

MONTANA  
**State  
Library**



# 2012 Annual Report



## Staff Update

Due to a number of retirements and changes in management structures, the Montana State Library now has several new lead staff. Jennie Stapp, who most recently served as MSL's digital library director and chief information officer, is now the Montana state librarian. Evan Hammer, formerly manager of MSL's Natural Resources Information System, is now MSL's digital information manager and chief information officer. Sarah McHugh, formerly MSL's statewide projects librarian, is now manager of statewide library resources. And Allan Cox, formerly the systems and services manager with the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) is now lead program manager at MTNHP.

# Letter from the Montana State Librarian

Communities across our nation are pulling together and becoming more community-minded. Many factors seem to be driving this change, from natural disasters to the recent economic recession to movements to support local small businesses. Local libraries play a key role in recognizing the needs in their communities and work hard to fill the gaps.

And the Montana State Library is no exception. Montanans across our state are our community. We serve the community of state government employees; the business community, the community of geographic information professionals and managers of our state's natural resources; the community of those patrons that cannot read traditional print materials; and the community of librarians and information professionals.

Our staff makes sure that all Montanans have access to the best possible information to make the best possible decisions to support and enhance their communities. The State Library manages an incredible amount of information – information about state government; Montana's geography; and about our state's natural resources, flora, fauna, animals, plants, and habitats – that directly affects government, small businesses, education, and individuals.

Our Talking Book Library provides print resources from the latest bestsellers to Montana magazines to the Montana Voter Pamphlet in audio form for those library patrons who, for a variety of reasons, cannot read traditional print material. By doing so, the Talking Book Library ensures that these patrons can fully participate in their communities.

And, finally, our Statewide Library Resources Division provides the tools, training, and expertise to Montana libraries to help libraries of all types meet the unique needs of their own communities.

Communities are stronger and more vibrant when they come together to work toward a common vision. And they are more successful in achieving their vision when they are supported by libraries with the technology and information resources needed to help them reach their goals.

I believe as you review the accomplishments of the Montana State Library for FY2012, you will be impressed by the work we do that ensures strong futures for all Montana communities and I think you'll find that we bring the world of information and imagination to all people in our communities. Our dedication to strengthening libraries and information services for all strengthens community life for all Montanans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennie Stapp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennie Stapp  
Montana State Librarian

# 2012 Annual Report Overview

The Montana State Library is committed to strengthening libraries and information services for all Montanans through leadership, advocacy, and service. This report reflects the accomplishments of the Montana State Library during the 2012 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.

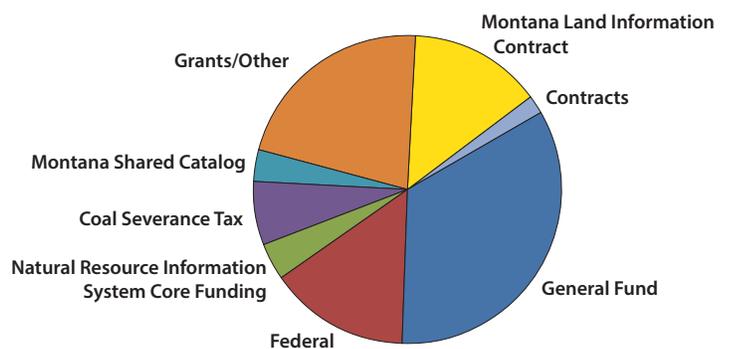
Our Digital Library Division reaches out to state and federal employees, to the natural resource community and to the general public. It provides vast quantities of unique information, such as that created by state government, as well as natural resource and geospatial data about Montana, that are accessible 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.

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.

