

Canyon Ferry and Hauser Web Comments

Name:	City/Town:	State	Canyon Ferry and Hauser Online Comments
Ryan Dreier	Bozeman	MT	I agree with the proposed limit change.
Robert Sherer	Great Falls	MT	10 fish only one over 15" is a step in the right direction. You have to force most fisherman to keep the smaller fish or they will just upgrade every time they catch a bigger one. It's encouraging to see some significant attempt at changes as what we have been doing for the last 20 years has not worked very well for a healthy fishery.
Coral Winters	Belgrade	MT	I agree with the proposed changes to limit of 10 and only 1 over 15"
Marlin Cross	Great Falls	MT	1 Fish over 15 in. 10 Fish Limit
Steven Harada	Wolf Point	MT	Reduce the daily bag limit to the Central District standard regulation for walleye: 5 fish daily, 10 in possession. It makes it consistent with other state regulations.
Andrew Devincenzi	Missoula	MT	I agree with the proposed regulation changes, especially with only 1 fish over 15" daily.
Devin Sherman	Butte	MT	As a C&R angler who really enjoys the waters in the Helena area, I agree with the regulation changes on the reservoirs
Caleb	Helena	MT	I'm ok with it but should either wait till next year or should of been put in this year's regs
Stacy Ratliff	Florence	MT	A reduced harvest limit to 10 would be good.
Amy J Harrell	Belgrade	MT	A good start.
Stephan weber	East Helena	MT	Please reduce the bag limit to ten walleye with only one over 15"
Brett Harrell	Belgrade	MT	It's a start. I would rather see 5 fish a day and 1 over 15
Theron Thompson	Bozeman	MT	I agree with the proposed changes on the reservoir.
Nathan Peressini	Belgrade	MT	I agree with the proposed regulation change for the reservoirs
Shane Winters	Belgrade	MT	I agree with the proposed change on the lake Limit of 10 and only one over 15"
Norman Comfort	Bozeman, MT	MT	I agree with purposed management plan- Limit of 10 with only one over 15"
Austin Barnhardt	Bozeman	MT	I think the management plans is good for the lakes but think the same regulations should be for the ricer as well.
Austin Zeadow	Townsend	MT	Please make walleye limit 10 walleyes no more then one over 15" in hauser and canyon ferry
Brayden Davis	Great Falls	MT	I support the proposal to reduce the limits to 10 with only one fish over 15". This regulation should have been implemented over 10 years ago.
Rick Pierce	Gillette	WY	I agree with the limit change
Larry Harrell	Gillette	WY	To lower the limit at these lakes and river is perfect and will improve the fishing
Justin Cox	Townsend	MT	10 walleyes, 1 over 15
Chad Osborne	Billings	MT	10 walleye, only one over 15"
David Hernden	BOZEMAN	MT	
Robert mahana	Helena	MT	I agree with the proposed changes. It is a starte.
Larry Zeadow	Townsend	MT	I agree that the limit on canyon ferry should be 10 walleyes no more then 1 over 15"
Debra Taverniti	Bozeman	MT	I agree with the proposed change of 10 walleye and only 1 over 15 inches.
Kevin McGovern	Laurel	MT	I agree. 10 fish , only 1 over 15 inches
Gary Durfey	Hobson	MT	I agree with proposed regulation changes for Canyon Ferry and Hauser Reservoirs.
Mike Newton	Glendive	MT	I am in favor of the 10 fish limit with only one over 15 inches.
Scott D Keller	Great Falls	MT	Very happy to see that the walleye limits are changing on Canyon Ferry & Hauser Reservoirs to try and make it possible in the future that these bodies of water can be quality fisheries.

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Michael Sedlock	Helena	MT	Walleye fishing is terrible in Canyon Ferry Lake and has been that way for too many years with too many small undesirable quality fish. It is high time that we target harvesting these smaller fish to reduce their population and preserve the larger quality fish. Therefore, I support the 10 fish per day with only one being over 15 inches.
Darrell James Archey	Great Falls	MT	yes i like this change
Ted Kresge	Jefferson City	MT	I strongly support the change
Justin Haverluk	Belgrade	MT	Great plan, this needed to happen years ago. 10 fish only one over 15"
Dale Persons	Bozeman	MT	I definitely like the proposed changes of 10 walleye and only one over 15".
