# MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
ALL MONTANANS

The Montana State Library serves all Montanans both directly through our various collections and online applications as well as indirectly through scalable programs, centrally administered that provide the infrastructure for all Montana libraries, and thus all Montanans.

ALL

"I have shared [the Public Library Survey] with the City Council, my immediate supervisor, Library Advisory Board, Library Foundation and County Commissioners. I also share it with donors or include it with grant applications. It is easy to read and absorb. **I find sharing reports like these of great benefit to key leaders and stakeholders.**"
Gale Bacon, Director, Belgrade Community Library, Belgrade
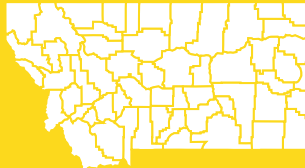
"Without detailed library data it is difficult to truly gauge how useful a service or program is to our patrons, and if it is the best use of library funds. It is helpful to see trends over time, and we utilize this information to make better informed decisions. **The Montana State Library makes it so easy to gather this information and our library trustees find it invaluable.**"
Abbi Dooley, Director, North Lake County Library, Polson

MONTANANS

"I've been working on some large conservation easement proposals and **MTNHP data has been critical to our efforts. I have come to realize how strong our Montana NHP is compared to other states.** Being able to state how many SGCN use our conservation properties or have potential habitat is very powerful. Thank you for all that you and everyone else is doing, it's helping us stand out at the national level and secure some big grants on important habitat projects." Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Kalispell

"So fun to see the progress NHP keeps making year after year to acquire and help the public access great data about our species in Montana. **Thank you so much for the agency level access, I look forward to exploring the platform more** this semester and introducing it to our new wildlife professor - I'm hoping between the two of us to use NHP tools broadly and in different ways across classes." University of Montana Western, Dillon

"Today's History Portal LEGO Challenge was **one of the most wonderful and brilliant events we have participated in – for young kids to grandparents alike**. My 8-year-old son is a big LEGO kid and participated in the build-at-home challenge. He researched the History Portal for an inspiring pic that he could build, and he was off and running, working on it for multiple days. He also researched his pic/scene to learn more about the historical event. Thank you for bringing this incredible event to our community." Ann McCanley, Helena

"I have recommended [The Montana History Portal Teacher Workshop] to a couple of other teachers. I really enjoyed attending this, and I hope I get chosen again. **I have used the exhibit I wrote in my classes, but more than that, I have gotten them (my students) into the Montana History Portal** and involved them in a contest. I hope to see you in April!" Kim Winkowitsch, Cut Bank Middle School, Cut Bank

"I have used the "memory" site to access the files of Blackfeet tribal council minutes. **That really is valuable information, in that it provides detailed testimony, actions, and some old photographs.** Further, I have accessed some of the state prison records, as they relate to tribal members and relatives. Finally, I do enjoy perusing the old county memory books that are available on the site. **I only hope the site continues to expand, offering even more valuable research material.**" Ghrist, enrolled member of the Blackfeet tribe

"Gardiner experienced catastrophic damage during the spring flooding of 2022. This data will be used to construct a hydraulic model to analyze the bridge and the channel. **The data will also be used to help develop a counter measure to limit the damage of extreme flood events.**" Montana Lidar Inventory user, Gardiner

The benefits of the work of the State Library can be measured in the form of economic impact, educational attainment, and community and individual well-being.
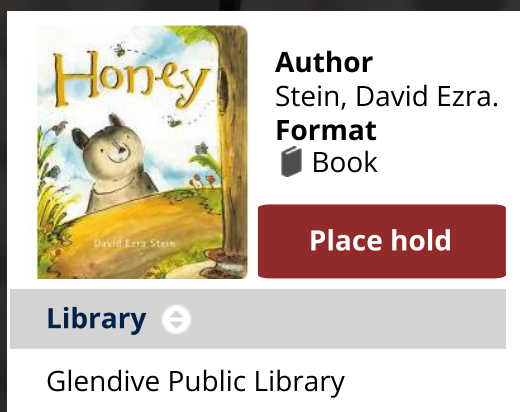
"It would not be an exaggeration to say that Montana **State Library data save large infrastructure and energy projects hundreds of thousands of dollars** in high-level analysis because there is no need for on-the-ground data collection." John Beaver, Westech Engineering, Helena

