

RUBY HABITAT FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

*BALANCING WILDLIFE,
AGRICULTURE,
EDUCATION, AND
RECREATION
SINCE 2002*

Comments from the Executive Director

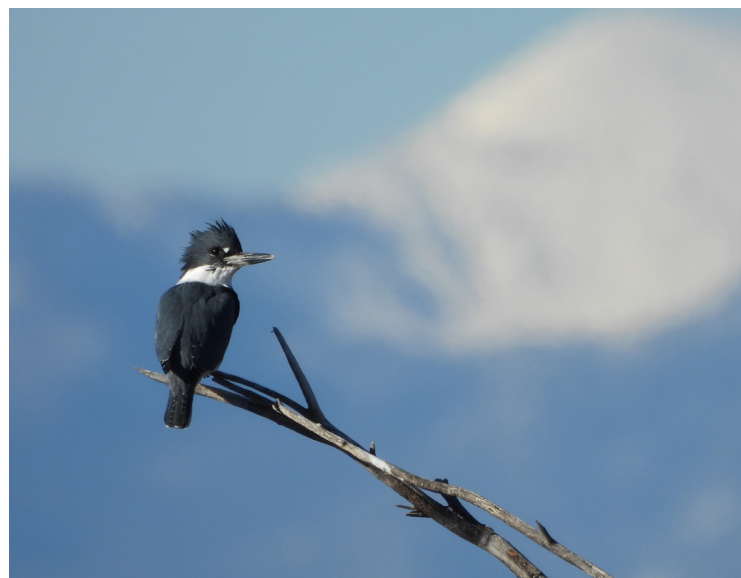
Looking back on our accomplishments in 2024 and in anticipation of the year ahead, I am confident the Ruby Habitat Foundation is on strong footing in an increasingly unsteady world. I believe the strength of our foundation stems from our two greatest assets: soil and people.

Soil has been building on the ranch since the glaciers pulled out and let wind, water and critters start turning bare rock into a complex concoction of minerals, organic matter, worms, insects, bacteria and fungi, much of which we still don't understand. Scientists say a teaspoon of healthy soil contains more creatures than there are humans on this planet. I cannot confirm this is the case at the ranch (although Dave has been trying with his microscope), but I have no doubt our soil is flourishing based on the abundance of above-ground life that thrives here, both wild and domestic.

Given the importance of soil for food production, water, and wildlife habitat, we will continue agricultural practices and experiments to improve soil health on the ranch this year. Whether it's livestock grazing management, novel soil amendments, diverse cover crops, or no-till planting, as we tinker with our soil, we will share our successes and failures to help like-minded land managers find ways to improve their land and bottom-line. And while I hope all our trials are successful, I take heart in the words of a neighbor who told me (regarding his own soil health endeavors), "if I don't fail at something at least once a year, I am not trying hard enough."

I believe people like him, who have contributed their ideas, hard work, and hard-earned money to the Ruby Habitat Foundation, are equally important as our soil resource. This includes the Woodson family, the dedicated folks at the Montana Land Reliance, neighboring ranch families, the Colado family, my friend Dave Delisi and all the people that have put countless hours into planting trees, fixing fences, irrigating crops and spraying weeds on the ranch.

The RHF community comes from different walks of life and with varied priorities. But much like our complex soil ecosystem, this diversity allows us to thrive. So, in addition to stewarding our soil, we will strive to maintain and build relationships. We will continue to welcome people from around the world with the hope they will learn about land stewardship and the relationship between agriculture and wildlife and spread these ideas where they live. We will continue to hold educational events to disseminate science and different ways of thinking about natural resource management. We will continue to provide jobs and ranching opportunities for hard-working folks that choose to steward this land and support their families. In doing so, we will contribute to another generation of people that care about natural resources and the rural communities they support.



Dan's son, Ben, landing a lunker

In closing, I am grateful you are a part of the Ruby Habitat community, and I hope you will be able to visit the ranch this year for some peace and quiet and a reminder of what is so very good about this country. And while I know most folks can't get as excited about soil as I do, I hope you will take a minute while you are here to look down and wonder about the remarkable abundance of life under our feet.

Dan Durham
Executive Director



From the Chairman's Desk

Through the years, Ruby Habitat Foundation (RHF) has been not only very engaged in spreading the message of responsible use of our natural resources but also supporting the social makeup of the Ruby Valley and beyond. RHF is so fortunate to be located in a small rural valley that is, in some ways, removed from the busyness of the larger part of society. I feel this gives us an opportunity to provide a place for our guests to slow down and soak in the importance of maintaining open space for agriculture to operate, and, in turn, provide habitat for our wildlife and fish neighbors. I think of a quote by Socrates, "True wisdom comes to each of us when we realize how little we understand about life, ourselves, and the world around us." As each of us slows down some, we are better able to absorb new information and grow in our understanding of our natural resources. Sun, water, and soil is the basis for growing the nutrients that support animal and human life. RHF is positioned in just the right place for information to be shared and education to begin.



Each year RHF builds on the work of the years before, knowing that future years will be building on what is being tried now. I am always fascinated by what is successful, but possibly even more so by what refinements need to be added, or at times realizing "this just isn't going to be practical in this area." Because of Craig and Martha Woodson's generosity and that of our many partners, RHF is able to try new methods and ideas. Craig's vision of the Woodson Ranch being a spot to appreciate the natural beauty of the area, to inspire each of us to be better resource managers, and even to be better at life, is continuing forward. Each year brings new challenges and new opportunities.

In looking forward, it is good to take lessons from the past. Gold was discovered in Alder Gulch of the Ruby Valley in the summer of 1863. One of the distinctive landmarks of the search for gold is what is known as the rock piles of Alder Creek, caused by the dredging of Alder Creek in the mining of gold. While the story of gold in the area is one of the most colorful in Montana, it has left behind the testament of short-term gain over long-term conservation of land. RHF is a support organization for The Montana Land Reliance (MLR). The two organizations complement each other in planning for long term preservation of open space and keeping working ranches operating into the future. I particularly like MLR's slogan of "Cows not Condos". The pressure of development in Montana is at an all-time high, so the message of resource accountability becomes more important each year.



I want to make sure our many generous partners know how much they are each appreciated. RHF would not be able to do the work that is being done without everyone joining together. Thank you.

Neil Barnosky
Chairman



A Word From Our Parent Organization

As I reflect on the past year as Board President of The Montana Land Reliance (MLR), I am struck by how fitting Ruby Habitat Foundation's (RHF) theme of "Foundations" is to the work we do and the legacy we build upon. Foundations remind us of the fundamentals—the essential building blocks—that support everything we strive to accomplish. They challenge us to consider where we began, how far we've come, and what is needed to ensure a strong future for the land and communities important to us.



I am pleased to report that 2024 was MLR's second-best conservation year ever! MLR partnered with 30 families to complete conservation easements on 68,799 acres. These completed easements bring the total acres conserved by MLR to 1,388,496, keeping us on track to realize the long-term goal of conserving two million acres by 2040. The completed projects span the state, from lands bordering Glacier National Park in the west, to vast expanses of prairie grasslands in the east. The protected properties represent working farms and ranches, wildlife habitat, streambank, and importantly, a foundation that the Montana we love will remain long into the future.

Conservation starts with protecting the dirt. In this year's RHF Annual Report, you'll read about soil health, a cornerstone of regenerative agriculture, and tangible examples of projects that build "from the ground up." Healthy soil is the foundation of thriving ecosystems, productive agriculture, and resilient landscapes. RHF's investment in practices that restore and enhance soil health nurtures the base upon which agriculture and wildlife depend.

Not all foundations are physical; they are also historical and visionary. RHF is built upon the gift and enduring vision of Craig and Martha Woodson. Their commitment laid the groundwork for what has become an inclusive, educational, and inspirational space in the Ruby Valley. Craig's belief in the importance of stewardship lives on in every project undertaken and visitor welcomed by RHF.

The concept of foundations also applies to the evolving nature of conservation itself. Where conservation efforts were once largely government-imposed protections, today, private landowners are increasingly central to the work of preserving open space. Both MLR and RHF share the vision that conservation happens by working directly with those who live and work on the land. Private landowners are as foundational to modern conservation as government initiatives once were, and their active participation is essential to our shared success.

As Craig Woodson's enduring words remind us: "We have a higher obligation to be good stewards of our natural resources, sharing them today and preserving them for future generations."



Looking ahead, MLR and RHF will honor and strengthen the foundations that sustain us. Whether it is through nurturing the soil, building upon historical legacies, or adapting conservation to meet contemporary needs, we are united by a shared purpose: to leave Montana better than we found it. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we are building something lasting and meaningful.

Sincerely,

Shane Colton
President, The Montana Land Reliance



Outreach Report

Foundations. We all know that what is built lasts longer when built on a solid base. At Woodson Ranch, we benefit from having embraced this idea long ago, and we continue to employ it.

In 2002, when Craig and Martha Woodson considered their options, exploring relationships with numerous land trusts and wildlife groups, they settled on The Montana Land Reliance (MLR). We all benefit from this carefully-weighed decision for it gave a solid base on which to build, as well as pride by association: The Montana Land Reliance has conserved some 1.4 million acres of land and over 2000 miles of stream in Montana through the use of conservation easements—as Montana’s open spaces serve as a magnet for attracting new landowners and the associated expansion of subdivisions, thereby changing through something like Heisenbergian logic the very thing that attracted people to begin with, we can all thank MLR for conserving the open spaces, wildlife corridors, and viewsheds that bring joy and wonder.



We, at Ruby Habitat Foundation, also embrace the concept of starting at the base and building up. One very practical way this logic applies is our focus on soil health. The core of the concept of regenerative agriculture is improving soil health, and you’ll get to read a bit about how we are experimenting with different techniques to do just that later in this report. From alfalfa pellets as fertilizer to bio-char as a source of nutrients and drought mitigation, we recognize the importance of building our agricultural efforts on the foundation of resilient, microbe-rich soils.

Our efforts here, on this 1200-acre spread of river-bottom land, come at the tail end of historic use, and our objective is to enhance the place so that future generations, building on the foundation we put in place, find a resilient piece of ground—one that can resist drought and support a diverse population of wildlife. Craig Woodson viewed agriculture as critical in this process, and, frankly, the primary reason we have a robust managed access program is to share what that link between agriculture and wildlife looks like.

And speaking of foundations, my role as Outreach Coordinator was built on the foundation put in place by my predecessor, Sara Gilman, and I am ever so grateful for the cornerstones she put in place. It is now my time to pass the same baton to another. I plan to retire from this role at the end of June 2025. This role has enriched me in ways too many to mention, and certainly, the thousands and thousands of people I have met and spent

time with form the building blocks of a house of memories I’ll always cherish. I leave this organization with the sense that it was strong when I started, thanks to the foundation put in place by founders Craig and Martha Woodson, by former Executive Director Les Gilman, the members of our Board of Directors, and of course MLR; and, I leave feeling that we have a foundation that will carry Ruby Habitat Foundation long into the future.

Thank you all.

Dave Delisi
Outreach Coordinator, 2015-2025



Soil Health--It's Fundamental

Franklin Delano Roosevelt said, "The nation that destroys its soil destroys itself." These days, the nation seems to be trying to avoid destruction from a variety of directions, but one area that is finally getting the attention it needs is the importance of restoring healthy soil to sustain food production and address environmental concerns. With this in mind, Ruby Habitat Foundation continues to explore emerging soil health improvement concepts and hopes to add to the body of knowledge on the local practicality of relevant management tools.

Broadly speaking, soil health is the foundation on which "regenerative agriculture" is constructed. In contrast to conventional food production models, regenerative farming and ranching operations use alternative management practices (often attempting to mimic natural processes) to restore above and below-ground species biodiversity, soil complexity and ecological function. Rather than thinking of soil as lifeless dirt that needs to be whipped into submission to grow a crop, regenerative agriculture focuses on building the soil, with the understanding that crop production and profitability will then follow. Soil restoration practices include the application of organic soil amendments, the use of diverse cover crops, management intensive grazing systems, reduced tillage, careful use of pest control, and integration of livestock grazing in crop systems. No single tool will solve all our agricultural and ecological challenges, but when used in combination, they can potentially address a wide range of concerns while also improving the bottom line for agricultural operations.

In last year's annual report, we shared information about our preliminary efforts to experiment with bio-char as a soil amendment. This product, which is wood that has been partially burned--think "charcoal"--and subsequently inoculated with nutrients, is applied to agricultural soils to improve soil structure complexity, increase soil organic matter and carbon storage, and increase the soil's ability to retain water and nutrients. Numerous experiments around the country have indicated promise for this technique for improving agricultural productivity and sequestering carbon. Moreover, bio-char production takes large amounts of wood waste that would otherwise be burned and sent into the atmosphere and turns that material into a potentially valuable byproduct.

