

FY 2026 Work Plan - Activities

Program	Work Area	Activity	Objective	Comments	FY 2026 Progress
Central Services	Budgeting and Accounting	Implement new programs created by the Legislature	Establish the FY 26 budget and financial reporting so that it conforms to the new programs created by the Legislature		Completed 100%
Central Services	Budgeting and Accounting	Update agreements with partner libraries	Establish/update MOUs with libraries that participate in Shared Resources (MSC, Courier Services, etc.)	Reviewed plan with legal counsel and consulted with other agencies with large volumes of MOUs.	In Progress 5%
Central Services	Data Coordination	Improve dashboard usability	Improve the usability of the Montana State Library's public-facing dashboards by revising 6 dashboards to address documented design and usability concerns. For each dashboard, conduct a baseline usability review, implement targeted improvements, and gather user feedback from at least five users post-revision. Complete all revisions and collect feedback by June 30, 2026, and document the process and outcomes for future use.	The Tableau Desktop application was upgraded to version 2025.2, enabling new features such as alt tagging and dashboard descriptions. Tableau Public was also evaluated as a potential tool to enhance discovery. One dashboard underwent review and targeted improvements were implemented. Five reviewers were recruited and filled out an evaluation for the revised dashboard.	In Progress 42%
Central Services	Data Coordination	Interim study on interlibrary resource sharing programs	Support the interim study on interlibrary resource sharing programs by collecting, organizing, and publishing complete and accurate data sets and supporting materials aligned with the study outline. Deliver these materials on or before September 1, 2025; December 1, 2025; March 1, 2026; June 1, 2026; and September 1, 2026, to support the Interim Education Budget Committee meetings. Ensure all data is published in an accessible format with appropriate documentation to facilitate committee review and decision-making.	All requested materials related to HB 864 (2025) were prepared and delivered for the September 2025 meeting on schedule and in an accessible format. Materials were created for the December 2025 meeting though the presentation has been moved to March at the request of the committee chair.	In Progress 41%
Central Services	Data Coordination	Pilot Microsoft Planner for project management	Pilot Microsoft Planner for project management by working with 1 to 3 teams to implement the tool for tracking project progress. Ensure each team is trained, actively uses Planner, and that project data is successfully integrated into the agency's unified work plan. Collect user feedback and evaluate reporting improvements. Complete the pilot and deliver a summary report with recommendations by June 30, 2026.	Licenses were procured for the Data Coordinator, Montana Library Network staff, and the State Librarian. Documentation was shared with the teams participating in the pilot and a shared work plan portfolio was established. Next, teams will develop and test plans for tracking their work progress. Microsoft is working to resolve a bug so that work can continue on this project.	In Progress 62%

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Central Services	Information Technology	Endpoint lifecycle	Deploy new systems and scrub/surplus the old. (Annual. On a 4 year replacement cycle. Replace 25% of endpoints per year, roughly 26 systems)	Continues work from FY 2025. Four systems remain. We'll order more in December	In Progress 68%
Central Services	Information Technology	Server 2016 migrations	Migrate our last four systems to Server 2022 or higher before Server 2016 End of Life (target completion mid Oct. '26)	Continues work from FY 2025. Initial scoping meetings complete	In Progress 10%
Central Services	Information Technology	Windows 11 migration	Deploy/Migrate remaining systems to Windows 11 before Windows 10 End of Life (complete by mid Oct '25). Tanium issue at SITSD caused Delays	Complete	Completed 100%
Central Services	State Librarian	Commission goals and objectives	Respond to Commission questions, monitor and report progress to the Commission, provide guidance to staff, and consider necessary actions to successfully achieve Commission goals	The Commission's goal to modernize the CE program is in the final stage to update Administrative rules. Other goals are complete or ongoing.	In Progress 90%
Central Services	State Librarian	Interim study on interlibrary resource sharing programs	Respond to Legislative Interim Committee questions and requests for information; provide guidance to staff to successfully execute the interim study	At the Committee's request, staff are drafting information regarding the history and current status of resource-sharing funding and services for the December Interim Budget Committee meeting	In Progress 30%

