



MONTANA  
**State  
Library**



# 2011 Annual Report

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# 2011 Annual Report Overview

The Montana State Library is committed through leadership, advocacy, and service to strengthen libraries and information services for all Montanans. This report reflects the accomplishments of the Montana State Library during the 2011 fiscal year.

Our Statewide Library Resources Division reaches all Montana citizens through 1) the consulting and training we provide to community libraries; 2) our statewide purchases for content and collaborative resources that ensure that all libraries can offer their patrons up-to-the-minute accurate information on everything from health care to business management and industry-leading services; 3) our innovative programs that get informational materials into Montanans' hands more quickly and efficiently, and 4) our provision of reading materials for those who would not be able to read otherwise.



Our Digital Library Division reaches out to state and federal employees, to the natural resource community and to the general public, providing vast quantities of unique information, such as that created by state government, as well as natural resource and geospatial data about Montana, that are accessible with the click of a mouse. This kind of ready access saves people, state and federal agencies, and business owners incredible amounts of time and money, which is only increasingly important as the national economy's woes continue to descend upon Montana.

Access to information is the foundation of good government and government accountability; an informed citizenry; a strong business community; and a progressive educational foundation. Without the Montana State Library and its many services to our citizens, businesses, and government employees, the state of Montana would lack in information resources. The value of the services outlined in this report cannot be overstated.

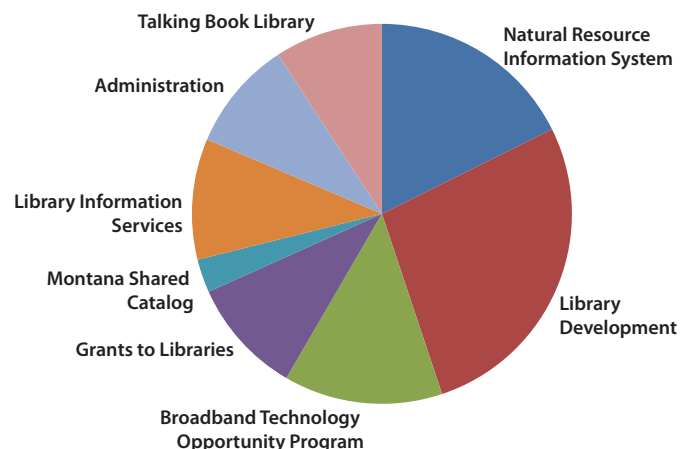
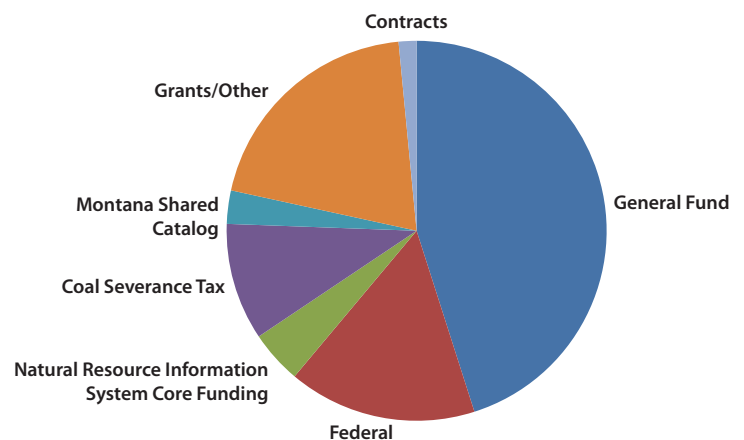
## Montana State Library Revenue and Expenditures

### Revenue

General Fund	2,836,638
Federal	1,008,580
Natural Resource Information System Core Funding	283,516
Coal Severance Tax	627,534
Montana Shared Catalog	178,460
Grants/Other	1,262,671
Contracts	95,591
	<b>6,292,990</b>

### Expenditures

Natural Resource Information System	1,111,290
Library Development	1,712,058
Broadband Technology Opportunity Program	850,872
Grants To Libraries	622,324
Montana Shared Catalog	178,460
Library Information Services	647,660
Administration	591,254
Talking Book Library	579,072
	<b>6,292,990</b>



# Statewide Library Resources

*The Montana State Library's Statewide Library Resources division works directly with Montana's public libraries to pilot new programs, provide training and outreach in library development, and negotiate statewide purchases so that all libraries can offer their patrons a range of the very best library services and materials available. Sarah McHugh became the new Director of Statewide Library Resources in June 2011.*

## Montana Library2Go



As downloadable books have gained in popularity, the Montana State Library answered patrons' requests and needs by increasing availability of books for free download to a range of media players, such as iPad and iPhones, as well as e-book readers. The program, called MontanaLibrary2Go, increased by 13 new libraries in the consortium in FY2011, for a total of 56 libraries and branches participating. There were 6,208 titles available for patrons by the end of the fiscal

year, including 4,568 audios and 1,650 e-books. Montanans checked out over 125,000 items in the fiscal year.

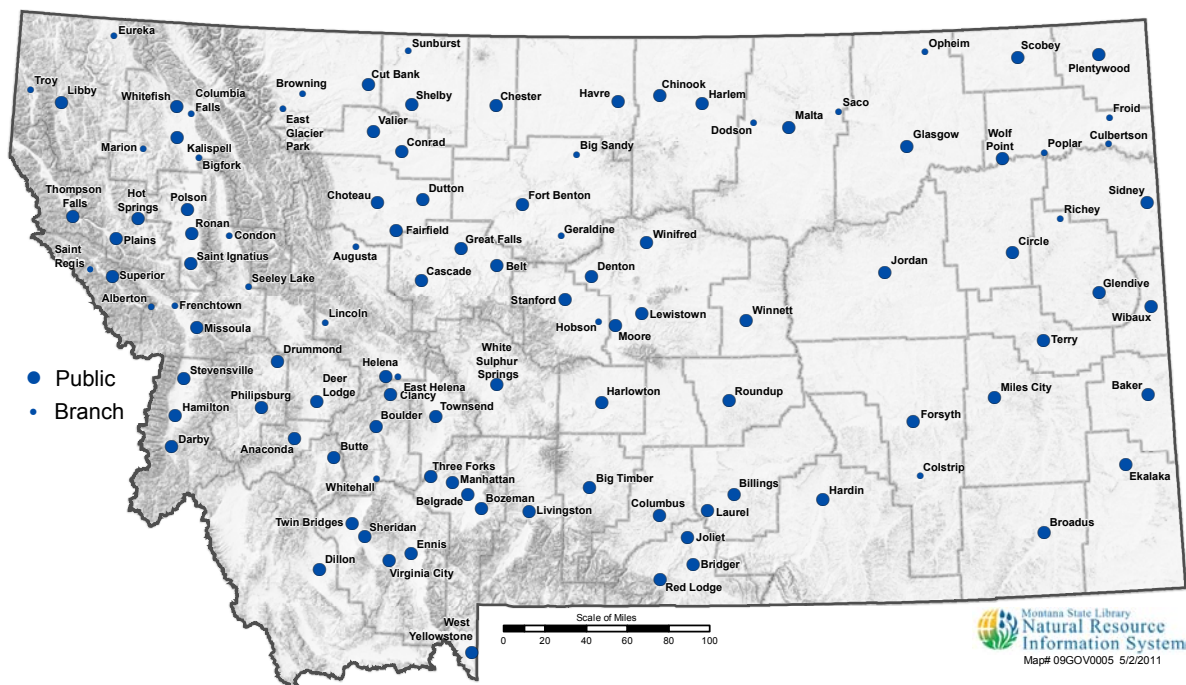
## Montana Connecting to Collections Statewide Planning Project

The Montana State Library and the Montana Historical Society were awarded a two-year Connecting to Collections Project grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The project began in April 2010 and offered preservation training and outreach opportunities for Montana's libraries, historical societies, museums, and cultural organizations. In 2011, a survey was developed and completed by 138 organizations. The data was compiled into an extensive report that includes recommendations to address Montana's most pressing preservation issues, alert citizens and decision makers of the threat to the state's cultural collections, and advocate for support and funding to preserve our unique heritage. The data will provide needs assessment documentation for cultural organizations to use for long-range planning and preparation of grant proposals to address preservation issues.



## PUBLIC LIBRARIES

## MONTANA'S



# Statewide Library Resources

## Montana Shared Catalog

The Montana Shared Catalog added 27 new libraries in FY2011, including ten public libraries and 17 school libraries, bringing the total MSC membership to 130 libraries and branches that share an integrated library system. There are more than 3.6 million items in the catalog.

