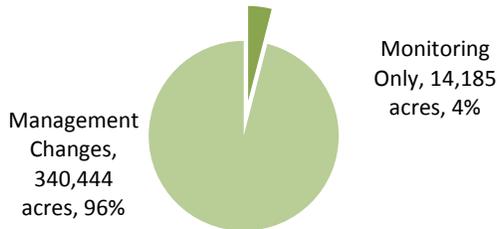




## Since The Inception of the Montana Rangelands Partnership the Impact to Central and Eastern Montana has been Phenomenal ~Looking Back Over The First Two Seasons~

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### Landscape Monitoring in Central & E Montana April 2016 to August 2017

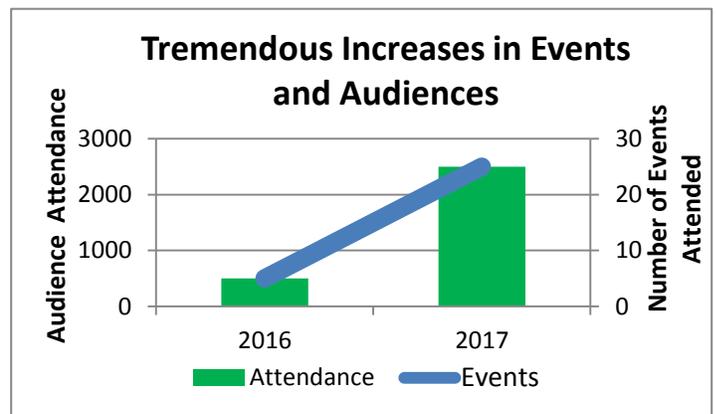


### Range Monitoring and No-Cost Technical Assistance

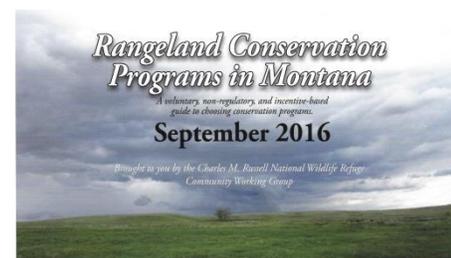
Forty-five landowners and one grazing association have established monitoring programs on a total of 354,629 acres. On about 96% of those acres landowners have begun considering, planning or implementing improved management changes and/or a grazing plan. These changes are expected to improve future range conditions for grazing livestock, wildlife habitat, rural economies and ensuring familial sustainability of Montana ranches. In April 2016, we anticipated touching 250,000 acres over the three grazing seasons. How many more acres will be added by the end of season three?!

### Two Range Technicians Stay Busy

In two years MT Rangelands Partnership Technicians have attended 25 events with over 2,500 people reached. Outreach events included MT Range Tour, Young AG Leadership Conference, Winter Grazing Seminar, The Western MT Grazing and Agriculture Conference, The MT Ag Summit, several State Grazing Districts and Associations, Ladies Day on the Range, Ladies Nite on the Range, MT Stock Growers and Wool Growers Conventions, 2017 Legislature Meet and Greet and Range Rotunda Day and various youth events such as District FFA Range Judging.



Seventy-nine monitoring kits were created utilizing 223 mini-grant funds. Kits have been distributed to participating landowners, partner county conservation district offices, Grazing Districts and Associations, landowner groups such as Ranchers Stewardship Alliance, plus they've been given as door prizes at range monitoring workshops.



A "Montana Conservation Menu" of a multitude of conservation improvement programs and resources, including rangeland resources, became available online to all residents of Montana in May of 2017. The full menu with details on over 100+ programs can be found at [MTConservationMenu.org](http://MTConservationMenu.org) Interested in just Rangeland Conservation? View the "Rangeland Conservation Programs in Montana" in the online brochure (right) [HERE](#) or hard-copies can be found at most conservation district offices.



### Education Focuses on Range Monitoring Returning Big Dividends to Partners

Eight workshops have been conducted with 128 participants attending to learn monitoring techniques and/or range-related topics. Based on the tremendous partner acreage and the cost of technician services thus far, the estimated inputs of working with partner landowners have been approximately 45¢/acre. **If one assumes the cost of a grazing lease is \$30/cow-calf/month; the opportunity cost of monitoring is just a little over 1% of his/her monthly grazing fee to improve the health and productivity of their grazing land. That's impressive!**