

CAC Meeting

Region 5 Citizen Advisory Council Meeting

July 22, 2014
5:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Fish, Wildlife & Parks
2300 Lake Elmo Drive
Billings, MT 59105

Meeting called by: Bob Gibson

Type of meeting: CAC Council Meeting

Location: Region 5 Headquarters

Facilitator: Bob Gibson

Attendees: Lee Deming, JW Westman, Gary Schaff, Lee Brunckhorst, Bill Milton, Thomas Miller, Gary Hammond, Doug Habermann, Harold Guse, Ray Mulé, Bob Gibson, Ken Frazer, Dianne Stiff

Absent: Barb Beck, Chris Fleck, Brady Norland

Topics

5:30-7:00 p.m.	Welcome, Dinner, Introductions, Video	Bob Gibson
7:00-8:00 p.m.	Issues of Concern	CAC Members
8:00-9:00 p.m.	FWP: Choices for the Future	Ken Frazer
9:00-9:30 p.m.	Administrative Housekeeping and Adjourn	Bob Gibson & Gary Hammond

Introductions		Bob Gibson
<p>Bob Gibson had both the staff and new members introduce themselves. Bob presented a video recently completed by our Communications Education video staff interviewing Montana youth who explain why what the Department does is important to them.</p> <p>Bob asked members to look over the charter as it sets the sideboards for what we do within the Citizen Advisory Council (CAC). Emeritus Doug Haacke gave an overview of his eight years of experience on the Region 5 CAC. He advised new members to do a little homework and research their problems before bringing them to the CAC meetings. He talked about the importance of attending the meetings, and to be aware that they are not the authority and get to vote on what the Department does, but realize there are volunteer opportunities where they can help out on the ground.</p>		
Action Items: Informational	Person responsible: Bob Gibson	Deadline: None

Issues of Concern (Round Table)		CAC Members
<p>Thomas Miller – Issues: the block management program and stream access. What he hears from his constituents is the fear of out of state money; fear about petroleum and gas as far as what that might do (sage grouse); appreciation with folks that continue to have great days in the field and celebrate it.</p> <p>Bill Milton – He’s been involved with the Devils Kitchen management group which is the longest running collaborative landowner/agency team effort that works on managing the large landscape and a number of wildlife. He’d like to replicate this in the state to create joint ownership between landowners, hunters and agencies. He has been involved with facilitating the Musselshell water-users coalition and cultivated a good relationship with the Fish, Wildlife and Parks. He’s been involved in block management.</p> <p>Lee Brunckhorst – Issues: land access, block management and stream access. He discussed the access along the Crazy Mountains.</p> <p>Gary Schaff – His constituent’s concern is the corporate ranch hoarding animals during hunting season, and then during nonhunting the animals leave the corporate ranch going onto the adjoining ranches causing problems. Need incentives to allow access for more harvest of those animals. Another item is there are fewer youth actively participating in hunting, fishing and are more apt to go out to state parks.</p> <p>JW Westman – Issues: access, landowner relations, public trust resource, habitat, and access to those public trust resources. It’s an education issue as we need to educate ourselves, family, friends, neighbors, and youth.</p> <p>Lee Deming – Issues: fishing, hunting, and camping. Constituents (hunters and landowners) - concerned about access.</p>		
Topics for future meetings: Hunter/Landowner Stewardship Project; Legislative Proposals; R-5 Managers Regional Priorities; Block Management; Stream Access	Person responsible: Bob Gibson	Deadline: Future Mtgs

FWP: Choices for the Future		Bob Gibson
<p>Presented the FWP video, and then discussed how FWP funding works, and reviewed the recommendations from the advisory council. Doug Habermann pointed out that State Parks is currently working with the Parks Board to increase funding through the fee rule.</p> <p>Good conversation on how to get the point out to the appropriate groups that will support both the Fish and Wildlife funding issue and the State Parks funding effort.</p>		
Action items: Encourage constituents to comment on proposed legislation by the EQC.	Person responsible: Bob Gibson	Deadline: 8/16/2014

Administrative Housekeeping & Adjourn		Bob Gibson
Action items: CAC members are to review the CAC Charter. Bob will follow up with the fall meeting date and agenda.	Person responsible: Bob Gibson	Deadline: By next meeting.