

Montana Board of Veterans Affairs

"The people declare that Montana servicemen, servicewomen, and veterans may be given special considerations determined by the legislature"

Article II, Section 35, Montana Constitution

Biennial Report – July 1, 2012

Prepared by:

Joe Foster, 324-3741, jofoster@mt.gov
Administrator – MT Veterans Affairs Division



Montana Board of Veterans Affairs

- *Mission and Composition* -

Mission: Oversee the State of Montana's provision of veterans services, as provided by the Montana Veterans Affairs Division.

<> 20 members; 11 voting, 9 non-voting.

+ 11 voting members; 10 appointed by Governor, 1 appointed by Montana's eight Tribal Councils (consensus).

- 5 represent geographic regions of the state. *
 - 1 is an "at-large" veterans' representative. *
 - 1 is the Native American veterans' representative. *
 - 1 is Montana's Tribal Councils' consensus appointee. *
 - 3 have training, experience or education related to veteran issues.
- * **Must be an honorably discharged veteran.**

+ 9 non-voting members representing: Governor's Office of Indian Affairs / State Dept. of Military Affairs / State Dept. of Public Health and Human Services / U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs / U.S. Dept. of Labor / Montana's Congressional Delegation (3) / State Administration and Veterans Affairs Interim Committee.

Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- Mission -

Promote the general welfare of Montana veterans and their families.

THRU:

- Establishment of a statewide network of service for military veterans and their families.
- Provision of services and assistance for all Montana veterans and surviving spouses and dependents; in coordination with associated federal and state agencies, veterans services organizations, private organizations and individuals.
- Management, operation and maintenance of Montana's state veterans cemetery program.
- Assist and advise the general public, governmental agencies, and elected officials regarding veterans services, programs, initiatives and policy.

Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- Major Program Initiatives in FY11/12 -

Veterans Services Outreach:

- ◆ Board of Veterans Affairs – Meetings conducted in Helena, Great Falls, Belgrade, Columbia Falls; and one via teleconference in support of the Governor's "20x10" energy conservation initiative.
- ◆ Community Outreach – In addition to 10 veterans service office locations, consistent outreach services were provided to 43 Montana communities. Also supported were the Montana State (men and women) Prisons, WATCh Programs and state veterans homes.
- ◆ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – State agencies collaboration which will result in comprehensive website detailing services and resources for Montana veterans, family members and military personnel.

State Veterans Cemetery Program:

- ◆ Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery (Missoula) – Federal VA construction grant attained to fund columbaria expansion - \$507,000.
- ◆ National Cemetery Administration – Administrator selected/appointed to 12-member national *Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials*.

Veterans Services Operations:

- ◆ Website – Veterans service office contact information and outreach schedules, Board and Advisory Council meeting minutes, and "feature" items.
- ◆ Veterans Service Officers and Financial Impact – Montana veteran/veteran family financial impact resultant of agency veterans service officers' work products reached \$160 million in FY12. All revenue "actual dollars" derived from federal VA disbursements, e.g., disability compensation, pension.
- ◆ Security Training – Veterans service officer staff VA-certified in computer/information management security, required to access protected VA data bases.

Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- Organization -

◆ Organizational Personnel and Facility Locations

29 FTE:

- 1 - administrator
- 1 - office manager
- 1 - administrative/veterans services assistant
- 21 - veterans services officers
- 5 - veteran cemetery program