The MSC membership agreed to increase staff salaries for MSC funded positions in an effort to reduce the high turnover rate in those positions. This resulted in the hiring of two extremely competent and energetic new staff people who have added a much needed boost to the system administration staff, member library technical support, and more frequent and updated training opportunities for the membership.

The MSC also now boasts a new, more powerful server, resulting in significantly faster system operations noted by library staff and patrons alike.

### ***From Cheri Hesel, Director of Rosebud County Library***

"The Montana Shared Catalog opened the doors to the whole state and beyond for the citizens of Rosebud County who depend upon Rosebud County Library and Bicentennial Library of Colstrip for access to materials and other resources. We have been able to share resources on a grand scale because of sharing the catalog, and our patrons are so happy to be enjoying things beyond what our libraries alone could provide. In addition, we have the expertise of the Montana Shared Catalog staff so that we are not isolated in trying to manage our circulation and cataloging. Going into the new millennium twelve years ago, we knew that it would be essential to partner and share resources, knowledge, and skills in order to survive and flourish in our small, medium, and large libraries across the state. The Montana Shared Catalog has been the key to that survival and success."



### ***From Heidi Sue Adams, Library Director at Kalispell Regional Medical Center***

"We very much appreciate the Montana Shared Catalog because otherwise we would not have an integrated library system. For our medical library, located in the health-care setting, being a part of the MSC enables us to realize significant cost savings with regards to reducing the duplication of expensive medical books and journals, and also allows our clinical staff to immediately see what resources are available to assist them with optimum patient care. Patients and family members also benefit from this same system because they too can see what resources are available for them in area libraries."

## Montana Memory Project

The Montana Memory Project (MMP) is an online source for digital collections relating to Montana's cultural heritage and is made possible through a partnership with the Montana Historical Society (MHS). The free resource includes digitized newspapers, maps, photographs, rare books, historic documents, diaries, audio clips, illustrations, and more. The MMP now includes 321,596 images in 34 collections. This is an increase of 150,000 items from a year ago, more than doubling the content. The collections

represent content from 18 different libraries and museums around the state. Two travelling digital scanners and laptops are available for loan to interested contributors. MSL staff are also partnering with staff from MHS and the Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA) to educate communities about the importance of cultural preservation through the MPA Touchstone grant, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.



*Contributed by: Montana Historical Society Research Center (1850 - 1900)*



# Statewide Library Resources

## Statewide Library Consultants

Last year, the Montana State Library's consultants traveled over 37,000 miles throughout Montana to meet one-on-one with librarians and library trustees across the state. The consultants offered assistance with everything from training and technology to applying Montana library law and fundraising. Consultants assisted 48 of Montana's public libraries



### Courier Pilot Project

The Montana Courier Pilot was made possible due to funding from the Montana Legislature for FY2010 and FY2011. The goal of the pilot was to help libraries find a more effective and fiscally responsible method to share library resources for the benefit of library patrons throughout the state. MSL contracted with a medical courier, Medical Logistics, to move patron-requested library materials between participating libraries. A total cost savings to participating libraries of almost \$300,000 was realized over the period of this popular pilot (April 2010 – June 2011) and nearly 30,000 items were moved over the course of the pilot. A total of 37 libraries participated in the pilot.

#### **From a librarian who received assistance:**

"Technology is the major area where my State Library Consultant helps me. I don't have much IT support and what support I do have isn't very sympathetic, so it's great to be able to ask (the MSL consultant) for help with hardware and software decisions. Having consultants was one of the best ideas MSL ever implemented."

with E-rate, resulting in over \$56,000 in E-Rate discount commitments. Additionally, Montana witnessed a large number of new library directors coming on board in the past year. MSL staff assisted with new director orientations and offered training on trustee/board development; long-range planning; policies; the Montana Shared Catalog; building projects; library districts; mill levies; and budgets.

## Ready 2 Read

The Ready 2 Read program, MSL's statewide initiative to increase awareness of the importance of early literacy for children from birth – five years old, received several grants to further support state-wide early literacy development.



