

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: January 15, 2015

Agenda Item: Logan FAS land Donation.

Division: Fisheries

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background:

On August 1, 2014 FWP completed an Amended Environmental Assessment to revise the site development plan for the Logan Fishing Access Site (FAS) by removing from consideration the proposed construction of a concrete boat ramp. Additionally, FWP proposed to accept the donation of an additional 1-acre parcel from the American Legion that is adjacent to the existing FWP property of 1.5-acres for a total of 2.5-acres. This one-acre parcel was initially donated to the American Legion by the same person who donated the 1.5-acre parcel to FWP. The American Legion plans were to provide fishing opportunities for wounded veterans through development of ADA facilities. Due to permitting and site development constraints the American Legion has subsequently decided not to develop their parcel.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

During the public comment period of the Amended EA, beginning July 1, 2014 and ending August 1, 2014, Region Three received five (5) public comments. All supported the proposed revision and land acquisition. There were no opposing comments.

Alternatives and Analysis: If FWP does not accept the donation of land from the American Legion, there would be a loss of additional public access to the Gallatin River that would provide open space and possible room for expansion of the FAS in the future. If FWP does accept the acquisition, there will be no measurable impacts to the Region's Operations and Maintenance budgets with the addition of this one acre of undeveloped land. The Department would continue with development of the access road, parking area and vault latrine. Rafts, canoes, kayaks and other smaller hand launch type of craft could feasibly still put-in or take-out at the location. This is consistent with the Department's priorities and management capabilities.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale:

The agency recommends that the Commission authorize FWP move forward in accepting the donation of the 1-acre parcel of property from the American Legion. The additional land will support future enlargement of the site if deemed desirable or necessary.

Proposed Motion:

I move that the Commission authorize the Department to accept the donation of one-acre of land from the American Legion to be incorporated and made a part of the Logan Fishing Access Site.