

BUILDING A NEW WEST WHERE HUMANS, LIVESTOCK, AND PREDATORS CAN CO-EXIST

MONTANA, USA

In rural Montana, *Malou Anderson-Ramirez* works to support thriving and diverse wildlife populations, sustain ranching businesses, and ensure a wild and healthy ecosystem for humans and predators alike.

In a rugged southwestern corner of Montana, 2.2 million acres of otherworldly blue geysers, dramatic canyons, and rich archaeological sites are protected within the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park. Were it not for the popularity of the northern gates of this vast ecosystem, the Tom Miner Basin might be overlooked entirely. A lone dirt road bisects the valley: a bowl of grasslands that, to a casual observer, might simply appear as a sweeping patchwork of cattle ranches. But these sage- and aspen-covered hillsides are the setting for a decades-old conflict. Home to at least two packs of wolves and one of the densest populations of grizzly bears in the Lower 48 states, this is ground zero for a controversial convergence of predators and prey, humans and livestock. ➤

