

Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

Protect Montana's Drinking Water

The Clean Water Rule was recently finalized by the Obama administration after years of planning, 400 stakeholder meetings, and more than a million public comments. It safeguards our water and restores protections to the drinking water sources for 1 in 3 Americans. This includes the drinking water for nearly 1 in 4 Montana residents.

The Clean Water Rule is a strong, commonsense policy that makes clean water a priority throughout the nation. If Congress blocks the Clean Water Rule, at least 63% of Montana's stream miles and millions of acres of wetlands nationwide will again be at risk from pollution and destruction from development, oil and gas production, and other industrial activities. Blocking this rule would imperil drinking water sources, as well as the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.



Holland Lake -USFS

- **23% of Montana residents** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 3,595 miles of streams** that feed into Montana's drinking water sources.
- **Thousands of acres of wetlands** that provide flood protection, recharge groundwater supplies, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are safeguarded.

Rule Provides More Economic Benefits than Costs

- **The Clean Water Rule restores, but does not expand, the historic coverage of the Clean Water Act.** EPA estimates that the rule will provide at least \$339 million and up to \$572 million annually in benefits to the public, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat, supporting hunting and fishing, and recharging groundwater.
- **Protecting small streams and wetlands supports fish, wildlife and Montana's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$1.4 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Montana, including \$339 million on fishing alone, and more than 570 thousand people participated in recreational activities throughout the state.
- **Montana's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Small Montana breweries contribute over \$233,700 to our economy every year and support at least 3,200 jobs.

Montana Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **Over 2000 Montana residents, out of more than 800,000 Americans, support the rule.**
- Organizations like the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance, the Clark Fork Coalition, the Missoula City-County Health Department - Water Quality Advisory Council, and the Montana Wildlife Federation, representing thousands of Montana residents, have made statements of support.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information please visit www.protectcleanwater.org