

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: April 14, 2016

Agenda Item: Bridger Bend Fishing Access Site Lease Renewal with MDT

Division: Fisheries

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 Min

Background:

The Bridger Bend Fishing Access Site (FAS) is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Belfry, MT on the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River. The Department has had a lease on this 12-acre site with the Department of Transportation since March of 1981. The original lease agreement set the lease fee at \$1. The original lease agreement was for a 25-year term with an automatic 10-year renewal providing a lease expiration date of 2016. This FAS provides primarily wade angling opportunities, consequently no amenities outside of a small parking area have been developed. FWP and MDT land agents have discussed the lease renewal and MDT officials have indicated that the new lease, if approved by the Commission, will be for an additional 10 years. The lease fee is anticipated to remain at \$1.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

The property has been formally and continuously leased by FWP as an FAS since 1981. The current agreement underwent Environmental Analysis without seeking public comment. FWP suggest that public comment be accepted at this meeting.

Alternatives and Analysis:

No other alternatives are currently under consideration.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale:

It is FWP's recommendation to renew the Bridger Bend lease with MDT for use as an FAS.

Proposed Motion:

I move that the Commission approve the proposed Bridger Bend FAS lease with MDT for an additional term of ten years with the expectation that it will be continue to be leased in ten year increments thereafter.