MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF CORRECTIONS

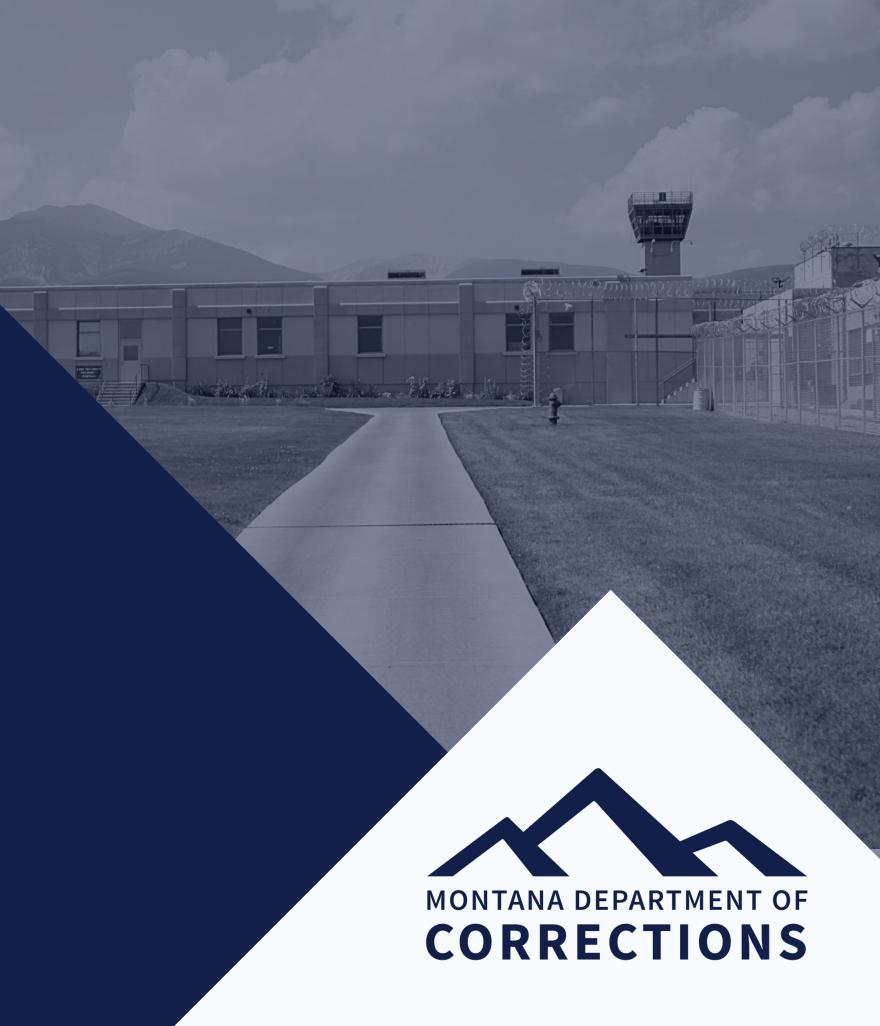
MONTANA STATE PRISON

Warden Jim Salmonsen





- Secure male facility located in Deer Lodge, Mont.
- Operational capacity 1,607
- Employees approximately 700
- Goals:
 - Public safety
 - Prepare offenders to be successful, productive members of the community.



MARTZ DIAGNOSTIC INTAKE UNIT (MDIU)

- 200 beds used for the intake/admissions process at MSP.
- Arriving inmates are assessed, assigned to appropriate living areas within the facility.
- Also, 10 beds are used to temporarily house inmates being moved to longer-term placements.

"LOW SIDE" -UNITS A, B, C, D AND F

Comprised of 859 beds, housing inmates in lower-risk custody levels.

