

Rose, Sharon

1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 9:40 AM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 01 (Patterson)--Public Comment: Garrity Mountain WMA Addition

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Name: Don Patterson

City: Corvallis

I support the proposed action to acquire fee title to a 154-acre land parcel, as an addition to FWP's adjoining 9,635-acre Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

I support the proposal to protect a migration corridor for bighorn sheep and key habitat for bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout as well as preclude subdivision and development. It would be managed for fish and wildlife habitat as well as to improve public access and recreational opportunities.

This e-mail was generated from the 'Garrity Mountain WMA Addition' Public Notice Web Page.

Rose, Sharon

#2

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2018 8:12 AM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 02 (Otis)--Public Comment: Garrity Mountain WMA Addition

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Name: Bert Otis

City: Emigrant

Dear Fish Wildlife & Parks Commission,

I support the Proposed Action for the FWP to purchase a 154-acre parcel from YT Timber for inclusion in GMWMA. I especially would like to Thank, YT Timber for offering and saying they would like to sell this property to the FWP first!!!! It ties in with the existing GMWMA and should be added to it.

Thank you

Bert Otis

This e-mail was generated from the 'Garrity Mountain WMA Addition' Public Notice Web Page.

Rose, Sharon

3

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2018 3:55 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 03 (Winn)--Public Comment: Garrity Mountain WMA Addition

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Name: Grant Winn II
City: Stevensville

I am fully behind the purchase of this property. It will be especially helpful for management of bighorn sheep.)

This e-mail was generated from the 'Garrity Mountain WMA Addition' Public Notice Web Page.

Rose, Sharon

#4

From: James Olson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 3:03 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 04 (Olson)--Re: Garrity Mountain WMA Addition--Draft EA

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Unsafe Attachment Type found in this message

This message contains a file that is potentially malicious. It may be an attachment or an inline image in the signature line. Microsoft is unable to scan this file type for malware make sure to verify the sender before you open the attachment. Please contact your agency IT staff for more information.

looks great i support it Jim O

In a message dated 12/18/2018 4:08:16 PM Pacific Standard Time, shrose@mt.gov writes:

Hello,

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) invites public review of its proposal to acquire fee title to a 154-acre land parcel, as an addition to FWP's adjoining 9,635-acre Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The private parcel, currently owned by YT timber, is located 7 miles west of Anaconda in Deer Lodge County. The parcel is in an area identified in the Natural Resource Damage Programs' (NRDP) 2012 Restoration Plan as a priority landscape for conservation actions. The WMA addition would protect a migration corridor for bighorn sheep and key habitat for bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout as well as preclude subdivision and development. It would be managed for fish and wildlife habitat as well as to improve public access and recreational opportunities. The project would be funded by NRDP, the Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Fund, and FWP's Habitat Montana Fund.

A **draft environmental assessment (EA)** has been prepared describing this proposal. The EA may be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5540; by emailing shrose@mt.gov; or by viewing FWP's Internet website <http://fwp.mt.gov> ("News," then "Public Notices," beginning December 18, 2018).

The direct **webpage** for this EA is: http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/environmentalAssessments/acquisitionsTradesAndLeases/pn_0223.html

Comments may be made online on the EA's webpage or may be directed to Sharon Rose at the mail or email addresses above. Comments must be received by FWP **no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 16, 2019.**

4

FWP will hold a **public hearing** in Anaconda on **January 3, 2019** (Thursday) at 7:00 p.m. at the AOH Hall (106 Cherry Street) to discuss the proposal, answer questions and take public comment.

Sharon Rose

Comments Coordinator, Region 2

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

3201 Spurgin Rd

Missoula, MT 59804

Ph: (406) 542-5540

shrose@mt.gov

Montana FWP



THE OUTSIDE IS IN US ALL.

Rose, Sharon

5a

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2018 11:45 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 05a (ASC, Stone)--GMWMA addition

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

As vice president of Anaconda sportsman club and more so as a lifelong resident here I have recreated on this piece of property through the years and am in full support of this addition. I would not like to see housing here backed up to our wma as this could be problematic. This is a corridor for elk deer and sheep to cross to winter range on stucky ridge and the blue eyed nellie wma(lime quarry) I think this is a wise choice of use of NRDP monies. Thanks. [REDACTED]

#56

**Public Hearing for
Proposed YT Timber Addition to Garrity Mountain WMA**
January 3, 2019 at 7:00 pm; AOH Hall (106 Cherry Street), Anaconda, MT

Issues discussed at the meeting, prior to formal testimony:

- Signage at the hairpin turn
- Might need a gate to handle the winter closure, but would have to respect the [existing] private access easement
- There is snowmobile trespass on Garrity Mountain WMA (GMWMA) in the winter

Public Hearing Comments:

1. Ben Krakowka, Anaconda City attorney
 - Supports proposal
 - Economic development = hiking, fishing, camping and access
 - This WMA will provide habitat that will bring money into this (Deer Lodge) county. People always want to watch the sheep and this property is a corridor. Sheep are an amazing resource, and this will help.

2. Gary Ouldhouse for Anaconda Sportsman's Club #56
 - Support
 - Without this project we might have a split movement corridor--we want this project to prevent that.

3. Dave Stone
 - Support
 - Important for sheep, mule deer and elk, as I've personally seen. In spring I've seen elk calves in there (on proposed acquisition). Elk cross back and forth.

4. Dave Chisholm, Missoula, also adjacent landowner to proposed acquisition
 - I think it's great
 - Appreciate YT working with FWP
 - Watched animals come back over the years
 - I'm happy to work with FWP to work together on shared issues.

5. Jim Bjornemo, Anaconda
 - Great bonus for the county and for wildlife and fish in the area. Support it 110%.

6. Mark Sweeney, Philipsburg
 - Support
 - Identified a long time ago as land to be kept intact
 - Cutthroat and bull trout
 - Good access to the north side of GMWMA

Rose, Sharon

#6

From: Nick Gevock [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 4:15 PM
To: Rose, Sharon; FWP Commission; Northrup, Rick
Subject: 06 (MWF, Gevock)--MWF comments on Garrity Mountain addition
Attachments: MWF Garrity Mountain addition comments.pdf

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Dear Sharon Rose, commissioners,

Please accept these official comments from the Montana Wildlife Federation on the addition to the Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area near Anaconda.

Sincerely,

--
Nick Gevock
Conservation Director
Montana Wildlife Federation
PO Box 1175
Helena, MT 59602
Phone: 406.458.0227 ext. 108

[REDACTED]
<http://www.montanawildlife.org>





Protecting Montana's wildlife,
land, waters and hunting & fishing
heritage for future generations.

Dec. 28, 2018

Dan Vermillion, Chairman
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission
1420 E. Sixth Ave.
Helena, MT 59624

RE: Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area addition

Dear Chairman Vermillion and Commissioners,

The Montana Wildlife Federation is our state's oldest and largest wildlife conservation organization. We have an 82 year track record of working on tough issues that affect our valued public wildlife, their habitat and public access to enjoy these public trust resources. MWF and our affiliates have for years worked on habitat projects that include our strong system of state Wildlife Management Areas.

The Garrity Mountain WMA is one of those conservation successes, and MWF strongly supports the addition of the 154 acre parcel of private land that adjoins Garrity Mountain just west of Anaconda. This parcel, while relatively small, sits in a key corridor that provides important movement for wildlife. In particular, it is vital for bighorn sheep, but also other big game species including elk and deer. The parcel would provide an important buffer with neighboring lands that are developed and continue to serve as a route for big game to move between the Garrity Mountain WMA and the Blue Eyed Nellie WMA to the south.

This project is exactly what Habitat Montana funds are intended for. In addition, the use of Montana Natural Resource Damage Program and Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust funds are warranted to complete the purchase. The footprint of this parcel illustrates that certain properties that provide linkage can be crucial to maintain wildlife movement. It is a good use of hunter's dollars, and will provide continued and expanded recreational opportunity for sportsmen and sportswomen. We strongly urge the Commission to approve this project.