## Revenue and Expenditures

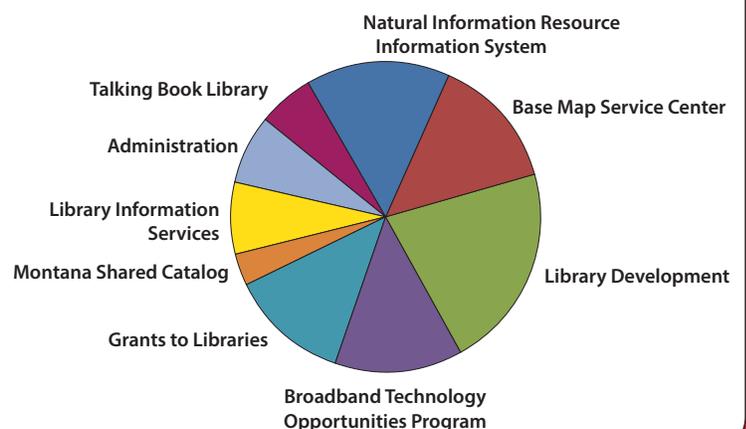
### Revenue

General Fund	2,544,894
Federal	1,110,331
Natural Resource Information System Core Funding	283,523
Coal Severance Tax	509,800
Montana Shared Catalog	236,411
Grants/Other	1,622,938
Montana Land Information - Contract	1,052,634
Contracts	128,672
	<u>7,489,203</u>



### Expenditures

Natural Resource Information System	1,124,614
Base Map Service Center	1,052,634
Library Development	1,592,462
Broadband Technology Opportunity Program	1,007,921
Grants To Libraries	942,363
Montana Shared Catalog	236,411
Library Information Services	562,272
Administration	552,330
Talking Book Library	418,196
	<u>7,489,203</u>



# Statewide Library Resources

## Discover It!

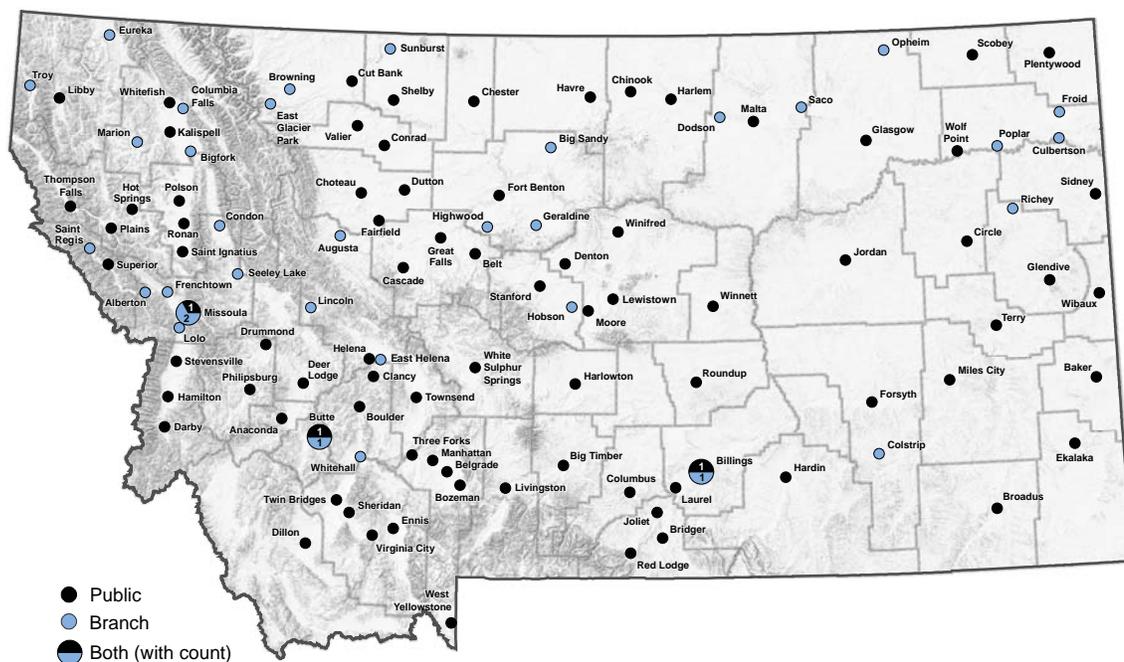
Discover It! is Montana's statewide integrated search tool designed to perform a comprehensive one-stop search of all of the library's resources, from catalogs to databases to digital collections and more. The statewide EBSCO databases, the Montana Memory Project, the Montana Shared Catalog, WorldCat.org, and three large public library catalogs (Butte-Silver Bow Public Library, Great Falls Public Library, and Lewis & Clark Library) were the first resources incorporated into Discover It!. The State Library will continue to expand this resource and increase its use by incorporating additional resources at both the local and state level and by facilitating training sessions for library staff. Discover It! helps the Montana State Library maximize the value of the statewide databases by ensuring that the accurate and valuable information contained in these databases is more readily accessible. Try Discover It! at <http://mtslr.org>.

