

January 20, 2010

FWP, Public Meeting Room, 5:30 p.m.

# R1 CAC Meeting

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CAC Members Present: Wally Wilkinson, Randy Richard, Ron Hvizdak, Don Clark, Dan Savage, Tony Anderson, Bernie Cassidy, Roger Diegle, Mike Shepard, Darrell Coverdell, Greg Foley and Rick Komenda.

FWP Staff Present: Jim Satterfield, John Fraley, Lee Anderson, Jim Williams, Jim Vashro, Dave Landstrom and Martha Abbrescia

CAC Alumni Present during later portion: Don Bothwell, Jon Dahlberg

A new meeting format was discussed. The general consensus is that the preference of the current CAC members is to start the meeting a little earlier at 5:30 p.m. for the current CAC members and FWP staff so that time can be devoted to current program updates and round table discussion. The public portion of the meeting will then begin at 7:00p.m. Based on a desire by members to clearly understand what FWP expects from the CAC, Jim Satterfield listed 3 major functions: (1) 2-way flow of communication, (2) outreach to the public in one-on-one situations, and (3) special projects.

## *Round Table*

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### ➤ Possible CAC Projects / Thoughts/ Ideas...

- Kuhn's WMA – Jim Williams will get information before CAC for possible project.
- Big Horn Sheep – Teakettle area
- Mountain Goats – Whitefish Range
- A concise handout to the CAC on a various topic t would be much appreciated. This way, the CAC is receiving information on a topic / topics that they can easily share with others in their communities as the need arises.

### ➤ RANDY RICHARD

- 500 elk are congregating in the Eureka area.
- People are in favor of shortening doe season
- Many feel that the cow season for youths is being abused.
- Canadian border (Swisher) is like a shooting range – sea of orange.
- The wolf districts need to be smaller – not so encompassing...41 wolves for District #1, yet NW MT only killed 3.
- R1 obviously sent a lot of hunters up to Eureka area due to News Releases comparing fawn to doe ratios.

### ➤ Ron Hvizdak

- There is an elk problem in Eureka. Tobacco Plains unit...someone is going to get shot in this unit. Possible solution is to allow permits only (both sexes) to limit the number of people hunting in

the area. It could limit the number of hunters....private owners might even let hunters on their land.

➤ **Don Clark**

- Elk youth hunt is going very well in the Libby area.
- Outdoorsman Magazine out of Idaho is very worrisome. Is the tapeworm story regarding wolf scat as serious as it sounds? If so, why not info given with the wolf tags? Should we be wearing rubber gloves, etc? Perhaps the FWP veterinarian / FWP Communications Education should come up with a thoughtful approach to deal with this article and educate the public.

➤ **Dan Savage**

- Book on wolverines is coming out any day and will put trapping on radar screens of many people.
- There is a perception that hunter-days are being mis-reported.

➤ **Tony Anderson**

- Utah is proposing law to kill all wolves on sight.

➤ **Bernie Cassidy**

- Will forward link to the MT Legacy Project / The Nature Conservancy to Martha to send to all CAC members.
- Possibly rotating road closures so that wildlife doesn't get settled into certain areas...might be a good idea.
- Will the CAC's be nixed in Montana? The Department of Revenue and Corrections have already lost their citizen's advisory councils. Consensus of the group is that they would be troubled by this.

➤ **Roger Diegle**

- Agrees that FWP needs to be proactive in tapeworm situation.

➤ **Mike Shepard**

- How did the sign up process for the CFAC chunk of land go? Folks found the sign up process to be an inconvenience. What would be wrong with allowing people to draw for an entire season?

➤ **Darrell Coverdell**

- Pike have spread everywhere. At McWenegar Slough they're catching lots of crappies. FWP has to look at this as being an issue.

➤ **Greg Foley**

- There is a tremendous desire to hunt Big Horn Sheep. What can CAC do to help get the sheep to Teakettle? How many situations like Teakettle are there throughout the state?

➤ **Wally Wilkinson**

- Losing block management hunting areas is going to become a huge problem in the future east of the divide.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. for CAC members and 7:00 for CAC Alumni & Public.**