

Examples of collections and resources supporting research about Land, Land Use, the Environment and Conservation in Montana held at Archives & Special Collections at the Mansfield Library, University of Montana-Missoula

A separate list is available for collections with content focused on Forests and the Timber Products Industry.

Note: In most cases links are provided from the titles of collections to the guides to those collections. The collections themselves are not digitized and therefore are not yet available online. This list is not comprehensive.

Papers of Individuals and Families

G. M. Brandborg Papers (1893-1977), Mss 691, 14.5 linear feet

Papers of Guy M. "Brandy" Brandborg, long-time employee of the U. S. Forest Service, and Forest Supervisor of the Bitterroot National Forest from 1935-1955. The collection includes files related to Brandborg's interest in and activities related to wilderness, conservation, and watershed protection efforts in Montana, and two memorial scrapbooks documenting his activities in favor of sustainable timber harvesting and against extensive clearcutting.

Stewart M. Brandborg Papers (1932-2000), Mss 699, 45.0 linear feet

This collection consists of the professional papers of environmental activist Stewart M. Brandborg. A graduate of the University of Montana and the University of Idaho, Brandborg was hired as assistant conservation director for the National Wildlife Federation in 1954. In 1956 he was elected to the governing board of The Wilderness Society and in 1960 was hired as their associate executive director. He served as director of The Wilderness Society from 1964-1977. Brandborg's papers include correspondence, research files and other documents from his time with The Wilderness Society, as well as material documenting his work with the National Wildlife Federation, the National Park Service, Wilderness Watch, and Friends of the Bitterroot (Montana.)

Arnold Bolle Papers (1930-1994), Mss 600, 40.7 linear feet

Arnold Bolle was a leading figure in the Montana conservation movement. The collection contains writings, correspondence, research, and other materials from Arnold Bolle's career in the Soil Conservation Service, as a forestry professor at The University of Montana, his work on *A University View of the Forest Service*, and the organizations he worked with before and during his retirement, like the Wilderness Society and the Montana Wilderness Association.

Meyer Chessin Papers (1930-1992), Mss 630, 21.8 linear feet

Chessin began work as a professor of Botany at UM in 1949. His scholarly research interests included plant physiology, pathology, photobiology and virology but he was also interested in broader environmental and civic issues including herbicides and pesticides, solid waste management, the effects of nuclear weapons and radiation, and disarmament. Chessin advised state and local Weed Management committees on herbicides and biological control issues and was instrumental in establishing the Western Montana Scientists Committee for Public Information, which conducted public Solid Waste Workshops throughout Montana and Idaho.

Conrad, Campbell and Stanford Families (1818-1968), Mss 185, 147.25 linear feet

The Conrad, Campbell, and Stanford Family Papers are an extensive collection of correspondence, business records, and objects from four generations of a very prominent family in Montana. The collection covers a wide range of subjects and time periods; relevant to the topics of land and land use: in the late 1880s and early 1890s brothers James and Charles Conrad founded numerous businesses in Montana including Conrad Brothers, Inc., the Conrad Banking Company of Great Falls, Kalispell Townsite Company, Conrad National Bank of Kalispell, Conrad Price Cattle Company, Conrad Circle Cattle Company, and Queen of the Hills Mining Company, as well as the Montana towns of Conrad and Kalispell (where Charles built the home which is now a national historical site). Charles Conrad played an important role in preventing a threatened extinction of the great western buffalo herds by providing sheltered ranges for a select group on his Kalispell and other Flathead Valley lands. This breeding stock would later form a basis for 20th and 21st century herds in both Canada and the United States.

Marcus Daly Family Papers (1883-1996), Mss 619, 89.2 linear feet

The collection contains family papers and records related to the business investments of Marcus Daly of Montana, copper magnate, businessman, and politician. The collection primarily consists of family estate papers and business records of the Bitterroot Stock Farm from the 1880s to 1990s. The daily operational activities of the Bitterroot Stock Farm, including ranching, horse breeding, and agricultural activities, are especially well documented. Also included are records of the Republican Ditch Company (1883-1901) which was organized in 1883 in Corvallis, Montana, to furnish water for an irrigation ditch in the Bitterroot Valley, the Ward Ditch Company and the Ravalli Land and Irrigation Company.

