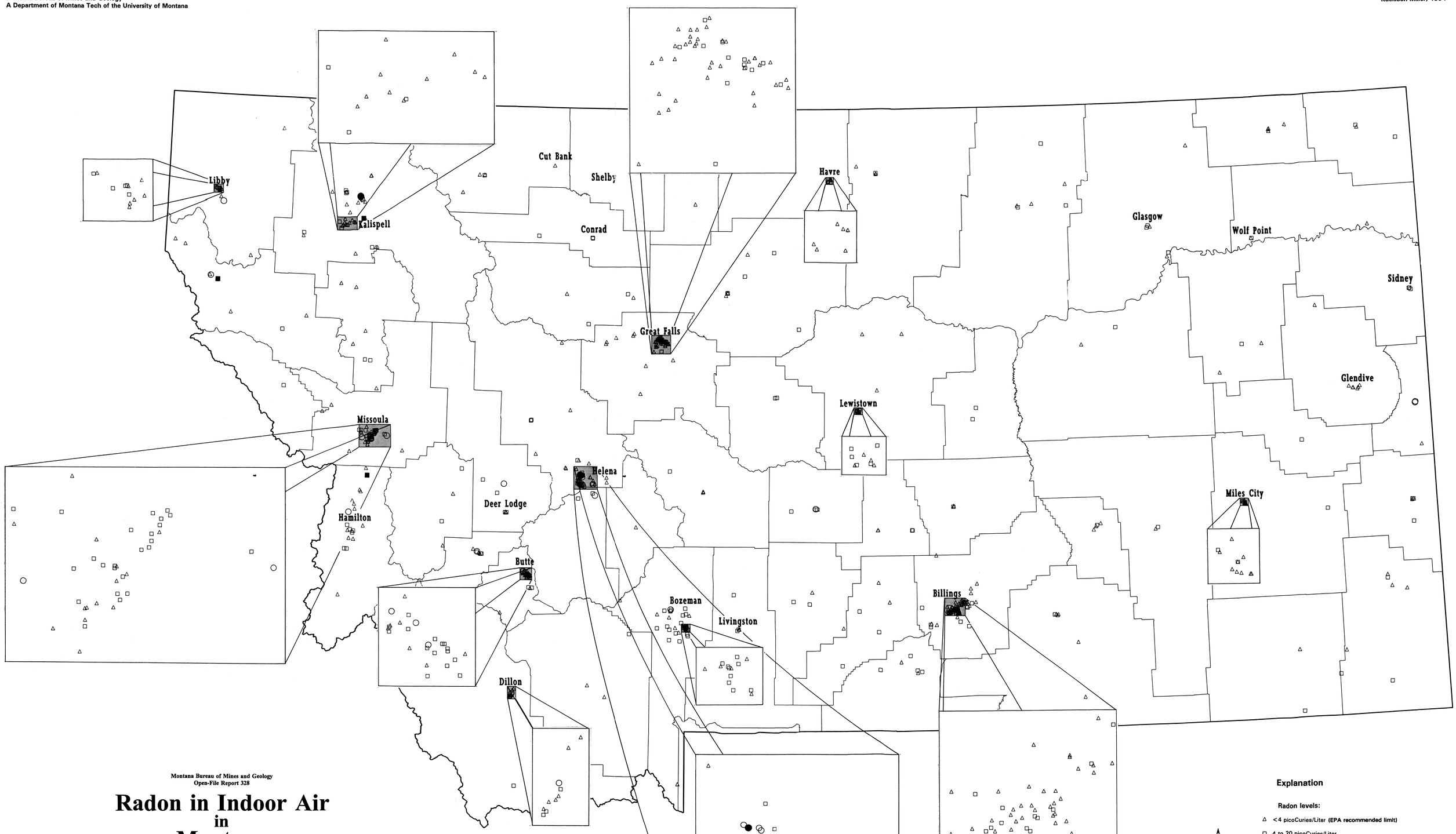
Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
A Department of Montana Tech of the University of Montana

MBMG Open-File Report 328
Kathleen Miller, 1994



Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
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Radon in Indoor Air in Montana

Winter 1992
Survey Results

Compiled by
Kathleen Miller
September 1994

Radon in indoor air measurements were made with seven-day charcoal canisters which were placed on the lowest livable level of dwellings. The survey was performed in the winter of 1992 by the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in cooperation with the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. Funding was provided by a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / States Indoor Radon grant.

There were 833 measurements made in the 1992 survey. This map represents the compilation of 601 measurements. For the other 232, geographic coordinates were too inaccurate for map publication.

Flathead County and Lewis and Clark County had maximum indoor radon concentrations over 100 picoCuries per Liter (pCi/L). The average of all survey radon measurements was 5.9 pCi/L. Of the homes screened for indoor radon, concentrations in 43.6 percent were equal to or greater than 4 pCi/L.

Based on survey data, Montana ranks fifth in the U.S. for indoor radon concentrations greater than 4 pCi/L and third in the U.S. for concentrations greater than 20 pCi/L. EPA's recommended limit for indoor radiation is 4 pCi/L.

Explanation

Radon levels:

- △ < 4 picoCuries/Liter **(EPA recommended limit)**
- □ 4 to 20 picoCuries/Liter
- ○ 20 to 50 picoCuries/Liter
- ■ 50 to 100 picoCuries/Liter
- ● 100 to 135 picoCuries/Liter

N

Scale 1:1,000,000

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

Inset maps:

Scale 1:100,000

0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles