


# Montana

## Known Condemnations Benefiting Private Parties <sup>278</sup>

Threatened Condemnations  300

Legend  = 100

### Bozeman

In August 2005, City Commissioners voted to declare an entire northeast section of town “blighted” based on a study finding conditions like an empty field with weeds, lack of streetlights and poor storm water drainage.<sup>279</sup> The neighborhood, a unique mix of homes and small businesses, has already been undergoing something of a renaissance transitioning out of its industrial roots. The same firm that did the blight study just happens to have a plan that will turn the area into an “urban village” of new offices and apartments.<sup>280</sup> According to the map in the blight study, there are well over 300 parcels affected.<sup>281</sup>

<sup>278</sup> These numbers were compiled from news sources. Many cases go unreported, and news reports often do not specify the number of properties against which condemnations were filed or threatened.

<sup>279</sup> Brook Griffin, “Commission declares blight in northeast area,” *Bozeman Daily Chronicle*, August 2, 2005; Walt Williams, “Northeast neighbors worry about proposed blight designation,” *Bozeman Daily Chronicle*, July 24, 2005.

<sup>280</sup> Walt Williams, “Northeast neighbors worry about proposed blight designation,” *Bozeman Daily Chronicle*, July 24, 2005.

<sup>281</sup> Northeast Urban Renewal District, Blight Study, <http://www.bozemanmilldistrict.com/urban-renewal-district/NEURD.PDF> (retrieved May 25, 2006).