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GIS Data and Information Services	Government Information	MSL catalog management	MSL catalog accurately and clearly represents MSL resources	With help from MSC staff, I identified records missing a link to digital resources. Completed an update to appearance of MSL catalog interface.	Completed 100%
GIS Data and Information Services	Government Information	Preserve archive.org and archive-it data	Per Montana Code Annotated, ensure permanent public access to state publication collections	Completed upload to state data center of state publications archived between May 13, 2024 and June 24, 2025. Received invoice and uploaded Archive-It data spanning 20240101 through 20241231.	Completed 100%
GIS Data and Information Services	Government Information	Records management	Process 12 boxes of MSL print records for eventual transfer and permanent storage at Montana Historical Society (MHS)	One of twelve boxes returned to owner as active records. After removing non-records, duplicate records, and personal items from remaining 11 boxes, just 3 boxes remain to be processed.	Completed 100%
GIS Data and Information Services	Information Products	ASPeN Upgrades and Replacements	Improve or replace parts of the ASPeN web application. Document storage, events calendar, and continuing education will be upgraded or replaced. Each replacement requires research of available solutions, cost analysis, and scoping of MSL staff time.	Continues work from FY 2025. Calendar replacement is complete. Document storage via IBM FileNet is in progress; work continues through Q4 and into Q1. Continuing education has had some maintenance but no replacement yet.	In Progress 35%
GIS Data and Information Services	Information Products	GIS Web Content	These three inter-related projects support and improve communication for GIS Coordination. Support the restructuring of GeoInfo web content on the MSL Website. Implement the GIS Hub site to improve discovery of geospatial information. Retire the legacy GIS Data List application. Review apps that will be deprecated by Esri and migrate selected apps to new platform	Continues work from FY 2025. Web updates are complete. Hub Site has hit some snags due to unexpected limitations of the Esri technology, forcing us to reconsider moving the Data List there. Maintenance has been performed on the existing Data List application to keep it running.	In Progress 40%

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GIS Data and Information Services	Information Products	Montana Cadastral Enhancements	Add new functionality to Montana Cadastral application: additional basemaps, optimized owner search, and alternative address search. This planned new functionality will not add costs. Migrate Cadastral to a new, dedicated web server environment. The server migration is necessary to contain costs.	Server migrations are complete as of 11/24/2025. Work will begin soon on application enhancements.	In Progress 50%
GIS Data and Information Services	Land Information	Administrative Boundaries adjustments to CadNSDI	Improve spatial accuracy of administrative boundaries by adjusting to most recent CadNSDI. Milestones are: 1) create adjustment links between 2021 and 2025 CadNSDI, 2) adjust boundaries to 2025 CadNSDI, 3) publish updated boundaries to FTP, 4) update web services, 5) update boundaries and precinct splits in ElectMT and AGOL	ElectMT precinct splits currently being updated as data are received from counties.	In Progress 97%
GIS Data and Information Services	Land Information	Improve MSDI data sharing and integration	Facilitate regular sharing of MSDI Transportation road centerline data with Esri and Google for inclusion in their base map services. Research data sharing and potential data feedback/improvement with OpenStreetMap. Milestones are: 1) Share road centerlines with Esri Community Maps, 2) Share road centerlines with Google Maps Content Partner Program, 3) Research and share (if possible) road centerlines with OpenStreetMap, 4) research possible road centerline data feedback/improvements from OpenStreetMap.	Road centerline data shared with Esri Community Maps and Google Maps.	In Progress 50%
GIS Data and Information Services	Land Information	Improve MSDI geospatial data value – Land Themes	Complete MSDI Data Improvement Plans based on the Cadastral, Mapping Control, Administrative Boundaries, and Structures and Addresses data quality matrices developed in FY2025 and the Transportation data quality matrix to be developed in FY2026. Milestones for each Data Improvement Plan are: 1) write a draft plan, 2) organize and lead a working group to review draft plan, 3) present the plan to the Montana Geospatial Information Council, and 4) publish the plan to the MSL website.	Continues work from FY 2025 but is currently behind schedule. GIS Leads met and finalized the Plan template and updated the schedule for finishing plans.	Not Started
GIS Data and Information Services	Montana State Reference Network	Build customer base	To reach the goal of 150 subscribers in FY26 we aim to have at least 100 paid subscribers by the end of calendar year 2025. MSL is working with a vendor to improve outreach messaging to existing and potential users. We are currently targeting the Survey and Agricultural user communities to grow a user base in those two key industries.	Current subscriber count 72 ; Attended MT Ag Field Days in Havre on 7/2 and Corvallis 8/14; Attended Headwaters Tech Hub Summit 9/11-12; Attended MARLS Fall Seminar 9/26; Newsletters with MTSRN updates went out in July and August and we plan to send out a September update shortly . Promoted MTSRN at the MSL booth at Joint Engineer's Conference at Delta Hotel, Helena from 11/05 thru 11/07. Presented MTSRN on 11/05 at the Conference ; Organized MTSRN Tec..	In Progress 72%

