The Mission of the Mule Deer Foundation is to ensure the conservation of mule deer, black-tailed deer and their habitat.

June 22, 2020

Neal Whitney
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
License Bureau
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701

RE: **Proposal for one (1) 2021 Montana Mule Deer Auction License**

Dear Mr. Whitney:

Please accept this letter as our application for one (1) 2021 Montana Mule Deer License, which will be auctioned at our National Convention during the Western Hunting and Conservation Expo (WHCE) in Salt Lake City, Utah on February 11-14, 2021. Over *60,000* patrons visited our show in February 2020.

The Mule Deer Foundation is a non-profit wildlife conservation organization whose mission is to ensure the conservation of mule deer, black-tailed deer and their habitat. Headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah, MDF has over 25,000 members throughout the U.S. MDF's goals center on restoring, improving and protecting mule deer habitat, resulting in self-sustaining, healthy, free-ranging, and huntable mule deer populations. MDF achieves its goals through partnering with state and federal wildlife agencies, other conservation groups, businesses, private landowners, and individuals to fund and implement habitat enhancement, research and conservation education projects. Attached is a list of our chapters in Montana and our Montana projects and funding.

Our national convention serves as our annual members' meeting along with providing the opportunity to raise funds for our mission. Additionally, our exhibit hall will have over 500 vendors promoting everything from outfitted hunts and trips to wildlife art. The WHCE had over 60,000 wildlife enthusiasts venture through our exhibit hall during the four-day event. Given recent history, we believe that more than 3500 guests will attend our fundraising auctions. MDF has over 30 years of fundraising experience. Last year, our fundraising auction at the WHCE grossed over eight million dollars. We have achieved great success auctioning special big game licenses and tags at our convention. Last year, MDF generated $20,000 through the auction of the Montana Mule Deer License at our National Convention. Other special state tags from Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Washington, Nevada, New Mexico, Alaska, and California raised over $1.5 million for their states' respective wildlife.

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Toll Free: 888-375-DEER www.muledeer.org

Mule Deer Foundation has designed an aggressive media campaign, utilizing direct mail, out of state and local television, radio stations, and newspapers to advertise the event. We will promote the Montana auction license on our websites (www.muledeer.org and www.huntexpo.com) and in many national publications including, our *MDF* magazine which has a circulation of more than 30,000. We will also outline details about the auction license in our auction guide and program. In addition, the MDF would like to offer the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MFWP) a complimentary booth in our exhibit hall where your department has the opportunity to help promote the license and provide information about the MFWP at the Expo.

MDF would retain 10% of the license auction proceeds, which would help offset costs to promote and administer the auction of the tag.

We appreciate the opportunity to apply for the 2021 auction license and hope that MFWP will consider our request. We appreciate our ongoing partnership and hope that together we can secure a strong future for Montana's mule deer and other wildlife.

Sincerely,

Amanda Yetter

Amanda Yetter
Senior Accounting Clerk/Tag Coordinator

Encls.

Mule Deer Foundation Montana Chapters

- Lewis and Clark Chapter (Helena, MT)
- Bridger Bucks Chapter (Bozeman, MT)
- Big Sky Chapter (Billings, MT)
- Black Gold Chapter (Baker, MT)
- Northern Rockies Chapter (Kalispell, MT)
- High, Wide & Heavy Chapter (Great Falls, MT)
- Treasure State Chapter (Butte, MT)
- Sapphire Range Chapter (Stevensville, MT)
- The Dark Horn Chapter (Missoula, MT)
- Ghosts of the Madison (Ennis, MT)
- Badland Bruisers Chapter (Glendive, MT)
- Boulder River Bucks Chapter (Big Timber, MT)
- Missouri Breaks Chapter (Lewistown, MT)
- Northeast Montana Chapter (Sidney, MT)
- Beaverhead Chapter (Dillon, MT)

Mule Deer Foundation Montana Chapter Rewards Projects

Projects:	Agency/Organization:	Total Project Cost:	MDF Allocated:	Acres Treated:
MT 1901 - Ash Coulee Conservation Easement	MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks	$ 952,000.00	$ 25,000.00	3,530
MT 1902 - Sauerbier Ranches Conifer Removal Project	MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks	$ 13,000.00	$ 5,000.00	50
MT 1903 - Big Sheep Creek Mountain Mahogany Restoration	MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks	$ 44,600.00	$ 7,800.00	223
MT 1904 - Crooked Creek Unit K Prescribed Burn	BLM	$ 140,600.00	$ 5,000.00	7,290
MT 1905 - Fish Creek Wildlife Habitat Improvement	USFS	$ 500,000.00	$ 10,000.00	
MT 1906 - Starry Goat	USFS	$ 15,000.00	$ 7,000.00	1,033 - 1,974
MT 1907 - Whiskey Gulch / Pole Canyon Habitat Restoration	BLM	$ 89,000.00	$ 8,000.00	232
MT 1908 - Dry Creek Aspen	USFS	$ 16,500.00	$ 5,000.00	46
MT 1909 - Middle East Fork Bitterroot	USFS		$ 10,000.00	4,000
MT 1910 - Monitoring Mule Deer Populations in Northern Forests	MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks	$ 39,360.00	$ 10,000.00	234,000
MT 1911 - Green Basin Ecosystem Enhancement	USFS	$ 23,800.00	$ 3,550.00	260
MT 1912 - Darby High School Mule Deer Restoration Project	Darby Schools	$ 5,000.00	$ 650.00	20
MT 1913 - Wild Horse Island Habitat Improvement Project	MT State Parks Foundation	$ 19,600.00	$ 5,000.00	2,220
MT 1914 - Middle Cottonwood Habitat and Access Project	Gallatin Valley Land Trust	$ 607,000.00	$ 10,000.00	
MT 1915 - Darby High School Mule Deer Restoration Project	Darby Schools	$ 5,000.00	$ 650.00	20
MT 2001 - Upper Little Whitetail Aspen 2020	USFS	$ 67,500.00	$ 11,000.00	300
MT 2002 - Madison Aspen 2020	USFS	$ 46,000.00	$ 9,000.00	260
MT 2003 - Deer Coulee Fence Removal	USFWS	$ 20,000.00	$ 10,000.00	8,000
MT 2004 - Ruby Willow Habitat Enhancement, Phase 2	USFS	$ 26,010.75	$ 5,000.00	66
MT 2005 - Petty Creek Big Game Ecosystem Maintenance Burning Project	USFS	$ 1,000,000.00	$ 5,000.00	5,600
MT 2006 - Elkhorn Mule Deer Habitat Enhancement	USFS	-	$ 5,000.00	520
MT 2007 - North and South Steel Creek Aspen	USFS	$ 75,900.00	$ 11,000.00	276
MT 2008 - Browning Ranch Fencing	MDF/Landowner	$ 20,000.00	$ 7,000.00	38,500