"Joining the [Montana Shared Catalog] not only will allow us to better deploy staff, but **it is also a financially sound decision**. The estimated ongoing cost of MSC membership is lower than we are currently paying in our standalone Sirsi contract." Susie McIntyre, Director, Great Falls Public Library, Great Falls

"I just want to thank the library for the work they do with [the statewide Esri contract]. It became very real when I was talking with our Esri representative, and he accidentally had me in Custer County, Colorado. And the first difference was scary. So **this is so appreciated that you guys do this for local government.**" Maureen Celander, Deputy Coordinator, Custer County Disaster & Emergency Services, Miles City

"Our community is very rural and isolated. By joining Partners, **we are now able to offer our patrons convenient access to numerous resources that weren't available to them before**. With just the click of a button, they can get their hands on almost anything they can come up with!" Shannon Washburn, Co-Director, Meagher County/City Library, White Sulphur Springs

What happened when the Meagher County/City Library joined the Partners Sharing Group and made it easy for their patrons to borrow books from other Montana libraries?

Author
Stein, David Ezra.
Format
📖 Book

Place hold

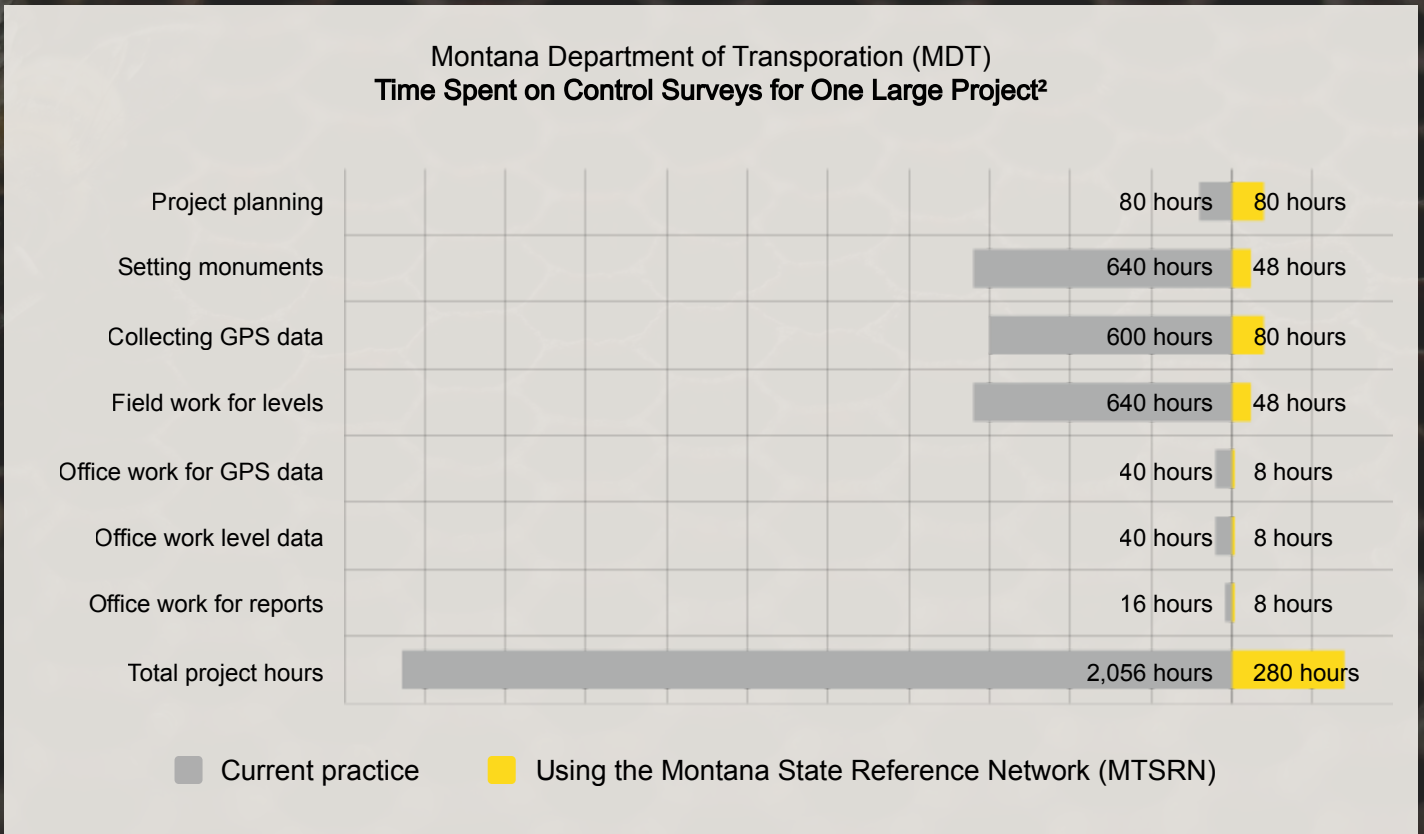**Library** ⇕

Glendive Public Library

Readers in White Sulphur Springs can request books from Glendive with one click of the red button.

Meagher County/City Library
Books Borrowed from Other Libraries[1]

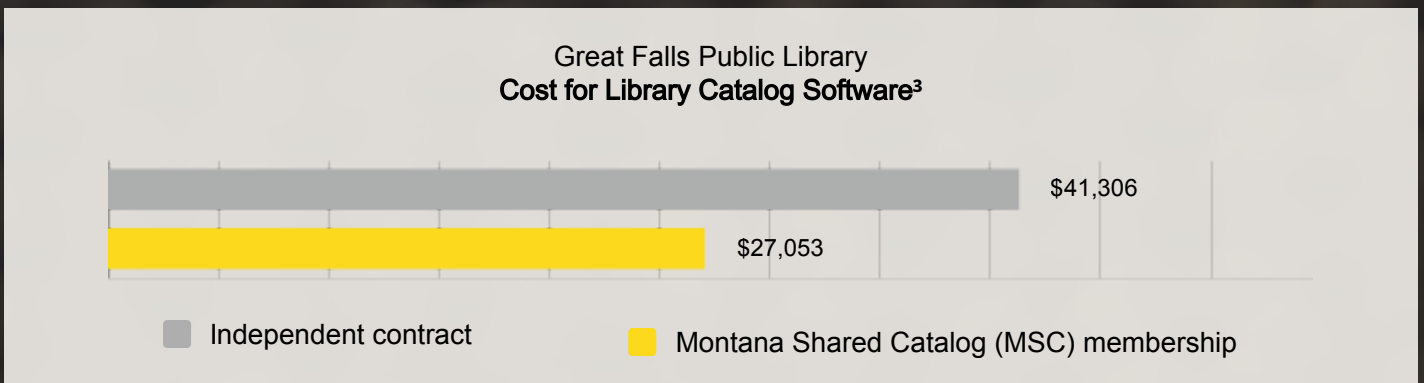|		
314	274	2,526
2021	2022	2023

⬜ Before membership   🟨 After membership
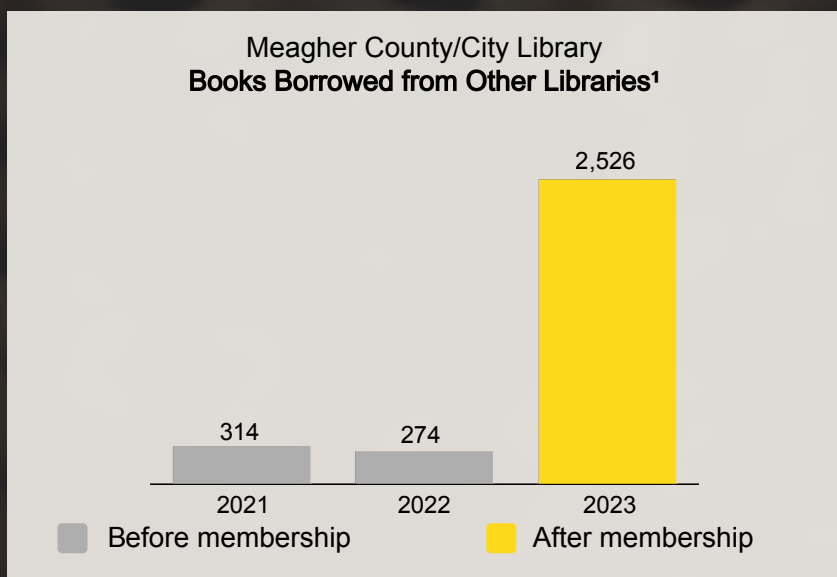
[1]Public Libraries Survey, 2021-2023, #576 LOANFM

MDT estimates the MTSRN will reduce staff time by 1,776 hours per large project, a total annual savings of $1.5 to $2M.

