SLIDES: A Fine Line Between Success and Failure in Partnerships

Greg Neudecker

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A Fine Line Between Success and Failure in Partnerships

By Greg Neudecker
Science

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Science Conservation Focus Area

- Intactness
Science Focus Area

- Intactness
- Ownership Patterns
The Blackfoot Challenge: A Watershed Initiative
Crown of the Continent Ecosystem

Glacier National Park

Blackfeet Indian Reservation

Flathead Indian Reservation

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Blackfoot Watershed
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Conservation Focus Area

• Intactness
• Ownership Patterns

• Species Richness
• Partnerships
Science

Conservation Focus Area

- Fix What’s Wrong
Fix What’s Wrong
A RIVER OVERDONE

Blackfoot ‘in danger’ as it flows through people

By GRANT SASEK
IR Staff Writer

The Big Blackfoot River still runs hard.

But the river Norman Maclean immortalized in "A River Runs Through It" has changed from one of the West's premier trout streams into one of the West's most endangered streams.

The river’s decline has reached the point that American Rivers designated it Wednesday as one of the 10 most endangered rivers on the continent.

“It has been overdone,” said Lincoln native Becky Garland. “It has been over-run, over-cut, over-fished, over-recreated and overlooked.”

From beginning to end, the river runs over 138 some miles through large valleys and tight canyons. For the river — and its fish — it is a run through an environmental gauntlet.

Pollution from abandoned mines foul its upper reaches. Logging and agriculture stress the river's middle section. The lower, wider portion of the Blackfoot is crowded by growing numbers of recreationalists.

Throughout it all, the Big Blackfoot remains beautiful. Except far where it begins.

“There's the Goldnugget mass of minerals up here you've ever seen,” 98-year-old Dan Kornec said from the office of the White Hope Mine.

"Mining then is this country's tradition.”

Kornec or other family members have operated the White Hope Mine — which is in a drainage of the Blackfoot's headwaters — since World War I.

The mine operates in the shadow of the Mike Horne Mine, an inactive mine infested among conservation groups.

Even though the Mike Horne closed for the last time more than 30 years ago, barren creeks of acid, rust-colored water heavy with copper, iron, zinc, manganese and cadmium still flow from it and other nearby mines into the Blackfoot.
Committees

- Conservation Strategies
- Water Cons. & Recreation
- Executive
- Lewis & Clark
- Noxious Weeds
- Habitat & Water Quality
- Forestry
- Wildlife
- Education

Blackfoot Challenge
Fix What’s Wrong
• Landscape Protection
Fix What’s Wrong

- Landscape Protection
- Restoration
Fix What’s Wrong

- Landscape Protection
- Restoration
- Management
Fix What’s Wrong

• Landscape Protection
• Restoration
• Management
• Education
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Fix What’s Wrong
Art
Art
Community Based
Community Based

• Watershed Group
Blackfoot Challenge
“Better communities through cooperation.”
THE BLACKFOOT CHALLENGE

Conservation Groups

State Agencies

Federal Agencies

Nonprofit Organizations

Local Business Community

Corporations

Private Landowners

Recreationists
Community Based

- Watershed Group
- Local Leadership
Community Based

• Watershed Group
• Local Leadership

• Tangible On-the-Ground Results
Art

Community Based

Project Director(s)
Project Director(s)

- Partnering
Project Director(s)

- Partnering
- Patience
Project Director(s)

- Partnering
- Patience
- Perseverance
Project Director(s)

- Partnering
- Patience
- Perseverance

- Political Savvy
Project Director(s)

- Partnering
- Patience
- Perseverance

- Political Savvy
- Support Group
Science
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Fix What’s Wrong
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BLACKFOOT CHALLENGE

BETTER COMMUNITIES THROUGH COOPERATION