## Montana Memory Project

The Montana Memory Project now receives materials from 34 contributing cultural organizations, including archives, museums, and all types of libraries. It includes 374,642 items, which is an increase of 53,000 images since the last fiscal year. Currently, there are 43 collections that are part of the Montana Memory Project.

To ensure that the Montana Memory Project is able to collect a range of materials about Montana's culture and history, it now has guidelines in place so that limited audio and video files can be added to the collection. Additionally, a part-time technical support position was added to the project to assist cultural organizations with scanning and describing collections of historical materials. Every contributing organization has access to MMP-provided scanners, software, and training. Researchers, students, genealogists, and others interested in MT's history access the digital library and archives collection. In FY12, users accessed more than 40 million items from the MMP web site, found at <http://mtmemory.org>.

## Montana's Public Libraries



# Statewide Library Resources

## Montana Shared Catalog

In November 2011, the Montana Shared Catalog (MSC) began a search for a new vendor to provide the MSC an integrated library/discovery system (ILS); this process was completed in May 2012. The review committee, which examined six vendor responses, consisted of 17 library and technical staff representing various library types and both MSC and non-MSC



members. The committee selected SirsiDynix Corporation to provide its Symphony ILS product and Enterprise/Portfolio discovery layer with a very favorable price package that will enhance the MSC system for library staff and patrons while decreasing overall cost for the member libraries.

The MSC added eight new libraries to its membership in FY2012. Five of these libraries are located in the eastern part of the state, significantly increasing the MSC presence in that region. These libraries were all relatively small public and school libraries and bring enhanced library services to an additional 8,000 Montanans.



The MSC implemented an online trouble ticket support desk that has been extremely well received by the membership. The ticket system has enabled MSC staff to 1) more efficiently respond to technical support problems and questions;

2) to track issues from their beginning to a satisfactory closure; and 3) to build a "knowledge base" for expediting resolutions. Approximately 1,000 tickets were submitted by the MSC members and resolved by MSC staff.

With the addition of the MSC Trainer position, MSC staff has been able to significantly increase the amount of on-line and in-person training opportunities and topics for member library staff. In-person trainings were held in Kalispell, Missoula, Helena, Belgrade, Billings, Havre, and Glendive. Online webinars were held at least twice a month beginning in late 2011. Nearly 200 librarians have benefited from this increased training ability.

## MontanaLibrary2Go

MontanaLibrary2Go is a statewide downloadable e-content service provided through the Montana State Library. Eighty of Montana's public, special, and academic libraries participated in MontanaLibrary2Go in the last fiscal year. These libraries provided their patrons access to a total of 10,073 titles, a number that is evenly divided between downloadable audiobooks and e-books. Patrons can

download titles to a variety of devices, including tablets, e-readers, and mp3 players. Montanans checked out 200,257 items between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012.

# Montana Library2Go



## From Diane Anderson, Missoula County Public Schools

"Many of our feeder schools, as well as a number of Missoula County schools, have joined MSC. The addition of a strong public library presence within our Seeley Swan and Big Sky High Schools made joining the consortia a positive step forward to providing a more seamless library experience for our students. We had been monitoring MSC activity, consortia policies, technical support and hardware capability in anticipation that joining the consortia would provide us with more capabilities than we had while moving us closer to our 21st Century Model of Change goals. As the system administrator of our current system, the MSC's hardware capabilities and the technical support team that is available 24/7/365 also made joining the MSC very attractive. Being part of the MSC has enabled us to provide a more up-to-date, flexible interface to meet the needs of our students and staff while sharing the associated costs with consortia members."

