

## Political Science Major Interns with Project Vote Smart



*Tristan and his father on their way back from Montana at Glacier National Park*

Political Science major Tristan Baker '17 interned with Project Vote Smart in Montana. Here is a recollection of his experience:

This past summer, I had the privilege of interning with Project Vote Smart, a non-partisan, non-profit, political research organization headquartered in rural Philipsburg, Montana. After the internship, I understood the dire need for this organization and its efforts to portray the truth about the politicians that represent us, their voting records, issue positions, campaign finance statistics, and other important facts. Each day I worked diligently with fellow interns from around the country in an ongoing mission by contacting legislators, analyzing speeches from candidates, keeping our revolutionary website up to date, speaking to Project Vote Smart members via telephone and by constantly being a resource for Americans to get the facts they need to make informed decisions at the polls. As we near the 2016 election, I urge everyone to visit <http://votesmart.org> and review the resources available to all Americans regarding popular politicians as well as all United States offices from the President down to town council members and city commissioners. The data costs you nothing to access and can only be used to your benefit.

Philipsburg, Montana is located in Western Montana just an hour and a half south of Missoula and 280 miles east of Spokane, Washington. The internship offers interns a once in a lifetime experience living and working on the Great Divide Ranch, which is a 150-acre property owned by Project Vote Smart that accepts interns year-round. To learn more about internship programs, visit: <http://votesmart.org/internships/#.VeiZaWD4uFI>