On the west side of the ranch, we have established two plots where we will spread bio-char to assess effectiveness in our particular agricultural and climatic setting. We plan to monitor these fields and compare them with untreated plots over the next few years, potentially observing differences in soil nutrient availability, water holding capacity and crop productivity. Rather than tilling the bio-char into the soil and risking destruction of soil structure, cattle and our no-till seed drill will help work the bio-char into the earth.

Additionally, we have started a second experiment to evaluate alfalfa pellets as a soil amendment. The pellets are intended to boost or maintain hay production, but not in the same way as a synthetic conventional fertilizer. Urea based products provide a quick dose of nitrogen that is readily taken up by plants and often results in increased production if sufficient water and sunlight are available. It's an expensive short-term solution focused entirely on yield. It can also have negative impacts on the soil ecosystem, cause water quality issues, and encourage plants to rely on free food rather than developing complex relationships with soil microbes and fungi to access nutrients that are already available, but harder to access.

The alfalfa pellet concept is also intended to be a long-term regenerative solution. The goal is to feed micro-organisms and increase biological activity which, in-turn, can then recycle organic material faster and make naturally occurring macro and micro-nutrients available to the crop. In other words, there is often a ton of good matter in the soil, we just need the critters to get busy and convert it to forms that our plants can actually use.



Soil Health, Continued

We are applying the alfalfa pellets next to a control field to help evaluate results, and, while we are not sure what we will see, we are watching for any of the following possible measures of success:

- Comparable forage yields among plots after 3-5 years
- A slower decline or increase in the alfalfa component in the pellet plot compared to the conventional plot (where the nitrogen fertilizer is favoring the grass right now) therefore maintaining a higher quality forage over time.
- A lower cost per ton of forage produced (we may have less production on the pellets, but if it costs less to grow it could still be more profitable).
- A higher quality hay in the alfalfa plot as measured by lab forage sampling or periodic field sampling of sugar content.
- Less weevil damage in the alfalfa plots (they are less likely to damage plants with high sugar content)

In sum, Woodson Ranch is “all in” on soil health and we will share results as we receive them.



We plan to use cattle to both inoculate the bio-char and work it into the soil.

The Principles that Conserve the Soil Ecosystem

- Minimize Disturbance
 - Maximize Cover
 - Maximize Biodiversity
- Maximize Continuous Living Roots



Cattail Creek Update

In 2024, we finished a project that we started kicking around about a decade ago. This project altered the appearance of Woodson Ranch in a way that was as noticeable as when Craig Woodson's vision helped create our series of ponds and runs some 30 years ago. That system, a closed system with fish barriers at both ends, was installed under the aegis of a private pond license from Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP). We stocked that system with rainbow trout and created a fishing-friendly experience.

Over time, that system degraded, widening and silting in, and the private pond license expired and was up for renewal. FWP indicated that they were disinclined to renew that license because their understanding of the impact of private ponds had evolved. These systems cause precious water to evaporate and can introduce unknown pathogens to the adjacent waterways because of the use of transported fish for stocking.

We discussed various options to improve this situation, and ultimately decided that we should eliminate that legacy system and replace it with one whose primary benefit was the fish. The "new and improved" Cattail Creek is narrower to promote self-cleaning, has a stronger bed structure so it won't widen as the old system did, and is lined with gravels fish find just right for spawning. Further, the fish barriers have been removed so the system is open to the Ruby River, providing nearly a half-mile of new spawning water to the Ruby River which has experienced a precipitous decline in fish numbers.

We are proud of this project which is an excellent example of how we, at Ruby Habitat Foundation, do our best to balance wildlife, agriculture, and recreation. In this case, we shifted a bit of weight from recreation toward wildlife, and we are optimistic about the results. We counted fish spawning beds this past fall and are pleased to report we spotted eight new redds, a credit to nature's ability to respond when given the chance.

This project was not inexpensive and we are ever so grateful to our many individual donors who helped pay for this. Further, Trout Unlimited and FWP both provided grant funds which made it possible.



A view of the "new" Cattail Creek, shown here with a bit of electric fencing to give willows and other stream-side vegetation a fighting chance.



Show Me The Money

Ruby Habitat Foundation is always appreciative of your donation. We simply could not do what we do without your support. So, when you send us money, what do we do with it? We thought you might appreciate an answer to that question, so here are a few places we put your donations.