10 Veterans Services Offices:

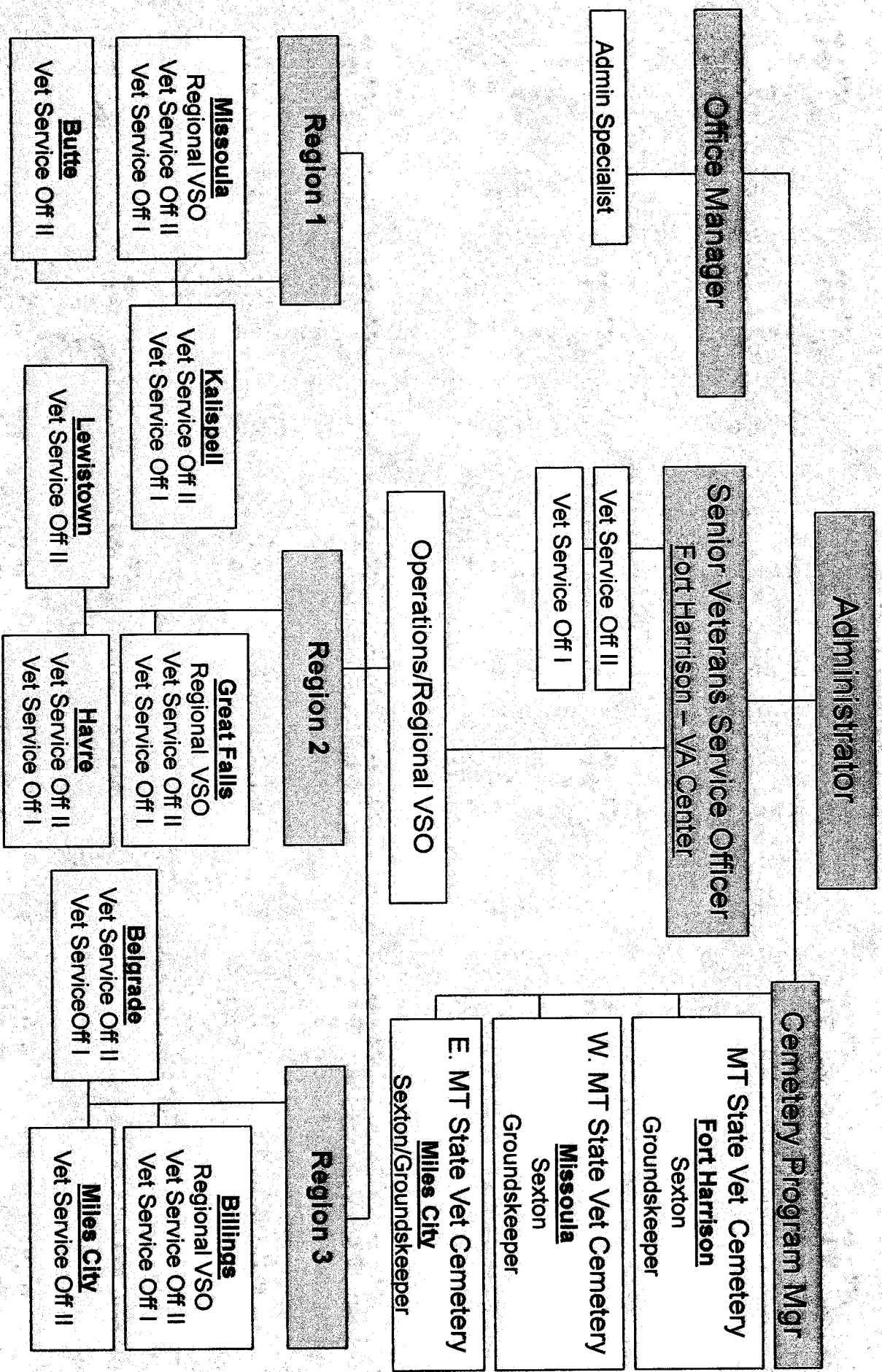
Belgrade – Billings – Butte – Great Falls – Havre – Helena
Kalispell – Lewistown – Miles City – Missoula

3 State Veterans Cemeteries:

Montana State Veterans Cemetery – Fort Harrison (Helena)
Eastern Montana State Veterans Cemetery – Miles City
Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery – Missoula

Administration Office: Fort Harrison (MT National Guard HQ)

