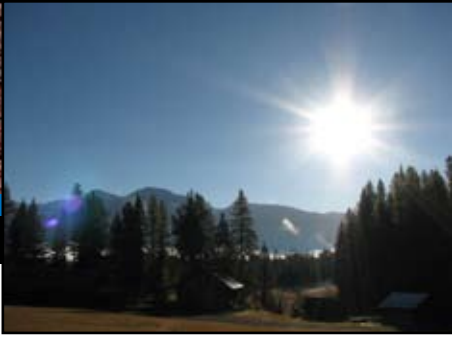


# The Place



The Northwest Connection's educational facility is located in Montana's Swan Valley on the Beck Homestead, originally settled by Finnish immigrants in 1916. The Homestead encompasses 80 acres of forest, pasture and Swan River frontage. Beyond the property boundaries lie public lands and corporate timber lands all available for exploration on foot or bicycle.

## Student accommodations include:

- The historic barn is now our main office, indoor classroom and living quarters.
- The original homestead cabin built by Axel and Hilda Beck in the early 1900's now serves as the student's cookhouse.
- The washhouse was built to reinforce our every attempt to create a climate of resource efficiency and self-sufficiency on the homestead. The facility consists of modern composting toilets helping to reduce water waste and energy consumption. We heat water with a wood-fired boiler that supplies both the barn with in-floor heat and the washhouse with hot water for sinks and showers. Students help cut and stack wood (logged from the Homestead and elsewhere in the Valley) to run the boiler.