# Statewide Library Resources

## From a librarian about the work of MSL consulting staff

“(Our consultant) has been a godsend. Being a new director has been a bit overwhelming and she has been a sounding board and a voice of reason. She has good advice, listens, and is very patient. She checked back in with me via phone and email to make sure that I was doing okay and to keep in touch. She also kept track of things on *Wired* (the Montana Library Association listserv) and forwarded them to me asking if I was aware of what to do and what the expectations were for all the entities. I don’t know what I would have done without her.”



## Statewide Library Consultants

For all three statewide consulting librarians:

Miles traveled	45,241
Visits	241
Requests for information	3,012
Trainings	75
Students at trainings	1,097

## Online Learning

MSL provides webinars on a variety of digital literacy, technology and library science topics for all Montana library staff so that they may continue their education and stay up-to-date on technology-related issues. In the past fiscal year, MSL training staff has increased monthly online webinars to provide library staff with a greater variety of training topics at more convenience and with less cost. The MSL training team has begun to build an online learning portal that will consolidate MSL-made learning resources, links to webinars provided by vetted colleagues in library science, and will facilitate peer to peer learning that will initially be directed at library leaders and children’s librarians.

## Mobile Device Trainings

The statewide consulting librarians teamed up with Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) staff and local library directors to offer training to help library staff feel comfortable helping library patrons use their new mobile devices. The training was also offered to library patrons, many of whom were in their seventies and eighties and had been given a Kindle or other devices by their children. For the first time, these patrons understood how to download e-books to their devices as well as how to organize and better use their device. Library staff also greatly appreciated the training, because it gave them the confidence to help their patrons.



## Summer Library Leadership Institute

The State Library’s Network Advisory Council voted to fund a return of this four-month training event that began with an intensive 4-day institute held in June 2012 on the campus of Carroll College with a leadership expert facilitating the discussion. The Institute is modeled after leadership programs popular in the business community. Two dozen library directors and managers signed up for the training and committed to producing projects in their communities to further their leadership development and expand library services. Two webinars planned over the summer and a culminating meeting/report session in September completed the Institute. Librarians from across the state reported that the Institute had a direct and lasting effect on their library’s community impacts.



# Statewide Library Resources

## Fall Workshop

September 2011 saw a 50 percent increase in attendance at the MSL Fall Workshop, which was held in Bozeman. This 2-day seminar-style training is offered at no cost to library staff, volunteers, and board members and has become critical for the professional development of librarians across the state, but especially those at small, rural, public libraries. Fall Workshop is supported by federal Library Services and Technology Act funding.



## SWIM

In Summer 2012, 21 Montanans successfully completed library education programs using funds from the SWIM scholarship program: 14 with Masters of Library Science degrees from the University of North Texas and seven with school library media endorsement credentials from UM and MSU. The SWIM grant is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and is a partnership with three neighboring states – South Dakota, Wyoming and Idaho. The SWIM graduates now have a requirement to work two years in a professional librarian position in one of the SWIM states. Montana graduates are working as a public library director, library network manager, youth services librarian, medical library director, library media specialist, school library director, and reference librarian. Small SWIM scholarships will be awarded in the final year of the project to a new group of residents pursuing a career in librarianship.

## Trustee Training

MSL offered six trainings specifically designed for library trustees on finance, which was an area identified by boards where they needed assistance. Because governmental accounting is complex, a statewide consulting librarian teamed up with the Local Government Services Bureau of the Department of Administration to offer this training. The training gave public library trustees and directors the information they needed to become wise stewards of public funding.

