

With operations in three offices in Billings, Great Falls, and Helena, our Library Development staff provide assistance via telephone and on-site visits to libraries on topics such as budget preparation, long range planning, management, public library standards, trustee training, computer networking, and library automation.

As the field of librarianship evolves, providing educational opportunities as well as a professional publications helps keep Montana librarians aware of the new trends in traditional as well as electronic library services. Our Library Development Division coordinates continuing education and training in a variety of formats...one on one, workshops, scholarships for formal education, etc. A week long Summer Institute is provided to Montana public library directors so they can continue to grow in their profession and offer Montana citizens even better access to information. An annual Fall workshop is provided to all Montana librarians.

The Library Development staff has received funding for several grant requests from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. These grants augmented public access to the Internet in public libraries and funded the Professional Education and Employment for Librarians (PEEL) grant which encouraged and enabled five Montanan's to become professional librarians.



Montana Library Network
Library Federation Support

Six federations

- continuing education opportunities
- financial support for joint purchases and individual grants to improve federation wide library services to Montana citizens

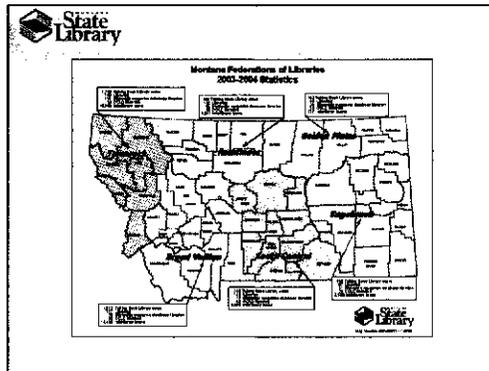
Began in 1956 – goals include:

- Innovative and cooperative programs for efficient delivery of library services
- Provide technical assistance, programming and support to public libraries

There are six Federations across the state. Library federations were first developed in 1956. The Mother of Montana's Federations, one of Montana's premier Librarians, Inez Herrig, just passed away last week at the age of 94. Inez and other early federation planners believed that the great distances and sparse population of Montana shouldn't result in low quality library services, and that the limited services available from small public libraries would be strengthened and improved through cooperative programs.

The original goals of the federations were to develop innovative, cooperative programs for efficient delivery of library services and to provide technical assistance, programming services and support for public libraries throughout the state.

All public libraries and many other types of libraries belong to one of six federations which provide services (resource sharing, reference back up, continuing education opportunities, financial support for joint purchases, and individual grants to improve federation-wide library services to Montana citizens) based on these same goals.



As you look at the Federation map provided, you will see that State Library projects reach Montanans everywhere. In addition to identifying the federation areas, this map shows you for each federation area:

- How many Talking Book Registered patrons are served;
- The number of libraries;
- The number of libraries using the statewide magazine database;
- The number of libraries participating in the statewide bibliographic services subscription; and
- The number of interlibrary loans reimbursed.