Through a partnership with MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Montana Head Start Collaboration Office, \$8,400 was granted from the Environmental Protection Agency to provide training and materials to early childcare providers on Montana's seven American Indian reservations. The First Interstate BancSystem Foundation granted \$35,000

to MSL to conduct a three-day training for Montana's children's librarians and to develop early-literacy focused



trunks based on Montana's American Indian cultures. Additionally, the Washington Foundation provided a \$10,000 grant to develop Ready 2 Read PlaySpaces in libraries throughout Montana in an effort to increase the capacity of libraries throughout the state to recognize and realize their full potential as community hubs for healthy child and family development, parent and community involvement, and lifelong learning beginning at birth.

# Statewide Library Resources

## SWIM Regional Scholarship Program

In 2010-2011, 74 residents of Montana, Idaho, South Dakota, and Wyoming received scholarships equaling \$702,720 to pursue library education and a professional career in librarianship as part of the SWIM program. This program is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Twenty-four Montanans were awarded scholarships worth \$210,440. These new librarians, who will complete their education in 2012-2013, will utilize their advanced degrees in libraries in the SWIM region.



### **From a SWIM student in Sidney, MT**

"Thank you so very much for honoring me with a SWIM scholarship. The increase in production costs like fuel and fertilizer have hit our business hard. We are cutting back all we can to try to keep our ranch in the family for the sixth generation, which is growing up now. Now I can get some classes to get a certification that will make me more employable to help ease some of the financial strain."



## Montana Talking Book Library

The Montana State Library's Talking Book Library (MTBL) program ensures that all qualified Montana residents who, because of a disability, are not able to use standard print resources, have free and easy access to reading materials.

MTBL has been offering digital services – including access to MTBL's collection of books and magazines in a digital format – to patrons who cannot read standard print materials for over a year. Additionally, all patrons have the option to select a digital player, which is simple to use and accessible for all. MTBL's selection of online BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) titles are easily searchable and accessible with a variety of approved personal player choices, giving patrons many new library options to choose from.

In FY2011, the number of MTBL patrons increased by 68%, reflecting the popularity of the digital services. Patrons can choose from nearly 7,000 digital titles from MTBL's in-house collection and nearly 25,000 digital book titles and 48 magazines available through the BARD online service, a program of the National Library Service of the Library of Congress.

MTBL also completed phase one to transition local Montana recordings from analog to digital format, and installed equipment hardware and software to provide "duplication on demand" for digital books. MTBL has in place a detailed seven-year, five-phase plan to convert its

entire collection from analog to digital. The conversion will be complete in 2017.



To assist patrons, MTBL employees also conducted numerous Web and phone training sessions for patrons on how to successfully download BARD books and magazines to play on the various digital devices. Other outreach and training opportunities conducted by MTBL employees included on-site computer lab trainings of MTBL online digital

BARD services to patrons attending the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind's "Summer Blind Camp"; Montana Health Care Association's "Activity Directors"; who assist patrons in retirement/independent and assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and other institutions; and Montana Association for the Blind's Summer Orientation Program.

### **From a Helena patron:**

"My doctor gave me your phone number when I first received my diagnosis but it took a year before I could accept losing my vision to contact you. At first I didn't want to hear someone else's voice reading "my" books for me. Then one day I had an epiphany – I could cook, do laundry, clean house, play with my kids, dance, and enjoy a book all at the same time – while listening to your digital books! I can speed the voice up, change the pace, and that sleep button is a jewel of a feature. I appreciate how my Readers' Advisor helps me stay current with new titles and finds ones I request. Great service!"

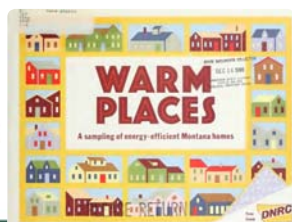
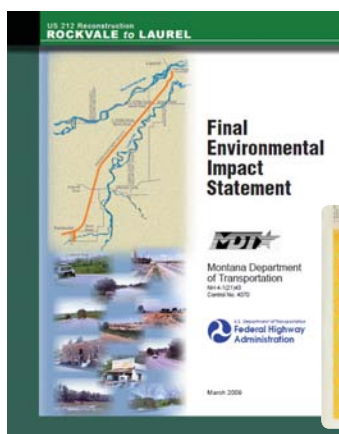
## Library Information Services

*The Montana State Library's Library Information Services (LIS) division makes use of new technology to make collections and many resources even more accessible to our users.*