Michael Schara	Laurel	MT	I'm for the recommendations proposed, as I want a strong reliable fishery and the proposed changes protects the fishery while not negatively impacting the enjoyment factor.
Jason Rorabaugh	Belgrade	MT	I like the change.
Scott Feddes	Belgrade	MT	I like them! Canyon Ferry has need this for years!
Lance Kresge	BOZEMAN	MT	The 10 fish with 1 over 15" is a great thing and fully supported by the Gallatin Madison Walleyes Unlimited. Lance Kresge< President Gallatin Madison Walleyes Unlimited
Jason Truman	Dillon	MT	I like the plan. I wish someone would consider adding cisco to this system. It would help walleye, perch, and trout.
Jake Tuck	Great Falls	MT	The limit for walleyes should be five fish.
Kane Urdahl	Bozeman	MT	I believe the 5 fish is a good starting point. It is obvious that the past regulations has done nothing but harm the reservoir. Something needs to be done to bring in the next age class if walleye.
Tony Martin	Fort Benton	MT	Please keep river same as the lake,
Dale Spartas	Bozeman	MT	I agree with MTFWP and the regulations they are proposing
Richard	Clancy	MT	I agree with the proposed changes to Canyon Ferry and Hauser Reservoirs walleye fishing.
Jason Wiers	Bozeman	MT	First, thank you for offering to receive public input and to look at ways to improve the walleye fishery. I've only been actively fishing walleye on CF for 5 years. But, grew up near Fort Peck and watched a proactive approach to management help turn that body of water into a world-class fishery. I feel the same could happen for this mgmt area. I would actually like to see a daily limit of 5 walleye with option to keep one over 18". A date blackout in April, not allowing walleye fishing, would maximize reproduction success. I say this based on what I see successful mgmt practices do in other states such as MN. Additionally, I fished for walleye during this time last year and witnessed nearly 100 boats a day, on weekends, targeting breeding areas and having great success. Last, I would love to see more aggressive mgmt practices regarding forage. This topic is the greatest challenge to fishery development, in my opinion. Whether it be some sort of forage minnow such as a fathead minnow or yellow perch, a stocking program would really energize your efforts.
Katrina Warburton	Townsend	MT	I agree with reg changes for the reservoirs
Rik Miller	Bozeman	MT	No comment
Neal Cote	Missoula	MT	Manage for larger fish, it always helps the fishery when a population of fish have at least 25 percent of larger and older fish. Not to mention that 10 fish is plenty for most anglers for food.

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Trevin Anderson	Helena	MT	Bag limits aren't the problem. You need bait fish for the fish to grow. Introduce minnows like you did at Fort Peck and you will see better numbers and better size. Stop letting the trout people dictate our eco systems.
J. Sampson	Helena	MT	I agree with FWP's proposed regulation changes for both Hauser and Canyon Ferry Reservoirs.
Brody Henderson	Belgrade	MT	Approve
Greg Chiles	East Helena	MT	I agree with proposal on regulations changes.
L. Keith Reed	Three Forks	MT	Perhaps you should consider making the bag limit "no more than 1 fish over 18", instead of the proposed 15"?
Sherry Hoekema	Bozeman	MT	Am glad to see consideration of dropping the walleye limit from 20 to 10. I wouldn't mind if the limit was even dropped to 5 with 1 > 15".
James Verzuh	Bozeman	MT	Protection of the Walleye in these reservoirs should not be done at the expense of the trout population in the rivers that flow into them. Please do not change these regulations if they are detrimental to the trout in the Missouri River.
Mike Coil	Bozeman	MT	Do all you can to reduce walleye in this section of river and manage the same to benefit trout only. That you have allowed the walleye fishery to now be in a position where your rule changes are even being proposed is shameful. Please don't keep chipping away at the quality of the trout fishery anywhere in SW Mont.
Tim Peterson	Winston	MT	I support the change in bag limits.
Russell Dissly	Bozeman	MT	Walleye should be the #1 target species in Canyon Ferry. If the proposed changes are the best practices to getting back to the walleye fishery it once was the you get my approval.
Nate	Townsend	MT	I agree, and believe a limit of 10 is much better but I disagree with the smaller size limit because you will have lots of future smaller fish being caught and not given the opportunity to breed.
Pete Tompers	Great Falls	MT	Although I would like to think all sportsman could police themselves and release walleye over 15" to help allow growth, the limit should be only 1 over 15" until we see growth in canyon ferry.
Caleb Feuerstein	Helena	MT	I agree with the proposed regulations! People are harvesting too many fish from Canyon Ferry. Please don't allow what happened to the perch in Holter to happen to the walleye in canyon ferry.
Jon Moore	Helena	MT	I am in favor.
Tim	Helena	MT	it sounds like a good idea, let the population grow. Also training and enforcement would help. I know some people that catch their bag limit everyday. I don't think they understand possession limit.
Pat Lorensen	Missoula	MT	I support the proposed regulation changes.
James yates III	Whitehall	MT	I agree with the proposed changes.
marko miller	GREAT FALLS	MT	I agree with the proposed changes to the reservoirs as it is long over do we manage the walleye for future generations.
Jesse taylor	Helena	MT	I agree to the changes
Davis Ritter	Roberts	MT	I agree with changes.
Tim Dreier	Bozeman	MT	I am definitely FOR changing to 1 over 15"
Brian Dunaetz	Three Forks	MT	10 fish with one over 15" sounds like a good plan. But there also needs to be more Forage species planted into CF and houser. Without the forage base for predators to feed on the growth rates will not reach everyone's goal.

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Ivan kenter	Cascade	MT	Can we please try for once simplifying the regs, you write them in a manner not easily read, and seem to go out of the way to make them confusing
Brian Rooney	Townsend	MT	I am in support of the 10 fish with 1 over 15" .
Josh andres	Belgrade	MT	Yes change limit from 20 to 10....or 6 , 1 over 15" is plenty
Richard Burley	Glendive	MT	I would even be in favor of a 5 walleye limit on both lakes and I am ok with only 1 fish over 15" or even have a slot limit to improve their quality of fish you could catch.
Cody Mummey	Clancy	MT	5 Walleye per day / no size limit
Tyler Bumgarner	Great Falls	MT	I definitely agree with the changes as it is a step in the right direction. I still don't see a reason for there to be a 10 fish limit. Nobody needs to take 10 fish perday. I vote for a 5 or 6 fish limit.
DARYL MILLER	Three Forks	MT	i agree with the proposed regulation change for the reservoirs
Patricia McDonough	Townsend	MT	A limit of ten with only one over 15 inches I support. That being said, I would like to see a presence of wardens enforcing these restrictions. Many so called sportsmen are less than law abiding.
Jesse Langner	Bozeman	MT	I support protecting the bigger fish and decreasing the daily limits.
Tim Frederick	Helena	MT	All these fisheries should be managed in a way to provide better quality fish. These lakes provide direct economy support from walleye fisherman and should be acknowledged and taken I to account.
James T Carver	Malta	MT	I agree 100%
Pete Jellar	Kalispell	MT	I support the 10 fish limit and slot limit of 1 over 15 inches
Rod Siemens	Townsend	MT	Support the changes. Would prefer to see a daily limit of 5 fish with only one over 15. Possession limit is a joke unless you start enforcing it - until then, why bother! Dozens of the very same anglers catch and keep a limit for them, their spouse, and kids, throughout the week and nearly every weekend all summer long. I live there and see it all summer long. Freezers are full of fish. Enforce the law of eliminate it all together- it's a joke as is.
Bob Bahr	Great Falls	MT	I agree with proposed changes of walleye limits and length restrictions for walleyes in Canyon Ferry and Hauser Reservoir. Let the fish have a chance to get bigger.
Mark Mariano	Butte	MT	I am writing to oppose the proposed regulation changes for walleye in Canyon Ferry and Houser Reservoirs. To argue against the proposed size limit, I will use quotes from your own biologists which were published in your agency's magazine. In the May-June 2020 issue of Montana Outdoor Magazine, the article "Walleye start receiving the catch-and-release treatment" there is a quote from FWP Fish Biologist Heath Headly. It reads, "What usually limits walleye numbers and average size is spawning habitat and decent water levels, not the lack of eggs." This comment refers to the growing trend of releasing larger fish to protect spawning-sized individuals and/or the shaming others who do not follow the practice. By changing the size limit to one fish above 15 in. per day, you would be reducing harvest opportunities as a whole while at the same time, not making any changes to the factors (spawning habitat and water levels) that limit average size. Additionally, the new regulation would perpetuate the attitude that it is the angler's fault, not habitat, that are contributing to smaller size fish. In the same article, Adam Strainer, FWP fisheries biologist in Helena states, "Canyon Ferry's walleye population could benefit from far more harvest..." and "If anglers want to see more fish over 20 inches, they'll have to start keeping a lot more of those little guys." These statements seem directly contradict the proposed reduction in daily limit from 20 to 10.

