

ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural Environment

The Gateway Region is composed of high mountains and vast expansive valleys. Most of the region is on the eastern side of the continental divide, excluding northern areas of Lewis & Clark County including the town of Lincoln. The area's beauty, history, water, and resources create the strengths and opportunities for continued and future development.

Land Ownership

Land ownership within the Gateway Region is composed of Private and Public lands.

County = Broadwater

Owner	Acres	Sq. Miles
U.S. Forest Service	185,923	290.5
Bureau of Land Management	65,039	101.6
Water	31,033	48.5
State Trust Land	23,884	37.3
Other Federal	8,586	13.4
Other State Land	166	0.3
TOTAL	314,631	491.6

County = Meagher

Owner	Acres	Sq. Miles
U.S. Forest Service	471,227	736.3
State Trust Land	90,922	142.1
Bureau of Land Management	8,336	13.0
Other State Land	3,605	5.6
Water	1,242	1.9
TOTAL	575,330	899.0

County = Lewis And Clark

Owner	Acres	Sq. Miles
U.S. Forest Service	988,551	1,544.6
State Trust Land	133,547	208.7
Bureau of Land Management	74,030	115.7
Other State Land	34,963	54.6
Water	20,826	32.5
Other Federal	13,637	21.3
Private Conservation	7,772	12.1
Fish and Wildlife Service	4,159	6.5
Plum Creek Timber lands	1,970	3.1
Local Government	772	1.2
TOTAL	1,280,226	2,000.4

<http://maps2.nris.state.mt.us/mapper/county.html>

U.S. Forest Service – The U.S. Forest Service administers 1,645,701 acres in the Gateway region.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – The BLM owns 147,405 acres in the Gateway region.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) – The FWS administers 4,159 acres in the Gateway region

Weed Management

Because they replace more desirable and productive plant species, noxious weeds limit the economic and aesthetic benefits derived from all types of land, including urban lands. The following weeds are of major concern throughout the area: Spotted Knapweed, Dyers Woad, Leafy Spurge, Whitetop, Dalmatian Toadflax, Sulphur Cinquefoil, Russian Knapweed, Diffuse Knapweed, Burdock, Musk Thistle, Common Tansy, Field Bindweed, and Houndstongue.



Knapweed

<http://www.mtweed.org/>



Toadflax



Leafy Spurge



Houndstongue

Wilderness Areas

The Gateway Region contains parts of three Wilderness areas, two Management units, and one Game Preserve. These include the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat, and Gates of the Mountains Wilderness areas, the Beartooth and Elkhorn Wildlife Management Units and parts of the Sun River Game preserve.



Water Resources

Located on the headwaters of both the Missouri and Smith Rivers, the Gateway Region is characterized with an abundance of water features for commercial and recreation uses.

Below references the total shoreline and stream length in each county.

<http://maps2.nris.state.mt.us/mapper/county.html>

County = Broadwater

Name	Length, Miles
Canyon Ferry Lake	89.73
Missouri River	88.38
Deep Creek	30.29
Broadwater Missouri Canal	24.1
Crow Creek	23.44
Warm Springs Creek	21.03
Avalanche Creek	16.38
Dry Creek	16.2
Confederate Gulch	15.14
Montana Ditch	12.06
Toston Canal East Fork	8.97
Jefferson River	7.15
Sixteenmile Creek	2.09
Mulligan Creek	1.09
x	0.19

County = Meagher

Name	Length, Miles
Smith River	64.04
Sixteenmile Creek	42.94
South Fork Smith River	37.58
Sheep Creek	36.62
North Fork Musselshell River	33.22
North Fork Smith River	32.93
South Fork Musselshell River	30.97
Tenderfoot Creek	25.92
Rock Creek	22.85
Cottonwood Creek	22.28
Newlan Creek	22.09
Battle Creek	19.63
Beaver Creek	19.47
Big Birch Creek	16.11
Camas Creek	13.53
Little Elk Creek	11.91
Bozeman Fork Musselshell River	10.68
Lake Sutherlin	6.6
Martinsdale Reservoir	5.58
Bair Reservoir	5.56
Potter Creek	4.65
Big Elk Creek	4.46
Big Camas Creek	4.02
Shields River	1.38
Ming Coulee	1.03
East Fork Haymaker Creek	0.41
Middle Fork American Fork	0.14

County = Lewis And Clark

Name	Length, Miles
Dearborn River	67.07
Missouri River	58.27
Sun River	51.91
Hauser Lake	41.04
Willow Creek	36.45
Holter Lake	36.41
Flat Creek	36.1
Little Prickly Pear Creek	35.88
Dry Creek	34.28
Elk Creek	32.78
Blackfoot River	30.52
Tenmile Creek	29.47
Landers Fork	28.72
Canyon Ferry Lake	27.4
South Fork Sun River	26.88
Smith Creek	23.73
Silver Creek	21.21
North Fork Sun River	20.72
Trout Creek	20.05
Beaver Creek	18.55
Canyon Creek	17.07
West Fork Sun River	16.51
Straight Creek	15.95
North Fork Blackfoot River	15.77
South Fork Dearborn River	15.74
Rock Creek	14.3
Middle Fork Dearborn River	14
North Fork Simms Creek	13.97
Prickly Pear Creek	12.72
Wolf Creek	12.01

Flood Plains

Broadwater, Lewis & Clark, and Meagher counties participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. Standardized building codes are followed for structures within the 100 and 500-year flood boundaries. No building is permitted within the actual flood way. Extensive maps delineating flood plain zones are available in each county office. The State of Montana maintains flood plain maps online @ <http://maps2.nris.state.mt.us/mapper/county.html> .