Natural Resources: One of the clauses of our Mission Statement focuses on “developing examples of minimal impact resource management”, and this supports another clause which obligates us to help “ensure the long-term viability of working ranches”. Perhaps no other actions we take are more important to our board of directors. Examples through the years include: larger-scale experiments on soil-health; organic vs. inorganic fertilizers; a comparison of fields traditionally treated with glyphosate (the key ingredient in Roundup) vs. the legacy approach of tilling; the “bio-char” project profiled on pages 5 & 6 of this report; and even our recently-installed “beaver deceiver”. These are examples in the agriculture field, so to speak, but we have also made substantial investments in the waterways on the ranch, in some cases to the benefit of the fishermen and in some cases to the benefit of the fish. Our multi-million-dollar restoration of Clear Creek is an example of the former, and the recent alteration of Cattail Creek is an example of the latter.



Employees: 1200 acres is a lot of ground. It's big enough to get lost, but also small enough to “do it right”, and that's what we strive to do. And, we do it with a small but engaged staff. Each year, our efforts to keep things green and productive include the hiring of a temporary, H-2A worker. Many of you have met Manuel this year, and his cheery face reflects the fact that he is making more money here than he could in his home country of Mexico and this helps him support his family there. We provide lodging, transportation, and salary to this young man. We also recently hired Jake Walgenbach as a land steward and his handiwork is visible in many places, from cleared and mown paths along the rivers and Nature Trail, to reduced numbers of juniper, and, of course, a lot fewer weeds. Anyone who has worked for a company knows that employees are often seen as an “expense”; we feel that they are an investment that benefits our many guests.

Outreach: Our managed access program is, we think, unique. If anyone knows of a piece of privately-owned property with a full-time Outreach Coordinator who manages access for nearly 2000 people per year, we'd like to hear about it. Our outreach programs include the Wildlife Speaker Series as well as other programs, including the 2024 presentation on Virtual Fencing for Cattle. We also hosted a soil health tour conducted by the Ruby Valley Strategic Alliance and conducted numerous tours of our various natural resource projects. These efforts aim to both educate and entertain, and could not be done without financial support from our donors.

Maintenance and Operations: From tractors to roads, and from heated buildings like our Hill House to the unheated visitor center, the general cost of upkeep is significant. And, we'd be remiss if we didn't include the cost of insurance. To safely host folks for fishing and hunting, to minimize risks and to secure the few assets we own, insurance is a must and those costs keep rising.

In sum, Craig and Martha Woodson's vision for this special piece of Montana is 22 years into its journey toward perpetuity, and it is a beautiful thing to see, experience, and be a part of. It is also quite expensive, and that is the reason we appreciate all of our financial supporters! Thank you very much!



Experiences Expressed

We hear many, many positive reports from people about their experiences at Woodson Ranch. It's refreshing, and worth sharing.

My wife and I spent a day fishing Clear Creek last month during our stay at Healing Waters Lodge. The ranch property is wonderful and we feel very fortunate to have had that experience. We...have fallen in love with the area. Clear Creek and the Woodson Ranch made for a very memorable day.

John Snyder

Another wonderful trip with the veterans. A couple literally fished the daylight out of the creek both days...everyone caught fish...several shared variations of "trip of a lifetime". They all bonded and you could see the stress dissipate. This trip is a healer...

Bill Long,
Mending Waters

We can't express how much we appreciated your hosting us on a wonderful day on the Woodson Ranch. What a day! Moose, sandhill cranes, ospreys, PMDs, trout, and perfect Ruby Valley scenery and conditions. We'll remember it deep into our winter days and think of spring transitioning into summer on the Ruby.

Trish and Walt Nicholson

Thank you for giving our Ruby Valley such a beautiful place of splendor--quietness--and most of all, Conservation of the land and all that inhabits this area called The Ruby Valley. Are we not blessed to live here?

Gloria and Neil
Barnosky

A large, but still juvenile, bull is coming out of the river crossing the road in front of us, and a smaller bull and a cow are on the right side of the road. (My friend) about lost her mind. We watched them from the car through the binoculars for a while as they snacked. It's like they knew we were coming. It was a treat and we just wanted to say thanks for all you do and what an incredible place the ranch is — it was awesome to get to share it with them.

London Bernier

Thank you for all you do for this beautiful piece of earth!

Debby & Greg Dillard

Please accept this small donation in memory of Ed and with gratitude for all that you have done over the years to make the world a more wonderful place.