Montana Veterans Affairs Division Organizational Chart



Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- Veterans Service Offices and Cemeteries -

Veterans Service Offices:

Belgrade

350 Airport Road
388-4601

Have

232 1st Street W.
265-4225

Lewistown

505 West Main, Ste. 217
538-3174

Billings

2795 Enterprise Ave.
248-8579

Helena

Ft. Harrison VA Center
495-2080

Miles City

210 S. Winchester
874-5869

Butte

600 Gilman Ave.
533-0910

Kalispell

2989 Hwy 93 North
755-3795

Missoula

1911 Tower Road
542-2501

Great Falls

600 Central Plaza, #300
452-2265

State Veterans Cemeteries:

Montana State Veterans Cemetery

Ft. Harrison (near Helena)
324-3742

Eastern Montana State Veterans Cemetery

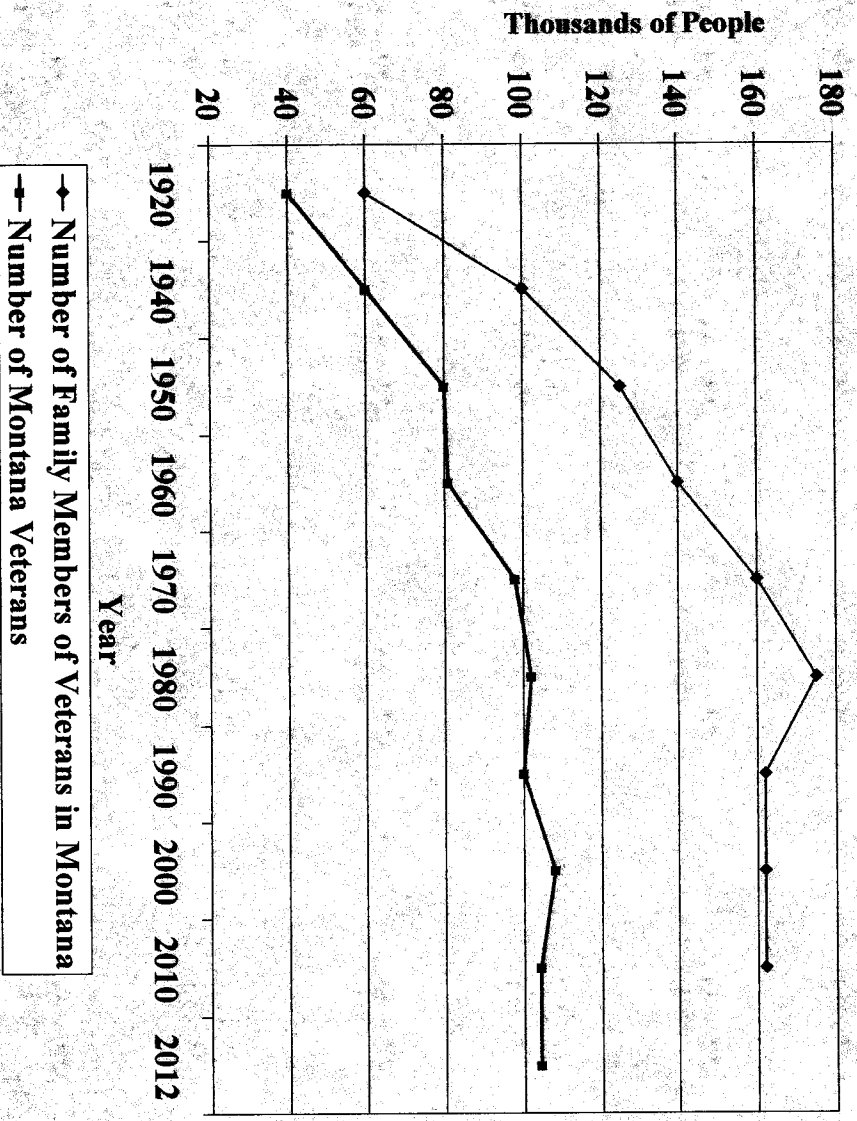
Miles City
853-6963

Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery

Missoula - 531-1105

Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- Montana Veterans and Family Members -



Statistics as of 2007 VetPop -
U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs

#2 Per Capita - Montana's
 veteran population national
 ranking.

Montana
 Veterans 104,391

See Report's Map for County-Level
 Veteran Populations

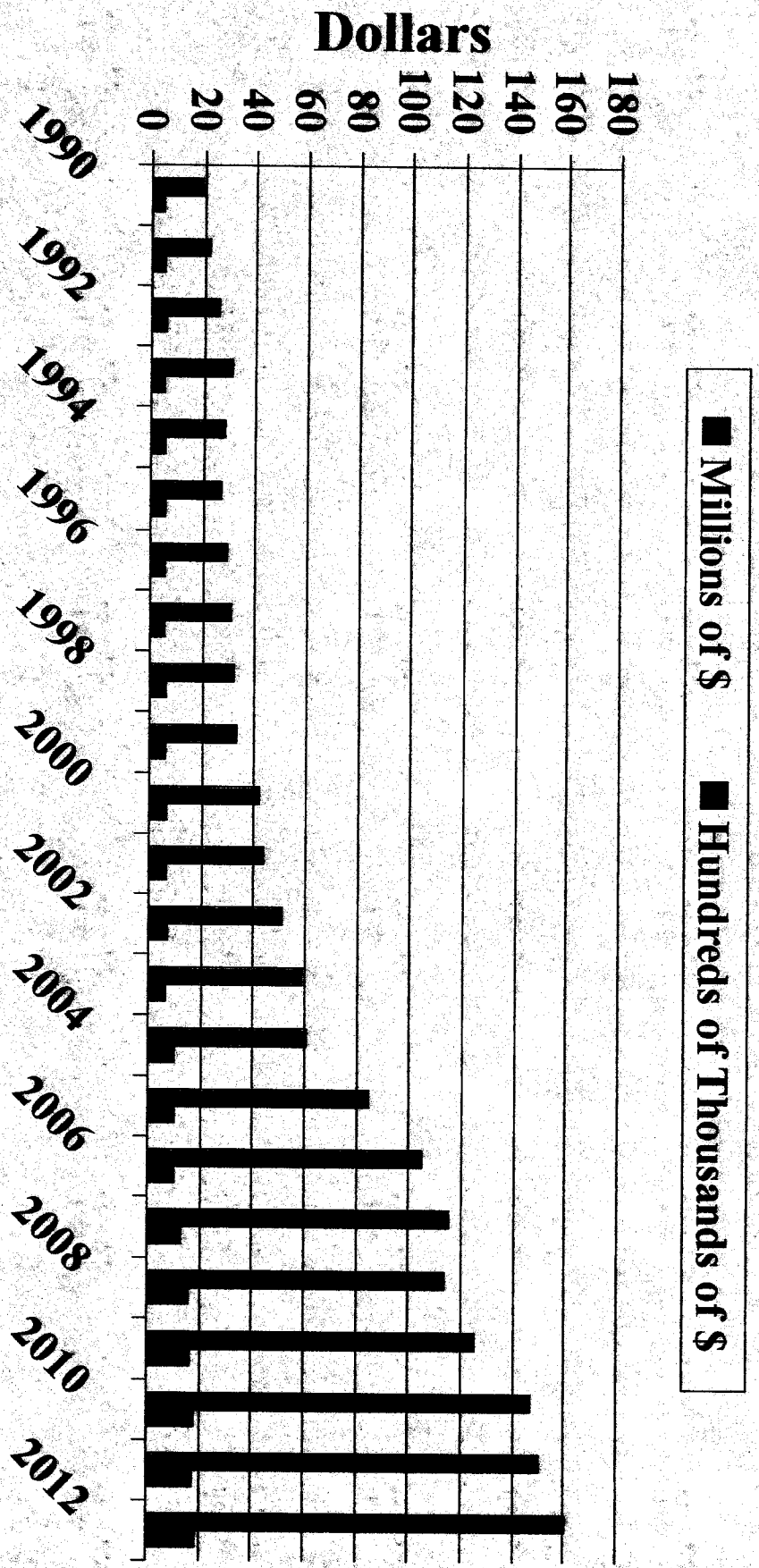
NOTE: Veteran family members
 statistics no longer available.

Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- Economic Impact of Agency Work Effort -

For every \$1 of state General/Special Fund invested into the Veterans Services Program, agency staff attained \$114 in federal VA monetary payments to Montana veterans.

FY12 MVAD Budget (blue) = \$1,403,947 FY12 Federal VA Payments (green) = \$160,453,205



Montana Veterans Affairs Division

- State Veteran Cemeteries -

Montana State Veterans Cemetery – Fort Harrison / Est. 1988

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Burials</u>
2011	195
2012	154

Total since 1988: 3035

Eastern Montana State Veterans Cemetery – Miles City / Est. 2002

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Burials</u>
2011	44
2012	29

Total since 2002: 380

Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery – Missoula / Est. 2008

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Burials</u>
2011	105
2012	115

Total since 2008: 505

MVAD Areas Served by Field Offices

City	County	Area	City	County	Area	City	County	Area	City	County	Area
Absarokee	Stillwater	Bl	Drummond	Granite	But	Lame Deer	Rosebud	Bl	Roberts	Carbon	Bl
Acton	Yellowstone	Bl	Dupuyer	Pondera	GF	Larslan	Valley	Hav	Rollins	Lake	Mis
Alberton	Mineral	Mis	Dutton	Teton	GF	Laurel	Yellowstone	Bl	Ronan	Lake	Mis
Alder	Madison	But	East Glacier Park	Glacier	Hav	Laurel	Yellowstone	Bl	Roscoe	Carbon	Bl
Alzada	Carter	MC	East Helena	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Laurel	Yellowstone	Bl	Rosebud	Rosebud	MC
Amsterdam	Gallatin	Bel	Edgar	Carbon	Bl	Laurin	Madison	But	Roundup	Musselshell	Bl
Anaconda	Deer Lodge	But	Ekalaka	Carter	MC	Lavina	Golden Valley	Lew	Roy	Fergus	Lew
Angela	Rosebud	Bl	Elliston	Powell	Hel	Ledger	Pondera	GF	Rudyard	Hill	Hav
Antelope	Sheridan	MC	Elmo	Lake	Mis	Lewiston	Fergus	Lew	Ryegate	Golden Valley	Lew
Arlee	Lake	Mis	Emigrant	Park	Bel	Libby	Lincoln	Kal	Saco	Phillips	Hav
Ashland	Rosebud	Bl	Ennis	Madison	Bel	Lima	Beaverhead	But	Saint Ignatius	Lake	Mis
Augusta	Lewis & Clark	GF	Essex	Fiathead	Kal	Lincoln	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Saint Marie	Valley	Hav
Avon	Powell	Hel	Ethridge	Toole	Hav	Lindsay	Dawson	MC	Saint Regis	Mineral	Mis
Babb	Glacier	Hav	Eureka	Lincoln	Kal	Livingston	Park	Bel	Saint Xavier	Big Horn	Bl
Bainville	Roosevelt	MC	Evergreen	Flathead	Kal	Lloyd	Blaine	Hav	Saltese	Mineral	Mis
Baker	Fallon	MC	Fairfield	Teton	GF	Lodge Grass	Big Horn	Bl	Sand Coulee	Cascade	GF
Ballantine	Yellowstone	Bl	Fairview	Richland	MC	Lodge Pole	Blaine	Hav	Sand Springs	Garfield	Bl
Basin	Jefferson	Hel	Fallon	Prairie	MC	Lolo	Missoula	Mis	Sanders	Treasure	Bl
Bearcreek	Carbon	Bl	Fishtail	Stillwater	Bl	Loma	Chouteau	GF	Santa Rita	Glacier	Hav
Belfrey	Carbon	Bl	Flaxville	Daniels	MC	Lonepine	Sanders	Mis	Savage	Richland	MC
Belgrade	Gallatin	Bel	Florence	Ravalli	Mis	Loring	Phillips	Hav	Scobey	Daniels	MC
Belt	Cascade	GF	Floweree	Chouteau	GF	Lothair	Liberty	Hav	Seeley Lake	Missoula	Mis
Biddle	Powder River	MC	Forestgrove	Fergus	Lew	Lustre	Valley	Hav	Shelby	Wheatland	Lew
Big Arm	Lake	Mis	Forsyth	Rosebud	MC	Luther	Carbon	Bl	Shepherd	Toole	Hav
Bigfork	Flathead	Kal	Fort Belknap	Blaine	Hav	Malmstrom AFB	Cascade	GF	Shepherd	Yellowstone	Bl
Big Horn	Treasure	Bl	Fort Benton	Chouteau	GF	Malta	Phillips	Hav	Sheridan	Madison	But
Big Sandy	Chouteau	Hav	Fort Harrison	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Manhattan	Gallatin	Bel	Shonkin	Chouteau	GF
Big Sky	Gallatin	Bel	Fort Peck	Valley	Hav	Marion	Flathead	Kal	Sidney	Richland	MC
Big Timber	Sweet Grass	Bel	Fort Shaw	Cascade	GF	Martinsdale	Meagher	Lew	Silesia	Carbon	Bl
Billings	Yellowstone	Bl	Fort Smith	Yellowstone	Bl	Marysville	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Silver Gate	Park	Bel
Birney	Rosebud	Bl	Fort Union	Lincoln	Kal	McAllister	Madison	Bel	Silver Star	Madison	But
Black Eagle	Cascade	GF	Fort Union	Lincoln	Kal	McCabe	Roosevelt	MC	Simms	Cascade	GF
Bloomfield	Dawson	MC	Four Buttes	Daniels	MC	McLeod	Sweet Grass	Bel	Somers	Flathead	Kal
Bonner	Missoula	Mis	Frazier	Valley	Hav	Medicine Lake	Sheridan	MC	Sonnette	Powder River	MC
Boulder	Jefferson	Hel	Frenchtown	Missoula	Mis	Medicine Lake	Sheridan	MC	Springdale	Park	Bel
Box Elder	Hill	Hav	Froid	Roosevelt	MC	Melstone	Musselshell	Bl	Square Butte	Chouteau	GF
Boyd	Carbon	Bl	Fromberg	Carbon	Bl	Melville	Sweet Grass	Bel	Stanford	Judith Basin	Lew
Boyes	Carter	MC	Galata	Toole	Hav	Mildred	Prairie	MC	Stevensville	Ravalli	Mis
Bozeman	Gallatin	Bel	Gallatin Gateway	Gallatin	Bel	Miles City	Custer	MC	Stockett	Cascade	GF
Brady	Pondera	GF	Gardiner	Park	Bel	Mill Iron	Carter	MC	Stryker	Lincoln	Kal
Bridger	Carbon	Bl	Garnett	Fergus	Lew	Milltown	Missoula	Mis	Sula	Ravalli	Mis
Broadus	Powder River	MC	Garrison	Powell	But	Missoula	Missoula	Mis	Sumatra	Rosebud	Bl
