



# *Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks*

**Region 3 Citizens' Advisory Committee  
FWP Region 3 Office—Bozeman, MT  
March 19, 2008**

**CAC Attendees:** Rick Arnold, Bob Gibson, Cyndi Andrus, Tom Milesnick, Dennis Grundman, Ed Peretti, Sam Samson, Joe Cohenour, LeRoy Mehring, DJ Johnson, Gene Budeski, Tom Henderson

**Absent:** Ted Coffman, Craig Sharpe, Amy McNamara, and Michael Leach

**Staff Present:** Pat Flowers, Bruce Rich, Jerry Walker, Quentin Kujula, Chris Smith, Mel Frost

**Guests:** Glen Hockett, Alex Russell, Jim Bailey, Jim Wisman, Bill O'Connell, Mike Haugh, Joe Gutkoski, Ted Washburn, Sen. Bob Hawks, Rep. JP Pomnichowski, Rep. Franke Wilmer

**Pat Flowers:** Welcome, introductions, background of CAC

## **CAC Roundtable**

Cyndi: climate change and trout. How is FWP addressing it?

Ed: permitting for bowhunters—30-40 people have spoken with me, more than any other issue, about this. Hearing from both sides. Want/need to talk about this.

Gene: shuttle services for fisherman on rivers. Why aren't they regulated? Outfitters can provide the same service, but they have to be licensed and bonded. No legal structure for shuttle drivers.

## **Public Comment**

Jim Bailey: Comprehensive wildlife plan, legislative priority should be getting initiative funded. Funding should require all Montanans to contribute, not just hunters and fisherman. See two handouts.

Glenn Hockett: Request one hour on future CAC agenda to discuss bison and brucellosis.

DJ Johnson for Tom Barnes: Tom requests R3 CAC, and even all CACs statewide, to pass a resolution supporting trapping and snaring in Montana. Wants FWP to draft a letter in support.

## **Legislative Issues 2009**

Rick: Take Board of Outfitters out of Department of Commerce and put under FWP.

Sam: Forest for Every Classroom. Prototype in the Elkhorns to get kids to learn about the outdoors. Communicate with youth about outdoors and nature. Prototype in 2008, going into effect in 2009. FWP is contributing to this, National Wildlife Federation, Montana Wildlife Federation.

Pat: May see some variation of Ranching for Wildlife bill. Program exists in some other states (CO, UT, ID) giving landowners licenses that they can market. Grass compensation. Also three constitutional initiatives out (see hand-outs).

Joe Gutkoski: Want to amend current water law—introduce in-stream flow bill that's been introduced, but not passed, in the last three legislatures.

Tom H: Concern about where the OHV sticker dollars go. Should go more to education and trail improvement and less to law enforcement.

Chris Smith: FWP submits proposed legislation in concept form to the Governor on May 1.

### **Access Discussion** (continued from Dec. 2007 meeting)

Rick gave presentation and led discussion (see hand-out *Fishing Issues and Concerns*).

## **Parks Reservation System**

Joe: Move to endorse reservation system for state parks. Seconded by Bob. Motion carried. 11 in favor, 1 abstention.

## **Board of Outfitters**

Rick: move Board of Outfitters from Department of Commerce to FWP.

Sam: would like some information: 1) history of how Board got to Commerce; 2) reasons for changing back now; 3) how to get it done.

Pat: Tom Sather is on the Board and would be a great resource for the CAC to get information.

Chris Smith: There are plusses and minuses to making this change. FWP has no position on it right now. Someone should get in touch with the Department of Commerce. Perhaps invite someone from the Department of Commerce, Board of Outfitters, and FWP come to your next meeting if you're interested in pursuing this.

Bob: Maybe we should invite one representative from each regional CAC to come to the meeting because this is a statewide issue.

Cyndi: should one or some of us attend a Board of Outfitters meeting? If we discuss this at the next meeting in Helena, I'd like Rick to prioritize his recommendations (see hand-out *Fishing Issues and Concerns*).

### **Meeting of all CACs**

Sam: is it possible for all of the CACs to meet either annually or every 2 years like the BLM Resource Advisory Committees do?

### **Letter from Tom Barnes**

Tom requests R3 CAC, and even all CACs statewide, to pass a resolution supporting trapping and snaring in Montana. Wants FWP to draft a letter in support.

Joe: Move that LeRoy and I will draft a resolution supporting trapping and snaring in Montana based on the current regulations. Seconded by DJ.

Sam: would like to amend the motion to include a requirement for mandatory trapper education.

LeRoy: Move that the Region 3 CAC draft an endorsement of trapping and snaring in Montana to support the Montana Trappers Association with the stipulation that there be mandatory trapper education for those not previously licensed, based on the current hunter education model. Seconded by Rick. 12 in favor, 0 opposed.

### **2008 R3 CAC Meeting Schedule**

June 12 (Thursday)	Helena
September 11 (Thursday)	Ennis
December 3 (Wednesday)	Livingston

### **Public Comment**

Joe Gutkoski: Habitat—making good purchases in Eastern Montana. There are a lot of dollars in the habitat fund. Purchase fee title best way to go. Easement next best. Bison—wildlife vets are coming around to the fact that can't eliminate brucellosis from GYA, will have to manage it. Establish brucellosis management areas where manage cows and buffalo. Getting bad mark nationally because of way doing it now. Manage bison as wildlife. Going to introduce bill in 2009 Legislature for 25% instream flow and 75% to irrigators.

Dennis: For more information on public access to water and land visit Public Land/Water Access Association website at <http://www.plaai.org/>.

**Next meeting will be in Helena on June 12 (location TBA).**