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Seth Wheeler	Great Falls	MT	Lowering the limit to 10 walleyes daily / 20 possession is a great idea. I'd like to see that limit even lower, but its a start. I also agree with the 1 over 15" rule.
Blaine Goosen	Great Falls	MT	I would love to see the limit reduced to 10. I have a family of 4, and 10 small walleye (15 inches or less) is sufficient for a meal. I am afraid people would, and have, abused liberal limits in the past. Foe example, I know of families that were keeping 200 perch in a single day on Holter a few years ago. This is unnecessary and irresponsible. Let's avoid this abuse of our resources with a limit of 10 walleye and a length restriction.
Roger Olsen	Boulder	MT	I am in support of the reduced limits and 15" size limit. There are way too many hot dogs. Another aspect of this waterbody system that needs to be looked at is the forage base. The trout are competing for walleye for the limited amount of forage. Trout are found everywhere and there is an opportunity to turn this stretch into an amazing walleye fishery. Rainbow and browns are also non-native so why not manage for walleye for once.
Kenneth Hanna	Roberts	MT	If you limit the fish to 10 fish and only 1 over 15 you will only eliminate the smaller fish. You should drop the limit to 5
Trisha	Eureka	MT	Reduce the take home limit to 5 and allow up to a 17" fish 15" is a reasonably small fish to get a meal off of I primarily fish sakakawea due to working in that area. The minimum keep length is 15 and only5 per day. The river runs pretty consistent with nice fish with this type of limit
Tim Jacobs	Kalispell	MT	I support the proposal for CF and Hausa walleye management plan.
Clay Anderson	Kalispell	MT	I'm in support the canyon ferry proposal
Dale Gilbert	Ulm	MT	I support the proposed changes on Canyon Ferry and Hauser to reduce the daily walleye limits to 10 fish, with not more than 1 over 15".
Patricia Hickey	Kalispell	MT	I support the proposed regulation change to enhance walleye fishing on both Canyon Ferry and Hauser reservoirs.
Robert HICKEY	KALISPELL	MT	I support Proposed Changes to improve Canyon Ferry and Hauser Reservoirs walleye fisheries.

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Richard Tatarka	Bozeman	MT	Hello, In light of proposed changes to Regulations regarding Walleye on Canyon Ferry and Hauser, I am strongly opposed to any changes to the current regulations. Your assumptions regarding the Walleye size and count cannot be based on your findings from the data you have. Here's why: 1. Your creel count numbers are WAY Off. Your Biologists collecting Data especially at Broadwater Bay are missing the vast majority of fishermen because of the utter disdain most Walleye Fishermen have for them and the FWP. Walleye Fishermen are going to great lengths to avoid these biologist, and as a result the Data isn't accurate. 2. Given the more than average number of windy days in 2020, just how accurate were the netting surveys last year? 3. How can the liberal Walleye Regulations of the past few years suddenly be of no use? My Walleye Fishing Friends and Myself are still catching a plethora of small malnourished fish. There are still way too many Walleye in Canyon Ferry because of the general lack of forage common in this type of water body, and this new regulation will do nothing to help the situation. 4. Canyon Ferry is not capable of becoming the Walleye Mecca that the "Boys in the Big Fancy Boats" want it to be. There simply is not enough food in the Reservoir for any sort of sustainable Walleye Fishery that they are trying their best to achieve, and once again, sound science is thrown to the wayside just to accommodate these Wannabe Biologists... Keep the current Regulations as they are at least until the end of the current Management Timeframe, and let science take its course for a change. Thank You, Richard Tatarka
bryan tomlinson	harlowton	MT	I support the changes for Canyon Ferry to 10 fish daily and only one over 15". I support the same for the Missouri River. Do not have two different regs. In your words it will be an enforcement nightmare. I also would like to see stepped up enforcement on the south end of the lake making sure the regs are followed.
