

**Cash for Cutthroats** is an annual event where fishing guides donate their daily tips to support the fishery by supporting the Bitter Root Water Forum. This year's event is **June 19**th, **2020**.



Revenue generated from guiding on the Bitterroot has steadily increased from 2013 to 2018 (\$3,316,000 to \$6,840,000). More visitors discover our scenic valley every year largely because of our fantastic fishery.

**Why donate?** The Water Forum is a non-profit organization focused exclusively in and for the Bitterroot Watershed. Every dollar donated stays local and goes towards maintaining a healthy, resilient, fishy Bitterroot.

The Water Forum has a long track-record of successful projects that improve the health of tributaries - the fish factories of the Bitterroot. These successes will build with future projects that improve fish passage up Threemile, enhance habitat on the Burnt Fork, and plant native shrubs and trees at the Stevensville Fishing Access Site.

## Donating on June 19th is giving back!

All participating Guides and Outfitters will be

- entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the Bitter Root Brewery
- featured in the Water Forum Fall Newsletter—mailed out to over
  700 people, both local and non-residents
- listed on the Water Forum website

Participating in this program gives you the chance to give back to the river that gives you so much.



## **Building Community Around the River**

brwaterforum.org | 406-375-2272 | Hamilton



## **Quick Facts**

The Bitter Root Water Forum is a community driven nonprofit, serving the Bitterroot Valley for over 25 years.

The Water Forum brings our community together to protect, enhance, and restore the waters that we all rely on.

## Work is focused on the tributaries - the fish factories of the Bitterroot.

Restoration projects improve water quality and riparian habitat so our fishery can thrive.

Recognized by the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) as the 2016 Organization of the Year for on the ground restoration and watershed education work.

Upcoming projects include, partnering with FWP to improve habitat along the Stevensville Fishing Access Site and the 15th year of the Bitterroot River Clean Up.

Vegetation along the streambank is very important for stream and fishery health. This landscape, known as the "riparian area" provides:

- shade to streams to reduce water temperatures
- root systems that stabilize the stream bank
- filtration of pollutants before they can reach the stream
- · a food source through leaf litter and debris
- habitat for birds and other wildlife

All proceeds from Cash for Cutthroats will go directly to supporting restoration in the Bitterroot watershed.