

## **CAC Meeting – 1/19/11**

Present: Dave Landstrom, John Fraley, Jim Williams, Jim Vashro, Lee Anderson, Jim Satterfield, Kent Laudon, Richard Peterson, Kristy Personett

Mike Shepard, Wally Wilkinson, Tony Anderson, Don Clark, Ron Hvizdak, Randy Richard, Greg Foley, Rick Komenda, Darrell Coverdell, Roger Diegel, Dan Savage

**I 161 Overview by Hank Warsech via video conference:** the initiative eliminated non-resident Outfitter Sponsored Licenses and raised prices on the general combination license types. Hank believes the licenses will still sell out, even with the increased pricing, but will be some buyer resistance. Last year there were Outfitter Sponsored licenses left over.

Mike S. – shared concern from bowhunters about elk numbers North of Yellowstone (by trophy bull hunters), and wondered how the number of licenses sold was determined. \*By Law.

Tony A. – why did the license fee have to increase all at once? \*Due to Initiative.

Jim W. – could the Initiative be litigated? \*Possible, but don't think so.

Wally W. - how could it affect NCHU's (Net Client Hunting Use). \*We'll have to follow it.

Mike S. - how will it affect landowners? \*More land may be leased by outfitters.

Hank re-capped the fiscal note attached to the Initiative: will increase funding of BMA's assuming all licenses are sold.

Mike S. – what if license sells drop? \*Would have to go to legislature for price change. There is great demand for MT licenses.

John F. – other legislation? \*There's a bill sponsored to bring up the Initiative again.

Jim W. – can legislature overturn it? \*Yes.

Permit deadline discussion by all regarding new proposal for elk & deer permit deadline.

Jim V. – how's response to the Elk B tags? \*Well.

Dave L. – believes it decreased odds on permits.

Roger D. – how much revenue from Elk B? \*Doesn't have information, but will forward that.

John F. – has had questions regarding drawing fairness. \*No question about the fairness but landowner preference can have an effect.

### **Staff Updates –**

Fraley handed out CAC committee end date information. *John asked members with an end date of May 2011 if they would be interested in continuing through May of 2012. Email Martha or him with comments/answer.*

Satterfield asked for input on the VC presentation; mostly positive input. There was discussion of negative views of FWP; license dollars not being part of general fund, property rights, Administration.

He also gave a legislation highlight:

- 5% Agency budget cut coming

- land acquisition in future may be at risk

- bison translocation being fought

-lion management (HB 144); no more special licenses, no one from NW MT on Committee. Don Clark has been involved: assumes it's financially motivated, vote was postponed in Committee for further review with Legal.

-SB90 = \$1 donation from tags for processing donated game

-HB159=lead shot use on WMA's

-HB173=lighted nocks on bows

-HB176=antelope license for terminally ill

-SB112=atlatl/spear hunting

-SB136=non-resident considered resident when born in MT

-SB39=wardens issuing MIP's

-SB13 (Landstrom)=opt in park fee, rather than opt out, could mean loss of \$1-2 million revenue to Parks of which 25% goes to FAS.

No minimum age requirement on hunting (LC0836 Champ Edmunds Eliminate minimum hunting age)

HB137=lake trout bounty in Flathead Lake

-numerous bills regarding wolves, removing from ESA

-LC105 (Anderson)=confiscation of game, search and seizure, what is purposefully and negligent

Randy Richard gave information regarding Origin Assured, a fur promotion effort

Anderson gave overview of proposed no wake rules on Fennon and Church sloughs: Commission didn't have issues with them, going to public comment, Deleray working on EA, public meetings should be held in February (22<sup>nd</sup>?), also in Troy for Alvord and Kilbrennan lakes. *Mike Shepard asked that more information be emailed to CAC members.*

Don C. – goat transplant update? Jim W. says project is on hold due to disease threats.

Vashro talked about FH Lake fishing regulations. Would like input from CAC in 1-2 months regarding the 4 year review of regulations. FH Lake co-management – CSKT met goal of fish catch/take, EA should be done by March (original date was fall 2010). Jim passed out copies of Missoulian article regarding the FH Lake Biological Station report and "Bull Fights" article.

Landstrom presented overview on the Parks economic impact survey.

Greg F. – Big Arm lease? \*Expires 2014 and will have new appraisal.

Williams presented maps and discussed the Stimpson and Swan Valley conservation easements. Also noted there is land for sale in Tobacco Plains with great elk habitat.

## **CAC Roundtable –**

Ron H. – concern over numbers of elk/people in Eureka area. Need to discuss tentative regulation; *sub-committee of Randy Richard, Ron Hvizdak, Tim Thier, Jim Roberts, Jim Williams will discuss.*

Tony A. – CAC Youth Assistance Committee, youth assistance program that helps kids buy licenses needs donations/kids. He gave informational handouts to CAC to post as needed.

Wally W. – Pheasants Forever youth shotgun league sign up is Sunday. *Fraley will do news release.*

Ron H. – will lobby against SB188. General discussion by group.

Mike S. – whitetail population in Columbia Falls is huge.

Don C. – seeing fewer wolves in reservoir area this year, Rep. Jerry Bennett in Libby is sponsoring a bill for a 3 year wait on lion permits. *Satterfield asked Don to keep him and Jim W. informed on this topic.*

Rick K. – hearing deer and elk are back, not as many wolf tracks/sitings. An attorney he met specializes in State sovereignty, also concerning wolves. He could set up a meeting if we'd like.

Mike S. – Lynx ruling, what does it mean? Does it affect Plum Creek and public land? *Williams was not sure, can find out.* HCP's address some issues.

Rick R. – 2 lion kills in Eureka city limits, lots of lions/wolves, mule deer/whitetail population declining.

**Next meeting: March 3<sup>rd</sup>.**