



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

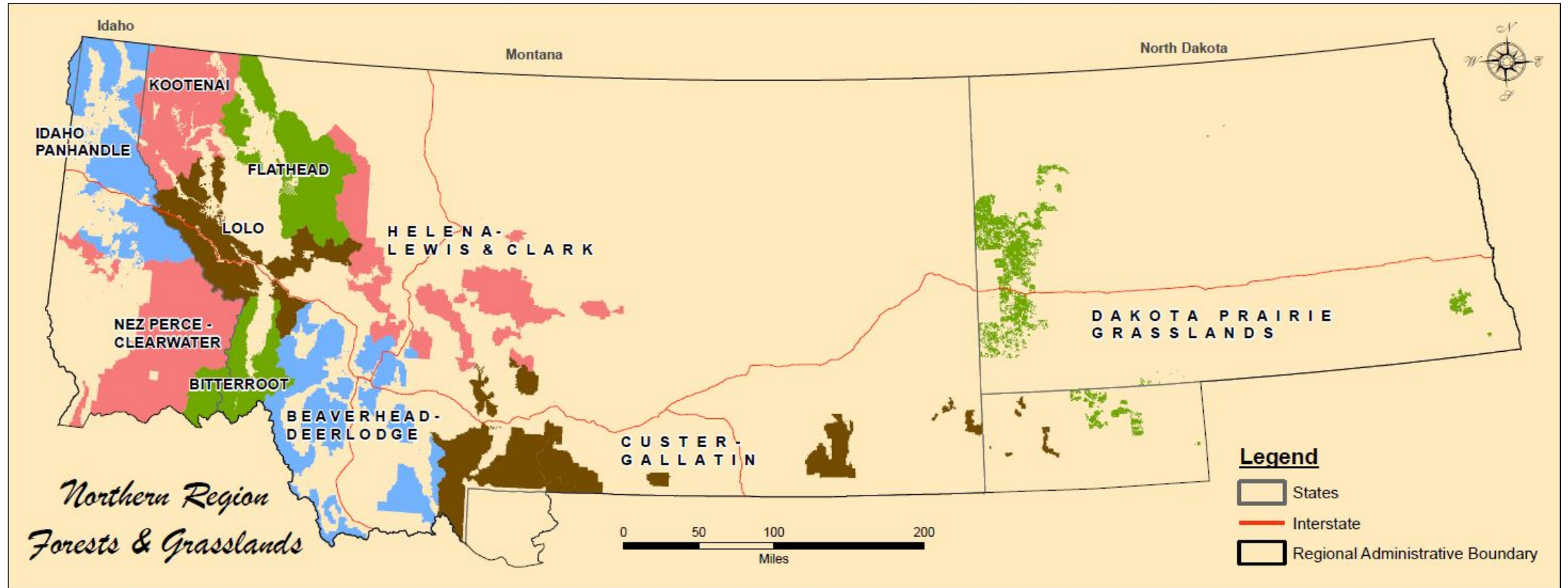
NORTHERN REGION (R1) | NOVEMBER 2021

Great American Outdoors Act

MFCN Annual Workshop 2021

WHERE WE PLAY

The Forest Service Northern Region (R1)



25 million acres | 9 National Forests & 1 National Grassland | 46 Ranger Districts



Great American Outdoors Act Overview

Bipartisan Legislation Passed
by both the Senate and
House and Signed into Law.

Two components:

Land and Water Conservation
Fund (LWCF)

Public Parks and Public Lands
Legacy Restoration Fund
(LRF)



***Alvord Lake Trail before & after photos
Trail improvement included FS & YCC crews
Kootenai National Forest | June 2021***



FY21 GAOA Project: Lolo National Forest

Watch
this [video](#) featuring
repairs to Double Arrow
Lookout, Lolo National
Forest made possible
with fiscal year 2021
GAOA funds!



National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF)

Definitions

- Up to \$285M annually for Forest Service, FY 2021 - 2025
- At least 65% for non-transportation assets; recreation sites, visitor centers, dams, buildings, water and wastewater systems, communications, towers, trails and trail bridges
- Project investments aim to improve and increase public access by restoring and repairing non-transportation and transportation assets reducing deferred maintenance (DM).
- GAOA funding will help reduce DM backlog but does not resolve the full need.
- GAOA projects are funded under the USFS National Asset Management Program (NAMP)





Great American Outdoors Act Priorities

Deferred
Maintenance
Reduction

Visitor Access
and
Experience

Supporting
Underserved
Communities

Mitigating
Climate
Change

Leveraging
Partnerships



2021 Funded Projects Undergoing Implementation

- The Northern Region received over \$29 million for 83 projects
 - 54 are in MT, 21 are in ID, 8 are in the Dakotas
- Funded FY21 projects in the Northern Region can be found [here](#).



Montana Conservation Corps crew member putting the finishing touches on some rock work on the Kootenai Falls Trail. Project funded by FY21 GAOA funding. Kootenai National Forest | June 2021



2022 Proposed Projects

- The Northern Region is proposed to receive approximately \$26.1 million of GAOA LRF funds over 74 projects
 - 55 are in MT, 3 in MT/ID, 12 in ID and 4 are in the Dakotas
- Proposed projects have been included in the Forest Service FY22 Budget Justification, starting on page 168, and can be found [here](#).
- Subject to Congressional Approval



2023 Project Proposals

- The Northern Region hosted 3 Information Sharing Sessions in June 2021 to inform the public about GAOA efforts.
 - Written comments were received from the public during project development, and via online comment period.
 - [Montana GAOA Public Information Session Video | June 2021](#)
- FY23 recommended project list to be completed in November
- The Northern Region anticipates continuation of approved FY21 and FY22 proposed projects (ie: subsequent phases) to be funded in FY23-FY25, which will impact available funding for new FY23 GAOA LRF project starts.



Public Engagement

- Input on process and projects
- Partner/Collaborate on Project Development Support
- Donations
- Contracts
- Agreements
- Volunteer



New check step installed on South Fork Teton Trail #165. Mules and horses relax at Gates Park in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. *Project funded by FY21 GAOA LRF funding and partners include Montana Conservation Corp and Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation.*



Partner Engagement

Watch this [video](#) featuring campground improvements to the Horse Creek Campground (Bitterroot National Forest) made possible with fiscal year 2021 GAOA LRF funds!



Members of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen work with the Forest Service to replace fire rings at Horse Creek Horse Camp. Project funded by FY21 GAOA LRF funding. Bitterroot National Forest | September 2021





Questions & Information Sharing

Questions about specific projects and Forest & Grassland processes should be directed to the appropriate GAOA contact. See next slide.

***Looking up the trail from a new switchback on the Kootenai Falls Trail. Project funded by FY21 GAOA LRF funding.
Kootenai National Forest | June 2021***



Montana GAOA Contacts:

R1 Coordinator - Corrie Kegel | 406-239-9218 | corrine.kegel@usda.gov

Beaverhead – Deerlodge NF - Noelle Meier | 406-683-3932 noelle.meier@usda.gov

Bitterroot NF - Amber Richardson | 406-363-7160 | amber.richardson@usda.gov

Custer Gallatin NF - Lauren Oswald | 406-930-0366 | lauren.oswald@usda.gov

Flathead NF - Chris Frisbee | 406-758-5268 | c.christine.frisbee@usda.gov

Helena – Lewis & Clark NF - Rory Glueckert | 406-459-9391 rory.glueckert@usda.gov

Kootenai NF – Laura Jungst | 406-283-7648 | laura.jungst@usda.gov

Lolo NF - Nate Kegel | 406-329-3861 | nathan.kegel@usda.gov



GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT

