



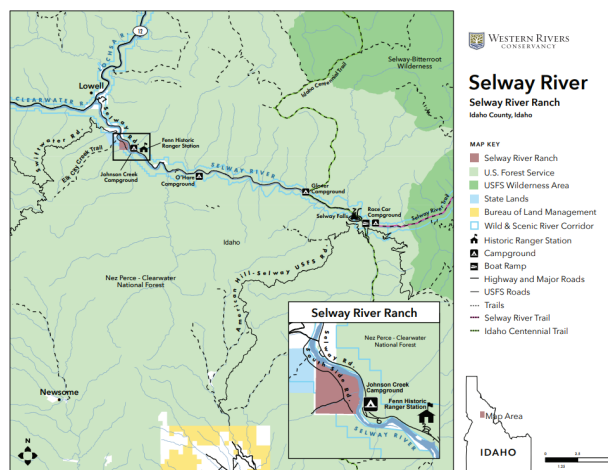
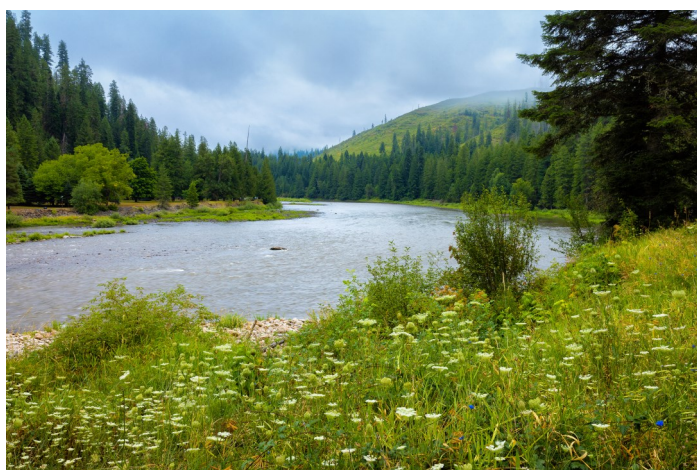
WESTERN RIVERS CONSERVANCY

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Project Report Photos
September 2025

Idaho's Selway River: Conserving a mile of a legendary Wild and Scenic river

At the heart of a mosaic of protected lands in northern Idaho, WRC conserved the 152-acre Selway River Ranch—including a mile of the Selway River and half a mile of Elk City Creek, a minor but important Selway tributary—by conveying the property to the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. In the Selway's homestretch through national forest land, a small number of unprotected inholdings remain. In 2022, WRC purchased one of the most significant of these: the Selway River Ranch. We then held the property while we worked to obtain funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to convey the ranch to the national forest. In June 2025, we did it! The property is home to one of the finest flat, pristine meadows on the lower Selway, which makes it important for wildlife but also particularly attractive for development. By conserving the ranch, WRC and the U.S. Forest Service helped ensure the untamed character of the lower Selway River will remain forever intact. *Steve Dondoro photo*



Montana's Racetrack Creek: Protected the last significant private inholding on a significant Clark Fork tributary

In southwest Montana, WRC protected the last significant private inholding on upper Racetrack Creek, a headwater tributary to Montana's Clark Fork River, by conveying a 131-acre property called The Oxbows to the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Racetrack Creek flows clear and cold from the Flint Creek Range to the Clark Fork River, Montana's largest river by volume. The one-mile reach of Racetrack Creek that flows through The Oxbows is framed on either side by a scenic, shallow canyon. The property includes prime rearing habitat for westslope cutthroat trout and potential habitat for bull trout, and is also a key part of a migration corridor for large animals like Rocky Mountain elk, moose and mule deer. WRC purchased The Oxbows in 2023 and then worked to obtain funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund to convey it to the Deerlodge National Forest. We are thrilled to report we accomplished this in July. Now in public hands, this pristine reach of Racetrack Creek will forever remain intact. *Kyle Dudgeon photo*

