15 acres *(approx. 4451 across 1.3 ac. in 2018)*
- **Herbicide Applications:**
 - 107.4 ac. weeds sprayed across 462 ac. of land. *(58.2ac. Across 365 ac. in 2018)*
- **Handpulling:**
 - Houndstongue, Knapweed, Toadflax, Dames rocket, & Buckthorn across 6.9 acres. *(3ac. in 2018)*
- **Sheep Grazing:**
 - Approx. 0.00ac. in 365 days *(650 ac. in 48 days in 2018)*

The Numbers Cont.

• **Volunteers :**

- 742 people, 2497 hrs. for approx. \$29,964 in labor (*3904 hours in 2018*)
 - *Special thanks to Washington M.S. for bringing out 120 volunteers in a single day!*

• **Trail Closures:** approx. 1.13 mi. closed, signed and replanted (*1.5 mi. in 2017*)

• **Trail Construction:** approx. .96 mi. of new trail (*1.2 mi. in 2018*)

• **Forest management:** 2ac. thinning Jumbo & 12ac. Logging on South Hills Spur (*1.5 ac. in 2018*)

• **Invasive Tree Removals (N. maple, S. Elm, G. Willow & C. Buckthorn):**

- Removed Invasive trees from approximately 6.6 acres in the Rattlesnake GB, and along the Clark Fork River. (*3/4 ac. in 2018*)

South Hills Spur Logging Project



The Numbers Cont.

- **Grants, Donations, Fees:**

- Awarded \$ 125,000, Rattlesnake Dam Removal (MT. State RRGL grant, applicants = Msla Parks and Trout Unlimited)
- Awarded \$50,000, Waterworks Hill Trailhead Universal Trail project (Mt. State Recreation and Trails Grant)
- Awarded \$3,000 Bancroft Ponds Universal Trail project, (Lewis & Clark Neighborhood grant)
- Donation \$500, Bancroft ponds kiosk repairs (Lewis & Clark Neighborhood)
- Donation \$700, Froehlich TH kiosk panel design (5-valleys land trust)
- Donation \$18,000, for trail work at Rs. Dam, Jumbo & North Hills (Missoula Water company reallocates Mt. Cons. Corps labor contract due to fires)
- Generated \$13,555 from the Special Use Permits, fees, and timber sales on CL (Elk Ramble, Pengelly DD, Little Dipper, MOLA, MORE, grazing lease, fence agreement)

- **2019 Total: approx. \$210,755** (2018 Total: \$91,693)

Leveraging Your Dollars

- From 2008 to 2019 the CLM Program budget has grown from \$160,186 to approx. \$979,000
 - Conservation & Stewardship Mil Levy increased the CLM's 2019 budget by \$506K
 - Missoula's CL Management Plan recommends funding (*park preserves*) at \$142/ac.
 - With the C&S mil levy CLM program is now funded at approx. \$225/ac
- Since 2008, the CLM Program has brought in approximately **\$1,233,981** in grants, donations and other revenue!
- On average the CLM Program has brought in approximately \$0.27 for every tax dollar invested!

2019 New Additions

- Added 150 ac. of New Open Space
 - “Bluebird Property” in lower Grant Ck.
 - Provides for future connection to 600 ac. of existing Open Space
- Added Major new Infrastructure at 3 parklands:
 - Syringa Bike Skills Park
 - Hellgate Dog park
 - West Broadway Island

Syringa Bike Skills Park



West Broadway Island



2019 Major Accomplishments

- Major Trail Rehabilitation & Improvement Projects
 - **North Hills:**
 - tread work and minor reroutes along 3/4mi. of the Homestead trail
 - total rebuild of Sunlight property entry trail
 - **Mt. Jumbo:**
 - Total reroute of the Lower “L” trail
 - Total reroute of the Tamarack x N. Loop road connector
 - **Bancroft Ponds:** Construction of a new universal trail and upgrades of existing trail
 - **Rattlesnake Green Belt:** Major trail reroute and construction of overlook at Rs. Dam
 - **Moosecan Gully:** Tread & drainage repairs and construction of Bog Bridges
- Growth of New Partnerships:
 - Multiple cooperative projects between the Conservation Lands Program and City Utilities
 - Culturally significant restoration project with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes CSKT
 - Lewis & Clark Neighborhood actively funding and trail improvements, habitat restoration, on-site education and more in Bancroft Ponds
- Removal and Restoration of the Rattlesnake Dam is fully funded!

