

Montana Public Radio Issues/Programming List Fourth Quarter 2023

For the period October 1 to December 31, 2023, Montana Public Radio stations (KUFM, KGPR, KUHM, KUFN, KUFL, KAPC, KPJH, KDWG, KUMW, KTFZ, KEUK, KUMS, KUMD, and KUKL) addressed the following issues of importance to our communities during local news inserts into Morning Edition and All Things Considered.

This is only a representational sample. Date, link, reporter, and length of each report is included.

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment	Reporter	Link
MONTANA WILDLIFE: Researchers explore new methods to study harlequin duck population declines	ME/ATC/Montana News	4-Oct-23	7-9am 7pm	5- 4:37	As temperatures cool and leaves start to change, birds begin their annual migrations to winter habitat. Among those flying through Montana skies this fall are brightly colored harlequin ducks. Researchers have documented population declines of the birds in recent years, but no one is quite sure why.	Ellis Juhlin	Researchers explore new methods to study harlequin duck population declines Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA HEALTHCARE: Closure of Helena facility would leave kids with behavioral health issues in limbo	ME/ATC/Montana News	9-Oct-23	7-9am 7pm	5- 4:12	Young children with severe behavioral health issues are likely to lose one of the few options they have for long-term residential treatment nationwide. Intermountain Residential in Helena planned to close next month before parents threatened to sue. The facility says it will try to stay open, but it's unclear if that's possible.	Aaron Bolton	Closure of Helena facility would leave kids with behavioral health issues in limbo Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA WEATHER: Drought persists in northern Montana with El Niño on the way	ME/ATC/Montana News	13-Oct-23	7-9am 7pm	5- 1:59	According to the latest U.S Drought Monitor map, Montana's entire southern tier, as well a respectable slice of the state's mid-section, is drought free. Conditions across northern Montana aren't as encouraging.	Edward O'Brien	Drought persists in northern Montana with El Niño on the way Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA GOVERNMENT: Commissioners violated public meeting laws to relax wolf hunting regulations	ME/ATC/Montana News	19-Oct-23	7-9am 7pm	5- 2:17	Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP) has admitted to violating the public's constitutional right-to-know in response to a lawsuit filed last week. The agency must now follow conditions to improve public transparency.	Ellis Juhlin	Commissioners violated public meeting laws to relax wolf hunting regulations Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)

MONTANA EDUCATION: School districts move forward with charter school plans	ME/ATC/Montana News	2-Nov-23	7-9am 5-7pm	4:55	Some of Montana's largest school districts are moving forward with plans to open public charter schools. Applications for the proposed schools are now pending before the state Board of Public Education. It's the result of one of two new charter school policies passed by state lawmakers this year.	Austin Amestoy Maxine Speier	School districts move forward with charter school plans Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA ENVIRONMENT: Butte-Silver Bow commissioners shut down citizens' Superfund cleanup resolution	ME/ATC/Montana News	6-Nov-23	7-9am 5-7pm	1:37	A citizen-driven resolution that would have set Butte's policy for ongoing Superfund cleanup is dead. The resolution was defeated after the county attorney made significant changes. The resolution had been circulating for months among citizen watchdogs and county commissioners. It aired grievances over what's seen as a lack of transparency from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).	John Hooks	Butte-Silver Bow commissioners shut down citizens' Superfund cleanup resolution Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA ENVIRONMENT: Report details climate change threats to Montana's outdoor economy	ME/ATC/Montana News	13-Nov-23	7-9am 5-7pm	1:25	A new report projects climate change could cost Montana's outdoor economy more than \$260 million by 2050. The report, commissioned by the advocacy group Montana Wildlife Federation, looks at how climate change could lead to loss of jobs and labor earnings for outdoor industries like hunting, fishing, tourism and recreation.	Ellis Juhlin	Report details climate change threats to Montana's outdoor economy Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
THE BIG WHY: How much land have reservations in Montana lost to white settlement?	ME/ATC/Montana News	23-Nov-23	7-9am 5-7pm	7:44	We actually had a couple listener questions about reservation lands. One wanted to know why the Flathead Reservation is majority non-Native, and somebody else wanted to know how much land Montana's reservations lost to White settlement.	Austin Amestoy John Hooks	How much land have reservations in Montana lost to white settlement? Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA WILDLIFE: Wolverines granted Endangered Species Act protections in the lower 48 states	ME/ATC/Montana News	1-Dec-23	7-9am 5-7pm	1:42	After 10 years of consideration, wolverines in the contiguous U.S. have been listed under the Endangered Species Act.	Ellis Juhlin	Wolverines granted Endangered Species Act protections in the lower 48 states Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA PROPERTY TAXES: Counties plead with governor to lower property tax collection	ME/ATC/Montana News	1-Dec-23	7-9am 5-7pm	1:32	The Montana Association of Counties is pleading with Gov. Greg Gianforte to lower a property tax the state collects. Counties are preparing revised tax bills following a court defeat last week.	Austin Amestoy	Counties plead with governor to lower property tax collection Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)

MONTANA POLITICS: Lawsuit challenges the Public Service Commission's 2023 districts map	ME/ATC/Montana News	5-Dec-23 7-9am 5-7pm	1:22 A lawsuit argues a new map drawing election districts for the Public Service Commission is too partisan.	Ellis Juhlin	Lawsuit challenges the Public Service Commission's 2023 districts map Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)
MONTANA PROPERTY TAXES: Why your property tax bill soared this year	ME/ATC/Montana News	12-Dec-23 7-9am 5-7pm	4:22 New analysis of state data by Montana Free Press confirms what many homeowners in the state may have already noticed. Residential property taxes are up substantially this year. At the same time, some large industrial businesses are paying millions of dollars less.	Austin Amestoy	Why your property tax bill soared this year Montana Public Radio (mtpr.org)