Zach Flanagan	Townsend	MT	A 5-10 walleye limit is a great thing. We should never be catching and keeping 20 eye per day.
Dennis Hovden	Townsend	MT	I support alternative 2 keeping the river and lake the same limit.
Scott Bond	Billings	MT	I agree with the proposed limit for walleye
Tim Warburton	Billings	MT	I agree with the proposed regulation change for the reservoirs
Taner Brown	Belgrade	MT	I agree 10 walleye with no more then one over 15"
Nate Messer	Helena	MT	Limit should be 5 walleye per day , with 2 over 15.
Leon Scoles	Helena	MT	Please consider a size increase from the "only 1 fish over 15 inches" to 16 inches. Typically the smallest walleye I will ever keep is 13 1/2 inches. In my opinion, keeping anything smaller is a waste of a resource. With that in mind, that leaves fishermen with an inch and a half slot limit. Looking at the fish I catch on Canyon Ferry, I don't think increasing the size limit to 16 inches will make a harmful impact to the goals that are trying to be achieved here. Thanks for your consideration in this matter. Leon Scoles
Colter crawford	Townsend	MT	I agree with 10 fish only one over 15 inches
Jonathan Paulson	Bozeman	MT	Lower the limit from 10 to 5. With no fish kept between 20 and 25". And a closed season on walleye from March 1 to May 1 allowing the fish to properly spawn without and stress. The fishery is one of the best in the state and naturally occurs without any planted fingerlings and draws fisherman from all over the state of Montana and surrounding states
Adam Conter	Helena	MT	Lower the limit to 10 and only one over 15. Keep this for five years then change length limit to 20.
Jim Stipcich	Hejena	MT	Support proposed regs for each

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Cameron Nizdil	Townsend	MT	I agree with ten fish one over 15 inches stop stocking trout
lawrence hilton	hamilton	MT	please,make the walleyes regulation the same for canyon ferry and the river above . the economic loss by me personally has been dramatic as I do not fish these two fisheries any more! we need big walleyes!
Larry Sickerson	Helena	MT	Is Lake Helena included with your Hauser Lake recommendation? I would like to encourage you to go with one fish over 16" in the daily limit for Hauser and Canyon Ferry.
Steve Gaub	Helena	MT	Please make the regs the same for the reservoir and the river. 10 fish per day, one over 15 inches.
Randy Morris	Helena	MT	I support the proposed changes to limit and size.
Terry McArdle	East Helena	MT	Canyon Ferry : Alt #2... Is still liberal but most logical of the choices. Please lower the limit 10 walleye with only one over 15". What you have been doing for over 20 years is not satisfactory at all.
Pete Cradinal	Craig	MT	Highly support
Tom Robinson	Bozeman	MT	I would like to see a 5 fish limit to follow the rest of montana.no fish over 20". No perch tournaments for three years. Maybe stock native sauger in there. No more out of state trout.
Chris Anderson	Townsend	MT	Please limit to 5/day. Only one over 15"
Tom Tubbs	HELENA	MT	I support the proposed regulation change of 10 walleye daily and only 1 over 15".
Zach Gilliland	Colstrip	MT	I support the proposed regulations for CF and HR.
Lonnie lundin	Helena	MT	I wholeheartedly support the suggested implementation of reduced bag limits and only 1 fish over 15 inches. I would like to see it taken a step further, I suggest lowering the limit of harvest on Hauser to 5 fish daily and 1 over 15". There has been an unprecedented increase in recreation due to the pandemic and I worry that Hauser and Lake Helena walleye populations will not be able to handle the increased pressure.
CHAD TOMPERS	BOZEMAN	MT	LIMIT OF 10 FISH 1 OVER 15" IS AGREED
Guy Mellick	Billings	MT	I would like to see these changes. Or even 5 fish daily one over 15"
Gordon Robinson	GREAT FALLS	MT	I believe the 10 walleye, 1 over 15 inches is a great step forward in having these fisheries recover and get quality fish back in the reservoirs. It's been an uphill battle in these waters, so this change is a good attempt. Thanks FWP for being responsive.