Each unit has a different area of focus:

- Unit A inmates participating in chemical dependency group programming
- Unit B inmates working in industries compound or within the prison compound
- Unit C inmates working in the industries compound
- Unit D inmates who require ADA accommodations
- Unit F inmates participating in sex offender programming



"HIGH SIDE"- UNITS 1, 2, RESTRICTIVE HOUSING UNIT, SECURE ADJUSTMENT UNIT

Comprised of 592 beds, housing inmates in lower-risk custody levels.

Each unit has a different area of focus:

- Unit 1 inmates known to be in a security threat group (STG). STGs are often gang members and demonstrate predatory or assaultive behaviors that place other inmates and staff at risk.
- Unit 2
 - Inmates who are in higher-risk custody levels.
 - Inmates who have mental disorders and are transitioning into general population.
 - o Inmates designated as vulnerable who need additional observation and support from staff.

RESTRICTIVE HOUSING UNIT (RHU)

- HB763 passed by 2019 Montana Legislature, defined procedures and placed limits on secure housing for inmates who pose a severe risk to the security of the institution, themselves or others and require separation from the general population.
- The bill also decreased allowable in-cell time from 23 hours/day to 22 hours/day, allowing for more opportunity to participate in programming and social interaction.
- Houses inmates designated as Maximum Custody Level, detention status, pre-hearing confinement.
- Inmates are placed on a "step-down" program using incentives allowing them to earn privileges and placement in general population.

SECURE ADJUSTMENT UNIT (SAU)

- Created as an offshoot of HB763.
- DOC recognized that while inmates with severe mental illness may pose a severe risk to the security of the institution, themselves or others, their needs are different from inmates housed in RHU.
- Closely monitored by qualified mental health professionals and receive appropriate programming.
- Inmates are placed on a "step-down" program using incentives allowing them to earn privileges and placement in general population.

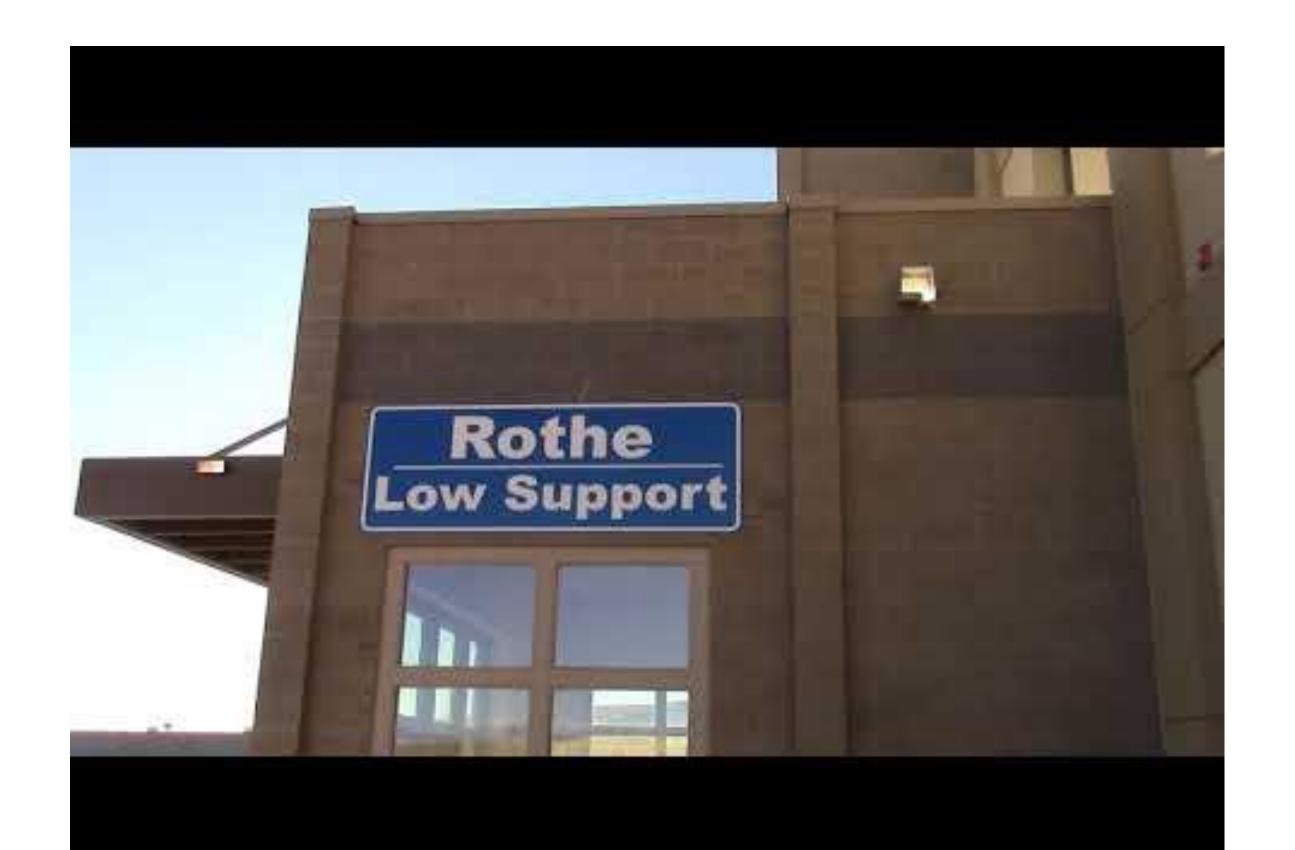
INFIRMARY

- 18 beds located inside the MSP compound.
- Serves inmates with medical needs that can't be provided in a housing unit.

RIVERSIDE SPECIAL NEEDS UNIT

- Special Needs Unit
- 27 beds located in Boulder, Mont.
- Dedicated to male inmates with serious, long-term medical conditions





DOC SECURE CONTRACT FACILITIES

- Overseen by Contract Placement Bureau Chief Pat Smith.
- Include Crossroads Correctional Center (Shelby, Mont.), Dawson County Correctional Facility (Glendive), and Great Falls Regional Prison.
- Budget of \$20 million annually for the care of 900 inmates.

CHALLENGES

- Reconciling available beds while maintaining proper security, custody levels.
- Coordinating policies and operations among different facilities.
- Ensuring continuity of evidenced-based inmate programming among facilities.
- Monitoring and managing inmates affiliated with security threat groups (STG).
- The maintenance, expansion of inmate work opportunities among facilities.
- Reconciling MCA 53-30-507 (which addresses per diem rates in regional prisons) with current costs associated with care at secure contract facilities.
- COVID-19.

MONTANA STATE PRISON: CHALLENGES

COVID-19

- Primary goal has been keeping staff and inmates healthy through a number of precautionary measures (daily screening of staff, sentinel testing, reduced movement of offenders, etc.).
- Oct. 12, 202 first case in inmate population, escalated to outbreak status.
- Staffing was significantly impacted DOC requested Montana National Guard deployment.



MONTANA STATE PRISON: CHALLENGES

Aging inmate population

- More than half the offender population (about 1,000) are ages 45 and up.
- As the population ages, medical and mental health needs increase.

Maintaining an aging facility

Can't get parts to fix antiquated equipment.

Security

 Facility infrastructure doesn't easily accommodate new correctional technologies, philosophies.

CHALLENGES, cont.

Recruiting, retaining staff

- Limited
- Wages are not competitive

CONSEQUENCES: Staffing shortages require use of overtime to staff mandatory posts, closure of posts not vital to security (Rec Yard, Gym, programs, visitation).

SOLUTIONS: Increased recruiting efforts including strategic advertising, attendance at job fairs, sharing stories about inmate success and staff accomplishments.

MONTANA STATE PRISON: SUCCESSES

- Communications system replaced, connection established with DOJ, state system.
- Restrictive Housing.
- Electrical upgrade.
- Boiler replacement scheduled.
- Infrastructure repairs to one of prison's original structures.
- Purchase of body scanner, mail scanner.
- Increased communications opportunities for inmates including email.