Montana Department of Transporation (MDT)
Time Spent on Control Surveys for One Large Project[2]

Task	Current practice	Using the MTSRN
Project planning	80 hours	80 hours
Setting monuments	640 hours	48 hours
Collecting GPS data	600 hours	80 hours
Field work for levels	640 hours	48 hours
Office work for GPS data	40 hours	8 hours
Office work level data	40 hours	8 hours
Office work for reports	16 hours	8 hours
Total project hours	2,056 hours	280 hours

■ Current practice   ■ Using the Montana State Reference Network (MTSRN)

[2]Email to 2023 Senate Finance Committee from Dustin Rouse, MDT Highways and Engineering Administrator, February 3, 2023.

Thanks to the cost efficiencies realized by joining the MSC, Great Falls Public Library reinvests more than $14K annually in expanded bookmobile service to rural Cascade County.

Great Falls Public Library
Cost for Library Catalog Software[3]

	Cost
Independent contract	$41,306
Montana Shared Catalog (MSC) membership	$27,053

■ Independent contract   ■ Montana Shared Catalog (MSC) membership

[3]Email to State Library from Susie McIntyre, Great Falls Public Library director, March 22, 2024. 2019 SirsiDynix invoice in comparison to the library's 2024 MSC invoice. The library joined the MSC in 2020.

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
A COHESIVE SYSTEM

Sustained investment to support Montanans through the State Library is necessary. The State Library excels at building and leveraging scalable solutions to meet Montanans' information needs. Like a beehive, if we build an efficient system in the form of technology investment, our services will remain strong and will continue to grow. But, also like a beehive, if we cease investment, or only support a portion of the services on which Montanans rely, that system may collapse.

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

MONTANA HISTORY PORTAL

MONTANA LIBRARY DATA COORDINATION

MONTANA LIBRARY RESOURCE SHARING

MONTANA STATE REFERENCE NETWORK

MONTANA STATE GIS COORDINATION

A STRONGER LIBRARY FOR
ALL MONTANANS

Budget Request, House Bill 2, State Budget Bill

Request	Funding	FTE	Funding Source	One Time Only	Ongoing	New Monies	Work Group
Modified to Permanent FTE	$0	12	Federal Special Revenue; State Special Revenue		X		Central Services
Research Agenda and data support specialist	$67,000	1	General Fund		X	X	Central Services
Habitat and weed information specialist	$92,000	1	State Special Revenue or General Fund		X	X	Natural Heritage
Invertebrate information specialist	$92,000	1	State Special Revenue or General Fund		X	X	Natural Heritage
Natural Resource Information System fixed costs increase*	$356,388		State Special Revenue		X	X	Natural Heritage
Web programmer	$82,000	1	State Special Revenue or General Fund		X	X	Information Products
Montana State Reference Network	$375,000		State Special Revenue	X		X	Information Management
Montana libraries resource sharing infrastructure**	$10,600,000	2	State Special Revenue or General Fund		X	See details	Statewide Projects
Total	**$11,664,388**	**18**					

*Final amount determined at the discretion of the Governor's Office
**Appropriation to fund 22-1-328, MCA

Budget Request, House Bill 10, Long Range IT Planning Bill

Request	Funding	FTE	Funding Source	One Time Only	Ongoing	New Monies	Work Group
GIS architecture upgrades & imagery repository*	$750,000	2	General Fund		X	X	Information Products
GIS Imagery collection*	$9,000,000	1	State Special Revenue or General Fund	X	X	X	Information Management/ User Services
Total	**$9,750,000**	**3**					

*To be proposed through the State Information Technology Services Division