## E-rate Services

E-rate is a federal program that ensures schools and libraries have affordable access to modern telecommunications and information services. This year 45 Montana libraries participated in the program saving them approximately \$56,000. One of MSL's statewide consultants and staff from the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) served as advisors to Montana libraries, answering questions from a number of librarians from around the state and keeping track of discounts – even going so far as to check in with libraries that had yet to file the necessary forms in order to receive their discounts. Additionally, through the BTOP program, Montana libraries were able to take advantage of resources from the national E-rate consulting service, E-rate Central.

## From a Trustee Training attendee:

*"This was one of the best trainings I've been to in years. I've been helping out with the budget and now I understand why we do some of the things we do."*

# Statewide Library Resources

## From a Ready 2 Read Rendezvous participant:

"The Rendezvous was truly life-changing. I have always loved serving children and families; now I understand the value of my work to the individual child and to our society as a whole. I am returning to my library armed with new resources, support from other librarians and from the State Library, and inspired to make a difference in the lives of children. Thank you!"

## Ready 2 Read

The Ready 2 Read program received private funding from the First Interstate BancSystem Foundation to provide a weekend of training to children's librarians. Over 40 librarians attended the Ready 2 Read Rendezvous, which was held in Bozeman. Workshops were held on: early childhood development; early learning and the public library; storytelling for policymakers; learning through play: a child's work; early learning through nature; and the six essential skills from 'Mind in the Making'. The workshops, which were three hours long, allowed attendees ample time for networking, exploration of the topic, and hands-on experience. For many attendees, it was the first professional training they had ever attended.

Additional private funding from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation provided 21 Montana libraries with the opportunity to develop a Ready 2 Read PlaySpace in their facilities. Each of the 21 recipient libraries received a medium-sized set of hardwood



unit blocks. This solid maple hardwood set includes 184 different blocks in 19 different shapes and comes with a 50 year guarantee. In addition to the set of blocks, libraries also received community play people; hardwood community garages and vehicles; and hardwood puzzles. The PlaySpaces increase the capacity of libraries throughout Montana 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.

## Montana Talking Book Library

The Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL) physically circulated and delivered 234,000 books and materials to over 4,000 library patrons, while the development of a new Digital Duplication on Demand service extended MTBL's capacity to offer door to door service of more digital titles to patrons with disabilities. A patron survey revealed unanimous patron satisfaction with the overall quality of the new MTBL digital services, the convenience of customized patron library materials delivery, as well as online services. Patron appreciation was expressed for library staff knowledge and patron technology support, which was



confirmed by two staff members receiving special awards for excellence in patron service and implementation of the digital transition.

The MTBL local recording program began the transition to digital recording markup and cartridges. The book chosen to be the first "born digital" recording was "Hand Raised: Barns of Montana". Completion is expected in November 2012.

Additions to the BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) web site are being developed by the National Library Service. These include: a BARD-APP for patron accessible smart phones, electronic Braille books (Web-Braille), foreign language books and musical scores. Patron and institution downloads totaled 12,344 books and magazines in FY12.

# Statewide Library Resources

## Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program

The Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) is a federally-funded (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) project administered by the State Library. Matching support is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Montana State Library, and some participating public libraries. The program has provided a combination of computers, software, assistive devices, network hardware, staff funding, broadband upgrades, and digital literacy training to 43 public libraries with the goal of improving access to the Internet at public libraries.



In its first two years, the program:

- Provided Internet access to over 700,000 patrons annually;
- Delivered over 400 new computers, including children's computers;
- Installed ADA-compliant software and peripherals;
- Provided over 1,300 hours of digital literacy training to 900 librarians;
- Provided over 10,000 hours of digital literacy training to 55,000 patrons;
- Increased average broadband download speeds in participating libraries from 3 mbps to 15 mbps;
- Funded the Web On Wheels, which provides Internet access and training to rural patrons in Missoula County;
- Ensured all participating libraries have high-performing public wireless access.