Mule Deer Foundation Montana Stewardship Projects

2019 Project #	Project Name	Agency/Org	Forest/District	FWP Region	Total Project Cost	MDF $$ Granted	Notes
MDF-21	Upper Little Whitetail Aspen	USFS	Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF - Butte RD	3	$67,500	$11,000	300 acres of conifer removal in aspen stands
MDF-20	North And South Steel Creek Aspen	USFS	Beaverhead- Deerlodge NF - Wisdom RD	3	$75,900	$11,000	276 acres of aspen stand enhancement
MDF-6	East Deer Lodge Valley Restoration Project	USFS	Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF - Pintler RD	3	$85,000	$10,000	***On Hold*** until we get more info and previous funding spent
MDF-5	Deer Coulee Fence Removal	USFS	Charles M. Russell NWR	4	$20,000	$10,000	Removal of old fence on 8,000 acres
MDF-26	Madison Aspen	USFS	Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF - Madison RD	3	$46,000	$9,000	260 acres of aspen enhancement
MDF-25	Browning Ranch Fencing	Mule Deer Foundation	Miles City BLM DO/Lands	4&7	$20,000	$7,000	4 miles of fencing modified to wildlife friendly, in migration priority area
MDF-16	Ruby Willow Habitat Enhancement - Phase 2	USFS	Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF - Madison RD	3	$26,011	$5,000	60 acres of habitat enhancement
MDF-13	Petty Creek Burning Project	USFS	Lolo NF - Ninemile RD	2	$1,000,000	$5,000	5,600 acres of habitat enhancement thru prescribed burns
MDF-7	Elkhorn Mule Deer Habitat Enhancement	USFS & MT Fish, Wildlife, & Parks	Lewis & Clark NF - Townsend and Helena RD	3	$52,000	$5,000	520 acres of noxious weed eradication

We also allocated $8,000 of the Bass Pro Shops/Cabelas grant toward the Browning Fence Modification proposal so the entire 4 miles will be complete.

Montana 2020 Event Schedule

Chapter	2020 Event Date	Location	Chairman	Phone	Email
Treasure State Chapter	**Feb 8th**	Butte, MT	Mary Meyer	(406) 207-0700	mary_meyer_mt@gmail.com
Big Sky Chapter	**Feb 1st**	Billings, MT	Vestor Wio	(406) 698-7740	vwilson3@hotmail.com
Black Gold Chapter	**March 23rd**	Baker, MT	Tavis Renner	(406) 939-5362	mdfbaker@gmail.com
Badland Bruisers Chapter	**TBD**	Glendive, MT	Tim Mattick	(406) 939-7982	badlandbruisers@gmail.com
Dark Horn Chapter	**March 7th**	Missoula, MT	Tracey Manning	(406) 214-1154	acehuntermt@gmail.com
Sapphire Range Chapter	**Aug 1st**	Hamilton, MT	Tom Stenstatter	(509) 881-7673	tstenstatter@yahoo.com
Northern Rockies Chapter	**July 11th**	Kalispell, MT	Beau Albright	(406) 250-8677	beau.albright@outlook.com
Bridger Bucks Chapter	**TBD**	Bozeman, MT	Brett Hyde	(406) 581-7569	brett.hyde@apmortgage.com
High, Wide, & Heavy Chapter	**TBD**	Great Falls, MT	Matt Hagel	(406) 868-8321	matthewbhagel@gmail.com
Ghosts of the Madison Chapter	**July 18th**	Ennis, MT	Sandy Bourgeois	(406) 599-1088	sb_bourgeois@yahoo.com
Lewis & Clark Chapter	**August 15th**	Helena, MT	Dave Cato	(406) 431-5648	tylenec@hotmail.com
Boulder River Bucks Chapter	**July 25th**	Big Timber, MT	Robert Farnum	(641) 932-8022	latigo41@gmail.com
Beaverhead Chapter	**TBD**	Dillon, MT	Ryan Nagle	(509) 939-0185	bowtechnagle@gmail.com
Missouri Breaks Chapter	**TBD**	Lewistown, MT	Michael Gapay	(406) 350-0121	mckey@alliedsteelmt.com
Northeast Montana Chapter	**TBD**	Sidney, MT	Cory Baisch	(406) 478-3095	cbaisch@enerplus.com