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GIS Data and Information Services	Montana State Reference Network	Grow network coverage	While MDT is primarily responsible for building new stations, it is MSL's responsibility to add them to the MTSRN and ensure the network is providing high quality solutions. This is achieved in part through having nodes available to add stations. The operator also monitors the network performance and regularly updates station data to maintain high quality solutions. We hope to add at least 10 new stations in FY26.	During the first quarter of FY2026, 5 stations were added to the network using nodes that were purchased in late FY2025 - Rocky Boys, Ft Smith, Lima, Philipsburg and P054 (an Earthscope Station near Ekalaka in the SEMT subnetwork) ; We are currently prioritizing among several available stations when additional nodes become available including Dillon, Red Lodge, West Yellowstone, Sheridan; seeking additional budget approval for 5 additional nodes to add new statio..	In Progress 50%
GIS Data and Information Services	Montana State Reference Network	Improve the network	Update the network with the new Multi Year CORS Solutions in the summer of 2025. We also expect the new NATRF datums to become available late in the year and we want to begin broadcasting a data stream based on the new datums when that happens. Our plan is to cast both the current and new streams concurrently until users can transition their workflows.	We are waiting to perform this work later in the year so that we don't disrupt ongoing survey activity. This work will likely be completed in late January 2026.	Not Started
GIS Data and Information Services	Natural Heritage Program	Create new information dashboards to meet the needs of natural resource managers and planners	Dashboards for State Wildlife Action Plan, Conservation Status Rank Factor Summaries, Summaries of Inventory and Monitoring Needs for vertebrates, and Land Cover Trends.		In Progress 50%
GIS Data and Information Services	Natural Heritage Program	Release a new land cover layer with natural habitats described by the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) scheme	Release the new land cover layer in the Map Viewer web application, on the GIS Data list, and as a map service. Release a new Ecological Communities field guide with accounts for each NVC Group.		Completed 100%
GIS Data and Information Services	Natural Heritage Program	Revise predicted habitat suitability modeling methodology	Refresh environmental input data layers, add land ownership/stewardship summaries to model reports, update modeling process to reduce the number of input variables in a stepwise process, revise rubrics for assigning habitat suitability classes and explore using different output scales for species that rely on rare, limited, or stringer habitats	Will begin this effort in mid-December 2025.	Not Started