*The Montana State Library's Digital Library Division merges multiple statutory programs in order to best serve the evolving information needs of the library's users. The programs included in the Montana State Digital Library Division are Natural Resource Information System; Natural Heritage Program; Water Information System; and the State Publications Center. The Digital Library Division also includes the more traditional Library Information Services, with professionally trained librarians to help users find and access exactly what they need.*



In July 2010, LIS licensed the Safari Books Online collection to supplement the information technology component of the Professional Library Development collection. This license allows LIS to select fifty eBooks at a time from a list of over 9,000 titles for full-text access from the library catalog. New titles are regularly rotated into the MSL collection based on use statistics of currently available titles. This new eBook collection is a boon for librarians and state agency workers across Montana who need up-to-date technical information without the delay associated with interlibrary loan requests and it provides a cost-effective way for MSL to provide access to information technology materials that typically have a very short shelf-life due to rapid technology changes.



LIS partnered with the Environmental Quality Center (EQC) of the Montana Legislative staff to

demonstrate the LIS pilot project that uses the Internet Archive's Web crawling service, Archive-It, to leverage the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) publications managed by EQC. LIS had earlier gained permission from EQC staff to crawl the directory structure of their web server. LIS thus successfully captured over 7,000 MEPA publications and now provides full-text search capability for these same publications within Archive Montana. A new dedicated search interface for MEPA publications was also created.

In its third year of a massive project to digitize approximately 55,000 historic Montana state publications dating from the 1870s, LIS broke the million page milestone. By March 2010, over 1,017,569 pages had been scanned and are now freely, publicly available from the MSL digital repository at the Internet Archive. MSL patrons have accessed these digitized publications over 20,000 times in the last year.

**Print state publications: 61 checkouts.**

**Digital state publications in MSL collection at the Internet Archive: 17,987 downloads**

**Digital state publications at Archive Montana: 3211 number of visits**



## Montana Natural Heritage Program

The Montana State Library's Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is Montana's primary source for information on our state's animals, plants, and ecological systems. MTNHP is recognized nationally as a leader in the dissemination of information and for its innovative web services. The data and services provided by MTNHP are critical to workers in land management, civic planning, agriculture, research, education, and recreation.

MTNHP appointed its new director, Dr. Neil Snow, who began in July 2011. He arrived with great admiration for what the staff has collectively accomplished in its first 25 years and has confidence that MTNHP will continue to expand its biological and ecological data and web services.

Two valuable new additions to Heritage web services were nearly completed by the end of the fiscal year; they were released in Fall 2011. The first is an Aquatics classification, which compliments the Terrestrial Ecological Systems component of the Montana Field Guide ([http://fieldguide.mt.gov/displayES\\_LCLU.aspx](http://fieldguide.mt.gov/displayES_LCLU.aspx)). The second addition is a publications database reference management system. The system allows for easy data entry and maintenance, and automatically harvests information from WorldCat.org to populate citations. The link to WorldCat.org will also provide users to ready access to the referenced online resources when available and

to interlibrary loan services when the references are only available in print form. The citations and online links are now available in the Montana Field Guide.

The Zoology Program continues to compile animal observations from across Montana. The central state-wide Point Observation Database (POD) contained over one million animal observations at the end of FY2011, of which approximately 71 percent were for birds and 29 percent were for other species. The Botany program likewise added data for many plant species of concern, including updated data for state and global rankings. These observation records



form the basis of MTNHP's ability to provide high quality occurrences of Species of Concern, which are used in environmental reviews and predictive distribution models that municipal, state, and federal agencies require for planning and data management.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) funded MTNHP in 2011 to conduct surveys of 24 springs and seeps on BLM lands in central and eastern Montana. While MTNHP scientists found that cattle use and hydrologic modification (i.e., piping and excavation) have caused significant degradation to a number of groundwater dependent ecosystems, they also identified biologically intact springs in relatively undisturbed landscapes, as well as springs that have been improving with management practices such as exclosure fences and cattle rotation.