Dallus Eklund Papers (1951-1992), Mss 792, 0.2 linear feet

Eklund was an angler and advocate for wildlife conservation in the Flathead Lake region of western Montana. His papers include correspondence, reports, and clippings relating to regional environmental issues from the 1950s through the early-1990s, including the creation of the Great Bear Wilderness.

Morton J. Elrod Papers and Photographs (1885-1959), Mss 486, 55.5 linear feet

Elrod was an early Montana botanist, naturalist, University of Montana professor, and photographer. Significant subjects in this collection include the flora and fauna of western Montana; Glacier National Park; the University of Montana; and Missoula, Montana. Elrod founded the University of Montana Biological Station on Flathead Lake in 1899. The Station was one of the first freshwater laboratories of its kind in the United States. He later located the site for the National Bison Range at Moise in conjunction with the American Bison Society. Following the establishment of Glacier National Park, he became the first park naturalist at Glacier. He was a noted naturalist and wrote extensively on Montana's natural history. He operated Missoula's weather station at his home from 1897 to 1935, when the National Weather Service established a station in Missoula. He also measured Western Montana stream flows for the federal government. Elrod was an accomplished and prolific photographer. He became the unofficial photographer of the campus and campus activities soon after he arrived in Missoula and also took many scenic photos of western Montana including the Mission Mountains, Glacier Park, Flathead Lake and the Bitterroot Mountains and Valley.

John R. Garber Papers (1956-1968), Mss 787, 0.4 linear feet

John Garber was instrumental in an unsuccessful campaign to build a dam near Paradise along the Clark Fork in western Montana. This collection contains correspondence and clippings related to Garber's efforts. Also included are documents created by the Committee for Paradise Dam.

Cecil Garland Papers (1924-2006), Mss 637, 4.5 linear feet

During the 1960's, Garland lead the effort include the Scapegoat Wilderness in the National Wilderness Preservation System. This collection contains materials from Cecil Garland's work with the Lincoln Back Country Protective Association and his personal conservation and Forest Service work.

Clarence C. Gordon Papers (1932-1982), Mss 611, 101.0 linear feet

Clarence "Clancy" C. Gordon served as a professor of Botany and Environmental Studies at the University of Montana-Missoula from 1960 until his death in 1981. This collection contains materials related to Gordon's prolific environmental research while at the University, and his participation as a key witness in litigation brought against major polluters in Montana, the United States, Canada and Germany during the 1960s and 1970s.

James R. Habeck Research Collection (1882-2012), Mss 817, 5.1 linear feet

Habeck, a retired botanist, ecologist and professor, conducted research and compiled primary and secondary source documents on topics including Frank Rose, an early-day range manager and conservationist in Western Montana, the Fort Missoula Timber Reserve, and Norman Maclean's research on the Mann Gulch Fire.

Clifton R. Merritt Papers (1935-2008), Mss 700, 69.0 linear feet

This collection consists of the papers of environmental activist Clifton R. Merritt. From 1964 to 1978 Merritt served as Director of Field Services for The Wilderness Society. After leaving The Wilderness Society, Merritt founded the American Wilderness Alliance (later American Wildlands). His papers include correspondence, research files and other documents from his time with these agencies. Other materials cover his work with Montana Wilderness Association, Montana Wildlife Federation, and Friends of the Bitterroot. The collection also contains personal writings and correspondence.

Doris Milner Papers (1939-2007), Mss 799, approximately 70 linear feet

Doris Milner's papers includes working subject files, correspondence, and speeches created during her work with conservation organizations including the Save the Upper Selway Committee and the Montana Wilderness Association. A portion of this collection remains unprocessed; an inventory is available from Archives & Special Collections.

William R. "Bud" Moore Papers (circa 1940s-2010) Accessions 2012-34 and 2012-37, approximately 70 linear feet

Born in 1917, Bud Moore first began work for the U. S. Forest Service when he was 16. After serving in the military during World War II, he was appointed ranger in the Powell District in 1949 and worked his way through to chief of the Division of Fire Control and Air Operations for the Forest Service's 29-million-acre Northern Region by the time of his retirement in 1974. Committed to ecosystem management, he was one of the founders of the current wilderness fire management policy, author of *The Lochsa Story - Land Ethics in the Bitterroot Mountains*, a trapper, sawmill operator, and conservationist. His papers and photographs are currently unprocessed; contact Archives & Special Collections for an inventory and information.

