# FWP R2 CAC Meeting

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 11, 2010

LOCATION: FWP Region 2 Headquarters, Missoula

TIME: 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

#### In Attendance:

**Members:** Tim Aldrich, Louie Bouma, Todd Frank, Edward Hebbe III, Dudley Improta, Charlie Johnson, Pat O'Herren, Jim Olson, Jack Reneau, Stephanie Strickland

**Guests:** Commissioner Rob Ream, Bob Sheppard, Jennifer Ramsey

Staff: Mack Long, Vivaca Crowser, Pat Saffel, Ginny Schmautz, Lee Bastian, Mike Thompson

# Trapping Ballot Initiative I-160, presented by Bob Sheppard and Ed Hebbe III

- ✓ Bob and Ed showed an informational video about trapping, and then gave some background on I-160 and why it would be a bad idea. These reasons included:
  - Adding significant expense to Montana's agriculture, ranching, and forestry
  - Removing an important wildlife management tool
  - Trapper education was encouraged for the future in Montana. There are only 16 certified trapper instructors in the state.

# Echinococcus in Wolves, presented by Jennifer Ramsey, FWP wildlife veterinarian

- ✓ Jennifer gave a PowerPoint presentation on *Echinococcus granulosus*, a tapeworm genus that exists in wolves & ungulates in Montana.
  - *E. granulosus* typically infects domestic dogs or wolves as definitive hosts, and wild or domestic ungulates as intermediate hosts.
  - A fact sheet that answers a lot of common questions related to *E. granulosus* can be found on the FWP Web site.
  - There was a lot of CAC interest and general Q&A following the presentation.

## Wolf Season 2010-2011, briefly discussed by Mike Thompson.

- ❖ FWP is presenting the Commission with two quota alternatives a 186 harvest total and a 216 harvest total. This year, there are 14 WMU's proposed, compared to last year's three WMU's. Opinions/points expressed included:
  - CAC members voiced that there seems to be strong support in the Bitterroot to adopt the higher quota because of decreasing elk numbers.
  - Commissioner Bob Ream raised the question of whether it was fair chase or not to hunt wolves when they are more susceptible during denning times, which would be during a proposed early archery season for wolves.

Four CAC members (Ed Hebbe III, Rich Lane, Stephanie Strickland & Jaala Wickman) finished their term with this meeting and were presented plaques.

In June we will send out an announcement requesting applications to fill our vacant seats.

Thanks for all your work:

Ed Hebbe III

Rich Lane

Stephanie Strickland

Jaala Wickman

#### Other Comments:

Louie Bouma brought up the point that the Lincoln area wanted post-winter count meetings with the wildlife biologists. Mike Thompson suggested Louie make the arrangements for place and refreshments & FWP biologists would attend to present data. Louie agreed.

The next meeting is tentatively set for August 25<sup>th</sup>. Several of the members, along with Vivaca Crowser and Mack Long, have a conflict with the next meeting date. Vivaca will be sending out a doodle poll to all CAC members to find a new meeting date.

A public meeting is scheduled to discuss the tentative wolf quotas on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM at the Double Tree in Missoula.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

Watch for the upcoming Doodle poll to select a meeting date, and Vivaca will send out the final date selected.