

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: December 7, 2017

Agenda Item: Fishing Access Site Acquisition on Beaverhead River at Selway Bridge (R3)

Division: Fisheries

Action Needed: Endorsement

Background:

Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) contacted FWP inquiring if we were interested in a small parcel of land (4.79 acres) within the Dillon city limits for an FAS. The parcel is located on the Beaverhead River at the Selway Bridge. Currently the site is used on an almost daily basis by local anglers to access the river. Information provided by MDT shows the property has a pioneered access road, parking area and boat launching site. Historically MDT has not charged FWP for these sites but typically issues us a no-cost lease or a Recreation Use Permit in exchange for FWP's management of the property.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

Currently there has been no public involvement. If endorsed by the Commission FWP will begin its due diligence process including development of an EA which involves public notification and a 30-day comment response period.

Alternatives and Analysis:

Potential alternatives will be discussed and analyzed in the EA.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale:

FWP recommends the Commission to endorse the Department in proceeding with its due diligence process to evaluate the possibility of acquiring this MDT parcel at the Selway Bridge in Dillon for development of an FAS.

Proposed Motion:

I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission approve FWP's request to proceed with its due diligence process in evaluating the potential acquisition of this MDT parcel for development of an Fishing Access Site.