

### New Coordinator

GHWG is excited to announce that we have a new Coordinator! Ahnna Reid joined the group in February and is excited to get involved with projects, education, and community engagement. She was born and raised in Montana where she has lived for 25 years.

After spending four years in Alaska as a Trails Maintenance Technician, Wildland Firefighter and Ski Patrol, she decided it was time to come back to her roots in Montana. Ahnna has a background in Outdoor Recreation Management and Ecosystem Restoration. Her favorite activities are hiking and camping with her dog Keta, mountain biking, and backcountry skiing.



She hopes to help GHWG continue to strive toward their mission of promoting the responsible use of the watersheds natural, human, and socioeconomic resources to protect and enhance the rural lifestyles valued by our communities.

### Get Involved

#### Help us protect the beautiful Flint-Rock Watershed!

The main purpose of Granite Headwaters Watershed Group is to promote the responsible use of the watershed's natural, human, and socio-economic resources to protect and enhance the rural lifestyles valued by our communities.

We are always looking for folks who have a passion for watershed stewardship and community engagement with natural resources!

For more information on how you can get involved with our organization, please contact Ahnna Reid at 406-780-7002 or [graniteheadwaters@gmail.com](mailto:graniteheadwaters@gmail.com)

### Event Recap: Summer Watershed Tour

On June 22nd, GHWG hosted a Watershed Tour of three great projects that took place in Granite County. The tour was well attended by community members and agency partners.

The first site we visited was Upper Willow Creek Habitat Restoration Project. The main goals of this project were to increase ecosystem resiliency, and restore natural stream channel processes in the creek to benefit native fish populations and wildlife habitat. This project was a collaborative effort by the private landowner, Trout Unlimited, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and Montana Natural Resource Damage Program.

The second stop along the tour was the Flint Creek Phase Two Revegetation and Restoration project. The purpose of this project is to improve stream and floodplain function and fish habitat through streambank restoration and revegetation. Funding came from the Montana Natural Resource Damage Program and the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Future Fisheries program, Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Nonprofit groups, including Trout Unlimited, the Trout and Salmon Foundation and the Wild Turkey Federation.

The final stop on the tour was Drummond Kiwanis Riverfront Park. This 32 acre park owned by the Drummond Kiwanis Club provides Clark Fork River access, a walking trail, and excellent bird viewing opportunities. This park is the result of over a decade of planning by members of the Drummond Kiwanis Club. It was initially funded by a Natural Resource Damage Program grant and updated infrastructure is funded in part by money that comes from the Drummond Rodeo.

We really enjoyed putting on this tour and look forward to more successful events like this in the future.





### Gold Coin Wildlife Enhancement and Fuels Reduction Project

Pintler Ranger District  
Beverhead/Deerlodge National Forest

The Gold Coin project is approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Maxville, MT. The intent of the project is to reduce conifer encroachment in ten mountain grassland/shrubland locations. The overall project will treat 1,198 acres of these grasslands, enhancing forage for meeting the needs of wildlife and potentially increasing wildlife numbers in the area. In addition, altering the fuel profiles to a grass fuel model would increase the success to control a large wildfire.

Last year the district received a \$30,000 grant from the Tri-county Resource Advisory Committee to aid in the project's implementation. Contracted sawyers cut, loped, and scattered 120 acres in units 6 and 9. Pintler Ranger District employees, with the help of the Youth Conservation Corp and Montana Conservation Corp added an additional 60 acres plus prepared the units by constructing fireline on the flanks of the units.

The prescribed burning phase of the project, began on April 25th, 2024. Resources from the Pintler and Wisdom Ranger districts successfully burned unit nine which is 95 acres. The burning was done under cloudy conditions, reducing the fire intensity, and provided for excellent results. The majority of the fire remained on the forest floor consuming the slash created the previous year along with a large percentage of the needle, stick, and cone accumulations. Activities this fall and next year will continue until the project is complete.

For more information, please contact the Pintler Ranger District at 406-859-3211.

