

MONTANA TRAPPING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Third Meeting Agenda October 6, 7, 2016
Sleep Inn & Suites: 1006 S. Haynes Avenue, Miles City, Montana

OBJECTIVES

1. For the public in attendance, affirm the Committee's Charter and roles in the process including the meeting's public comment time, and briefly review the collaborative process and timeline.
2. Continue learning about trapping in Montana.
3. Finalize "Guiding Principles".
4. Make progress on developing... coming to agreement on tentative outcomes per the individual "Important Questions".
5. Confirm a 4th meeting date and location and assign homework related to a 4th meeting.

AGENDA

Saturday, October 6: 9:00 AM to Noon (lunch provided for Committee members)

Getting Started:

- Welcome back from John Vore (FWP Game Management Bureau Chief)
- For the public in attendance, address Objective 1 above; briefly review the Committee's discussion ground rules
- Approve/edit the 2nd meeting summary/2nd day "Work in Progress" document
- Note material received since the August meeting (including Zack's material) – clarifying questions/observations; affirming the effectiveness of the "sharing" material process
- Introduce the public in attendance
- Committee member "warm up" and initial session discussion – What question did you ask your trapline and what did you hear that will be helpful in this process?

Drafting/Finalizing/Coming to Tentative Agreement on the Guiding Principles

Noon to 12:45 PM

- Public Comment period
- Working lunch while Committee members hear public comment

Afternoon: 1:00 to 5:00 PM

Refocusing...

- In your homework research, what did you find that might serve as "Fair Standards/Objective Criteria" to assist us in moving toward agreement on...?

Moving ahead on Specific "Important Questions"

- Where might mandatory reporting; consistency in setbacks; consistency in setbacks for water sets; Bobcat 10 day tag fit; and unclear regulation terms fit in the Important Questions?
- Drafting desired vision
- Drilling down on solutions... heading toward recommendations where appropriate
- What might be unintended consequences? How might they be mitigated?
- Where do we have tentative agreement?

Summarizing Today's Meeting: Prepping for Tomorrow

Sunday, October 6: 8:00 AM to 1:30ish PM (Committee member lunch provided)

Refocusing...

Continuing Work on... Make Significant Progress on "Important Questions"

11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

- Public Comment period
- Working lunch while Committee members hear public comment

Early Afternoon: 12:30 to 1:30ish PM

Taking the Committee's Temperature

- Have we made enough progress to continue with the process?
- If so - What do we have left to do? What do we have to say about the remaining work?
- When and where should a 4th Committee meeting take place?
- Homework for a 4th meeting

2018 Montana Trapping Advisory Committee Charter

Hunting and trapping of managed species in Montana is highly regulated by FWP so that population viability of those species is protected. Yet trapping in particular has been and remains controversial. Therefore, **FWP will assemble a citizen committee representing the spectrum of opinions on trapping that will provide recommendations to FWP that ensure population viability of trapped species, the humane treatment of animals, and minimize social conflict.** FWP will put out a call for participation through newspapers, social media and on our website. Applications will be reviewed by FWP with the final selection by the Director of approximately 12 **people who represent the geography of Montana, the spectrum of opinions on trapping, and who can respectfully work together to address issues and reach consensus.** FWP wants people who are solution-oriented and respectful of diverse opinions, not people with an exclusive unilateral agenda. Committee members will be expected to participate in 3 – 4 meetings that will be professionally-facilitated by a non-FWP person over six to eight months, and **present recommendations to FWP by March 30, 2019. FWP will not be a member of the committee, but will provide technical and information assistance. The committee will not consider whether or not there will be trapping in Montana. Trapping is a legal activity, a sound wildlife management practice and a legitimate use of wildlife, and is well represented in Montana's history and culture. Through this collaborative effort, FWP looks to ensure trapping will continue. It is protected by the Montana Constitution's Article IX in the Preservation of Harvest Heritage Section 7.** Also, in FWP's Vision and Guide for 2016-2026, the department states that it values "the continued importance of hunting, fishing, trapping, and other outdoor recreation to Montana's culture and conservation ethic." Eighteen years ago, in 1999, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks' then director, Pat Graham, assembled a similar Trapping Advisory Committee to "Identify recommendations for the Director's consideration to minimize conflicts between land-use practices, outdoor recreation and trapping." That committee made nine recommendations to the Director, many of which have been implemented. **At a minimum, this Committee will review the 1999 recommendations, including the controversial issue of trap check time, and will evaluate those recommendations as part of its charge. This effort will also provide opportunity for other trapping-related specifics to be discussed and reviewed.**

Trapping Committee Discussion Ground Rules

- Listen actively and honorably.
- Manage your own communication (allow the other to finish; avoid side conversations at the table unless part of the process).
- Allow the facilitator to remind individuals/the group about the ground rules.
- Arrive at common definitions... and use them.
- Respect each individual's right to their opinion – even if you don't agree.
- Define problems and seek solutions – rather than finding opportunities to further one's agenda.
- Encourage data... science based discussion and solutions. Use data to explore “fair standards”.
- Do your homework so you are prepared for the next meeting.
- Work to find consensus. When agreement is not reached, allow the facilitator to use an interest-based approach to try to build a collaborative solution. When agreement still cannot be reached, the group will decide how to forward their outcome on that issue to the Department/Commission. If a Committee member is absent, the group will move ahead rather than revisiting issues.
- Refer media contacts to John Vore.
- Refer questions from others to the meeting summaries on the Department website.
- Avoid using email to build agreement or cliques around a particular solution.

Steps in the Facilitated Interest-Based Collaborative Process

- Revisit/affirm the ground rules and any needed process agreements
- Look at “hard facts”
- Identify Committee member “interests”; work toward mutual understanding of interests
- Identify “Important Questions” that need to be discussed... addressed in this process in order to reach consensus recommendations
- Agree on a set of “guiding principles”
- Problem-solve to get to agreement around the “Important Questions”
- Develop collective recommendations