Melvin S. Morris Papers (1925-1981), Mss 425, 5.0 linear feet

Morris was Professor of Range Management in the School of Forestry at the University of Montana--Missoula. The collection contains biographical materials, correspondence, writings, teaching materials, subject files, photographs, and films related to Morris' research and teaching on range management at the University of Montana. It documents his interest in the National Bison Range; elk nutrition in the Blackfoot River valley; winter range at Camas Prairie and Perma, Montana; and mining reclamation and range issues on the Navajo Reservation. Photographs are concerned with range research, elk nutrition, and events in the University of Montana's School of Forestry, including annual senior trips, fire training, and the campus. Films are in color and document School of Forestry trips and range conditions in Montana.

Joseph A. Mussulman Papers (1966-1992), Mss 652, 2.0 linear feet

This collection contains papers from Joseph Mussulman's work with the Friends of the Rattlesnake to create the Rattlesnake National Recreation Area and Wilderness. An oral history interview with Mussulman is also available (OH 409).

W. Leslie Pengelly Papers (1937-1988), Mss 633, 9.4 linear feet

This collection contains papers created and compiled by Pengelly representing his career in wildlife management and conservation. They include correspondence, speeches and writings, research papers, teaching papers, service papers, photographs and papers from Pengelly's service on the Montana Fish and Game Commission and as president of The Wildlife Society.

Leland H. Schoonover Papers (1945-1979), Mss 129, 9.0 linear feet

Schoonover was a Polson, Montana, school teacher and Montana state legislator who was very active in the local and state education community and state and regional conservation efforts. The collection includes documentation of his involvement with the Montana Wildlife Federation, the Pacific Northwest Conservation Council, and the Lake County Conservation District. In 1966, Governor Tim Babcock awarded him the Conservationist of the Year award.

Bill Sharp's Montana Civilian Conservation Corps Research Files, Mss 591, 4.0 linear feet

The collection contains research materials and photographs related to the Civilian Conservation Corps in Montana. Series I contains indexes to Civilian Conservation Corps news in Montana newspapers, including the *Missoulian* (Missoula, Montana), *The Montana Standard* (Butte, Montana); and research materials from the Fort Missoula District. The research includes copies of camp annuals, correspondence with individuals who worked at the camps, newspaper clippings, and many other types of materials. There is information about a United States Forest Service Region One rubber project during World War II, Civilian Conservation Corps-sponsored education programs, camp-related fire deaths, and other general information about the national Civilian Conservation Corps program. Series II of the collection contains packets of photographic prints and negatives from Civilian Conservation Corps camps in Montana, arranged alphabetically by camp location.

Elizabeth Reitell Smith Papers (1953-1987), Mss 623, 19.5 linear feet

This collection contains materials relevant to Elizabeth Smith's work as a Montana wilderness and environmental activist. The bulk of the materials includes research, newsletters, drafts of speeches, position papers and correspondence between 1965 and 1980. Some of the research files also contain handwritten or typed notes. The correspondence mainly focuses on Smith's wilderness and environmental works but also reflects personal relationships with fellow activists.

Kim Williams Papers (1940-1986), Mss 218, 12.75 linear feet

Kim Williams was a writer, naturalist, teacher, and radio commentator. Materials are divided into eight series: biographical information, diaries, general correspondence, financial records, speeches and writings, subject files, clippings and photographs.

Political Papers

Joseph M. Dixon Papers (1772-1944), Mss 55, 70 linear feet

Joseph M. Dixon was governor of Montana and served in the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, and in the Department of the Interior; he was also a national leader in the Republican and Bull Moose Parties. This collection contains a large portion of his personal and professional correspondence files, legal documents, financial records, campaign/political materials, photographs, and personal effects. Relevant to the topics of land use and conservation, Dixon's papers include documentation about his role in promoting early 20th century natural and cultural resource conservation ideals ranging from federal land set-asides to massive irrigation/hydro-electric projects, to species preservation.

Mike Mansfield Papers (1903-1990), Mss 65, 2495 linear feet

Mansfield served Montana in the U.S. House of Representatives (1943-1952) and the U.S. Senate (1953-1977), and served as the Ambassador to Japan from 1977-1988. His archival collection consists of his congressional and unofficial ambassadorial papers. A number of legislative subject files, as well as files containing letters from constituents, document issues related to land use, forestry and the timber industry, and the environment.

