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**The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act
November 30, 2017
SB26 17/18**

**Authored by: Victoria Arnsparger, University of Montana Student; Aevind Burgess,
University of Montana Student; Mariah Welch, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Michael Toppen, ASUM Senator**

Whereas, The University of Montana is a national leader in research and education related to management of wildlife and federal public lands;

Whereas, In 2005 a diverse group of stakeholders came together to create the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project, a collaborative group focused on restoration, recreation, and responsible timber harvest on federal public lands near Seeley Lake and Ovando, MT;

Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) endorsed the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project, now called the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017, on two previous occasions;

Whereas, To date, the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project, via the Southwest Crown Collaborative, has invested \$33 million dollars and created or maintained 138 jobs annually in the Seeley and Ovando areas;

Whereas, The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017 encourages forest restoration by conducting a comprehensive landscape assessment, scheduling restoration projects, and increase funds available for restoration projects;

Whereas, The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017 would make additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System by designating 80,000 acres of National Forest land as part of the Bob Marshall, Mission Mountain, and Scapegoat Wilderness Areas;

Whereas, the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017 would increase recreation opportunities by designating special management areas for mountain biking and snowmobiling and instructing the Forest Service to complete a trail development;

Whereas, More than 80 businesses and organizations, as well as Missoula County, Powell County, and Lewis and Clark County, have voiced their proud support for the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017;

Whereas, The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017's accomplishments and positive impact should receive the support of Montana's Congressional delegation;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM endorses the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That ASUM urges the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which includes Senator Steve Daines, to vote in favor of the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017;

Therefore, Let It be Further Resolved, That if the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act of 2017 passes the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, ASUM urges Senator Steve Daines to vote in favor of the Act;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to the following United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Committee members: Chairwoman and Senator Lisa Murkowski; Senator Maria Cantwell; Senator Steve Daines; Senator John Barrasso; Senator Mike Lee; Senator James E. Risch; Senator Jeff Flake; Senator Cory Gardner; Senator Lamar Alexander; Senator John Hoeven; Senator Bill Cassidy; Senator Rob Portman; Senator Luther Strange; Senator Ron Wyden; Senator Bernard Sanders; Senator Debbie Stabenow; Senator Al Franken; Senator Joe Manchin III; Senator Martin Heinrich; Senator Mazie Hirono; Senator Angus S. King, Jr.; Senator Tammy Duckworth; and Senator Catherine Cortez Masto;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to the following: Jon Tester, United States Senator; Tim Garcia, Lolo Forest Supervisor; Leanne Martin, Regional Forester; and Tony Tooke, Chief of the US Forest Services.

Passed by Committee: _____, 2017

Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2017

Daisy Ward,
Chair, Sustainability

Brenna Love,
Chair of the Senate