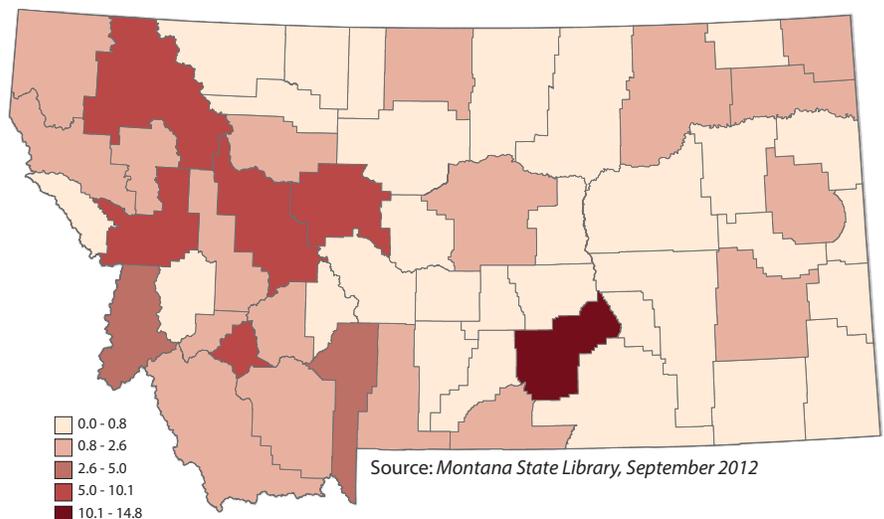
### From a Big Timber patron:

"If it weren't for the library and the new computers, my family of six would be lost! We live 25 miles out of town. The library is a hub for my family to hang out when we are waiting for each other and all of our activities. We all use the computers every day. The librarians are geniuses and work horses. I get educated when I come here."

A Request for Proposal (RFP) for a \$100,000 Patron Outreach Project, to be launched in 2013, was developed. The purpose is to increase awareness of MTBL services. Current annual outreach focused on mailings to K-12 special educators as well as university and college disability service offices.

MTBL is a training site for multiple vocational training programs. Partnership collaborations for younger, older and disabled veterans were achieved with Experience Works, Career Training Institute, and Helena Industries' Veteran Administration employment programs. Successful trainees gained essential employment skills, confidence and knowledge of MTBL services to patrons with disabilities. MTBL benefited from trainee skills development that extended library support capacity.

Montana Talking Book Library - Percentage of Total Patrons By County



Source: Montana State Library, September 2012

# Montana State Digital Library

## Library Information Services

LIS renamed and developed the MT.GOV Connect user interface formerly known as Archive Montana. A new logo, tag lines, and customizable search widgets were built for state agency and depository library adoption on their respective web sites. A marketing campaign for MT.GOV Connect began in earnest at the annual Montana Library Association conference with a poster session and distribution of postcards. After the conference, outreach to state agencies, depository libraries, and users highlighted the following attributes of MT.GOV Connect:



- Provides comprehensive, immediate access to more state publications to more users.
- State agencies no longer have to spend resources and staff time submitting publications.
- Depository libraries, including MSL, save time previously spent on processing print publications and adding them to their catalog.
- Interlibrary loan requests will decline in number as users/researchers have more immediate access to state government information.
- Lower postage costs for state agencies and LIS represent savings for taxpayers.

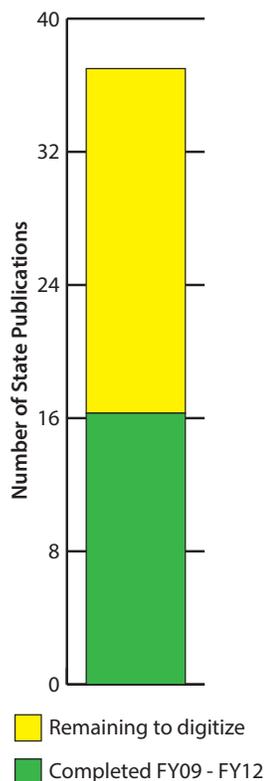
LIS continued its contract to mass digitize historic Montana state publications dating from the late 19th century, preparing 1,347 items for digitization resulting in 123,860 new images being created for a total of 1,281,032 at the end of the fiscal year. This pace is slower than in recent years due to budget cuts incurred following the 2011 Legislative session. As the digitization project progressed, LIS staff identified non-state publications and multiple copies of the same title that significantly inflated the original estimate of the collection size. The

new, revised total estimate of the legacy print state publications collection stands at 37,000 publications down from 55,000. Full-text search of those historic state publications that are now online opens up unprecedented research opportunities for Montanans and others throughout the world who are interested in Montana history and state government.