Conservation Land's Trail Projects

What's the Plan??

- 2015 Trails inventory:
 - 65mi. CL trail system
 - 20 mi. user made trails
 - 2.5mi. at >20% slope
 - 350ish problem points
- 2019 work focused on rehab of major problem areas (ie. erosion, veg. loss, braiding, public safety etc.) on high use trails
- New trail construction focused on inclusivity and accessibility



2019 Trail Rehab. Projects

Mt. Jumbo "L" trail



2019 New Trail Construction: Rattlesnake Greenbelt



2019 New Trail Construction

North Hills: Homestead trail



2019 New Trail Construction

Bancroft Ponds Improved accessibility



Moose Can Gully

Jumbo Saddle "Tamarack Trail"



2019 Growth of Cooperative City Projects

City of Missoula Utilities

Missoula Water:

- Rattlesnake Dam removal & restoration will be completed in 2020!
- Waterworks Trailhead & Loop Trail construction begins in 2020!
- CLM Staff are assisting with weed control and long-range plans for the Rattlesnake wilderness dams.



2019 Growth of Cooperative City Projects

City of Missoula Utilities

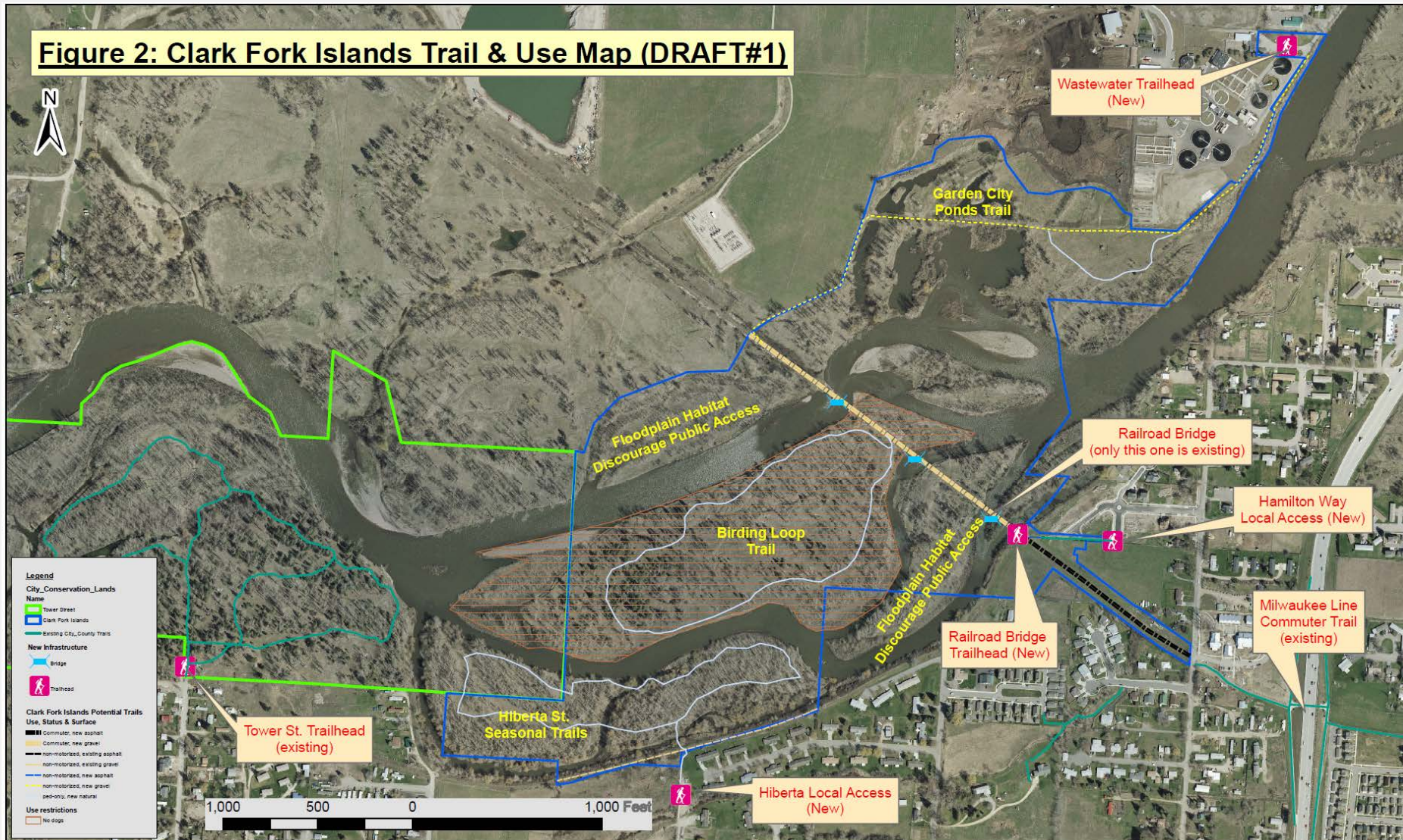
Wastewater & Garden City Compost:

- Established an experimental tree nursery and seed farm on the City's Poplar farm.
- Developing public recreation and habitat conservation Plans on "Wastewater" property



Clark Fork Islands Recreation Management Plan

Figure 2: Clark Fork Islands Trail & Use Map (DRAFT#1)

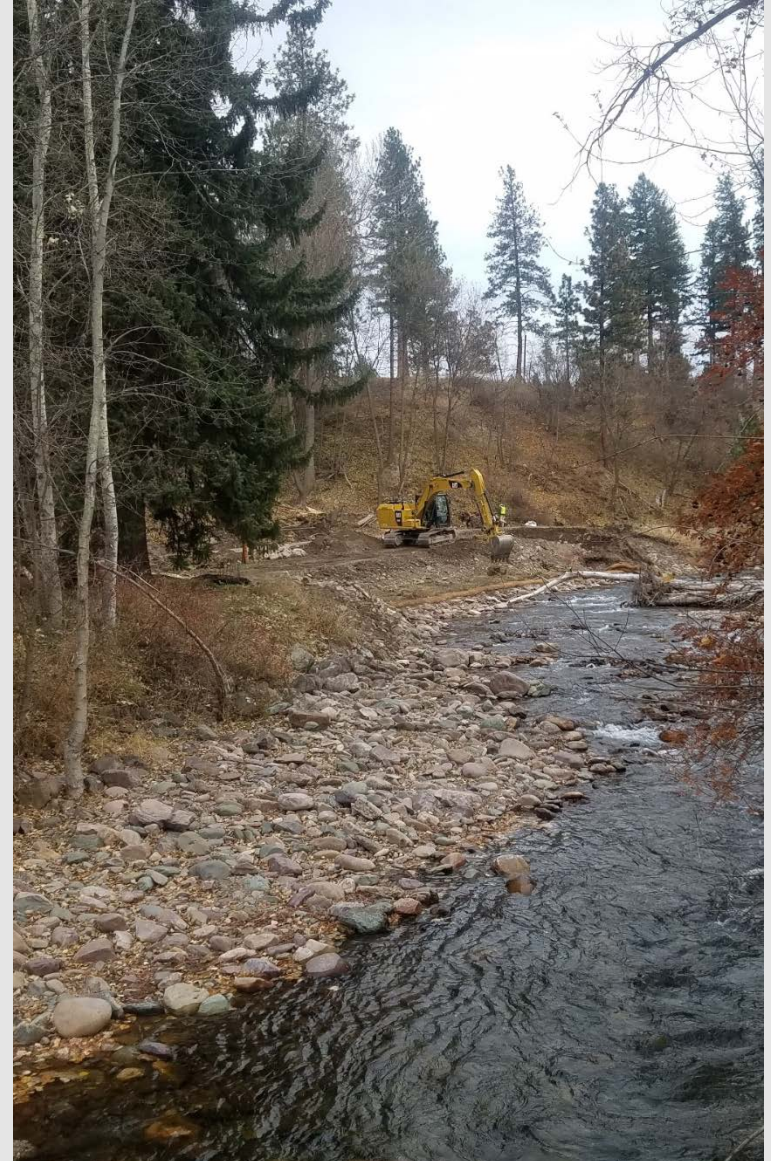


2019 Growth of Cooperative City Projects

City of Missoula Utilities

Missoula Stormwater:

- Implemented a habitat restoration and stormwater improvement project in Greenough park
- With help from the L&C neighborhood received funding to increase public education about holistic beneficial stormwater management at Bancroft Ponds
- Implemented a new way of managing vegetation on Missoula's levees
- Developing a habitat and water quality project in Takima park





2019 Growth of Partnerships

A culturally significant habitat restoration project takes root!

Restoring bitterroot populations at Ft. Missoula regional park :

-Cooperative project between the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the City of Missoula

-long-term goal = restore a collectible bitterroot population and reestablish traditional land use on-site

-In 2019 planted almost 1000 Bitterroots on site



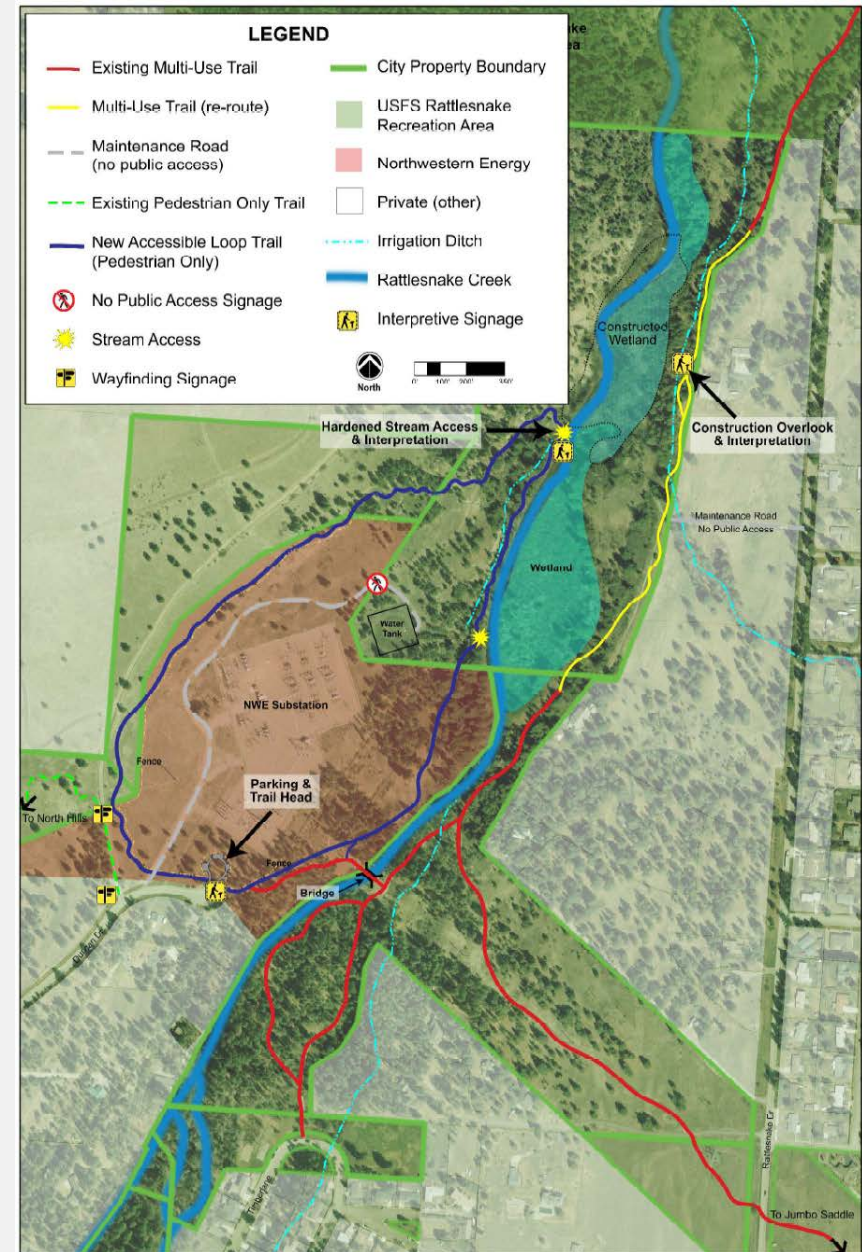
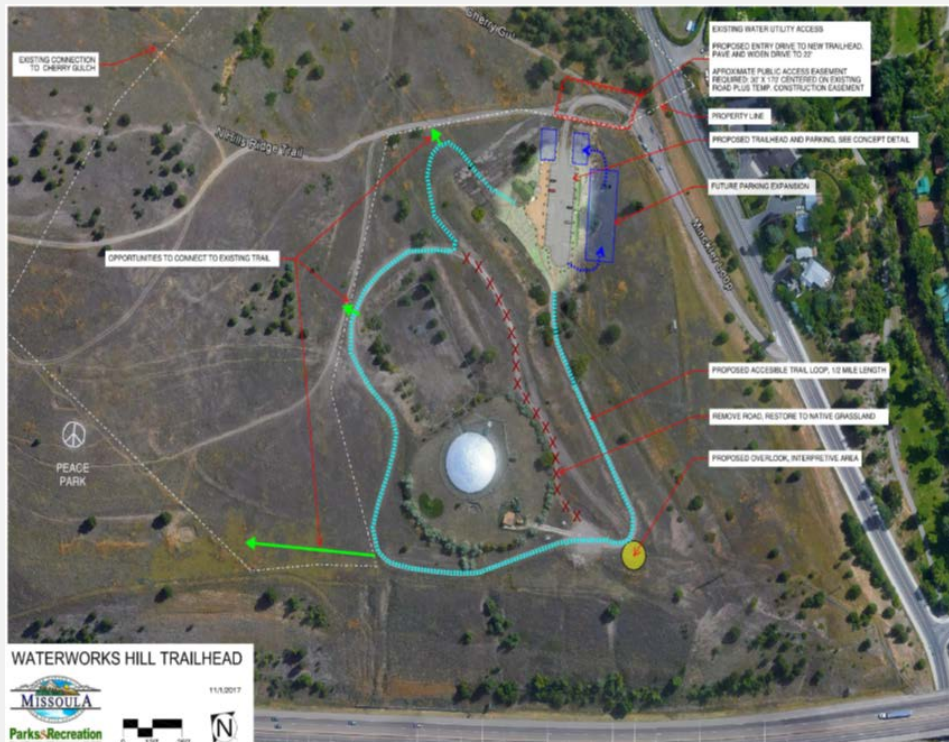
Project Priorities for 2020

