



# BITTER ROOT Water Forum

Clean Water for ALL  
through Restoration  
and Education

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*"155 miles of the Bitterroot?! I had no idea!" I hear this a lot when I'm talking to people about BRWF's new program. 155 North. We're trying to change that.*

We want people to know about all 155 miles of river that we're lucky enough to have running through our valley. 155 miles of river that make life here not just possible, but special.

We want people to know that BRWF is here to help that river thrive. In fact, we're the only group that focuses exclusively on water quality and watershed education in the Bitterroot Valley.

**But we need your help.** We can't keep our river clean and cool without your support. We can't reach over 1,000 kids each year without your donation.

Will you help us help the river by joining 155 North with a gift of \$100?

Thanks in advance for your support. We're happy to serve our community through river stewardship and we're lucky to have people like you who help make it all possible.

Thank you,

*Heather*

Heather Mullee, Executive Director

*P.S. Even if you can't join 155 North, a gift in any amount will help us protect and restore the river and the countless tributaries that make life in the Bitterroot special.*

## 155 North

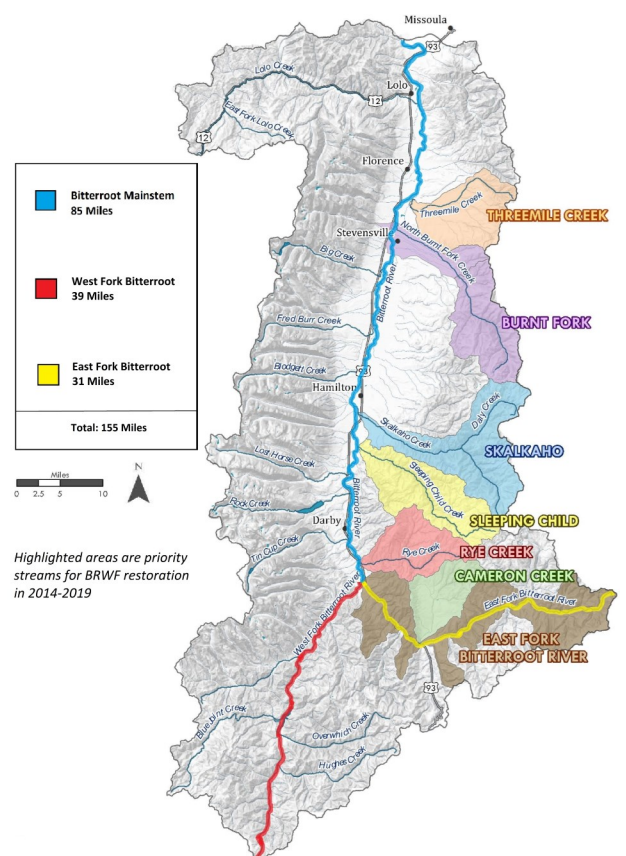


**Join 155 North today and help  
BRWF keep our River healthy!**

Please visit our website at  
[www.brwaterforum.org](http://www.brwaterforum.org) to give today

**155 people x \$100 each =  
cooler, cleaner water  
and a healthier river**

The goal of 155 North is to raise \$100 for every mile of the Bitterroot River — 85 miles of the mainstem, 39 miles of the West Fork, and 31 miles of the East Fork.



## RIVERFEST DAYS

Two Days, Three Great Events

This year was the 4th Annual Riverfest and many festgoers said it was the best year yet! With so many great community activities, BRWF expanded the event to two days, August 15th and 16th at River Park in Hamilton. The Run for the River 5K kicked things off on Friday night with the Bitterroot River Clean-Up and Riverfest in the 'Root following on Saturday.

Riverfest Days is packed with exciting activities for kids and adults alike. This year featured a River Clean Up, live animal presentations, fly-casting lessons, macro-invertebrate identification, nature walks, a working model of the Bitterroot River, live native fish - a whole host of opportunities for the community to celebrate our River while learning more about the importance of our water resources and a healthy riparian area.

Although it's fun for the whole family, the intention of Riverfest Days is to connect our community with the Bitterroot River through celebration and education. Through captivated, smiling faces we could see our intention in action again this year. *We're already looking forward to an even bigger and better Riverfest Days for our fifth year in August 2015!*



Over 50 volunteers helped to pull **1,520 pounds of trash** out of the river during the Bitterroot River Clean Up!

### Great River Clean Up Story

While cleaning up near Wally Crawford, Bill—a BRWF volunteer—found this fleece jacket with a wallet inside. Using info from the wallet, Bill contacted the owner and learned that the jacket had been lost in the River near the Hannon fishing access—**6 years ago!** *Bill plans to hand-deliver the jacket and wallet to their owner later this summer!*



**Thanks to all of our generous sponsors!**



Guild Mortgage - Bitter Root Disposal - Bitterroot Drug - Evans Ace Hardware - Runner's Edge

Kinetico - Klean-Rite Restoration - Mildener Motors - Pigman Builders - Iron Horse Athletic Club



## On the ground Restoration Projects...

**Doran Creek:** This spring BRWF held two volunteer days to cut and plant 2,000 willow sprigs along nearly 3,000 feet of Doran Creek to enhance habitat and provide shade to the warming waters. Doran Creek is a tributary of Cameron Creek, one of the warmest tributaries entering the overly-warm East Fork of the Bitterroot River.

Our Big Sky Watershed Corps member, Katie, checked on the willow sprigs this summer and they are looking great, with over a 90% survival rate so far!

*Pictured below from left to right: BRWF board member and local fishing guide, Eddie Olwell, preps sprigs from a local willow stand to transplant along Doran Creek; volunteers use a water stinger to create holes for willow cuttings to be planted; ranch manager, Tyson Lind, lends a hand by auguring holes for willow cuttings; Katie, BRWF's Big Sky Watershed Corps Member, happily displays a thriving willow three months after planting!*



**Rye Creek:** For almost two years now, BRWF has worked with private landowners on Rye Creek to find a solution that reduces sediment delivery to the stream and helps landowners from losing banks into the creek—Rye Creek is one of the largest contributors of sediment to the Bitterroot River.

In August, BRWF was awarded funding to get the projects on the ground in the spring of 2015! We can't wait to break ground with these excited landowners who want to work with BRWF to improve the health of local streams. *Since only partial funding was awarded for these projects your gift can help ensure that we are able to successfully complete the Rye Creek projects in the Spring of 2015. Please consider making a gift to BRWF and directly impacting project completion!*

Watch Facebook and our Website for volunteer opportunities with BRWF this fall!