



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022



## GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to our first ever annual impact report! This report provides an overview of the great work Glacier-Two Medicine accomplished in 2022.

This past year was a truly transformative year at Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance thanks in large part to the addition of a second full-time staff position. The Wyss Foundation awarded GTMA a two-year fellowship to hire Jordyn Steele as our Community Engagement Coordinator, which we did in January 2022. Thanks to her dedication and leadership we were able to finally invest in several long-standing stewardship and education priorities that we had not previously had the capacity to consistently undertake. For example, we dramatically increased our volunteer-focused stewardship work—particularly our fight against noxious weeds – as well as furthered community-based efforts to get youth outside to explore and learn about the Badger-Two Medicine. We also launched a citizen science initiative to monitor wildlife movement in the Highway 2 Corridor. Investment in community engagement, education, and on-the-ground stewardship work is an important compliment to our longstanding

advocacy work on behalf of wildlands, waters and wildlife.

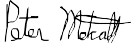
Speaking of advocacy, we scored a major, long-sought victory in September when Glacier National Park announced it would finally phase out commercial air tours. Ending these noisy overflights that disrupt wildlife and disturb the ability of people and animals to hear natural sounds was a long-sought goal of GTMA and our partners in the Quiet! Glacier Coalition. Thank you to everyone who supported this effort in various ways!

Our long-standing defense of the Badger-Two Medicine wildlands from oil and gas development and other threats continued to be our top policy priority. After a federal district court judge issued a terribly-reasoned decision last fall and ordered the last, contested oil and gas lease in the Badger-Two Medicine reinstated, we, along with Blackfeet and conservation partners, not only appealed, but made sure the Biden Administration did likewise. The case is currently back in the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. We also worked to increase Forest Service attention to illegal motorized use and other recreation management issues in the Badger-Two Medicine

as well as, separately, on the Flathead National Forest. And we continued to offer support to various Blackfeet Nation-led efforts to conserve tribal lands, to restore wildlife, and to improve cooperation with federal land managers.

We are excited to build on this foundation throughout 2023 and beyond as we work to keep the Badger-Two Medicine and surrounding lands in the Crown of the Continent ecosystem wild and connected. None of the work we do would be possible without the support of this incredible community of supporters who give generously of their time, energy, and treasurer. Whether this past year was your first year or your 38th year as part of the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance community, we are thrilled to have you with us. Together we are truly making a difference for the health and vitality of the land, wildlife and communities of this region.

Sincerely,

  
Peter Metcalf





# 2022 BY THE NUMBERS



6,800 knapweed weevil biocontrols released



33 pages of comments submitted on 6 Forest Service and Park Service management proposals



13 public education presentations hosted



1 Legal appeal filed to keep oil and gas out of the Badger-Two Medicine



10 student field trips



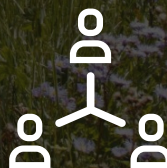
1 hitch by the Piikani Lands Crew sponsored



182 people joined one of 15 GTMA-led outings



150 trees cleared  
15 drains maintained



8 community events attended



72 volunteers at stewardship projects and events



61 bags of knapweed pulled (That's about 680lbs of knapweed!)

## FINANCIALS

### INCOME

\$256,000

Grants	55%
Contributions	23%
Fall Gathering	16%
Other Income	4%
Merchandise	2%



### EXPENSES

\$226,000

65%	Staff and Contracts
17%	Fundraising & Outreach
10%	Administration
8%	Other Program Expenses



## THANK YOU

To the many individuals and organizations who generously supported our work to protect and steward the lands, water, and wildlife of the Badger-Two Medicine and surrounding areas in the Crown of Continent ecosystem in 2022. None of this would be possible without you. You rock!

### Donors

- 243 - Individual donors, with gifts ranging from \$5 to \$10,000
- 12 - Badger-Two Medicine Defenders Circle monthly donors
- The Wyss Foundation
- The Kendeda Fund
- Patagonia, Inc.
- Cinnabar Foundation
- Maki Foundation
- Two anonymous Family Foundations
- The Wilderness Society

### Program Partners

- Blackfeet Headwaters Alliance
- Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation
- Center for Large Landscape Conservation
- Earthjustice
- EcoFlight
- Montana Wildlife Federation
- Montana Conservation Corps - Piikuni Lands Crew
- Montana Backcountry Horsemen - Flathead Chapter
- National Parks Conservation Association
- Piikani Traditionalist Association
- Quiet! Glacier Coalition
- Rocky Mountain Front Weeds Roundtable
- The Wilderness Society
- Wild Montana

## MISSION

Glacier Two Medicine Alliance is dedicated to the protection, stewardship, and shared enjoyment of the culturally- and ecologically-irreplaceable wild lands of the Badger-Two Medicine and its interconnected ecosystems.

## VISION

A child of future generations can experience the same cultural and ecological richness we find in the wild lands of the Badger-Two Medicine today.





## A WIN FOR GLACIER!

Photo by: Justin Franz



Persistence paid off! Glacier National Park announced in September it would finally phase out low-altitude commercial air tours by the end of the decade, a long-sought goal of GTMA. Ending these noisy air tours will better protect the natural sounds, wildlife, and wilderness character of Glacier!

## FOSTERING MANAGER RELATIONSHIPS

Photo by: Peter Metcalf



GTMA helped organize educational flights over the Badger, Glacier, and Blackfoot Reservation for federal and tribal land managers as part of a conservation landscape planning event designed to foster improved communication and cooperation in local resource management.