Complete \$3 mil. in major habitat restoration and outdoor recreation projects.

- Remove and restore the Rattlesnake Dam and begin implementation of Public access plan on site.
- Rebuild Waterworks Trailhead, start other trailhead upgrades (OS bond projects)
- Begin Design & Engineering of Clark Fork River access sites (OS bond Project)

2019 Trailhead Inventory #s:

- 171 access points
- 19 (constructed) parking lots
- 394 individual signs
- 45 trash cans & 39 mutt-mitts

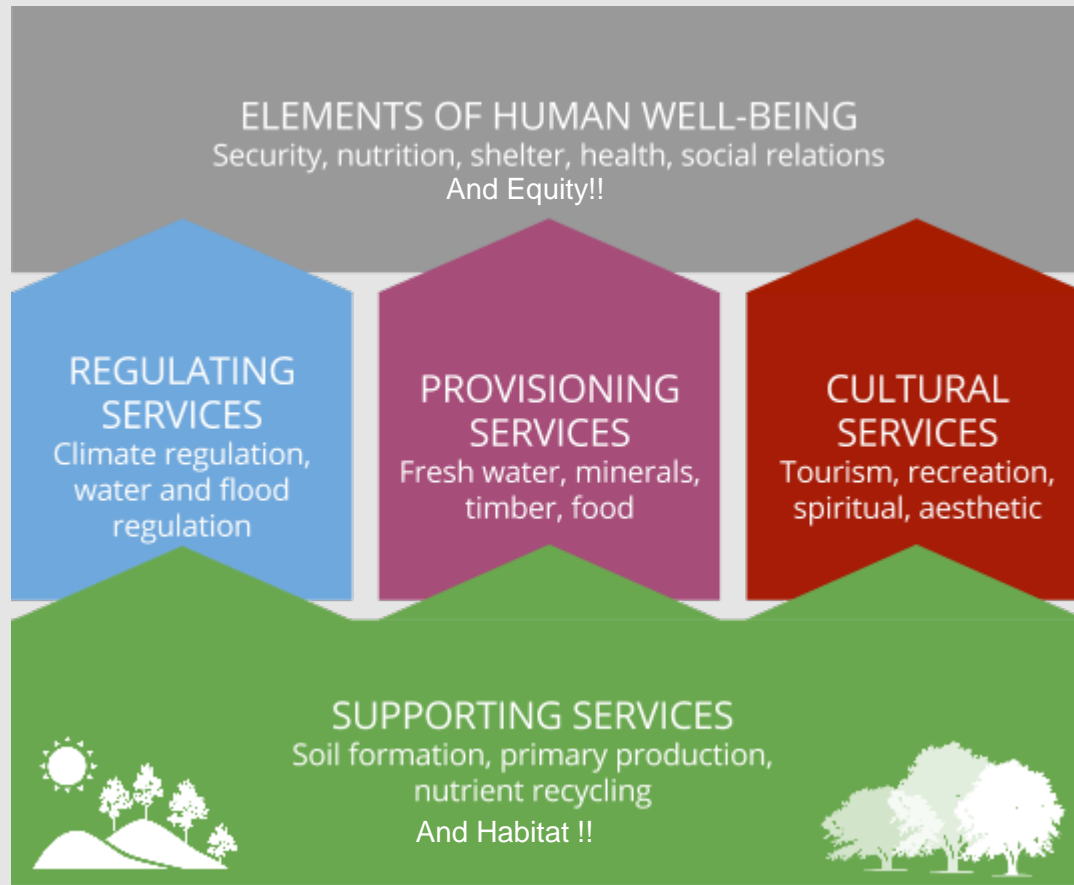


Rattlesnake Reservoir Site
Figure #2 Conceptual Recreation Plan

Division Priorities for 2020

- Expand habitat conservation, environmental stewardship and sustainability projects within the City of Missoula
 - Work to prioritize long-term sustainability on City-owned lands
 - Develop more cooperative conservation, climate resiliency and inclusivity projects
 - Strive for fiscally responsible project implementation and long-term maintenance.
 - Implement the 2019 Open Space Plan, strategies in Missoula's Climate Action Plan and meet public expectations documented in the 2018 PROST survey
 - Add new Professional and Maintenance staff
- Welcome the birth of Missoula's Ecosystem Services Division

Ecosystem Services are the direct and indirect contributions of ecosystems to human well-being.



Missoula's Ecosystem Services Division

Primary Project Areas

1) Green Infrastructure and Climate Resiliency

- Cooperative projects to capture and filter stormwater, reduce human impacts on natural ecosystems and “soften” urban environments
- Implement city plans & policies, develop best management practices and design projects to reduce energy consumption and conserve water resources

