

# These are *Our Waters*. These are Our Ways of Life.

**No act you take for our River is small.**

You can make a lasting difference for Our Waters, and our great Bitterroot River, by supporting the Bitterroot Water Partnership this National Rivers Month.





# Habitat Restoration You're Advancing

Our River's health depends on the sum of its many parts. The projects you support restore degraded upstream habitats to ensure stability of the *whole system* with enduring habitat and cool, clean water.

*You've done so much already....*



## North Burnt Fork

### *Stream Restoration & Grazing Management*

Five years ago you restored this barren stream section. *Look at the healthy habitat today!* Your investment in these projects makes lasting improvements for our waters and wildlife.

**1 guided cattle crossing | 400+ feet restored streamside | Protective fencing**

*Here's what's next...*

## *Featured Project: Headwaters Restoration*

Tolan Creek was the coldest tributary feeding the East Fork of the Bitterroot River. After devastating 2021 fires, destructive 'mudslides' suffocated the fragile habitat and locked the area to a new stable and *totally degraded* state. Now, *tons* of sediment debris and warm waters pour into our River.

We will restore floodplain connectivity, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and increase groundwater recharge by returning naturally *slower* stream flows. This is prime habitat for bald eagles, bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, elk, moose, and more.

**150 acre stream treatment area | Natural stream engineering and plantings | 9.5 miles road rehabitat | Remove 6+ plugged culverts**



## Tolan Creek

## East Fork, Bitterroot River

Shining Mountain Ranch

### *Protective Stream Fencing & Restoration*

**1/2 mile fenced stream | Enhanced grazing management outcomes**

## North Burnt Fork

Private Property

### *Stream Restoration*

**Improved irrigation | 500 ft restored streamside**

## North Burnt Fork

Private Ranch

### *Protective Stream Fencing & Restoration*

**1 guided cattle crossing | 1,200 feet fenced streamside | 600 ft restored stream**