

Citizen's Advisory Committee

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

FWP Headquarters, North Meridian Road, Kalispell

Present: Jim Satterfield, John Fraley, Jim Williams, Jim Vashro, Lee Anderson, Tim Their, Martha Abbrescia, Mark Deleray.
Ron Hvizdak, Tammy Fisher, Wally Wilkinson, Mike Shepard, Tony Anderson, Brent Mitchell, Greg Foley, Darrell Coverdell, Rick Komenda

Administrative matters, Deer and Elk Hunting Season wrap-up

Jim Williams gave a re-cap on the hunting season.

Church and Fennon Sloughs, proposed boating rule changes

Jim Vashro gave overview on the Flathead Basin, hydrology, etc.

Becky Jakes Dockter (via video-conference) gave overview of role of CAC in the ARM Rules – River Recreation Rules. The rule-making process is explained to the CAC by Becky Jakes Dockter.

General Discussion:

Fennon Slough Petition – Mark Deleray

(No petitioners are present)

Only the Short Term portion of the petition is to be considered tonight which are; establish a no-wake status for Fennon Slough, install a buoy maze at the entrance and an advisory/welcome sign.

Rational to the no-wake in the petitioners view is that the wakes are adding to the deterioration of the banks of the slough.

Buoy maze is to slow boats down as they enter the slough and the sign is to advise boaters of the no wake zone.

The CAC asks whether there is any precedence in the state regarding the buoy maze. What is the liability if someone gets in trouble from the buoys in the middle of the night, etc?

Motion made by Tony Anderson to establish a No Wake Zone and proceed with rule-making and to install a sign as requested, but not the buoy maze. Brent Mitchell seconds. None opposed. So moved.

Church Slough – Chuck Hunt, Flathead Wildlife, Inc.

Lower Valley of Flathead River, 196 acre site.

Petition to make a no-wake zone within the slough due to safety, prevent bank erosion, help protect migrating water fowl within the slough and waterfowl viewing.

The rules proposed to be adopted in this petition are:

1. Closed to boating March 1 to April 10
2. No wake boating April 11 through February

The consensus of the CAC is to proceed with rule-making regarding this petition.

Next CAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 01-19-2011.

Topics:

I-161 – how will this effect funding, block management, others?