

# MONTANA and FLTFA

## REAUTHORIZATION



**R**eauthorization of the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) will provide opportunities for economic growth, sportsmen's access, wildlife protection, historic preservation and other conservation needs in Montana and the West, while reducing the deficit.

- **FLTFA is a fiscally responsible land tenure tool that Montana needs, similar to the Canyon Ferry Reservoir Act and the Charles M. Russell Act Cabin Lease bill but for the entire West.** Through FLTFA's "land for land" concept, Montana and the West will benefit from conservation funding and federal land sales. CBO states FLTFA reauthorization will reduce the deficit by \$5 million over 10 years. Through FLTFA, the BLM can sell land identified for disposal to private land owners, counties, companies and others for ranching, community development and various projects. These sales create jobs and generate funding for BLM, USFS, NPS and USFWS to acquire critical inholdings and edgeholdings from willing sellers. This is a balanced approach. The sales help communities and allow agencies to acquire high-priority lands with important wildlife habitat value, recreational access for hunting and fishing and other agency priorities.
- **Montana has FLTFA success stories and would benefit from future FLTFA conservation funds.** With FLTFA funds, BLM acquired the Brown's Gulch property overlooking Hauser Lake at Chain of Lakes SRMA, a boating and recreation area near Helena on the Missouri River, traveled by Lewis and Clark during their epic journey west (photo above). At Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge in southern Montana, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service used FLTFA funds to acquire vital habitat for migrating trumpeter swans in the Centennial Valley.
- **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) and other public and private funds often complement FLTFA**
- **FLTFA is widely supported.** Over 100 groups support FLTFA reauthorization, including many sportsmen's groups, conservation organizations and more.
- **FLTFA has expired. Please include FLTFA Reauthorization as a priority this Congress.**



**FLTFA project: Red Rock Lakes NWR,** Wetlands at Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge provide secluded habitat for trumpeter swans, white-faced ibis, moose, and other wildlife species