

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. Have developed draft agreements with MSL leads, and preparing to share with local libraries for further development.	In Progress 30%
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. Five reviewers were recruited to help evaluate dashboards. Five out of six dashboards have now been revised and migrated to the State's new Tableau server.	In Progress 75%
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 and March 2026 Interim Budget Committee. So far the committee has explored the history and current-state of library resource sharing in Montana. Next, the committee will investigate service gaps and associated costs at their June meeting.	In Progress 75%
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 the team is completing Project Management training to learn how to use this tool most effectively for managing work plans.	In Progress 75%

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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 February and the completion counter will reset.	In Progress 90%
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)	ENTMSL0006 is in progress. Destination server have been provisioned and sites are beginning to move. We meet monthly.	In Progress 25%
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. The Commission established new goals for 2026, some of which require more information to make progress.	In Progress 40%
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 presented to the March Interim Education Budget Committee information on the history and current status of resource-sharing funding. The Committee has requested information about current service gaps and associated costs to extend services statewide for their June Committee meeting.	In Progress 75%

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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. State archives won't accept 3 boxes until April 2026.	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 is complete. FileNet environment setup is complete. We continue to focus on document export/import and the improvements to Continuing Education. We also need to split ASPeN out from the GIS applications from mslservices.	In Progress 60%
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	The focus is on the upcoming GIS cloud migration project and its implications to these applications.	In Progress 60%

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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.	Work continues on application enhancements. Along the way, 17 memory leaks were patched and a critical error with PDF reports (commercial buildings text wrap error) was fixed.	In Progress 70%
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. 12 counties have been updated, so far (with more in process). Once this change period closes, MSL plans to adjust the rest and be ready to provide them as updates once the next change period opens. Do not foresee any issues being done by end of fiscal year.	In Progress 98%
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.	Complete, though some of this work will now be ongoing/reoccurring. Road centerline data shared with Esri Community Maps and Google Maps. Neither Esri nor Google will make bulk edits based on state data submissions, but I have met with Google to discuss and understand their methodology. OpenStreetMap doesn't recommend bulk edits, either. I reached made a query for OpenStreetMap editors in Montana to possibly establish a relationship with them and suggest Fr..	Completed 100%
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. Drafting theme plans has not started, but it not behind schedule based on the revised 2026 Theme Plan Schedule.	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 76 ; Attended MARLS Conference 3/3-3/6/2026 - Presented MTSRN as part of MSL presentation, supported MSL booth and provided MTSRN promotional material. Kicked off promotion of MTSRN through free trial access through 5/31/2026. 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..	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.	In March 2026 issues with the placement of the Rocky Boys station were identified (radio interference) and communicated to station owner. This station will not be added to the network until an acceptable location is identified. 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 prioritizi..	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 March 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 70%
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		In Progress 20%

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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		Completed 100%
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.		Completed 100%
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; 23 of 51 PSAP boundaries in central repository.	In Progress 45%
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.	Completed 100%
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.	In Progress 7%

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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 55%
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 implementation. Working towards adopting governance goals for GIS Managers Forum.	In Progress 55%
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	We continue to make progress, slow moving for a few themes, due to theme data maintenance. Updates will be presented to the MGIA Council Meeting.	In Progress 70%
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.	Data improvement tables for MSDI Elevation, MSDI Hydrography, and MSDI Hydrologic Units have been completed. Working Group meetings were held March 18. Working group feedback is being gathered and incorporated into the plans.	In Progress 65%
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.	The USDA NRCS has informed MSL (3/26) that all new agreements for FY 26 may be on hold. MSL does anticipate being able to submit anything for a new agreement until after October 1. National is standing up a new partnership division and they're taking time to set up a process to manage and handle new agreements with partners. The new systems is not expected to be in place until after October 1. MSL continues to meet with the NRCS monthly about the current agreements.	On Hold 40%

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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.	All Milestones are complete. The funding agreement is in place with the MT DEQ to provide funding to USGS for 3DHP data development in the Gallatin.	Completed 100%
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 Lincoln County lidar has been received from the USGS and loaded onto the state server. Additional lidar data from the USGS is delayed and not expected until fiscal year Q4. The latest status update from the USGS indicates data delivery in late Spring.	In Progress 15%
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 was revised and resubmitted. The USGS has awarded the Gallatin project to kickoff in FY2027.	Completed 100%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Consulting	Library board support	Provide at least 10 trainings for library board members.		Completed 100%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Consulting	Road map webinar series	Facilitate remaining 4 road map series' webinars.		Completed 100%

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Patron and Local Library Development Services	Consulting	Support for libraries	Visit every main public and tribal college library.	We have visited 47 of the 85 libraries.	In Progress 55%
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.	Last milestone is approval of policy. Staff will then begin implementing policy.	In Progress 75%
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.		Completed 100%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Continuing Education	MSL Learn	Facilitate September 2025 Fall Workshop for library directors and board members.		Completed 100%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Lifelong Learning Program	Books before Bedtime	Facilitate at least 9 virtual story time sessions to help parents and caregivers support their child's reading.	7 out of 9 sessions have been completed.	In Progress 78%

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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.		Completed 100%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Lifelong Learning Program	Virtual programming	Provide at least 6 virtual programming webinars.	We have completed 6 of them. We scheduled 3 additional webinars.	Completed 100%
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.	Onboarding is in progress. Continuing to add details to the notebook that were not added originally. Notebook is nearly complete.	In Progress 95%
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.	UM Internship ended and two new exhibits were added to the Portal. Reviewed grants for the Foundation for Montana History in February. Drafting content for Glacier Institute to host a workshop in August. Teacher workshop planning is nearly complete and registration is open. Signed a UM Experiential Learning contract for a second intern who started mid-January 2026. This intern is working on revising his exhibit and then will work with Zach to add it to the Portal.	In Progress 90%
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.	Nineteen registered teachers. The workshop is April 3 and 4 in Helena at the Heritage Center. Hotel and meal prep is done.	In Progress 80%

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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.	We have new crates identified/voted upon. Waiting from the vendor/contracting to officially starting putting out. We are making one more billing change, which should be helpful on the local level, state level, and with the courier. That will start on the 1st of March. We have not added any current libraries onto the courier- but there are still 2 that are considering it. We can add them once they officially decide, but the information has been provided. We have 7 libraries that are interested i..	In Progress 55%
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 75%
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.	We will Pilot the program. We have 5 on board and have another 5 identified, but not confirmed. Have great information from Overdrive and other states. We also have plan on testing different parameters to test, different sizes/regions of libraries, and items to test and measure	In Progress 60%
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. January webinar had great attendance and received positive feedback.	In Progress 80%
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. There will be a delay to the full roll-out as we are waiting on some functionality updates for a couple of the products,	In Progress 25%

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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 was a great success; the second full holdings update is in progress. The 4.2 Upgrade is entering the testing stage, and the monthly OCLC updates continue on schedule.	In Progress 60%
Patron and Local Library Development Services	Research Resources	Digital resources newsletter	Work with Digital Librarian group to produce quarterly newsletter highlighting MSL resources	Three issues of the newsletter have been sent out, and the next issue is being drafted now	In Progress 75%
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. Finished the bulk of recording, working on corrections now. Collaborating with MHS to record one of their titles	In Progress 75%