

R1 CAC Meeting

June 16, 2010

Lone Pine State Park Visitor Center

Flathead County Commissioner Joe Brenneman joined the group and we had an extensive discussion about several items, including the North Shore of Flathead Lake wildlife issue and settlement with the developer, and the Church Slough Access. If people want to comment on Church Slough boat access restrictions, they can email Jim Vashro and he will get the comments to County Parks.

During the CAC check in, wolf hunting and potential re-listing, and the Flathead Lake fisheries co-management plan dominated. Many were concerned about the backlash and illegal wolf kills that might result from a re-listing decision. Also discussed was the issue of hunting within city limits. Lee Anderson researched that issue and we forwarded his results to everyone the next day. Also, the concept of charging more for replacement big game tags was brought up to curb abuse. Bernie Cassidy mentioned the volume of water flowing in the Kootenai River during the sturgeon water spill experiment. Jim Williams and the group discussed the sheep transplant to Teakettle (the group identified this as high priority) and the goat transplant to the Whitefish Range. A number of enforcement topics came up, and these are referred to the agenda for the coming year.

The following items were suggested for topics in the coming year:

- Wolf management, listing status, hunting quotas, seasons, and areas
- Flathead Lake Fisheries Co-management with the Tribes, status and EA
- Access issues: Sophie Lake, land conservation projects, Flathead Lake, others
- Enforcement topics: fine levels, interaction with penalties and judges. Other
- Report from the new subcommittee (Tony Anderson, Greg Foley, Tami Fisher, Randy Richard, J Fraley and Sue Tomas) on youth hunting/fishing license scholarships
- Update from the subcommittee and Jim Williams on the proposed sheep and goat transplants

The next meeting of the CAC is scheduled for Wednesday, September 29 30th, 2010 at FWP Headquarters at North Meridian Road. It was suggested that the CAC members and the Alumni come at 5:30 p.m. and share dinner; this would be followed by a 1-hour roundtable of active CAC members, followed by a program and general discussions by the entire group.