Sincerely,

Bill Geer
President

#7

Rose, Sharon

From: Hannah Nikonow [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 5, 2019 8:44 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 07 (MC BHA, Nikonow)--Supporting FWP on 154 acre addition to Garrity WMA
Attachments: Supporting FWP on 154 acre addition to Garrity WMA.docx

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Hello again Sharon,

I have another letter for you this evening. This one is supporting FWP on 154-acre addition to Garrity WMA. Please see comments from the Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers attached.

Thank you,
Hannah

Hannah Jean Nikonow
12 Orchard Court, Missoula, MT 59803

[REDACTED]



January 5th, 2018

Sharon Rose
Region 2 MTFWP Comment Coordinator
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula, Montana 59804
shrose@mt.gov

To Ms. Sharon Rose:

The Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers highly encourages the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks to acquire the proposed 154- acre addition to the 9,635- acre Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

MTBHA is supportive of the Natural Resource Damage Programs' Restoration Plan (2012) and acquiring this parcel is important as it is a priority landscape for conservation action. The fact that this addition will help secure a migration corridor for the region's big horn sheep makes it extremely valuable, in addition to it securing great wintering habitat for multiple big game species. As Species of Greatest Conservation Need, the bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout habitat in the portions of the Warm Springs and Barker creeks that run through the proposed addition further makes this acquisition a fantastic action for FWP to undertake. Securing these habitats also secures in perpetuity wonderful recreation opportunities here to hunt, fish, observe wildlife and hike near to them.

We are highly supportive of collaborative conservation and are thankful to see that this project is part of an ongoing multi-partner initiative including: the Montana Chapter of the North American Wild Sheep Foundation, the Anaconda Sportsmen Club, the George Grant Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and the Montana Natural Resource Damage Program.

The 2,000 MTBHA members advocate to protect large parcels of fish and wildlife habitat as well as the opportunity for traditional non-motorized hunting and fishing experiences. Our organization advocates for healthy, connected habitat, open spaces, and the continuity of Montana's heritage of working lands. The primary benefits of this property are highly aligned with our organization's values and we highly support FWP's acquisition to this 154- acre addition to the Garrity Mountain WMA.

Please inform us of any additional activity on this proposed project and how we might continue to support this and other such efforts.

Sincerely,

Hannah J. Nikonow, Region 2 Board Member
The Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
12 Orchard Court
Missoula, Montana 59803



Rose, Sharon

#8

From: Terry Ferguson [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 13, 2019 7:54 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 08 (Ferguson)--Addition to GMWMA

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my support for the FWP's acquisition of the additional 154 acres about 7 miles west of Anaconda. This is a great opportunity to protect a migration corridor for Bighorn Sheep, Deer, Elk, Moose, Bear, and a myriad of non game species. The creek also provides excellent habitat for Bull Trout as well as West Slope Cutthroat. I use this area every year. I would appreciate the chance for myself and my family to have access to this area for years to come.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Terry Ferguson

[REDACTED]
Anaconda, MT 59711

Rose, Sharon

#9

From: Nancy Ivankovich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 11:58 AM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 09 (Ivankovich, N)--Support of proposal for FWP's acquisition
Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

To whom it may concern:

In strong support of the acquisition of 154 acres near Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area by the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, I write to you today. As a nearby property owner, I view this as healthy stewardship of a significant wildlife migration corridor as well as waterways that include Barker Creek and Warm Springs Creek.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Nancy L. Ivankovich

Sent from my iPad

Rose, Sharon

#10

From: Nancy Ivankovich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 10 (Ivankovich, J)--Support of proposal for FWP's acquisition

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Sharon Rose
Region 2 Headquarters
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59804

To all whom it may concern:

In strong support of the MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks acquisition of 154 acres owned by YT Timber near Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area, I write to you today. As nearby property owners, we view this as healthy stewardship of a significant wildlife migration corridor as well as conservation of waterways that include Barker Creek and Warm Springs Creek.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Nancy and Jackie Ivankovich

[REDACTED]
Anaconda, MT 59711

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPad

#11

Rose, Sharon

From: Ivankovich, Dominic [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 3:22 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 11 (Ivankovich, D)--Expansion of Garrity Wildlife Area.