Ed Heinlein	Helena	MT	This suggestion will be for ALL of the Upper Missouri river ecosystem. It has been suggested before, but you state it is impossible. Sadly, your recommendations are to punish the fishermen/women. Your solution is based on the assumption that the loss of population and size of walleye are entirely due to over fishing! If this were not so, you would not have ONLY suggested a reduction in the harvest and size limits of the harvests. You refuse to consider and implement what these fish have available to eat? Offering a solution that would include an increase to the available forage for these fish, or better yet, provide OTHER forage available to these local populations would have a profound effect on how well these fish could and would thrive! You have already proven this fact in both Tiber and Fort Peck Reservoirs!!! But alas, you continue to refuse or deny that this is a viable solution to you chronic problem.
Julie Gillespie	Helena	MT	I agree with the 10 fish daily. One of which can be over 15"
Matt Zeadow	Townsend	MT	I like the proposed changes to canyon ferry and Hauser this should help a ton.

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Justin Osborne	Three forks	MT	Canyon ferry needs some major help. I fish the lake weekly. The number of fish under 15 inches is incredible, while the fish over 15 are far and few between. Because of this fishermen keep every fish over 15 inches that they catch. Limiting it to 10 fish and 1 over 15 would help immensely. I think over just a few years the populations could really balance out. Also the river should be treated the same as the lake. The river has the highest population of larger fish and people go target the river, I have seen hundreds of guys that keep 10 or more eyes larger than 18 inches every time they go out.
Jacob Spurlock	Townsend	MT	I'm ok with proposed changes could be better... like 5 fish 1 over 16 let the fishery get more stable for 10 years and then re look at it and see what changes would be need to make..
jim gillespie	HELENA	MT	I am in favor of the proposed regulation change on CF. and Hauser Reservoirs.
Troy Warburton	toston	MT	I support lowering the limit to 10 fish with a 1 over 15" protection slot
Brian McCarty	Harrison	MT	Seems like a good plan as far as the limit. Size limit seems maybe a little small to me. I would think 1 fish over 17 or 18 would give a guy more eatable fish but I'm no biologist so not sure how that affects reproduction.
chad I danielson	greatfalls	MT	You should absolutely change the daily limit on these 2 lakes. It should be more like 5 a day but 10 is a good start. The Fish and Game has pretty much destroyed Canyon Ferry as a walleye fishery with it's high limits the past several years. By doing so you have caused way more pressure on other lakes that have walleye and hurt the economy around Canyon Ferry and Houser.
Bart Bratlien	Helena	MT	The regulation change to 10 fish with no more than one over 15" makes very good sense in an effort to increase the average size of walleye in Canyon Ferry and, as a result, increase angler satisfaction.
Ron Kosena	Helena	MT	PLANT A FORAGE BASE!!! Look, in typical FWP mismanagement style, you are basically telling the local area "we're gonna do what we want" which means sports men and women who actually pay FWP salaries through license sales get stuck with smaller fish, and less of them at that. This shit ain't rocket science gang. Clearly, the perch population cannot support the amount of top tier predators in the watershed from above Toston dam to Great Falls that includes Northern Pike, Walleye, Bubot, Rainbow and Brown Trout. The reason the fish are small is because there isn't enough for them to eat. The answer isn't mandating I take less and smaller fish. Give them something to eat! Like Cisco. Or Emerald Shiners, or Dace, something! If you continue to walk the path of the Dodo, like you are, the trout will mostly be fine, the perch will disappear, and the walleye will all be 6-8 inches. The Northerns, well, they'll just continue to be the 45+ inchers we catch just like today because 25 inch Northern eat 15 inch rainbows like French fries. Pull your head out. Care about managing the resource, rather than license sales. Unless you want fishing licenses to slump like the Big Game license sales slump. Same same BTW. Apex predator heavy - deer population tanks, elk population moves from forest to private. PLANT A FORAGE BASE!
Jim Taflan	Helena	MT	Agree with the proposed regulation changes for the two reservoirs. It makes good management sense and is easy to understand and follow! Thanks, Jim
Bill Greenwood	Cascade	MT	My opinion and I think I share this with the people I fish with is we want some walleye to eat. A walleye under 15" hasn't got much meat on it. I can understand a less fish limit but don't think only one over 15" is reasonable. I'll go fish somewhere else if that is the rules.

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Steven J Anderson	Laurel	MT	15 inch walleye are quite small, why not one over 18" this size to me seems to have a better survival rate when released.