

Big Sky Watershed Corps



2024



German Banda

Host Site: City of Missoula Storm Water Utility

Location: Missoula, MT

I'm from Houston, TX. I have a bachelor's degree in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. I'm excited to be part of BSWC because of the opportunity to gain hands on experience and learn more about natural resource management. This is my second AmeriCorps experience after working in disaster recovery in Houston, helping rebuild homes affected by natural disasters. In my free time I like listening and discovering new music, hanging out and getting to know people, and exploring what there is to see and do around town.



Ian Craighead

Host Site: Heart of the Rockies Initiative

Location: Missoula, MT

I am originally from Denver, CO and have a degree in International Political Economy from the University of Puget Sound in Washington state, and am working on a masters in Environmental Studies at the University of Montana. I am excited to gain experience within a conservation organization and be part of some really cool projects! I enjoy reading, playing tennis, dabbling in foraging, and mellow backcountry skiing.



Joel DeMay

Host Site: Heart of the Rockies Initiative

Location: Missoula, MT

Growing up in Pennsylvania, Joel spent his youth exploring the Ridge-and-Valley Appalachians. He moved to Los Angeles to earn his B.A. from Loyola Marymount University, and after graduating, worked in the film industry as a camera assistant. Wanting to reconnect with his love for nature and ecology, Joel began work as an urban beekeeper and managed over 50 colonies between LA and San Diego. Aside from an endless supply of honey, Joel's favorite aspect of this job was sharing his love for wildlife with others through educational workshops. As a BSWC member, he looks forward to communicating with landowners and outdoor recreationists about their relationship with Montana's incredible bear and wolf populations. In his spare time, you can find Joel woodworking, practicing archery, or enjoying a book in a cafe.



Jack Duncan

Host Site: Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Water Resources

Location: Helena, MT

My name is Jack Duncan, and I'm from central Massachusetts. I graduated from Westfield State University with a double major in environmental science and geography, planning and sustainability. I'm excited to be a part of BSWC to learn more about the field I went to college for, and further my GIS skills. In my free time I love hiking, running, climbing, kayaking, and pretty much anything outdoor related!



Sam Hamilton

Host Site: Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance

Location: East Glacier Park, MT

I'm from Lyons, Colorado. I just graduated in December from Colorado Mesa University with a degree in restoration ecology. I'm excited to be in a new place working in an unfamiliar watershed. I enjoy doing anything outside! This summer will definitely be backpacking and paddle boarding.



Ellie Long

Host Site: Gallatin Valley Land Trust

Location: Bozeman, MT

Ellie was born and raised in Seattle, WA, growing up exploring the mountains and waterways of the Pacific Northwest. She exchanged the rain for sunny southern California while attending California Lutheran University, where she graduated in 2020 with degrees in Global Studies and Political Science as well as a minor in creative writing. Following graduation, Ellie spent several years in Washington, D.C., working on environmental policy and communications in the nonprofit sector. She moved to Montana in 2022, where she loves skiing, hiking, and trail running in the stunning mountains around Bozeman. Ellie thru-hiked the 2,600-mile-long Pacific Crest Trail in the summer of 2023, where she honed her outdoor skills and became even more passionate about improving access to nature and working on conservation issues. She is thrilled to join the Big Sky Watershed Corps this summer to gain hands-on professional experience in these areas and to help protect Montana's amazing natural resources.



Katie Lynch-Dombroski

Host Site: USFS Flathead National Forest Tally Lake Ranger District

Location: Kalispell, MT

Katie grew up in Lakewood, a town in the foothills of Colorado. She attended the University of Colorado Boulder where she earned her degree in Environmental Studies and minors in Geography and Leadership. Katie looks forward to her second term with Big Sky Watershed Corps and developing professional skills in natural interpretation at the Summit Nature Center. During her free time, you may find her playing pickleball, crocheting, or hiking!



Caroline McClung

Host Site: Lake County Conservation District & Pheasants Forever

Location: Ronan, MT

I grew up in Durango, Colorado, spending every moment I could adventuring the mountains and the desert. I just graduated from the University of Colorado Boulder with a degree in Integrated Design Engineering, with an emphasis in environmental engineering and its application to community development. I am thrilled to be working with Lake County Conservation District and learning about community level wastewater treatment and community education and outreach efforts. I'm a big runner but also love hiking, backpacking, fishing, foraging, and rafting!



Megan Moran

Host Site: Montana Trout Unlimited

Location: Dillon, MT

Originally from Lake Stevens, Washington I have always had a passion for the outdoors and conservation. In my pursuit of the conservation career path I attended Western Washington University and earned a BS degree in Environmental Science. My areas of emphasis in my studies were freshwater and terrestrial ecology, biology of Salmonidae, and glacier/watershed studies. I am very excited to be serving with BSWC for this term because I know that this will be an extremely rewarding learning experience. I am a person who is always curious about the next thing and am looking forward to expanding my knowledge surrounding my areas of interest. Outside of work and school I love to read, knit, snowboard and listen to all sorts of music. I have a cat named Sal who likes sunbathing and a dog named Fraggie who loves the beach. I'm so excited for this chapter and look forward to taking full advantage of this opportunity.



Elizabeth Munsey

Host Site: North Valley Food Bank

Location: Whitefish, MT

I was born in Florida, where I went to school and received bachelors in International Business and Marketing. From there I followed a rather nomadic lifestyle, living and working in many locations before I found myself in San Diego, CA. co-owning a freediving company. I have since switched career paths and am excited to be a part of Big Sky Watershed Corps because I believe it is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about what is needed for stewarding our lands and waters as I continue on my journey of connecting with Native values. Personal hobbies include, but are not limited to: reading, yoga, hiking/backpacking, diving, kayaking, sitting outside and talking to the trees, etc.



George Shewman

Host Site: Lake County Conservation District & Pheasants Forever

Location: Ronan, MT

Hi everyone! I'm George and I'm from West Chester, Pennsylvania which is right outside of Philadelphia. I graduated from Temple University with a degree in Environmental Science with a concentration in Applied Ecology. I'm super excited to get my foot in the door doing conservation work and meeting people in the field with similar interests or different perspectives! In the meantime, I'm always trying to grow as a human and am figuring out if I'd like to go to grad school after this. While I'm in Montana I look forward to kayaking, camping, and hiking a bunch, but I also love to read, write, and play online games to chill out. Looking forward to being in the field and the opportunities that living at the biological station will give me!



Kate Wilson

Host Site: Great Burn Conservation Alliance

Location: Missoula, MT

Kate grew up camping and exploring outdoors in Iowa, where she developed a deep connection with the natural world. She graduated from Drake University in 2023, where she studied Environmental Science, Spanish, and History. As a BSWC member, Kate hopes to foster a passion for conservation and stewardship among communities and get to know the Great Burn ecosystem. In her free time, Kate loves to crochet, spend time with her cat, and have fun outdoors.