

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
2/20/13

FWP, R1 Public Meeting Room

Present: Lee Brundin, Ron Hvizdak, Paul Fielder, Chuck Hunt, Jim Vashro, Mike Shepard, Bernie Cassidy, Tony Anderson, Jon Dahlberg, Kent Laudon, John Fraley, Jim Williams, Jim Satterfield, Rick Komenda, Nate Reiner, Roger Diegle, and Martha Abbrescia.

Ron Aasheim gives overview of FWP Legislative Tracking Summary via video conference from Helena.

Echo Lake Hearing: Regarding 3 petitions that were sent in prior to 9/30. Approximately 200 people were at the Hampton Inn. Most people were adamantly opposed to any of these restrictions. The comments will be analyzed for the commission and the department will make a recommendation to the commission.

Jim Vashro gave general update on Flathead Lake Management. The issue has been contentious. The tribe has moved on to more aggressive suppression techniques for lake trout. Tribes plan to release their EIS in April.

Flathead River Hybrid Trout EA. Comments open through March 8.

Jim Williams – Statewide Moose Study. It's been many years getting these people on the ground. They are finally here and have just finished getting 12 VHF radios on moose in 3 different research areas. R1 Cabinet Mountains, R3 Big Hole, and R4 Rocky Mountain Front.

Round Table

Lee Brundin: There was a nice article in the paper about the moose study. We are getting a kids fishing pond in Libby on the old Stimson land.

Ron Hvizdak: Is there a decibel limit for the music that comes off boats on the lake? SB 197 gives me a lot of heartburn. Really bugs me that FWP took a neutral stance on it. FWP took a stance (Opposed) on the one about the veterans not having to take Hunter Ed...but FWP was neutral on 9 year olds not having to take Hunters Ed???? This doesn't make any sense. What FWP is doing is saying that Hunter Ed is creating a barrier to hunting?? It's a slap in the face!

Paul Fielder: Will be giving a trap release class in Thompson Falls in March to a dog group that teaches dog obedience, etc. Spent 18 days in Helena this year with his wife

Sen. Fielder....it's an overwhelming, very interesting process. Paul gives an overview of the process.

Chuck Hunt: Regarding the funding of the wolf specialists and the moose study. Everyone, please try to call before their meeting in the morning. Flathead Wildlife will be having a bluebird house building party on March 1. The Bison issue has been heated up for the last several years. 1300 members have pulled out of the Wildlife Federation.

Mike Shepard: Not happy with Mr. Washburn's lightednock business. Upset with Washburn's comments regarding long bows.

Bernie Cassidy: Will make a point to contact Cuff tomorrow regarding the moose & wolf tech legislation. SB 237 – FWP should be encouraged to purchase land when it is available as the land is being gobbled up by the rich folks in the east side of the state.

Tony Anderson: Had a meeting with Sue Daly in Helena. Regarding list of species of special concern, they are not huntable, they are not fishable. Why is it that the sportsman's dollars have to pay for these things? Why can't general fund monies be used these types of things. Why can't all Montanans pay for these things? No one pays for non-game. The legislature tells us what to do and doesn't provide any money for it. This needs to stop. Opinion about lightednocks....how can the purists tell me that I can't put a light on my bow to find my arrow?

Rick Komenda: Blessed with two cow elk. Regarding hunters orange ...some people think it's the doings of the government so that they can be more easily watched. (makes it easier for Big Brother to see you in the woods).

Roger Diegle: Youth hunting days (Oct 16 & 17) is quite a bit of time away from general season (Oct 26 – Dec1). How much money has FWP generated from resident vs. non-resident for all species.

Next meeting scheduled for 4/10/13