

● ● ● | “We’ve looked at other programs and I’ve never seen anything easier to read, easier to navigate. We are really happy with Nortridge.”



Over the course of its 35-year history, Bear Paw Development Corporation has developed into a vital part of Montana’s micro-business community.

As a private, non-profit organization created for the purpose of administering development programs to help improve regional economic conditions in the state’s northern and central counties, Bear Paw manages approximately 80 small business loans in its \$6 million portfolio.



Managing this portfolio has been made easier and more efficient through Bear Paw’s use of the Nortridge Loan System (NLS), a loan servicing software program it’s used for the past 10 years.

“While other developers were going with (a competitor’s software program), Bear Paw implemented Nortridge,” said Loan Technician Brent Melle. “We sort of bucked the trend at the time and it’s worked in our favor.”

According to Melle, the beauty of Nortridge is its simplicity. “We really like Nortridge for its ease-of-use. From the time you first sign-on to our report creation, it’s a super easy interface. I can take a person off the street, demonstrate the program and within five minutes that person would be off and running. It’s incredibly easy to use.”

“It’s definitely made my job easier,” Melle said.

He also likes the program’s expansive capabilities. “In terms of features, we don’t even scratch the surface. You get an awful lot of features for what you pay for. It gives you everything you need to create custom reports.

Brent Melle serves as Loan Technician at Bear Paw Development Corporation, a business and community development organization Montana. As a private, non-profit organization created for the purpose of administering programs to help improve regional economic conditions, Bear Paw works toward this goal by coordinating economic development planning and project implementation among its member entities, assisting local governments in planning public works and coordinating public and private investments, and by engaging in research, planning and advisory functions appropriate to the attainment of its objectives.

Bear Paw is located at 48 Second Avenue, P.O. Box 170, Havre, Montana 59501. Telephone: (888) 528-2327 or (406) 265-9226. More information on Bear Paw is at <http://www.bearpaw.org/index.html>

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Melle also commented that the customer support at Nortridge has been outstanding. “They have a great mix of technical and banking knowledge. (Our account rep Kim Stempel) is great. She’s a former banker and brings a wealth of expertise to the program. Tech Support has also been stellar.”



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