John Melcher Papers (1969-1988), Mss 231, approximately 700 linear feet

John Melcher served Montana in the U. S. House (1969-1977) and Senate (1977-1988). Materials in this collection include bills introduced by Melcher; speeches, writings and press releases; constituent correspondence, photographs, and other documents. In both the House and the Senate, Melcher was noted for his interest in agriculture, protection of public lands, notably Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands, and animal welfare and animal health protections. He was a strong cosponsor and advocate of the coal strip mining bill (Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act), which was vetoed twice before being passed in 1977. He served on the Agriculture and the Interior committees of the House, and on the Agriculture, Energy, and Natural Resources committees of the Senate.

James E. Murray Papers (1934-1961), Mss 91, 483 linear feet

James E. Murray was a Montana Democrat who served in the U. S. Senate from 1934 to 1960 and an extensive number of topics can be explored through the files of general correspondence, legislative materials, speeches and writings, clippings, film, and photographs. In the area of land use, the senator used his influence as the Senate's Interior Committee Chairman to secure western water projects that led to congressional approval and funding for large dams in Montana at Canyon Ferry on the Missouri River, Yellowtail on the Bighorn, Hungry Horse on the Flathead, and Libby on the Kootenai. With these dams, Murray was an early convert to the causes of energy conservation and environmental protection. Even in an era in which these issues were not yet popular, Murray supported numerous bills that called for environmental protection, a national system of wilderness areas, development of wind energy, and curbing air pollution.

Pat Williams Papers (1979-1997), Mss 239, 87.5 linear feet

Pat Williams represented Montana in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1979 to 1997. This collection consists of the materials generated and collected by Williams and his office during his eighteen years in office. Williams served on the Education, Labor, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and House Budget committees. His tenure in office is noted for his activism on behalf of education, libraries, Native American tribal sovereignty, the National Endowments for the Arts and for the Humanities, worker's concerns, wilderness protection, and environmental integrity for the future of the Western states.

Records of Businesses and Organizations

Collins Land Company Records (1898-1951), Mss 63, 45.5 linear feet

In 1889 the Collins Land Company was established in Helena, Montana. The company dealt with public lands, bought and sold land scrip, and represented clients to the Department of the Interior with regard to public lands. It was one of the largest land scrip dealers in the United States. This collection contains correspondence, financial, legal, promotional, and organizational records generated by the Collins Land Company as well as government publications regarding federal public lands and business records from three other Collins family enterprises.

Concerned Citizens for Quality Environment Records (1968-1976), Mss 194, 1.5 linear feet

The collection contains general correspondence, research materials, and writings created and/or collected by Concerned Citizens for Quality Environment chairman Gail L. Owen, who was concerned about the proposed expansion of the Hoerner-Waldorf kraft paper mill outside Frenchtown, Montana. Archives & Special Collections also holds some related personal papers and writings of [Gail Owen](#).

Dude Ranchers Association Records (1926-1971), Mss 97, 2.0 linear feet

The Dude Ranchers Association was formed in Montana and Wyoming as an advocacy group for dude ranches and other forms of rural tourism. The Association was highly active in conservation issues dealing with legislative issues which may have effects (positive and negative) on land and land use.

GASP (Gals Against Smog and Pollution) (1958-1970), Mss 43, 3.5 linear feet

GASP was a grassroots air quality organization active in Missoula, Montana, in the late 1960s. The collection details the organization and history of GASP and documents general air and water pollution conditions in Montana and in the United States.

Institute of the Rockies (1941-1994), Mss 655, 4.0 linear feet

The Institute was established in Missoula, Montana, in 1973. Its projects and workshops included elementary education, international education, the structure of local government, county heritage centers, energy and water policies in Montana, the Columbia River Watch, and the use of chemicals in agriculture. The collection contains minutes, correspondence, newsletters and other materials generated by the Institute.

Lincoln Back Country Protective Association (1963-1972), Mss 195, 0.5 linear feet

The Lincoln Back Country Protective Association was formed to preserve land near Lincoln, Montana, as a roadless wilderness area. The collection contains correspondence, Lincoln Back Country-Scapegoat Wilderness legislation, statements and testimony from Senate hearings, newspaper clippings, and LBCPA publications.

Long Brothers Company (1897-1915), Mss 4, 1 linear foot

The Long Brothers Company of Great Falls, Montana, was a farming and ranching company that raised sheep in northern Montana. The collection contains financial and legal materials and correspondence from Long Brothers and its predecessor and successor companies: J.B. Long & Company and the Long & Jamieson Brothers Live Stock Company (formed 1897 with Gordon R. Jamieson).