LIS added a new web page history link appearing in the footer of all [msl.mt.gov](http://msl.mt.gov) pages. This addition brings attention to the MSL web archive and provides a model for other state agencies to link their own web site to MT.GOV Connect. LIS is working with other agencies to promote the addition of MT.GOV Connect to their web pages, which opens up new reference possibilities to previously unavailable state agency information. LIS also developed and shared code with the Archive-It partner community, which includes 230 collecting colleges/universities, K-12 schools, museums, national institutions, NGOs, local governments, state archives, and libraries of all kinds. The code returns a 404 error message page containing a link to the archived version of the sought, but not found, web pages. MSL incorporated this code into its own web site and is working with other state agencies to encourage them to similarly adopt this code. Adoption of this code benefits users of ephemeral state government information that has a short web lifespan.

### Goal:

Digitize 37,000  
State Publications



### Wetland Mapping and Training

The Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP) manages the Montana Wetland and Riparian Mapping Center. Its goal is to create a statewide digital wetland and riparian map layer as a resource for management, planning, and restoration efforts. This map layer is one of 14 Montana Framework themes within the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI). MTNHP maps wetlands and riparian areas with support from many federal and state agency partners, as well as many of Montana's tribes. In the last five years, Montana has increased digital mapping of the state's wetland and riparian areas by nearly 50% resulting in over 90% of the state being mapped digitally or with funding to be mapped.

The Botany Program successfully organized and led six wetland plant identification training sessions throughout Montana, filling a critical education need. One hundred twenty wetland managers and biologists received valuable instruction on wetland plants and ecology in field-based settings and the opportunity to interact and share ideas with peers from other agencies, organizations, universities, tribes, and consulting firms. Accurate identification of the large diversity of plants found in wetland and riparian areas and understanding the ecological and management significance of particular wetland plants are critical components to the successful management and stewardship of these important habitats.



### Previous Year Data Total

In fiscal year 2012, the following data were added or updated:

#### New data...

	Animals	Plants	Totals
Point Observations	160,844	743	161,587
Species Occurrences	774	232	1,006

#### Updated data...

	Animals	Plants	Totals
Point Observations	134,624	97	134,721
Species Occurrences	3,342	223	3,565

Point Observations: An observation of a plant or animal species at a given location and time.

Species Occurrence: An area of land and/or water in which a species is, or was, present with evidence of potential continued (or historical) presence and/or regular recurrence at a given location

### Montana Field Guide

The Field Guide (<http://fieldguide.mt.gov/>) is one of MTNHP's most frequently consulted resources and include guides on animals, plants, lichens, and ecological systems. During the past year, species information was added for more than 2,000 vascular plants. Additionally, details on the state conservation status ranks for plant and animal Species of Concern are being added to the Montana Field Guide under the heading of State Rank Reason. Inclusion of this information allows agency biologists, resource managers, and the general public to see all of the criteria associated with conservation status rankings, making species rankings more transparent and allowing them to provide feedback when new information is available. Other enhancements to the Field Guide included updated range maps for many animal species and new maps for plant observations.

Also new for 2012 were ten downloadable PDF files of the Montana Field Guide, which contain the primary information from the Field Guides for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, vascular plants, bryophytes, lichens, and ecological

### From a Montana wildlife biologist:

"Your web site and customer service are just awesome. I work in several states, and [MTNHP is] top of the list for quality and accuracy of information, your quick turn-around time 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 State Digital Library

## Montana Natural Heritage Program (continued)

systems. These files, which are updated monthly, allow our users to take the basic Field Guide information with them into the field or wherever Internet connectivity is not available.

