



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

CAC MEETING MINUTES May 30, 2019

In Attendance

Members: Jane Bennett, Louie Bouma, Marc Cooke, Everett Headley, Laurie Johnston, Tracy Manley, Bill Mitchell, Greg Price, Tom Puchlerz, Matt Quinlan, & Joanne Weimer

Staff: Randy Arnold, Vivaca Crowser, Loren Flynn, Joe Jaquith, Molly Locati, Pat Saffel, Dori Schiele, Mike Thompson

Guests: Commissioner, Tim Aldrich, & Ron Jendro, Helena Enforcement

Welcome & Introductions

Vivaca Crowser welcomed all in attendance and began the meeting off with the topic of CAC member recruitment. It was decided that the three members whose terms were about to expire would be extended.

Randy Arnold, Region 2 supervisor, shared about the newest detection of CWD in Libby Montana

The Legislature

Liaison Ron Jendro, visiting from Helena, gave a recap on some 77 bills that passed having had to do with FWP. (The synopsis for the bills will be available electronically in June)

A few Ron mentioned were:

HB 2 budget increase

HB 5 new construction @ Missoula HQ

HB 43 made it easier for landowners to hunt on their own property

HB 280 price for a wolf license will go down

HB 291 donations can be made to help wolf/livestock depredation

HB 411 AIS funding granted

HB 695 recreation easement with DNRC Big Arm

SB 24 \$3 increase motor vehicle fee will go to parks

SB 341 public access land act/pay landowners to allow access

State Parks News/ Updates

Interim Regional Park Manager, Loren Flynn, gave a power point presentation.

Montana has three types of state parks; Natural, Heritage, & Recreational. Those can be categorized into three service levels: Rustic, core, and enhanced which help leverage and determine where and how funding is spent.

Fisheries/River Recreation

Fisheries Manager, Pat Saffel gave updates on fishing regulation scoping/proposals; public scoping goes through June 21.

Online fish race (in the Rock Creek Drainage) where you can adopt a fish is becoming more popular and teaches about migration

There will be meetings from Deer Lodge to Butte on a water right pertaining to preventing crises & conflict, it would use federal resources to support community solutions

Wildlife/Hunting Season setting

Wildlife Manager, Mike Thompson brought the idea of a working group to CAC members, which would consist of CAC and a few other community members. Present members brainstormed and came up with some groups and individuals they thought should be represented in the group.

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Hellgate Hunters & Anglers
Ravalli County Fish Wildlife Association
Montana Bowhunters Association
Chris Marchion
Derek Angelo
Montana Stock Growers Association

The group would discuss hunting season ideas for the 2020-21 biennium & would meet 4-6 times between July and October. Mike will follow up with more specifics.

Meeting adjourned next quarterly meeting TBD.