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GIS Data and Information Services	Natural Heritage Program	Support Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in their development of a 2025 State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)	Systematic documentation of conservation status rank factors for aquatic invertebrate, moth, and bumble bee Species of Concern. Provide adaptive capacity scoring metrics and global range polygons for vertebrate Species of Greatest Conservation Need	Continues work from FY 2025	<div>Completed 100%</div>
GIS Data and Information Services	Natural Heritage Program	Update a bibliography on the effects of recreation on Montana Wildlife	Search published literature and theses and dissertations at Montana Universities, add relevant literature to the MTNHP reference system, and provide the literature on the MTNHP website.		<div>Completed 100%</div>
GIS Data and Information Services	Next Generation 9-1-1	Complete and validate a statewide PSAP boundary layer	Coordinate with all PSAPs in Montana to validate statewide PSAP boundaries. Milestones are: 1) discuss PSAP boundary with PSAP and any possible areas that need to be modified from administrative boundary, 2) create snap points and snap all service boundaries road centerlines, 3) upload PSAP boundary to 1Spatial central repository, 4) validate statewide PSAP boundaries	Continues work from FY 2025; 19 of 51 PSAP boundaries in central repository.	<div>In Progress 37%</div>
GIS Data and Information Services	Next Generation 9-1-1	Improve Validation and Aggregation Portal dashboard	Change dashboard(s) to more accurately show progress, mandatory minimum requirements, and consistent use	Continues work from FY 2025; Updated dashboards are publicly available.	<div>Completed 100%</div>
GIS Data and Information Services	Next Generation 9-1-1	PSAP visits	Visit remaining 14 PSAPs	Continues work from FY 2025; Visited one of the 14 so far.	<div>In Progress 7%</div>

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GIS Data and Information Services	Statewide GIS Coordination	Improve communication for GIS coordination	Restructure GeoInfo web content and implement new technology for the discovery of geospatial information	Continuing to work with Esri on technical support issues we have discovered for hub integration. Finalizing workflows for information publishing. Working to address each MSDI Theme Page advancement.	In Progress 42%
GIS Data and Information Services	Statewide GIS Coordination	Improve geospatial data governance through policies and best practices	Coordinate with key state officials on geospatial governance; review and educate on the geospatial governance processes; and adopt a workplan to establish governance principles and create policies for implementation	Working with State CIO on state agency's GIS Architecture Review and finalizing the Esri Agreement. Completed State Managers Governance workshop in October.	In Progress 42%
GIS Data and Information Services	Statewide GIS Coordination	Improve MSDI geospatial data value	Support MSDI Theme Leads and Water/Land Info Managers in implementing and achieving this Strategic Goal	Updates will be presented to the MGIA Council Meeting.	In Progress 65%
GIS Data and Information Services	Water Information System	Improve MSDI geospatial data value – Water Themes	Complete MSDI Data Improvement Plans based on the Elevation, Hydrography, and Hydrologic Units data quality matrices developed in FY2025. Milestones for each Data Improvement Plan include: 1) write a draft plan, 2) organize and lead a working group to review the draft plan, 3) present the plan to the Montana Geospatial Information Council, and 4) publish the plan to the MSL website.	Milestone 1 is in progress. Draft data improvement plans for MSDI Elevation and MSDI Hydrography are being written based on the data value matrix completed in FY 2025. A schedule for completion of other Themes is in place. Work on this objective is expected to be heavy in quarter 3 and quarter 4.	In Progress 15%
GIS Data and Information Services	Water Information System	MSL-USDA NRCS Partnership Agreement renewal	Seek a new 5-year core agreement with the USDA NRCS. Milestones include: 1. Write the scope of work; 2. Write the budget narrative; 3. Review and revise with the NRCS; 4. Submit paperwork to the NRCS for approval.	Monthly update meetings are held with the NRCS, although they could not be held during the Gov. shutdown. A brief work stoppage per NRCS's request occurred Nov 6 - 13. Most work on this objective will occur during quarter 3, with a May 2026 target date for a new agreement proposal.	In Progress 15%

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GIS Data and Information Services	Water Information System	Planning for the USGS 3D Hydrography Program (3DHP)	Identify funding partners and coordinate planning for USGS 3DHP project(s). Milestones include: 1. Develop a MT 3DHP handout; 2. Provide at least one webinar; 3. Document potential partners and funding opportunities in the Montana 3DHP Planning Dashboard developed in FY25; 4. Develop a funding agreement with at least one state agency.	The last remaining task is a funding agreement with the MT DEQ. A meeting with DEQ to begin contract development was held 11/25.	In Progress 80%
GIS Data and Information Services	Water Information System	Statewide Lidar Processing	Continue processing new, incoming lidar, including the Phase 5 Project (south-central Montana). Lidar will be processed and made available online to view or download for at least seven counties. Milestones include: 1. Receive the data from the USGS, organize and load it onto State server; 2. Process the data into the five core products maintained by MSL; 3. Make the data available for download; 4. Create GIS web services for viewing the data online through the Montana Lidar Inventory.	New lidar data from the USGS is not expected until fiscal year Q3 or Q4..	Not Started
GIS Data and Information Services	Water Information System	USGS 3D Hydrography Program (3DHP) application for project funding	Apply to the USGS Data Collaboration Announcement (DCA) for 3D Hydrography Data development. Submit at least one application. Milestones include: 1. Attend an informational USGS webinar Aug. 6; 2. Receive good-faith funding commitments from at least two interested partners; 3. Complete the application and seek review from partners; 4. Submit the application to the USGS by Sept. 12.	Two applications were submitted to the USGS 3DHP on Sept. 12. A new funding commitment from the City of Bozeman was received in October, and the proposal will be revised accordingly and resubmitted.	Completed 100%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Consulting	Library board support	Provide at least 10 trainings for library board members.	Continues work from FY 2025	In Progress 80%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Consulting	Road map webinar series	Facilitate remaining 4 road map series' webinars.	Continues work from FY 2025	Completed 100%




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Patron and Local Library Development Services	Consulting	Support for libraries	Visit every main public and tribal college library.	Continues work from FY 2025	<div>In Progress 40%</div>
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Continuing Education	Commission review of CE/Certification	Assist Commission's CE committee with review and revamp of certification program.	Continues work from FY 2025	<div>In Progress 50%</div>
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Continuing Education	MSL Certification program	Facilitate at least 10 webinars and update at least 2 online MSL Learn courses.	Continues work from FY 2025	<div>In Progress 50%</div>
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Continuing Education	MSL Learn	Facilitate September 2025 Fall Workshop for library directors and board members.	Continues work from FY 2025	<div>Completed 100%</div>
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Lifelong Learning Program	Early Literacy	Work with Treasure State Foundation, Dolly Parton Imagination Library, and Food Bank Network to deliver books to at least 10 locations around the state where struggling families can get free books.	Continues work from FY 2025	<div>Completed 100%</div>

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Patron and Local Library Development Services	Lifelong Learning Program	Popcorn & PJs	Facilitate at least 10 virtual story time sessions to help parents and caregivers support their child's reading.	Continues work from FY 2025	In Progress 30%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Lifelong Learning Program	Virtual programming	Provide at least 6 virtual programming webinars.	Continues work from FY 2025	In Progress 50%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana History Portal	Portal continuity	Create documentation of regular workflows including how to create new collections, upload new content, add new contributors, update stats collection documents to gather data on new content, collect stats, post to social media, create newsletters, and responding to tickets. This will be stored in an easily accessible location (Microsoft Notebook) and shareable to help train and onboard a new employee. This documentation could include guides created by Recollect.	The initial pages of the notebook have been created - have many more details to add.	In Progress 10%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana History Portal	Portal outreach	Further develop relationships with UM Public History department with an intern doing work to create a new exhibit. Further develop relationship with Foundation with Montana History by working with the new Grants Manager to create ways to work together to foster engagement in history - including LEGO program and Teacher Workshop. Offer online sessions for teachers encouraging use of the Portal and portal contests.	Continues work from FY 2025 - Intern from UM Public History Department started on August 25 and has nearly completed 2 exhibits. Also working on metadata improvements	In Progress 40%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana History Portal	Teacher workshop	Plan, organize, and execute a 3rd teacher workshop. Create an agenda, secure a suitable venue and catering, promote the event, register it with OPI for credit, review applicants, extend invitations, host event, follow up with attendees and get projects returned. Create the exhibits based on the attendee project submissions.	Continues work from FY 2025 - Saved dates to host at the Heritage center in early April - updated application and prepared materials for announcing the upcoming workshop	In Progress 20%