Barbara Rumberger



Mark Your Calendar!

What: Ruby Habitat Foundation's Wildlife Speaker Series Event

Topic: Beavers!

Speaker: Torrey Ritter, Non-game biologist with Montana's Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

Date: July 31, 2025

Location: Ruby Habitat Foundation's Waldie/Kanouse Visitor Center (~2 miles northwest of Laurin, MT on Ruby River Dr.)

Time: 5:30 pm dinner (BBQ from PigOut BBQ provided--the rest is a potluck, so bring a side dish, salad, or dessert, please!) 6:50 pm Presentation

For more on all the Wildlife Speaker Series events, check out our website's Wildlife Speaker Series page.



Join our Legacy

As Craig and Martha Woodson well knew, good land stewardship requires keeping one eye on the present while simultaneously watching the future. The decisions we make today, as Craig said, affect not only our own environment, but that of wildlife, our neighbors, and future generations.

Quite simply, Ruby Habitat Foundation would not exist without the long sight of the Woodsons whose donation of this place secured it as a valuable community resource while cementing their own legacy in the hearts of many. Additionally, donations and bequests from others who included us in their estate plans have helped to ensure this place, this very special source of solitude and delight, of managed public access that has welcomed tens of thousands of guests for various purposes, is available for future generations to experience.

Please consider including Ruby Habitat Foundation in your own estate planning. Imagine the feeling of leaving a vibrant haven for future generations. Through Ruby Habitat Foundation, your legacy can reach far beyond your lifetime. By including Ruby Habitat Foundation in your will, you join a community of passionate individuals who have secured the future of this precious land and the lives it sustains.

Your planned gift, no matter the size, will have a ripple effect, leaving an enduring mark on the environment and in the hearts of countless individuals.

Don't underestimate the power of your "future vote" for conservation. By planning for the future, you ensure a lasting voice for the land you love, ensuring it continues to thrive for generations to come. Planned gifts, such as bequests, gifts of real and personal property, gift annuities, charitable trusts, life estate gifts, and more will help you to leave a meaningful legacy of conservation and may carry a greater impact than you thought possible. Your planned gift may, for example, reduce your income tax and capital gains liability, provide useful gift tax and estate tax reductions, and provide an income stream for yourself and others.

Ruby Habitat Foundation welcomes the opportunity to work with advisors of clients who are considering planning a gift. We are happy to provide further information or to offer our fully confidential assistance in finding the best fit for a gift that matches the donor's financial, philanthropic, and estate planning objectives. One of the best ways we can thank our generous supporters is to ensure their gift is structured to make the maximum possible impact for conservation, while ensuring donors receive the full tax benefits to which they are entitled.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Outreach Coordinator to start a conversation about how we can help during the gift planning process.



2024 RHF SUPPORTERS

Our thanks to all who have supported our efforts financially and otherwise over the past year.

Quite simply, we could not do this alone.

Donors--Individuals

We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. It is possible that we have omitted someone, and if that someone is you, we sincerely apologize. Do let us know so that we can list you in future reports.

Anderson, Karen and John
Andrews, Emily
Andrews, Kim and John
Anonymous
Artis, Brandy & Daufel, Doug
Arvanites, Mr. & Mrs. Dokson
Asper, Barbara & Donald
Balouzian, Vahe
Barker, Sally & Brian
Barnosky, Gloria & Neil
Bates, Patricia & Hafenfeld, Richard
Bauman, Bruce & Selden, Denise
Bayley, Shirley & Robert
Beal, Margaret & Loeb, Jeff
Beauchamp, Margaret & Peter
Bedayn, Rich
Bell, Harvey
Bennison, Robert
Bentz, Luke
Bernhardt, Anne & Alex
Best, Betsy & Larry
Bias, Mike
Birdsong, Penny & Warren
Bloom, Tonia & Marshall
Bogue, Sean
Bombassaro, Donna
Bombassaro, Jeanne & Savinski, Mark
Booth, Douglas
Bowler, Thomas
Boyer, Jennifer & Chris
Bradley, Elizabeth & Crockett, Daniel
Bradley, Patricia & Rand
Braewold Fund, The
Brescia, Joseph
Brodie, Douglas
Brooks, Jackson
Brosier, Dan
Brosier, Sarah & Cunningham, William
Brown, Jon
Burgos, Gloria & John
Bush, Gary
Byle, Dennis & Kimberly, Jonni
Campbell, Luana & Gregor
Carlson, Kurt
Carr, Heather & Scott
Carrigan, Cheryl & Thomas
Casolara, Margaret & William
Chapin, Judith
Cherry, Mary Kay & James
Cholnoky, John
Clark, John
Clark, John W.
Clark, Leslie
Cochran, Arwen & Reuben
Coggins, Allen

Colwell, Kay & Frank
Connelly, Sawyer
Corl, R Brooks
Cramer, Sabine & Michael
Crandell, Janet & William
Crockett, Daniel & Bradley, Elizabeth
Cunningham, William & Brosier, Sarah
Cutter, Edward
Dale, Cheryl & John
Delisi, Betsy & Mark
Delisi, Elizabeth & Daniel
Delisi, Steven
Dewey, Mary Browne
DeWitt, Megan & Peter
Dietrich, Garrett
Dietrich, Gary
Dillard, Deborah
Ditchfield, Michael
Dixon, Julie & John
Donnelley, Barbi & Tom
Douglass, Kristen & Richard
Downey, Daniel
Downey, Michael
Doyle, Sandra & Thomas
Dyke, Nancy
Ehman, Dan
Elmo, Barbara & John
Engle, Mark
Field, Henry
Field, Timothy
Fischer, Doris
Fleming, Kelly & Charles
Florsheim, David
Ford, Beverly & Frank
Froboese, Chris
Gardner, Steven
Garland, David
Gill, Phyllis
Gilman, Donna & Les
Giordano, Mark
Glenn, Edward Vernon
Goldberg, Frederick & Lakewold, Carolyn
Goldberg, Paul
Gomez, Lucky & Salvador
Graff, Rita & RW
Granken, Renee & Greg
Grant, Mary & John
Griffith, Tyler
Griffith, Virginia & Thomas
Haag, Kristen & Eric
Hafenfeld, Richard & Bates, Patricia
Haggett, Ann
Hammond, Nicholas
Hanneman, Debra & Wideman, Charles
Harbison, Anne & Ruedisili, Stephen
Hardy, Paulette & Harold
Hart, Elizabeth & Douglas
Hedstrom, Kjell
Higgins, Gretchen & Cory
Hillendahl, Carl

Hoover, John
Hoschouer, Jim
Hutchins, Judith
James, Brooke & David
James, Tony
Janik, Nancy & Joseph
Jarvis, Jonathan
Jenkins, Susan & Ray
Johnson, Mildred & Richard
Johnston, Lynne & Craig
Joiner, Henry
Jones, Amy & Ringle, Robert
Jordan, Sara & Robert
Juranek, Mark
Kambich, Corrine & John
Kannon, Barry
Keifer II, Thomas
Keller, David
Kiefer, Paul
Kimball, Fred
Kimberly, Jonni & Byle, Dennis
Kimberly, Mary & MacDonald, John
King, Minnetta
Kirk, Fred
Kleinsasser, Peter
Komatsu, Karl
Kramer, James
Kurschat, Janis & Marcus
Lakewold, Carolyn & Goldberg, Frederick
Lami, Michele & Peter
Laudenbach, Toby & Brian
Leaf, David
Leary, Kathryn & Thomas
Lee, Robert
Legg, Nicholas
Legg, William
Leonard, Erin & Chris
Leonard, John
Lev, Kate & William
Levin, Dora & Mark
Lininger, Robert
Loeb, Jeff & Beal, Margaret
Long, William
Lorman, Mark
Losby, Anne & Benjamin
Love, Sandra & Jewell
Lowry, Scott
Lubenow, Dayne
Luckel, Hildy & Ray
Lukas, Mary Beth & Thomas
MacDonald, John & Kimberly, Mary
Masuda, Linda & Kuni
Mathews, Shirley
McBryde, Margaret & Neill
McCandless, Jason
McKeever, Christine & Frank
McLaren, Jack & Shore, Dominique
McNeill, Collins
Meade, William
Mergenthaler, Kirsten & Danny



