

# Stakeholder Meetings

**Intent:** The intent of this proposal is to fulfill one of the key components of our intended purpose. The first line of the groups purpose states in part “to forge new relationships among stakeholders”

**Justification:** The problem is lack of communication and personal relationships between landowners and sportsmen. By bringing leaders of these groups together we can begin to forge new and lasting relationships. Lack of understanding leads to mistrust. Mistrust leads to vetoing every idea one side puts forth, even if it is a good one.

## Description:

Representatives from organizations such as Montana Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife (MTSFW), Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA), Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF), Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA), Montana Bow Hunters, and Montana Outfitters and Guides Association will meet in person at least once per year to discuss issues of mutual concern (especially for items Commission). More than one meeting per year is strongly recommended. Up to three representatives from each group are permitted to attend. The executive directors representing each group shall be in consultation and call the first meeting complete with agenda. Basic rules for subsequent meeting will be defined at the first meeting. Upon unanimous consent the six founding groups may, at their discretion, include other landowner and conservation groups.

FWP will be in the room as an observer and to provide technical support. In the beginning, the meeting should be streamed to the public.

## People/Organizations:

- Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks would provide administrative support
- Independent moderator
- A liaison from the Elk Management Citizen Advisory Group; Stephanie Prater and Chuck Rein

## Timeline:

Initial meeting prior to legislative session; subsequent meetings should be determined by the parties involved

## FWP Authority to Take Action:

Not identified by the Elk Management Citizen Advisory Group members.

## Feasibility of Implementation:

Feasible

## Limitations/Unintended Consequences:

There may be limitations to having balanced representation of landowners present from landowner groups. This means it cannot be a majority vote on issues.