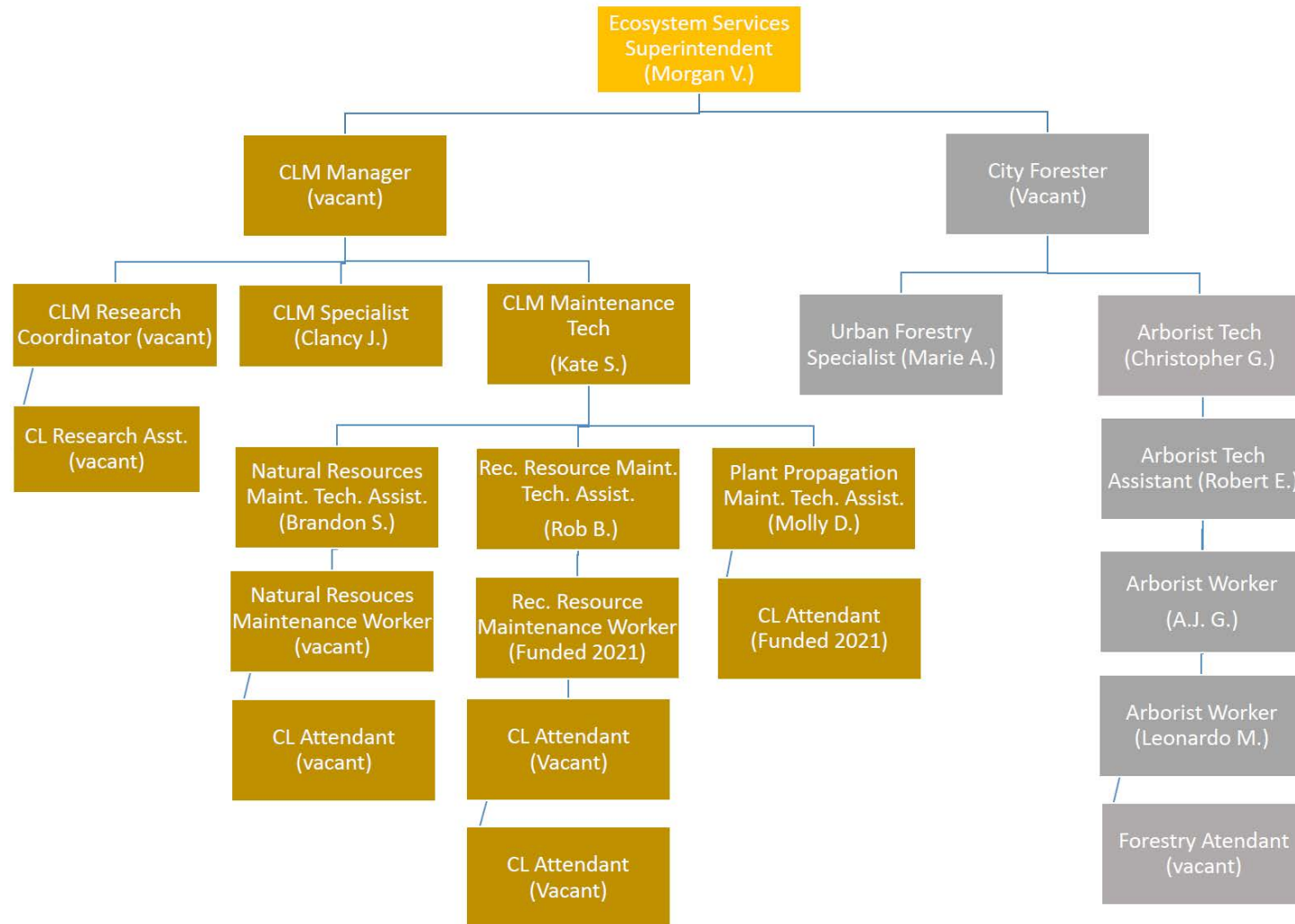
2) Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

- Cooperative projects to develop new and unique outdoor recreation & environmental education opportunities and to ensure long-term maintenance of those facilities
- Expand and improve existing outdoor recreation infrastructure

3) Alternative funding, volunteerism and Public education

- Implement strategies to expand project/program budgets through more grants, donations, partnerships and volunteerism
- Implement targeted educational campaigns, onsite education, outreach and partnerships to increase program support and to shift public practices from misuse to stewardship.

Missoula's Ecosystem Services Division



Thanks for Another Great Season!



Special Thanks to:

Missoula Water/Stormwater/Wastewater Utilities, Missoula Historic Preservation Office, Lewis & Clark Neighborhood Council, Garden City Compost, the Moon-Randolph Caretakers, MT. Dept. of Natural Resource, Clark Fork Coalition, Trout Unlimited, Msla. Co. Weed District, North Msla. Community Development Corp., Mt. Conservation Corps, Run Wild Missoula, MTB Missoula, Five Valley's Land Trust, Mt. Fish Wildlife and Parks, Lolo National Forest, FEMA, CLM crew members and HUNDREDS of Volunteers