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Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana Library Network	Courier	Help make any program/ infrastructural changes needed through the start of a new contract period. Implement distribution plan gradually over 6 months and make adjustments as needed in the following 6 months. Add 2-4 libraries currently in sharing groups, but not on courier. Start working with North Central and Southeast Libraries to join the courier by end of fiscal year. Study and identify investment needs.	Still transitioning to the new courier. Billing issues has pushed us back a little. Process and procedures identified and implemented on library side and running smoothly. Courier NW Region is smooth, East is struggling, but new process and procedures made by courier are now being implemented- hope to have statewide issues under 5% like NW Region.	 In Progress 30%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana Library Network	Interim study on interlibrary resource sharing programs	Study and understand the overlapping impact of programs within the Montana Library Network. Identify areas of strength, potential, and barriers of Statewide Projects within the Montana Library Network. Research and understand the changes in funding historically over the last 20 years for MLN projects. Identify GAPS in MLN services for different libraries (type, geographical area, size).	Work related to HB 864 (2025). Work/research continues, but on track.	 In Progress 25%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana Library Network	MontanaLibrary 2Go	Utilize data gathered to identify investment needs to adequately meet patron usage. Have investment information for libraries by January. Research and potentially Pilot Advantage + Program in Overdrive.	Temporarily on hold until we have the courier scanning issues fixed and current libraries that want to be added to courier to be added.	 On Hold 10%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana Shared Catalog	MSC customer support & training	Support MSC member librarians in their use of the Shared Catalog ILS through the help desk and training – Quarterly webinars, 4 office hours per month, review and update 25% of KB articles	Office Hours continue to have steady attendance and allow member librarians to receive live support. In addition to reviewing and updating KB articles, several new KB articles have been added in the past quarter.	 In Progress 40%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana Shared Catalog	MSC system improvement	Expand and enhance MSC products available to member librarians – BLUEcloud Mobile2 Library App rollout, DataControl rollout, BLUEcloud Circ rollout	All three projects are in progress, in the early stages of backend configuration.	 In Progress 10%

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Patron and Local Library Development Services	Montana Shared Catalog	MSC system maintenance	Maintain MSC product functionality for member librarians - Symphony 4.2 Upgrade, 12 Monthly OCLC Delta Holdings Updates, 2 OCLC Full Holdings Updates	The first full OCLC holdings update utilizing a new service from OCLC has been completed and went very well; MSC staff are reviewing the results of that update to work with member librarians to make improvements to catalog records.	<div>In Progress 25%</div>
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Research Resources	Digital resources newsletter	Work with Digital Librarian group to produce quarterly newsletter highlighting MSL resources	Jennifer, Jim, and Marilyn have released 3 issues of the newsletter, with one more scheduled by the end of the calendar year	<div>In Progress 75%</div>
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Talking Book Services	Remote recording	Continue adding Montana titles to BARD by utilizing contracts with commercial recording studios and Potomac Talking Books	Continues work from FY 2025- Contracting with Potomac Talking Books who will add accessibility features to future titles, and previously recorded titles that need accessibility markup. the first new recording will begin 12/25	<div>In Progress 75%</div>