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Sharon - hello and how I you. I just wanted to voice my strong support for the acquisition of land from YT Timber to expand this area. This ecosystem is incredibly unique and should be preserved or expanded overtime for the good of the animals and the surrounding community. It is impossible to describe the wonder in the eyes of my children when we see wildlife in that area. I ask that you support the effort on behalf of the people of and from Anaconda.

Best regards,
Dominic

Please be advised that this email may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us by email by replying to the sender and delete this message. The sender disclaims that the content of this email constitutes an offer to enter into, or the acceptance of, any agreement; provided that the foregoing does not invalidate the binding effect of any digital or other electronic reproduction of a manual signature that is included in any attachment.

#12

Sharon Rose
FWP
3201 Spurgin Rd.
Missoula MT 59804

Joe Ferguson
[REDACTED]
Anaconda MT
59711

Hello,
As a Deer Lodge County resident, sportsman and land owner along Barker Creek, I strongly support the addition of the 154-acre land parcel to the Gmwna.

The land is part of a natural corridor between the Blue Eyed Nellie, Garity Mountain and Clear Creek. As bighorn struggle, it is critical to assist their viability. It also includes prime bull trout and westslope cutthroat waters.

access is easy to fish, hunt, bird watch and hike.

For these and many other reasons, I support its inclusion in the Gmwna.

Sincerely,
Joe Ferguson

Rose, Sharon

#13

From: Brian Solan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 11:19 AM
To: Rose, Sharon
Cc: Corey Piersol; DJ Berg; Don Patterson; Grant Winn II; Justin E. Spring; Levi Bowler; Max Bauer; Ray Vinkey; Shane Clouse; Jeff Mortensen; Tom Grimes; James Weatherly; Kurt Alt
Subject: 13 (MWSF, Solan)--Garrity WMA Land Acquisition
Attachments: MTWSF - Garrity Mountain WMA EA Comment 2019.01.15.pdf
Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Ms. Rose,
Please see the attached letter in support of the Garrity Mountain WMA land acquisition. Thank you.

Brian Solan
Executive Director
Montana Wild Sheep Foundation





www.montanawsf.org
PO Box 17731, Missoula, MT 59808

January 15, 2019

Sharon Rose
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
3201 Spurgin Rd.
Missoula, MT 59804
shrose@mt.gov

Dear Ms. Rose:

The Montana Wild Sheep Foundation firmly supports this land acquisition into the Garrity WMA. I personally wrote the original grant for this project in 2015 and was awarded \$100,000 from the Montana Fish & Wildlife Conservation Trust. The primary driver for protection of this area, is the concern regarding the effects of subdivisions of these last remaining larger parcels in a prime Big Horn Sheep migration corridor. We wrote this grant to ensure public access is protected and the existing habitat is not further fractured making sheep crossing more precarious and dangerous.

These parcels border the Garrity Mountain WMA and U.S. Forest Service they also have portions of both sides of two streams, Warm Springs Creek (about .5 miles) and Barker Creek (about .2 miles). Both these streams have native Westslope Cutthroat Trout and the endangered Bull Trout populations and are exceptional fisheries. Acquisition of this property would protect these streams from the threat siltation that comes with developing roads and bridges while providing public access for recreational fishing opportunities.

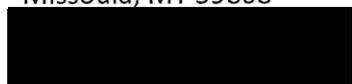
This parcel borders public lands, the state WMA and USFS, they have trout stream that run through them and they are inside the big horn sheep range and elk winter range making them highly desirable to private buyers. Once they are sold they would likely be divided into smaller parcels and thus the opportunity to acquire and protect them would be gone.

If these parcels are acquired public access would be preserved, habitat would not be further fractured and fish and wildlife species would have protected migration corridors to important habitat and critical spawning habitat.