Montana Conservation Council Records (1939-1975), Mss 189, 4.75 linear feet

The Montana Conservation Council was an organization founded in 1948 to educate Montanans about wise use of natural resources. The collection contains the organization's correspondence, governance documents, newsletters, clippings, and photographs that document its interests in soils, forests, wildlife, reclamation efforts, the work of women (including garden clubs and women's clubs), range management, and conservation education.

Montana Mining Company (1882-1934), Mss 142, 34.0 linear feet

The collection focuses on the workings of two mining companies that owned and operated the Drumlummon mine in Marysville, Montana, over five decades.

Montana Native Plant Society (1988-2012), Mss 610, 0.75 linear feet

Primarily meeting minutes and newsletters from the Montana Native Plant Society, a non-profit organization concerned with the preservation, conservation, and study of the native plants and plant communities of Montana and the education of the public to the values of the native flora and its habitat.

New Mine Sapphire Syndicate (1889-1967) Mss 28, 5.0 linear feet

Originally discovered by prospectors in search of placer gold, the rich sapphire-bearing ledge of Montana was located and claimed by three Montanans in 1896. The New Mine Sapphire Syndicate, based solely on the Yogo Sapphire District near Utica, Montana, in Judith Basin County, was incorporated in 1898. The Yogo mines operated profitably until 1927, when a flash flood destroyed the surface workings of the Syndicate's operation. After that, little was done to exploit the remaining sapphires. The collection contains the company's governing documents, financial records, correspondence, legal documents and court papers, reports, clippings, publicity and printed materials, and photographs.

Western Montana Fish and Game Association Records (1915-1982), Mss 212, 5.5 linear feet

The Western Montana Fish and Game Association was formed to further the conservation interests of hunters and fishermen. The collection contains material generated by the activities of the Association from 1915 to 1981.

Wilderness Policy History Project Collection (1922-2003), Mss 639, 23.0 linear feet

This collection contains materials compiled during the Wilderness Policy History Project at the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center. The project's purpose was to compile records that could be used by wilderness managers, researchers, policy makers, and interested citizens to gain a clear historical understanding of Wilderness Act policy, evolution and language.

Yellowstone Park Company Records (1892-1963), Mss 181, 34 microfilm reels

The collection consists of the personal records of Harry W. Child and the records of the Wylie Permanent Camping Company, Green Meadows Farm, the Yellowstone Park Association, Yellowstone Park Transportation Company, Yellowstone Park Company, Yellowstone Park Hotel Company, and Yellowstone Park Camping Company. It provides documentation of park visitors, employees, services, and the financial health of these companies.

Oral History Collections

Badger-Two Medicine Oral History Project, OH 416, 5 interviews

The five interviewees recorded for this project in 2006 describe the Badger-Two Medicine area located by the Blackfeet Reservation and Glacier National Park in Montana. They discuss their lives in the area from early homestead years up to current land use controversies, 1930-2006.

Milltown Oral History Project, OH 419, 8 interviews

The eight interviewees, recorded for the Milltown Oral History Project by interviewers Caitlin DeSilvey and Minie Smith in 2006 and 2007, describe working at the Milltown Dam, the Anaconda Mill, the Champion Mill and the Clark Mill as well as living in Bonner and Milltown, Montana, from as early as the 1920s into the 2000s.

Photograph Collections

Morton J. Elrod Papers and Photographs (1885-1959), Mss 486, 55.5 linear feet

Elrod was an early Montana botanist, naturalist, University of Montana professor, and photographer. Significant subjects in this collection include the flora and fauna of western Montana; Glacier National Park; the University of Montana; and Missoula, Montana. Elrod was an accomplished and prolific photographer who took many scenic photos of western Montana including the Mission Mountains, Glacier Park, Flathead Lake and the Bitterroot Mountains and Valley.

Rollin H. McKay Photographs (1880-1965), Mss 249, 5059 images

Rollin H. McKay was a Missoula, Montana, photographer during the first half of the twentieth century. His extensive collection of images documents western Montana at this time, especially Missoula, the University of Montana, and numerous other towns and recreational areas. Because of the extent and focus of his photographs, the McKay images provide good information about land use over time.