



News

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2012 Recreational Trails Program Grants Awarded -Record Number of Applicants -

(Helena, MT) - Montana State Parks (stateparks.mt.gov) announced today that 52 trail organizations, local communities, tribal entities and more will receive Recreational Trails Program (RTP) federal grant awards for trail projects in 2012.

The current federal appropriation is nearly \$600,000. It is only a percentage of the anticipated total amount based on the latest apportionments from the Montana Federal Highway Administration.

“Fifty-two successful project sponsors throughout the state can be certain of partial funding for their projects,” said Beth Shumate, Trails Coordinator for Montana State Parks. “The funding received will provide a boost to local economies and rural communities across Montana.”

[For a list of 2012 Grant Award Recipients: click here](#)

“The Recreation Trails Program grants have made a tremendous difference for our organization by giving us momentum in raising funds to purchase land to protect trails for generations to come,” said Liz Seabaugh, Treasurer of Foy to Blacktail Trails.

“Thanks to RTP and other donors we’ve added 100 acres to county owned Herron Park this year, providing permanent areas to walk, mountain bike, cross country ski, and horseback ride through all seasons of the year. Foy to Blacktail Trails is 5 minutes from Kalispell, can be enjoyed by all ages and is an exceptionally beautiful and inexpensive outdoor recreation,” Seabaugh said.

The federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is an important funding source for Montana trail projects. Administered by Montana State Parks, a division of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, RTP funds are awarded each year for local trail projects such as the construction and maintenance of trails, development of trailside and trailhead facilities, ethics education and interpretive programs, and weed control.

Montana State Parks received a record 72 project applications this year from local communities, counties, federal and state agencies, tribal entities, private associations and organizations.

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