



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

CHARTER CONTINUING THE SMITH RIVER STATE PARK & RIVER CORRIDOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

I, M. Jeff Hagener, Director of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, continue the Smith River State Park & River Corridor Advisory Council effective September 8, 2016 in accordance with the provisions of §2-15-122, MCA. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Director in an advisory capacity in accordance with §2-15-122, MCA.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Smith River State Park & River Corridor Advisory Council is to advise the department on issues related to the management and stewardship of recreational, natural and cultural resources associated with Smith River State Park & River Corridor in context with the Montana State Park system.

STATEMENT OF NEED

The Director of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), the Parks Division Administrator, and the Fisheries Division Administrator have a need for advice and recommendations from the general public, cooperating agencies, neighboring landowners, and commercial outfitters and department divisions related to the management and stewardship of the Smith River State Park & River Corridor.

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Smith River State Park & River Corridor Advisory Council shall meet its advisory responsibilities to the department by providing feedback, making recommendations, communicating with interested parties, and helping recommend policies for the Smith River State Park & River Corridor, including but not limited to the following issues and topics:

- 1) Smith River State Park & River Corridor Biennial Fee Rule.
- 2) Smith River Corridor Enhancement Account expenditures.
- 3) Smith River food storage rules and bear management initiatives.
- 4) Smith River boat camp access and acquisition of easements, leases, etc.
- 5) Stewardship of recreational, natural, and cultural resources on the Smith River.
- 6) Fostering new and improved sources of volunteer support and revenue to support the Montana State Park system with specific focus on Smith River operations and programs.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY AND DURATION

This Council is advisory in nature and is authorized to submit recommendations to the department's Parks Division Administrator and Fisheries Division Administrator. The Council will remain active until July 1, 2020, unless terminated or extended as provided by statute.

COUNCIL COORDINATION

The Smith River State Park Manager will coordinate the Council and its work. This position will serve as the primary interface between the Council and all department divisions. The role of the coordinator will include scheduling and coordinating meetings, providing in a timely manner the information, data and materials necessary for Council discussions and functions, facilitating Council discussion, tracking tasks and accomplishments, presenting Council issues to the Division and keeping meeting notes. The Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring that meetings are operated in a manner appropriate for a public agency where a variety of viewpoints may be expressed, where the discussion is germane to the goals of the Council and where the public has an opportunity to comment. Department personnel not assigned to the Council may provide subject expertise at Council meetings on an ad hoc basis.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND ROLES

The Department has chartered an eleven person Smith River Advisory Council that will consist of three agency representatives (one from Parks Division, one from Fisheries Division, and one from Enforcement Division), one U.S. Forest Service representative, one Smith River outfitter, one Smith River corridor landowner, three interested citizens, one Montana State Parks & Recreation Board member representing District 3, and one Fish and Wildlife Commissioner. All Council members will have voting privileges. All non-agency Council members shall be appointed by the director, serve a term of two years and may apply for a second term. Tenure of department/agency personnel will be determined by the department/agency.

COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES


The Council will meet a minimum of two times per calendar year and/or as necessary to accomplish its assigned tasks. The Council coordinator may establish subcommittees or individual assignments within the scope of their authority and resources. The Council will make recommendations through consensus, if possible, and otherwise by majority vote. A quorum of at least five voting members is required. If the Council cannot reach agreement, alternative points of view will be documented. Final decisions regarding the Smith River program will be made by division or department leadership and/or adopted by the Montana State Parks & Recreation Board when applicable.

COMPENSATION

Council members are volunteers and subsequently will receive no compensation for their time; however, they will be covered by Worker's Compensation when serving on official Council related business and are eligible for travel and lodging reimbursement per FWP Policy and Statute

APPROVAL

Hereby approved by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks' Director on September 8, 2016.



M. Jeff Hagener, Director
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks