

12/14/2011 CAC Meeting Notes

Present: Roger Diegle, Mike Corkish, Kari Gabriel, Linda Regnier, Darrell Coverdell, Chuck Hunt, Jon Dahlberg, Tony Anderson, Mike Shepard, Bernie Cassidy, Don Clark, Dan Savage, Paul Fielder, Lee Brundin, Ron Hvizdak, and Jerry Smalley

FWP: Jim Satterfield, John Fraley, Jim Williams, Jon Obst, Kent Laudon, Jim Vashro, and Martha Abbrescia

Hunting season wrap-up; Hunting regulations proposals for the coming year, and the upcoming January 7 hunting regulations hearing—Wildlife Program Manager Jim Williams

- Fraley shows 5 minute video: MONTANA
- Jim Williams – hunting wrap-up:
 - Summary of check stations.
 - Handouts are 2012-2013 Regulation meeting Interested Person Letter, Proposed Hunting Seasons for 2013, and R1 WTD Harvest Trends.
 - Hoping this winter weather stays like it is, as it would be really good for fawn survival.
 - Previewed with the CAC the regulation proposals that will be discussed in detail at the regulation meeting on 1/7/2012 at the Red Lion Hotel.
 - PTHV – a group in Missoula has asked to petition the commission to rescind this opportunity. At their request, FWP is considering changing this opportunity.
 - Youth Hunting opportunities – what does the CAC think about the youth hunt...what are you hearing? Sounds like mixed feelings between providing the opportunity for the kids while dealing with the “outlaw” dads that shoot the cow elk for the kid.
 - New March 15 Deadline (changed from June 1)

CAC Roundtable: advisors should be prepared to report on issues and pass along advice

- Ron Hvizdak: Hard to fill cow tags with so many hunters. Deer population is down and wolf population is up in his area. FWP never admits that wolves are indeed having an impact on the ungulate populations.
- Lee Brundin: People in the Tobacco Valley have been tolerant of wolves for years. Has a comment on Elk....people should only be able to shoot one elk.
- Paul Fielder: new to this group ...speaking as a wildlife biologist from Washington, FWP may want to increase harvest on bear population in the spring as they have a big impact on elk & moose calves.
- Dan Savage: USFWS is committing to releasing a delisting rule this spring. The ESA is very cumbersome.
- Bernie Cassidy: Idaho is trapping wolves, thinks that Montana will need to implement trapping wolves also so that we can actually regulate the wolf.

- Mike Shepard: Why is FWP getting involved with moving the Bison? Saw a lot of ATV violations out in the woods this year. Turned some into Jim Roberts. Maybe the people of Montana should file suit against the 19 conservation groups that live in Montana.
- Tony Anderson: has only ever purchased one bear tag in his life and the number one reason is because he doesn't want to have to eat the meat. Why isn't the bear treated the same as the mountain lion or wolf? Who wants to eat bear?
- Jon Dahlberg: The illegal use of ATV's is driving him crazy.
- Chuck Hunt: Over abundance of predators. Tomorrow night is the Annual Game Feed Meeting in this room for Flathead Wildlife Inc.
- Darrell Coverdell: How many collared wolves in R1? Kent – 15-20. How many wolves have been taken with collars? - None.
- Linda Regnier: I belong to some of those 19 conservation groups in Missoula that you speak about. There are other ways of looking at things. Yellowstone to Yukon is a great effort. I am a hiker and backpacker and carry my bear spray. Very much likes the endangered species act.
- Kari Gabriel: What type of wolves are prominent in Montana? In regards to the youth hunt – would like to see parents that are shooting animals for their kids...prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
- Mark Corkish: Is the state going to take a stance on HB1505 about building roads in roadless areas?
- Roger Diegle: The opportunities to take kids out hunting is well worth it. Keep the youth hunting as much as possible.

Select date and agenda for next meeting February 1st.