



# MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

**Meeting Date:** December 5, 2019

**Agenda Item:** Annual Rule Approved Commercial Bait Seining Waters

**Action Needed:** Final

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 Minutes

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**Background:**

A bait fish seining license is required for: 1) persons 15 years of age and older to seine for and transport bait fish for commercial purposes in Montana; and 2) for any person who seines for and has in their possession more than 24 dozen non-game bait fish. The commission may designate waters that are allowed for these purposes, and FWP describes these waters annually in the Commercial Bait Seining Application Form.

**Public Involvement Process & Results:**

The department accepted public comment on the proposed changes from Nov. 1 through Nov. 15. No public comments were received. The final list will be updated on the Commercial Bait Seining Application Form.

**Alternatives and Analysis:**

No new waters are proposed for commercial bait seining. There are two changes for clarification in the Central Fishing District, and two reservoirs that are removed from the Eastern Fishing District.

**Agency Recommendation and Rationale:**

Evaluation by biologists and program managers have determined that the waterbodies on the list can support commercial bait seining. The department recommends approving the proposed list to include on the Commercial Bait Seining Application Form.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move that the commission approve the Commercial Bait Seining Waters list.