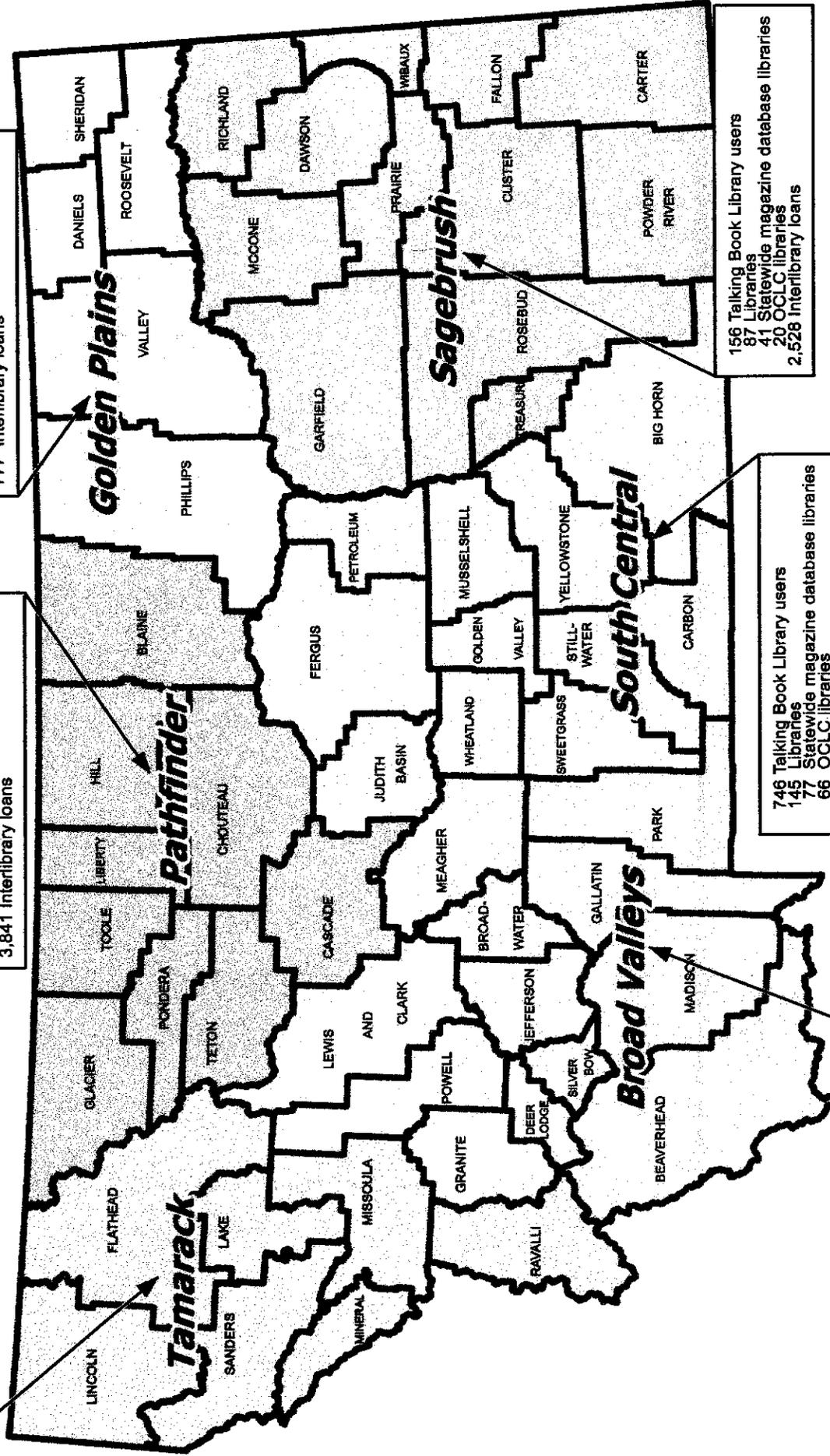
EXHIBIT 9
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Montana Federations of Libraries 2003-2004 Statistics

1,258 Talking Book Library users
168 Libraries
110 Statewide magazine database libraries
54 OCLC libraries
10,399 Interlibrary loans

557 Talking Book Library users
132 Libraries
54 Statewide magazine database libraries
35 OCLC libraries
3,841 Interlibrary loans

152 Talking Book Library users
46 Libraries
29 Statewide magazine database libraries
14 OCLC libraries
777 Interlibrary loans



1,013 Talking Book Library users
177 Libraries
88 Statewide magazine database libraries
56 OCLC libraries
14,468 Interlibrary loans

746 Talking Book Library users
145 Libraries
77 Statewide magazine database libraries
66 OCLC libraries
4,592 Interlibrary loans

156 Talking Book Library users
87 Libraries
41 Statewide magazine database libraries
20 OCLC libraries
2,528 Interlibrary loans



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