

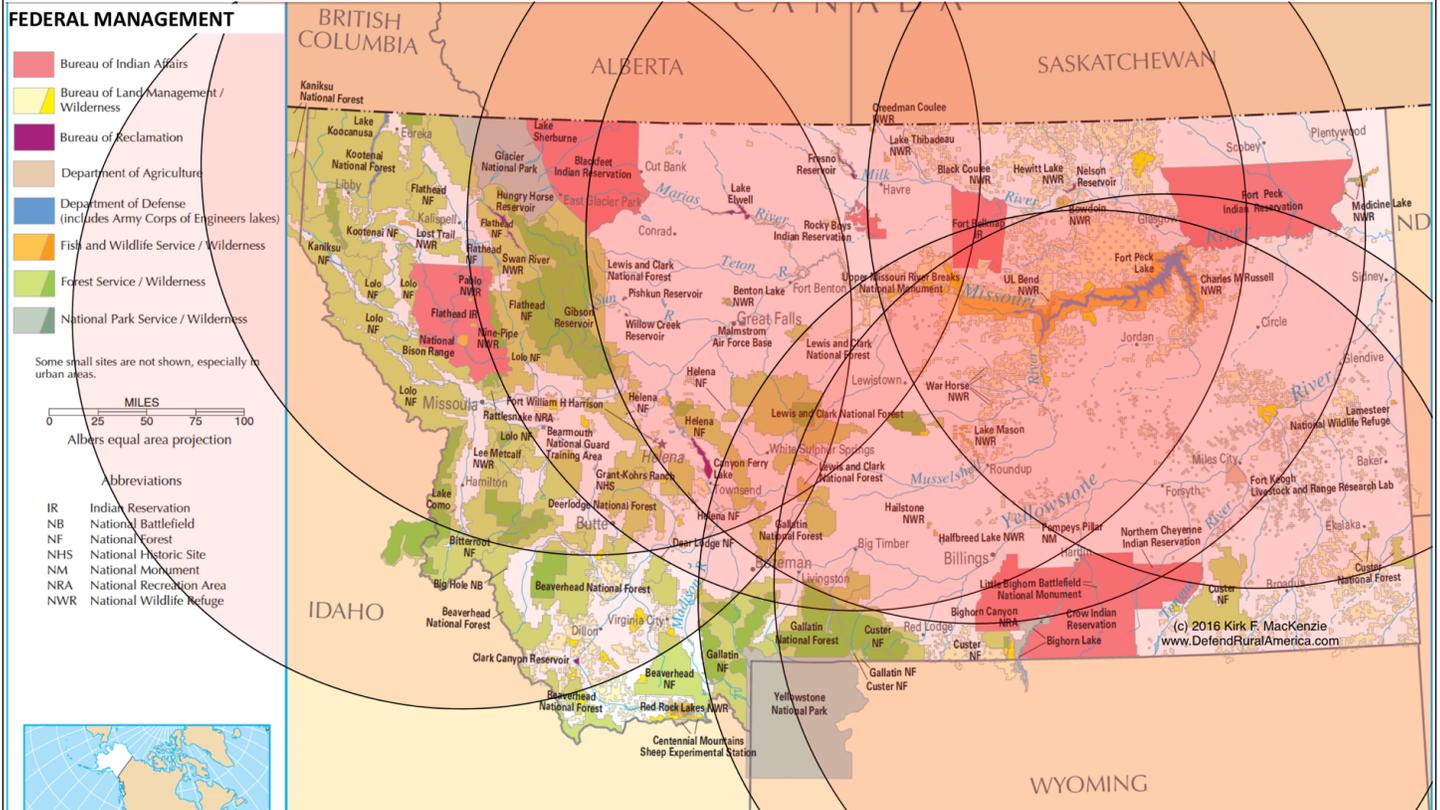


Defend Rural America™

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THE FEDERAL CONQUEST OF MONTANA

This graph depicts how the unconstitutional shadow “United States of America” is seizing control of Montana and Montanans. The map overlays three things: 1) federally managed lands by agency (see key), 2) the seven federally controlled tribal reservations, and 3) circles that approximately represent the proposed expansion of tribal control (i.e., the Bureau of Indian Affairs), each circle 200 miles in radius and centered on a reservation. True circumferences would start from reservation borders and be much larger. As shown, virtually all of Montana’s lands fall within one or more of these areas. Known as the *Treasure State* for its abundant resources, Montana may become better known as the *Conquered State*.



Montana Senator [Steve Daines](#) (D) has submitted Senate bill S3014 that betrays Montana and Montanans. He joins Senator Jon Tester (S.3013) and Congressman Ryan Zinke (H.2647) in gutting Montana’s citizens, companies, and industries of their jobs, lands, water, forests, minerals, industries, properties and inalienable rights.

The above map makes the full impact clear. Areas under existing federal management are shown in various shades, as indicated by the key. The added red circles show how Daines’ bill would expand federal control 200 miles outward from each of the seven tribal reservations. **All of Montana would be under federal control, including private property.**

Daines’ bill [S.3014](#) does this by amending existing legislation [25USC3115](#) and [25USC3104](#). A key portion of the bill reads: “the Secretary concerned may treat Federal forest land as Indian forest land for purposes of planning and conducting forest land management activities...” In other words, forest management would be turned over to tribal control, which in turn is controlled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Since the forests include the mountains, timber, water basins, minerals, energy sources, and game, this amounts to control over virtually every economic and recreational activity within the state, including hunting.

This is being done quietly, while we are distracted with the 2016 elections, and without our participation. To hide the impact, **the legislation has been divided into separate bills.**

This legislation is racist. It creates a perpetual caste system in which one race need do nothing, while the rest can do nothing, to earn federal entitlements. Merit and competitive bidding would be out the window. Montana’s children would forever be dispossessed of lands their ancestors developed through blood, sweat, tears, and innovation.

Tribes have even gone so far as to declare themselves sovereign nations, separate from the States in which they reside, subject only to federal jurisdiction. While this is a matter of legal challenge, if this view were to prevail, tribal decisions, actions, and fees would be accountable only to tribal constitutions and laws. Montanans would have no remedies under the federal Constitution, Montana’s constitution, or the Bill of Rights.

Daines, Tester and Zinke were elected to represent Montanans, but have chosen instead to represent foreign interests. They have betrayed their offices and the trust Montanans placed in them, and should be held accountable.