Sincerely,

Brian Solan – Executive Director Montana Wild Sheep Foundation

PO Box 17731
Missoula, MT 59808



cc: Kurt Alt, MTWSF Conservation Director

#14, 15-18

**Public Hearing for
Proposed YT Timber Addition to Garrity Mountain WMA**
January 3, 2019 at 7:00 pm; AOH Hall (106 Cherry Street), Anaconda, MT

Issues discussed at the meeting, prior to formal testimony:

- Signage at the hairpin turn
- Might need a gate to handle the winter closure, but would have to respect the [existing] private access easement
- There is snowmobile trespass on Garrity Mountain WMA (GMWMA) in the winter

Public Hearing Comments:

#14

1. Ben Krakowka, Anaconda City attorney
 - Supports proposal
 - Economic development = hiking, fishing, camping and access
 - This WMA will provide habitat that will bring money into this (Deer Lodge) county. People always want to watch the sheep and this property is a corridor. Sheep are an amazing resource, and this will help.

#56

2. Gary Ouldhouse for Anaconda Sportsman's Club
 - Support
 - Without this project we might have a split movement corridor--we want this project to prevent that.

#15

3. Dave Stone
 - Support
 - Important for sheep, mule deer and elk, as I've personally seen. In spring I've seen elk calves in there (on proposed acquisition). Elk cross back and forth.

#16

4. Dave Chisholm, Missoula, also adjacent landowner to proposed acquisition
 - I think it's great
 - Appreciate YT working with FWP
 - Watched animals come back over the years
 - I'm happy to work with FWP to work together on shared issues.

#17

5. Jim Bjornemo, Anaconda
 - Great bonus for the county and for wildlife and fish in the area. Support it 110%.

#18

6. Mark Sweeney, Philipsburg
 - Support
 - Identified a long time ago as land to be kept intact
 - Cutthroat and bull trout
 - Good access to the north side of GMWMA

Rose, Sharon

#19

From: jen anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 7:31 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 19 (Anderson, J)--GMWMA

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Sharon and all to whom it may concern:

As I sit here writing to you in regards to the possible addition that is being considered, I am brought back to a swing, a few feet from Barker Creek, hanging from a tree, a small deer nearby as I swing higher and higher till my toes touch the clear blue sky. My most fond memories of learning about wildlife from my Mom and Uncle, information that cherish and I value greatly until this day, and hope that everyone has the same opportunity that I had. This acquisition for FWP would absolutely solidify this opportunity for others to fully enjoy and learn about everything that Public land has to offer and I fully support it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Anderson

[REDACTED]
Anaconda, MT 59711
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Rose, Sharon

20

From: MacGregor Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 8:06 PM
To: Rose, Sharon
Subject: 20 (Anderson, M)--Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area Addition: Land Acquisition from YT Timber

Categories: 1b--EAs & Sign-ups

Dear Sharon,

I am just writing you to support the addition of 150+ acres to the Garrity Mountain Wildlife Management Area from YT timber. I spent a large part of my childhood in the woods from Storm Lake, to Mt. Haggin, and all around Barker Creek. I would very much like to see this land public and open to all who seek to enjoy it responsibly and find comfort among nature as I did as a youth; and do whenever I return home.

Yours,
MacGregor J. Anderson

If additional information or comments are required/ to be heard I can be reached through any of the following:

MacGregor J. Anderson

[REDACTED]
Everett, WA 98208

MacGregor J. Anderson

[REDACTED]
Seattle, WA 98101

--
MacGregor Anderson
Mechanical

[REDACTED]
www.hargis.biz
mechanical • electrical • telecommunications • security • energy services

FWP Rec'd
1-16-2019

#21

Jan. 12, 2019

Dear Sharon:

I am in favor of adding the 154-acre land parcel on Barker Creek to the Garvity Mountain Wildlife Management Area. It should be in public hands.

If not, I am afraid that greedy landowners will succumb to the temptation to subdivide - thereby limiting access to Barker Creek for people who now own cabins along Barker Creek.

Please preserve wilderness for bighorn sheep, bull trout, + westslope cutthroat trout + keep the human traffic to a minimum

Colleen Ferguson

Anaconda MT

59711