



Rich Moy

Rich Moy: Champion of North Fork preservation

Posted Jan. 16, 2009 — While many North Forkers might not be familiar with Rich Moy, those who know him recognize that for 30 years he has worked diligently to protect the North Fork from industrial development in the Canadian Flathead—development that would adversely affect wildlife and water quality on our side of the border.

On Dec. 31, Moy retired from his position as bureau chief of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation’s Water Management Bureau. Moy’s career includes 11 years with Glacier National Park, followed by more than 25 years with the DNRC. Until his retirement, Moy also served on the Flathead Basin Commission, a Kalispell-based organization established by the Montana Legislature in 1983 to address diminishing water quality in the Flathead River Basin.

In April 2007, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency presented Moy with its Environmental Achievement Award “for his tireless efforts to protect Montana’s water quality and the Flathead River Basin,” says a **DNRC news release**. Moy’s conservation activities included leading watershed-protection efforts on the Milk, Missouri, Poplar, St. Mary’s and Yellowstone rivers. “He has also been instrumental in coordinating watershed-restoration projects along the shores of Ashley Creek, Stoner Creek, Mount Creek and Flathead Lake,” the news release says.

For still more about Moy’s three-decades-old effort to protect the North Fork from upstream industrial development—and his post-retirement plans to stay active in the fight—see Michael Jamison’s story in the **Jan. 11 Missoulian**. A sidebar to that story has a timeline of mining efforts in the Canadian Flathead from December 2007 through December 2008.

For more news about proposed Canadian mining operations that would threaten the North Fork—including the decision to exclude Flathead River Basin from the project area of a planned coal-bed methane drilling operation in British Columbia—see our **Canadian Mines** page.