

FLATHEAD LAKE'S NORTH SHORE

The North Shore of Flathead Lake is a special place. Its wildlife, water and natural beauty are key to the Flathead's prosperity. But the pressure to develop this area is mounting daily.

Land owners and community members are working together to conserve the North Shore's special qualities in the area extending from Somers to the Flathead River between Flathead Lake and Highway 82. We have only one chance to do this right. That chance is now.



Scenic Vistas

The North Shore's open fields, shimmering waters and surrounding mountain peaks enthrall long-time residents and visitors alike.

Hunting Heritage

The North Shore is the single most heavily used public hunting area for ducks, geese and pheasants north of the lake. It's a place any family may enjoy Montana's hunting heritage.



Clean Water

Flathead Lake's famous clear water depends on the quality of upstream lands. Healthy wetlands and floodplains along the Flathead River and the North Shore help protect our treasured lake.

Prime Farm Land

The productive soils adjacent to the Flathead Waterfowl Production Area are some of the richest in Montana. Land owners are eager for options that keep their land in farming.

Wildlife

The North Shore's unique combination of wetlands, lakeshore and farm fields is a magnet for birds. This habitat is important for waterfowl and upland bird hunters, as well as people who simply thrill at the sight of a bald eagle or tundra swan on the wing.



Our Vision

The North Shore Conservation Project wants to pass on this special landscape for future generations to use, enjoy and appreciate. If we do not act now, we can expect this place to change forever.

Conservation Goals

- Secure financial incentives to provide land owners with choices to help conserve farm lands and open space.
- Protect and restore critical waterfowl and wildlife habitat.
- Protect water quality.
- Enhance public access and maintain traditional hunting opportunities.
- Provide new public recreational opportunities, such as trails and a park.
- Connect local communities and augment economic vitality.



NOW is the time to act!

It's a mistake to think the North Shore is already protected from large-scale development. While part of the area is included in the Flathead Lake Waterfowl Production Area, over 1,600 acres of surrounding farmland is at risk. Development is changing the face of the Flathead – we need to plan ahead to keep our home special.



North Shore land owners are embracing a conservation vision for the North Shore. They are working

with partners to achieve a practical solution that sustains the North Shore's farming tradition, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, hunting heritage and clean water.

Development is encroaching on the North Shore, putting its irreplaceable public values at risk. We have a short window of opportunity to conserve this priceless treasure. Once broken, we cannot put the pieces back together again.

For more information about how you can support the North Shore, please contact:

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North Shore Conservation Project Partners & Supporters

North Shore land owners

Flathead Land Trust

Flathead Lakers

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

American Bird Conservancy

Trout Unlimited

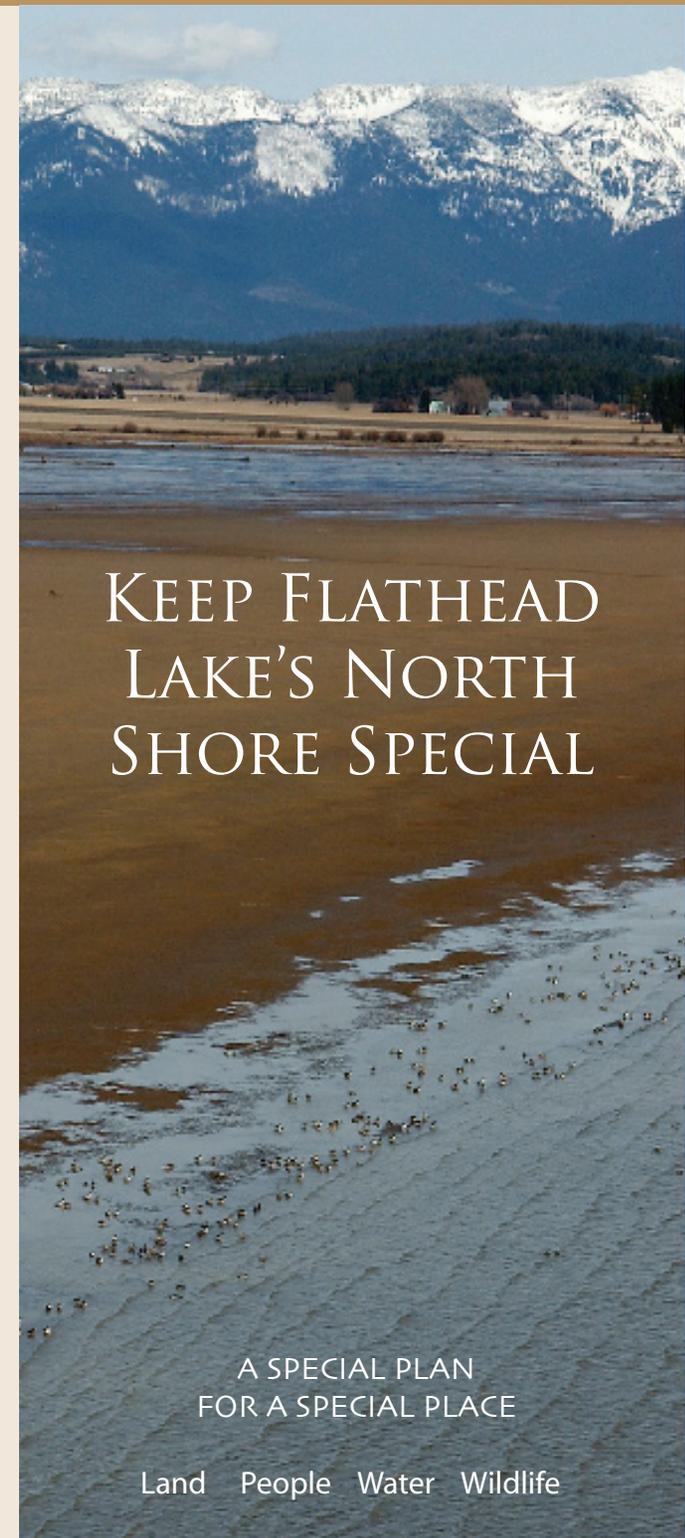
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Flathead Basin Commission

The Nature Conservancy



Photos by Karen Nichols



KEEP FLATHEAD LAKE'S NORTH SHORE SPECIAL

A SPECIAL PLAN
FOR A SPECIAL PLACE

Land People Water Wildlife