2024 RHF SUPPORTERS (Continued)

Mills, Charles
Mitts, David
Mitts, Lisa & Doug
Moll, William
Montag, Kim & Jeff
Montford, Robert
Morad, Pamela & Joseph
Morgan, Constance & Michael
Moss, Charles
Mumme, Kathleen & Chris
Munday, Jan & Pat
Nicholson, Walter
Nicolaou, Linda & Jim
Nielsen, Ann & Norm
Nielsen, Norman
Niles, Sandra & Kenneth
Norton, Vinny
Nugent, Sandra & Ball, Robert
Oconnor, Roy
Olsen, George & Vogelsang, Ellen
Ossner, James
Packwood, Cindi & Jan
Pappenfus, Pam & James
Parks, Judith & Stephen
Pearce, Joel
Pearce, Julie & Mike
Peltier, Catherine
Phelps, Christopher
Phillips, Janis & Terry
Plourde, Christine & Roger
Poett, Henry
Polcyn, Dave
Prange, Carrie & Richard
Pruitt, Thomas
Przonek, Janice & John
Rahlves, Sally & Dennis
Ratcheson, Peggy & Robert
Rathert, Ginger & Terry
Reed, Lisa & Keith
Reed, Kenneth
Reyes, Joe & Trivette, Jaime
Rice, Fred
Richards, Suz & Bruce
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The Woodson Family

Each year, we strive to recognize our generous donors by acknowledging them here. We aspire for perfection, but sometimes miss someone. If that someone was you, know that we did not omit you deliberately. Just let us know so we can get it right next time!



Ruby Habitat Foundation 2024 Financials

	Income & Expense (\$)
Retail Income	7,963
Donation Income :	293,024
Grant Income	174,073
Ranch Income	89,317
Investment Income	399,945
TOTAL INCOME	964,322
 Expenses	 805,751
NET INCOME	158,571

	Assets (\$)
Rural Heritage & Open Lands Fund	133,382
Hill Education & Outreach Endowment	192,381
Woodson Ranch Endowment	9,986,494
General Funds	176,581
Gilman Scholarship Fund (ask us how to contribute to this!)	116,463
 Fixed Assets	
Improvements & Equipment	376,781
Land	9,074,831
Visitor Center Building & Donated Items	59,507
 Total Assets as of 12/31/24	 20,116,420

Ruby Habitat Foundation is a Type 1, 509(a)(3) tax-exempt support organization to The Montana Land Reliance, a 501(c)(3) corporation. Our Tax ID is 45-0487621.



Ruby Habitat Foundation Board of Directors

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Helena, MT

Rock Ringling
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Charles Craig Woodson (1933-2011)
and
Martha Hill Woodson (1932-2022)

RUBY HABITAT FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Ruby Habitat Foundation is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the natural resources, and social and economic makeup of the Ruby Valley and southwest Montana by, among other things:

- Supporting agriculture in the community and the diversification of agricultural operations to ensure the long-term viability of working ranches;
- Working with landowners, educational institutions, foundations, and other entities to protect and enhance open space and wildlife habitat;
- Encouraging education and training to broaden the understanding of resource management issues, and responsible management of private lands;
- Promoting the concept of resource accountability and developing examples of minimal impact resource management for agricultural and recreational uses while protecting the environment.

Support Us If You Can!

Over the past 5 years, Ruby Habitat Foundation's managed access program has **welcomed over 8400 people**--let that sink in--for a myriad of purposes including flyfishing, birding, education, hunting ducks & deer, among other aims. Few private properties can say the same. Your financial support will ensure that these efforts continue.

To make a donation, just write us a check payable to Ruby Habitat Foundation and send to:

Ruby Habitat Foundation
PO Box 638
Sheridan, MT 59749

You may also donate through our website, www.rubyhabitat.org. Just look for the Donate Now button. Ruby Habitat Foundation is a Type 1, 509(a)3 tax exempt support organization to the Montana Land Reliance. Our tax ID is 45-0487621. **THANK YOU!!**





RUBY HABITAT
f o u n d a t i o n

2597 hwy 287 po box 638 sheridan, MT 59749
p. 406.660.2709 www.rubyhabitat.org email: dave@rubyhabitat.org

Landowners and resource managers are bound by law to protect the environment and prevent resource degradation, but we have a higher obligation to be good stewards of our natural resources, sharing them today, and preserving them for future generations. The decisions we make and the actions we take affect our own environment as well as that of the wildlife, our neighbors, and future generations.

Charles Craig Woodson (1933-2011), Founder

Ruby Habitat Foundation

PO Box 638

Sheridan, MT 59749

P: 406-660-2709

www.rubyhabitat.org

Email:

Dave Delisi: dave@rubyhabitat.org

Dan Durham: ddurham@ranchresources.net



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