## FALL GATHERING RETURNS

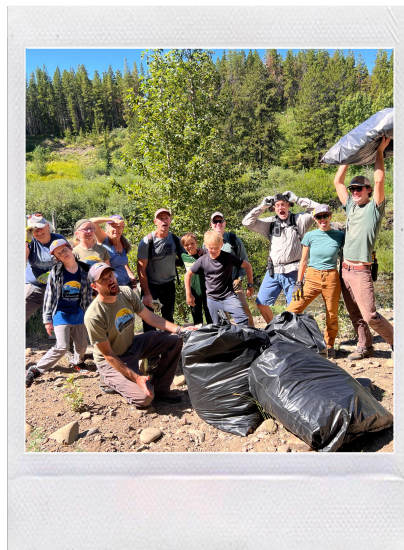
Photo by: Dylan DesRosier



More than 150 people celebrated the Fall Gathering which featured an inspiring presentation by former Tribal Council member Terry Tatsey (right) about his relationship to the Badger-Two Medicine as well as his passion for connecting youth to the land. Lou Bruno (left) was honored with the Badger-Two Medicine Defender Award.

## FIGHTING WEEDS, HEALING LANDS

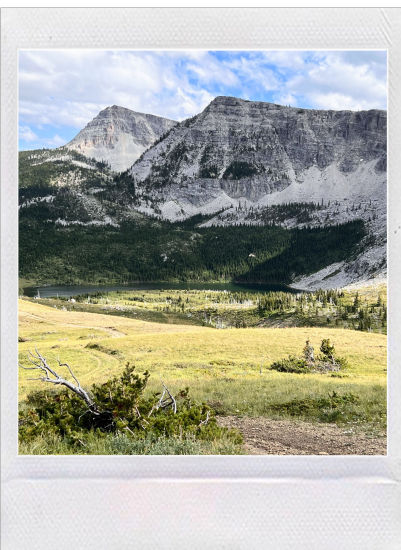
Photo by: Peter Metcalf



Over 50 people pulled noxious knapweed in the Badger-Two Medicine last August, as part of our growing effort to stop the spread to protect wildlife habitat, native plants, including traditional foods, and clean water.

## BADGER-TWO MEDICINE DEFENSE

Photo by: Peter Metcalf



The Badger-Two Medicine remains ecologically wild and connected thanks in no small part to our continued defense of this ecological and cultural keystone landscape. Thanks for standing up for the land this year!

## GETTING YOUTH OUTSIDE

Photo by: Whitney Snow



Local high school students camped and explored the Badger-Two Medicine to learn about its cultural and ecological significance, one of several efforts we supported last year to get youth outside and connected to the land.





GLACIER-  
TWO MEDICINE  
ALLIANCE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John Schmid  
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Frank Vitale  
Mike Wikstrom

## STAFF

**Peter Metcalf**  
*Executive Director*  
[peter@glaciertwomedicine.org](mailto:peter@glaciertwomedicine.org)

**Jordyn Steele**  
*Community Engagement Coordinator*  
[jordyn@glaciertwomedicine.org](mailto:jordyn@glaciertwomedicine.org)

**Ashley Sherburne**  
*Administrative and Events Specialist*  
[ashley@glaciertwomedicine.org](mailto:ashley@glaciertwomedicine.org)

## CONTACT US

PO Box 181  
East Glacier Park, MT 59434  
[GlacierTwoMedicine.org](http://GlacierTwoMedicine.org)  
[Info@GlacierTwoMedicine.org](mailto:Info@GlacierTwoMedicine.org)  
406-434-6223

## FOLLOW US

FB/IG: @glaciertwomedicine

## REFLECTIONS FROM OUR WYSS FELLOW

By Jordyn Steele, Community Engagement Coordinator

From the moment I joined the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance in January, 2021 on a two-year Wyss Fellowship, I found myself immediately immersed in a grassroots conservation community more authentic and welcoming than I could ever have imagined.

Early in my role as the new Community Engagement Coordinator I was introduced to a network of community members and organizational partners, some of whom bring national perspectives to support our place-based conservation work. Although I had worked in Glacier for the National Park Service and considered myself a conservationist, I saw for the first time the diverse network that makes up the conservation community and the larger impact we can make when we collaborate as partners. I was constantly inspired by the kindness, presence, and awareness of everyone I met, both in the community and in our partner organizations, along with their dedication to the land, wildlife, and people of this region.

The web of impact was further impressed on me when I attended my first Wyss Fellowship training conference. I sat in a room with my twelve other Wyss Fellow peers. Although we each came from a different region in the West and organizations of various sizes and character, we shared similarly centered goals of permanent protection for a landscape. For a week, we learned from each other and from experts about effective contextually-appropriate communications and planning to create a ground swell of passion and support for protecting a place.

When I introduced myself as the Community Engagement Coordinator and shared stories about the Badger-Two Medicine and its larger importance for connectivity in the Crown of the Continent ecosystem, I saw the awe in the eyes of my peers and I felt the significance of what we do as an organization at a deeper level as well as the role we play in the larger conservation movement.

As the Community Engagement Coordinator, I see my primary role as cultivating community inclusion in our work of caring for and defending the Badger-Two Medicine and adjacent lands. To do so, I seek to listen to and empower local community members, to be present in the community, and to actively support local partners in connecting people to this landscape and inviting people to learn more about its natural and cultural values. My hope is to get more people involved in stewardship work that heals the land, with the goal of bridging differences and building understanding about what this landscape means to each of us as well as to health of our continent and our world.



*Thank you Wyss Foundation for  
selecting Glacier-Two Medicine  
Alliance to receive a Wyss Fellowship!*