

# Region 5 Citizen Advisory Council Meeting

## September 22, 2005

All Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) members, Department staff and Director Jeff Hagener and Chief of Field Operations, Larry Peterman, attended the meeting.

Director Jeff Hagener gave the Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) in Region 5, its charge.

The following issues were identified by CAC members, voted upon and ranked.

Votes - 9, Ranking #1

- Lack of access/identification of public land opportunities

Votes – 6, Ranking #2

- Increase/diversity funding from non-sportsmen

Votes – 5, Ranking #3

- Education about the realities of land management and food production and how to reach people in relation to
- Stream access/bridges and public right-of-ways

Votes – 4, Ranking #4

- Additional incentives for landowners to provide hunting and provide licenses for children of resident landowners who have left the state
- Wolves – what will be state's management?

Votes – 3, Ranking #5

- Abundance of fish and wildlife versus lack of access – joint landowner/sportsmen solutions
- Irrigation and its effects on fisheries – need for education
- White-tailed deer doe management
- Access to isolated blocks of public land
- Hunter behavior and how it affects sportsmen/landowner relations

Votes – 2, Ranking #6

- Rural versus urban hunters
- How does FWP remain relevant to all Montanans, not just hunters and fishermen
- Land use changes and how to work with developers up front

Votes – 1, Ranking #7

- Protect/increase access to fishing
- Locking up of land by new landowners
- Grizzly bears
- How to pay for wolf management
- Make hunters notify lessees before accessing state land
- Outfitting versus block management

Votes – 0, Ranking #8

- Access to small herds of elk and how landowner preference affects
- Regulating agencies and application of rules to small mining operations in streams
- Travel plans on public lands
- Pre-hunting season culling of herds
- Management of hunters on block management areas and how to optimize opportunity and harvest
- State land banking program
- Rising fuel prices and how it will affect recreation/need for more access closer to Billings – i.e., Pryor Mountains permit area
- Demographics of ages of hunters – education – lack of young hunters in state/out of state
- Prairie dogs/prairie ecosystem health

The next CAC Meeting will be held on November 29, 2005, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Region 5 Headquarters, 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, MT.