A new online photograph submission application allows Field Guide users to submit their species and habitat photos for consideration for inclusion into the Field Guides. This new tool will help populate the species and habitat photos. View the photo submission app at: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov/UploadImage.aspx>.

### MapViewer

The Natural Heritage MapViewer (<http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/>) is an interactive web mapping application that displays and provides reports for: land cover and ecological systems; animal and plant sightings; land management data; and thousands of on-the-ground geo-referenced photos. In 2012, MTNHP released the Wetlands and Riparian Areas data. The new toolset allows users to view the latest wetland and riparian data for the state as well as the historical National Wetlands Inventory data. Along with viewing the mapped wetlands and riparian areas, users may also run summary reports for watersheds of interest. The new toolset may be accessed via the MapViewer at <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/>.



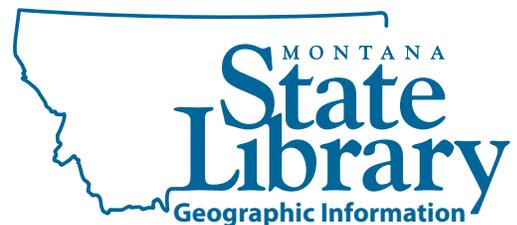
## Montana Geographic Information

### Geographic Center of Excellence

In September 2011, the Department of Administration's State Information Technology Services Division (SITSD) Base Map Service Center merged with the Montana State Library. The move was spawned by the conclusion of a Governor's Task Force that the mission of the Base Map Service Center more closely aligns with the strategic goals of the State Library than with SITSD.

Subsequently the Base Map Service Center and the MSL NRIS program united under a common mission and vision as MSL Geographic Information. The merger has resulted in efficiencies that reduced duplication of effort, cut IT costs, and consolidated management.

MSL, in cooperation with DOA, will be seeking permanent status of the merger in the 2013 Legislature through transfer of duties assigned under the Montana Land Information Act.



# Montana State Digital Library

## GeoMAPP

Throughout 2011, NRIS staff participated in the Geospatial Multistate Archives and Preservation Partnership (GeoMAPP) spatial data archiving project. MSL collaborated with geographic information clearinghouses and state archive programs from four states to identify a baseline set of recommendations for archiving spatial data. Documents produced through this partnership are available from the GeoMAPP web site at <http://www.geomapp.net/>.

Based on the experience gained through this grant project, MSL now has a preliminary archival plan in place that includes creating an archival copy of any new data received.

Staff is currently reviewing our existing GIS data collection to create archival copies of that data as appropriate. Future efforts will focus on creating archives plans for all MSDI data.

Though the formal, funded GeoMAPP partnership concluded at the end of 2011, many partners continue to meet and discuss spatial data archiving as members of the newly created geospatial subgroup of the National Digital Stewardship Alliance. MSL participates in these meetings to keep up to date on topics of interest for spatial data archiving.

## Montana Cadastral

In September 2011, MSL Geographic Information rolled out a re-engineered Montana Cadastral web site at <http://svc.mt.gov/msl/mtcadastral/>. The application replaced outdated Arc IMS software with Arc GIS Server Technology. The new base map was cartographically designed by MSL staff and built entirely from Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure data. Both road and stream data on the map, previously displayed from 2000 US Census Bureau data, now come from current sources. The map interface was also designed to better accommodate smaller mobile devices.

Through a cooperative effort with the University of Idaho, MSL Geographic Information updated the web-enabled application that allows patrons to view survey control records. Originally the Montana Control Point Application, the Multi-State Control Point Database (MCPD) application was re-engineered to incorporate



Idaho records and can be viewed at <http://mcpd.mt.gov/mcpd/>. The application allows patrons to visually inspect the location of documented survey and mapping control points, as well as print out complete survey control records. Points in the database must be submitted by licensed surveyors. MSL Geographic Information continues to work with the Montana Department of Transportation as well as Montana and Idaho surveyors to add additional points to the database.



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