Broadview	Yellowstone	Bl	Garnyowen	Big Horn	Bl	Moccasin	Judith Basin	Lew	Sun River	Cascade	GF
Brocton	Roosevelt	MC	Geraldine	Chouteau	GF	Moles	Lake	Mis	Sunburst	Toole	Hav
Brockway	McCone	MC	Geysir	Judith Basin	Lew	Molt	Stillwater	Bl	Sun Valley	Missoula	Mis
Browning	Glacier	Hav	Gildford	Hill	Hav	Monarch	Cascade	GF	Superior	Mineral	Mis
Brusett	Garfield	Bl	Glasgow	Valley	Hav	Montana City	Jefferson	Hin	Swan Lake	Flathead	Kal
Buffalo	Fergus	Lew	Glen	Beaverhead	But	Moore	Fergus	Lew	Sweet Grass	Toole	Hav
Busby	Big Horn	Bl	Glendive	Dawson	MC	Mosby	Garfield	Bl	Teigen	Petroleum	Lew
Butte	Silver Bow	But	Glentana	Valley	Hav	Musselshell	Musselshell	Bl	Terry	Prairie	MC
Bynum	Teton	GF	Gold Creek	Powell	But	Nashua	Valley	Hav	Thompson Falls	Sanders	Mis
Cameron	Madison	Bel	Grantsdale	Ravalli	Mis	Neihart	Cascade	GF	Three Forks	Gallatin	Bel
Canyon Creek	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Grass Range	Fergus	Lew	Niarada	Sanders	Mis	Toston	Broadwater	Hel
Capitol	Carter	MC	Great Falls	Cascade	GF	Norris	Madison	Bel	Townsend	Broadwater	Hel
Cardwell	Jefferson	But	Greenough	Missoula	Mis	Noxon	Sanders	Mis	Tracy	Cascade	GF
Carter	Chouteau	GF	Greycliff	Sweet Grass	Bel	Nye	Stillwater	Bl	Trego	Lincoln	Kal
Cascade	Cascade	GF	Hall	Granite	But	Oilmont	Toole	Hav	Trout Creek	Sanders	Mis
Cat Creek	Petroleum	Lew	Hamilton	Ravalli	Mis	Oliver	Powder River	MC	Troy	Lincoln	Kal
Charlo	Lake	Mis	Hammond	Carter	MC	Ophey	Flathead	Kal	Turah	Missoula	Mis
Chester	Liberty	Hav	Hardin	Big Horn	Bl	Opheim	Valley	Hav	Turner	Blaine	Hav
Chinook	Blaine	Hav	Harlem	Blaine	Hav	Otter	Powder River	MC	Twin Bridges	Madison	But
Choteau	Teton	GF	Harlowton	Wheatland	Lew	Outlook	Sheridan	MC	Two Dot	Wheatland	Lew
Circle	McCone	MC	Harrison	Madison	But	Ovando	Powell	Hel	Ulm	Cascade	GF
Ciarcy	Jefferson	Hel	Hathaway	Rosebud	MC	Pablo	Lake	Mis	Valier	Pondera	GF
Cleveland	Blaine	Hav	Haugan	Mineral	Mis	Paradise	Sanders	Mis	Vandalia	Valley	Hav
Clinton	Missoula	Mis	Havre	Hill	Hav	Park City	Stillwater	Bl	Vaughn	Cascade	GF
Clyde Park	Park	Bel	Hays	Blaine	Hav	Peerless	Daniels	MC	Victor	Ravalli	Mis
Coffee Creek	Fergus	Lew	Heart Butte	Pondera	Hav	Pendroy	Teton	GF	Vida	McCone	MC
Cohagen	Garfield	Bl	Helena	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Phillipsburg	Granite	But	Virginia City	Madison	But
Colstrip	Rosebud	Bl	Helmville	Powell	Hel	Pinesdale	Ravalli	Mis	Volburg	Custer	MC
