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

Art
Conservation Focus Area

- Intactness
Science Conservation Focus Area

- Intactness
- Ownership Patterns
Crown of the Continent Ecosystem

Glacier National Park
Blackfeet Indian Reservation
Flathead Indian Reservation
Bob Marshall Wilderness
Blackfoot Watershed
Conservation Focus Area

- Intactness
- Ownership Patterns
- Species Richness
Conservation Focus Area

- Intactness
- Ownership Patterns
- Species Richness
- Partnerships
Montana - Priority Conservation Areas

- Canadian Rockies
  - A. Swan Valley
  - B. North, Middle, South Fork Flathead
  - C. Rocky Mountain Front

- Northern Great Plains
  - D. Montana Glaciated Plains
  - E. Bitter Creek
  - F. Lower Yellowstone River

- Middle Rockies - Blue Mountains
  - G. Centennial Valley
  - H. Blackfoot River
  - I. Upper Madison River
  - J. Big Hole River

- Utah/Wyoming Mountains
  - K. Absaroka - Beartooth Front

Map created 4 August 2003
Science

Conservation Focus Area

• Fix What’s Wrong
A RIVER OVERDONE

Blackfoot ‘in danger’ as it flows through people

The Big Blackfoot River still runs hard. But the river, 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 over-looked.”

From beginning to end, the river runs due west for 136 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.

Through it all, the Big Blackfoot remains beautiful. Except for where it begins.

“There’s the Goldsmith—mass of minerals up here you’ve ever seen,” 88-year-old Dan Kornec said from the office of the White Hope Mine.

“Mining there 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 Horse Mine, an inactive mine infestations among conservation groups.

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

Miner Dan Kornec: “It ain’t going to get cleaned up overnight.”

(More RIVER, page 8A)
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
BLACKFOOT COMMUNITY PROJECT

Our Lands, Our Future
Fix What’s Wrong

- Landscape Protection
- Restoration
Fix What’s Wrong

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

- Landscape Protection
- Restoration
- Management
- Education
Science
Conservation Focus Area
Fix What’s Wrong
Art
Art

Community Based
Community Based

- Watershed Group
THE BLACKFOOT CHALLENGE

- Conservation Groups
- State Agencies
- Local Business Community
- Federal Agencies
- Corporations
- Nonprofit Organizations
- 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
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Fix What’s Wrong

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