### Previous Year Data Total

*The Montana Natural Heritage Program continuously acquires new biological data.*

*As of October 2011:*

#### New observations...

	<i>Via MTNHP</i>	<i>via Web</i>	<i>Total</i>
Animals	79,292	2,697	81,979
Plants	1,031	-	1,031
	Grand Total		83,010

#### Species Occurrences created...

	<i>Animals</i>	<i>Plants</i>	<i>Total</i>
	16,014	558	16,572

#### Updated records...

	<i>Animals</i>	<i>Plants</i>	<i>Total</i>
Point Observations	159,098	329	159,427
Species Occurrences	11,281	202	11,483

#### Total current...

	<i>Animals</i>	<i>Plants</i>	<i>Total</i>
Point Observations	1,095,362	10,962	1,106,324
Species Occurrences	37,565	7,322	44,887

#### **From a Montana wildlife biologist:**

"...your website and customer service are just awesome. I work in several states, and [MTNHP is] top of the lists for quality and accuracy of information, your quick turn-around times for databases queries, and the ease with which you can find info on your site. Thanks for all the hard work and great service!"



## Montana Natural Resource Information System

As Montana's premier source for natural resource information, NRIS works to record, acquire, store, and disseminate natural resource data. Through federal and state interagency data coordination and partnerships, NRIS develops and maintains an extensive collection of Montana's geographically referenced natural resource data. NRIS staff also provides technical assistance and develops information access, analysis, and interpretation tools.

NRIS received funding as a full partner in the Geospatial Multistate Archive and Preservation Partnership (GeoMAPP) (<http://www.geomapp.net/>), a program of the Library of Congress National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. The GeoMAPP program is researching and developing best practices for the development of geospatial archives. NRIS had been involved in this project as an informational partner for more than a year. The \$100,000 grant award supports NRIS staff efforts to develop a data inventory and spatial data collection development policy that includes a geospatial data archives strategy.

Through the coordination of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Montana Water Resources Division, with funding from local governments and grants, the upper Flathead Valley and Flathead Lake have a new set of aerial photos

and elevation maps, which provide up to four times the detail than what was previously available. The elevation data provides for highly accurate flood modeling and floodplain delineation, and the aerial photographs will be useful to anyone who needs to make a map or to see conditions on the land. In order to ensure public access to this data, the Water Resources Division contracted with NRIS to manage and make this data available online. Through this contract, NRIS created the following products:

- an online viewer that allows anyone to view the air photos and visualize the land surface depicted by the elevation data;
- a service that allows users of Google Earth and users of professional computer mapping software to view the air photos;
- a repackaged version of the data that are easier to use and download. Users of computer mapping software may use the air photos and elevation data, and anyone may download and view the air photos.

These products are available at [http://nris.mt.gov/Flathead\\_2009](http://nris.mt.gov/Flathead_2009).

NRIS employee Gerry Daumiller serves as the Montana State Names Authority. Since taking on these responsibilities, Gerry has developed a web site that explains the duties of the State Names Authority and lists Geographic Names Proposals since 2002. The listing includes links to the text of the proposal and the status of the proposal along with a link to a map showing the location affected by the proposed name. In the past, proposed names or name changes have been sent to state agencies and county commis-



*The Rittel family were part of the early settlers of the area west of Wolf Creek. The family's descendants hope that a peak adjacent to the original homestead will be named to honor the family.*

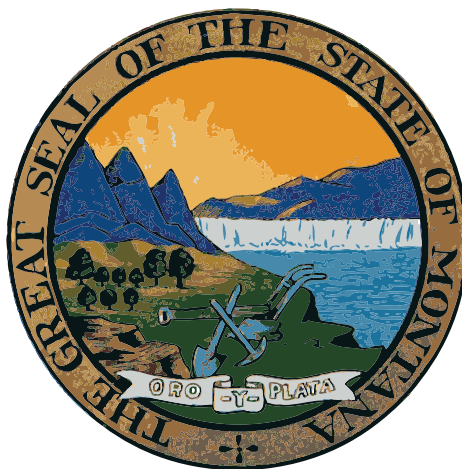
sioners in areas associated with name changes. This year Gerry worked with the MSL Public Information Officer to add public notices to this process. This change has resulted in more media interest and more public comment on proposed changes than observed in previous years. The Montana State Names Authority web site can be found at: <http://msl.mt.gov/geonames/>.

In November 2010, the Base Map Service Center moved its' offices to MSL. This involved a great deal of coordination and required moving a total 21 people, including the downstairs digitization processing area. Users are seeing a significant increase in the level of collaboration and output from the staff of NRIS, MTNHP, FWP and the BMSC, which undoubtedly benefits patrons around the state.





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