Columbia Falls	Flathead	Kal	Heron	Sanders	Mis	Pleasant	Sanders	Mis	Walkerville	Silver Bow	But
Columbus	Stillwater	Bl	Highwood	Chouteau	GF	Plentywood	Sheridan	MC	Warm Springs	Deer Lodge	But
Condon	Missoula	Mis	Hilger	Fergus	Lew	Plevna	Fallon	MC	Westby	Sheridan	MC
Conner	Ravalli	Mis	Hingham	Hill	Hav	Polaris	Beaverhead	But	West Glacier	Flathead	Kal
Conrad	Pondera	GF	Hinsdale	Valley	Hav	Polebridge	Flathead	Kal	West Yellowstone	Gallatin	Bel
Cooke City	Park	Bel	Hobson	Judith Basin	Lew	Poison	Lake	Mis	Whitefish	Flathead	Kal
Coram	Flathead	Kal	Hogeland	Blaine	Hav	Pompeys Pillar	Yellowstone	Bl	Whitehall	Jefferson	But
Corvallis	Ravalli	Mis	Homestead	Roosevelt	MC	Pony	Madison	Bel	White Sulphur Sp	Meagher	Lew
Corwin Springs	Park	Bel	Hot Springs	Sanders	Mis	Potomac	Roosevelt	MC	Whitetail	Daniels	MC
Craig	Lewis & Clark	Hel	Hungry Horse	Flathead	Kal	Potomac	Missoula	Mis	Whitewater	Phillips	Hav
Crane	Richland	MC	Huntley	Yellowstone	Bl	Powderville	Powder River	MC	Whitash	Liberty	Hav
Creston	Kallispell	Kal	Huson	Missoula	Mis	Power	Teton	GF	Wibaux	Wibaux	MC
Crow Agency	Big Horn	Bl	Hysham	Treasure	Bl	Pray	Park	Bel	Willard	Fallon	MC
Culbertson	Roosevelt	MC	Ingonar	Rosebud	Bl	Proctor	Lake	Mis	Willow Creek	Gallatin	Bel
Custer	Yellowstone	Bl	Inverness	Hill	Hav	Pryor	Big Horn	Bl	Wisall	Park	Bel
Cut Bank	Glacier	Hav	Ismay	Custer	MC	Radersburg	Broadwater	Hel	Winifred	Fergus	Lew
Dagmar	Sheridan	MC	Jackson	Beaverhead	But	Ramsay	Silver Bow	But	Winnett	Petroleum	Lew
Darby	Ravalli	Mis	Jefferson City	Jefferson	Hel	Rapelje	Stillwater	Bl	Winston	Broadwater	Hel
Dayton	Lake	Mis	Joliet	Carbon	Bl	Ravalli	Lake	Mis	Wisdom	Beaverhead	But
De Borgia	Mineral	Mis	Joplin	Liberty	Hav	Raymond	Sheridan	MC	Wise River	Beaverhead	But
Decker	Big Horn	Bl	Jordan	Garfield	Bl	Raynesford	Judith Basin	Lew	Wolf Creek	Lewis & Clark	Hel
Deer Lodge	Powell	But	Judith Gap	Wheatland	Lew	Red Lodge	Carbon	Bl	Wolf Point	Roosevelt	MC
Dell	Beaverhead	But	Kallispell	Flathead	Kal	Redstone	Sheridan	MC	Worden	Yellowstone	Bl
Denton	Fergus	Lew	Kevin	Toole	Hav	Reed Point	Stillwater	Bl	Wyola	Big Horn	Bl
Dillon	Beaverhead	But	Kila	Flathead	Kal	Reserve	Sheridan	MC	Yellowtail	Big Horn	Bl
Divide	Silver Bow	But	Kinsey	Custer	MC	Rexford	Lincoln	Kal	Zortman	Phillips	Hav
Dixon	Sanders	Mis	Kremlin	Hill	Hav	Richy	Dawson	MC	Zurich	Blaine	Hav
Dodson	Phillips	Hav	Lake McDonald	Flathead	Kal	Richland	Valley	Hav			
			Lakeside	Flathead	Kal	Ringling	Meagher	Lew			