

From: [Andresino, Michael L.](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Regulations - Proposal for Repeal of ARMs 12.11.6702 and 12.11.6706
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 2:40:50 PM

Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission
Madison River Comments
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena MT 59601

Dear Commission Staff:

I listened in to the December 15 hearing on the proposal to repeal ARMs 12.11.6702 and 12.11.6706, dealing with rest/rotation and walk/wade regulations on the upper Madison River. I am writing to say that I support the proposed repeal, and further, I support the adoption of rules that would restore the regulatory “status quo” that I understand has prevailed on the upper Madison for at least several decades.

I write as an angling tourist to Montana, who has traveled there to fish the upper Madison River and other rivers in each of the last three summers. I live in Massachusetts and enjoy fly-fishing in fresh and salt water throughout the New England region, with occasional trips to other fishing destinations in the U.S. and Canada. I am member of the Board of Directors of Greater Boston Trout Unlimited (our local TU chapter), although these comments represent my own personal views.

My trips to Southwest Montana over three years have totaled 27 days, with 23 angling days in a combination of guided float, guided wading and non-guided wading trips. I note that all of these days have been in the month of August.

From this limited view, I have to say that I have not found overcrowding or angler conflicts to be an issue at all. The upper Madison in late summer has given me and my travel companions a great, world-class fishing experience. While long time users might find it intolerable, I found the number of fellow anglers to be reasonable, even on weekends on popular stretches. I found the riverbanks and FAS areas to be pristine and free of trash. Compared to most other places I fish, Montana is paradise.

I respectfully believe our biggest problems are not our fellow anglers, even given the explosive growth of Southwest Montana. While a fix is beyond the power of the Commission, the hotter, dryer climate and what that will do to fishing, hunting and all other recreation in the coming years is a far bigger challenge.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and I look forward to many more years of fishing the Madison.

Regards,

Michael Andresino
225 Woodland Rd.

Milton, MA 02186
michael.andresino@arentfox.com

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From: [Hasemann, Charles](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fisheries: Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 6:37:32 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Charles Hasemann

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Katie Burford](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 10:33:09 PM

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Sara Burford

From: [Bill Drulias](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 Madison River
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 10:01:36 PM

Subject: Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 Madison River

Commissioners:

I have just received word that you have reversed course on a proposal to allow float fishing on the Madison River from Reynolds to Lyons Bridge. I would like to commend and thank you for your long-range forethought for the health of the river and fishery.

I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River. Please repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

With so much of the river being opened to floating and with all the negative impacts that the river/fishery face today, I believe your recent decision will help protect the Madison River environment for the river's health. Fish, birds, mammals and yes, even people will benefit into the future if you repeal 12.11.6702 fully.

Thank you.

Bill Drulias

411 Effey Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

15 Sturdy Lane, Cameron, Montana, 59720

From: [Michael Bias](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#); [commissionerregion1@mtfwp.org](#); [commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org](#); [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](#); [KC Walsh](#); [commissionerregion5@mtfwp.org](#); [commissionerregion6@mtfwp.org](#); [commissionerregion7@mtfwp.org](#)
Cc: [Brant Oswald](#); [Jason Orzechowski](#); [Abigail St. Lawrence](#); [Chris Bradley](#); [Jeremy Gilbertson](#); [Jason Fleury](#); [Matt Hargrave](#); [Brian Rosenberg](#); [Tony Reinhardt](#); [Tucker Nelson](#); [Zach Scott](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FOAM's Revised Comments on repeal ARM 12.11.6702 and ARM 12.11.6706
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 3:41:39 PM
Attachments: [FOAM Commission Letter Re WW RR \(revised 17Dec21\).pdf](#)

Commissioners:

Following comments from Ms. Jessica Snyder at the 15 December 2021 public hearing, **the Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana (FOAM)** understood and supports that the repeal of ARM 12.11.6702 and ARM 12.11.6706 would maintain the existing closure to fishing from boats/vessels on the Quake Lake Outlet to Lyons Bridge section and Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake section of the Madison River. **Please find attached our written comments.**

FOAM fully supports that If ARM 12.11.6706 - Rest/Rotation of Madison River Commercial Use is repealed, the Commission to correspondingly repeal ARM 12.11.6702 - Walk/Wade Sections of the Madison River while maintaining the existing closure to fishing from boats/vessels on the Quake Lake Outlet to Lyons Bridge section and Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake section of the Madison River.

As a past member of the Madison Negotiated Rulemaking Committee and current member of the Madison River Work Group, FOAM is committed to providing biologically meaningful and adaptive recreation management recommendations to the Commission that will protect and conserve the renowned resource of the Madison River into the future.

Thank you for your time and work on this important issue.

Respectfully,
mike

--

Michael A. Bias, Ph.D.
Executive Director
406-925-2276 (cell)



From: caroline.farrar@comcast.net
To: [FWP Madison River COM](http://FWP.MadisonRiver.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 3:15:22 PM

Commissioners

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Attention: Fisheries

Re: Madison River Rules Comment: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I live in California, however, my family has been visiting Montana (in particular the Ennis area) for over 70 years. We fully support being good stewards of the Madison River, one of your treasures.

I'm writing to support maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. In particular, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge, which should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for many wade fishermen. The repeal of these rules would lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle the additional fishing pressure. River usage should accommodate each type of fisherman and fisherwoman in a fair way, with the ultimate goal of preserving and protecting the river itself.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Caroline Farrar Grey

Tiburon, California

From: [Jan Hill](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Raynolds to Lyons section of the Upper Madison River
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 2:47:53 PM

Commissioners:

Please maintain the wade/walk status of the Raynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River. I ask that you repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

I am sure that you must be under pressure from economic forces to open nearly the entire river to guided boat fishing. You can do the right thing and stand up for the health of the trout that drive this economic engine. Trout need areas with fewer fisher people. The fishery has degraded since my childhood in the 1950s and 1960s. We may not be able to return the Madison to its flows, temperature, lack of invasive muscels, etc. but we can take some human pressure off fish to give them hiding places and space.

With the recent debacle with the dam gate and subsequent lack of flow, it is more urgent than ever to protect fish as a resource. And also because it is the right thing to do. Years ago, David Quammen wrote about trout and synecdoche making the point that if trout thrive, the river system is healthy, desirable, balanced. Attractive to humans. Healthy trout define the whole of the Madison Valley. Healthy trout arise from good decisions. The Madison Valley has more people, more homes, drier winters than in the past and therefore it is more incumbent than ever on us to protect the river and the animals that depend on it.

I fish less now than I used to but my advocacy for the beloved Madison River has not waned. We are not greater than the trout; we are dependent on the trout for the Madison Valley to feel whole. I hope the economic forces understand that we must all be river/trout stewards for fishing jobs to continue into the future. Less pressure on fish now makes for a healthier future trout population and thereby allows people to continue to benefit from their relationship with trout. Please focus on the long term in your decision making.

I ask that you repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

Sincerely,

Jan Hill
411 Effey St
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
And
15 Sturdy Lane
Cameron, MT 59720

From: [Bill Sachs](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 2:00:53 PM
Attachments: [2021-12-17-Walk Wade Madison.pdf](#)

William R. Sachs
St. James Investment Company
3838 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 1414
Dallas, Texas 75219
Direct Dial 214.484.7250 x203
Facsimile: 214.889.5057
Email: bill@stjic.com
Website: <http://www.stjic.com> [stjic.com]

From: [Mark v](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 1:51:32 PM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat.

The walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen and the repeal of the current rule will lead to overcrowding in sections of the Madison River not able to handle additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Mark Varel

Mark Varel

From: [James Lee](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade Regulations
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 12:16:58 PM
Attachments: [Montana Wade Fishing Letter.pdf](#)

Gentlemen,

Attached are my thoughts regarding the changes contemplated for walk/wade regulations on the Madison River. I appreciate your consideration.

Regards,

James Lee

From: [Hugh Zackheim](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River ARM Rule -- Comment
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 11:21:49 AM

Comment on the repeal of ARM 12.11.6702
Submitted by Hugh Zackheim, Helena, MT
December 17, 2021

I support repeal of ARM 12.11.6702, which would open the upper Madison River between Reynolds Pass Bridge and Lyons Bridge to fishing from a boat on weekends from June 15 through September 30, beginning in 2022.

My purpose in supporting repeal of this rule is to keep the existing prohibition on fishing from a boat on the entirety of the section of the upper Madison River from the Quake Lake outlet downstream to Lyons Bridge. This prohibition has been in place since at least 1987, and continues to serve an important and popular purpose of providing a place exclusively reserved for wade fishing.

Additionally, I understand that the simple repeal of ARM 12.11.6702 may not be sufficient to accomplish this goal, so I would urge the Department and the Commission to work together to craft and adopt appropriate language that does achieve the goal of keeping the walk/wade section intact by continuing the existing prohibition on fishing from boats in this section of river.

Here are some further details regarding why I believe ARM 12.11.6702 should be repealed and the walk/wade status quo should be continued.

During this past summer myself and a small group of other volunteers handed out questionnaires to over 300 individuals fishing the upper Madison walk/wade section between Reynolds Pass Bridge and Lyons Bridge. We wanted to know anglers' thoughts on the new rule that would allow fishing from boats in the river section. This section has been closed to float fishing since the 1980s, and through these last four decades has developed a deserved reputation as one of the top wild trout wade-fishing experiences in the country.

Our questionnaire asked, "Should anglers be allowed to fish from a boat on the Madison River from Reynolds Pass Bridge to Lyons Bridge?" The results? 99% of the respondents — 301 out of 305 — answered NO.

Many of these anglers have fished this section of the Madison for decades, and they enthusiastically support the walk/wade status quo. They're very concerned about conflicts between waders and boaters if fishing from boats is allowed here beginning in 2022.

Here's a statement submitted by one of our survey respondents, a southwest Montana resident, that I find to be particularly on point:

"Three Dollar Bridge and the surrounding waters have been special to me as an angler for over 25 years. This is a place where any angler of any background, socioeconomic factor or ability can have access to world class fishing opportunities and camaraderie. People of

shared interest come together, discussions break out in the parking areas and friendships are made. I'm a boat owner but believe some places must remain sacred. I know that boat traffic interrupts the solitude of wading and negates the effort of those who choose to hike in."

Finally I want to express my thanks to the members Madison River Work Group and the Fish & Wildlife Commission for their timely action in addressing this important recreation issue — before it becomes a problem —by seeking repeal of ARM rule 12.11.6702 and by adopting any other necessary language to maintain the no-fishing-from-boats regulation year-round throughout the Quake to Lyons walk/wade section.

From: [Jeff Hackmeyer](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade, Rest/Rotation Public Hearing
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 10:35:48 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[doc00612120211217113701.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Please see attached letter regarding the walk/wade sections of the Madison River.

Jeff Hackmeyer
3300 Oak Lawn Ave, STE 412
Dallas, TX 75219
C 901.484.5575
jeff.hackmeyer@gmail.com

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From: [Margot McGee](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of Walk/Wade Section of Madison
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 10:25:05 AM

Madison River Comments, FWP

To whom it may concern,

I have been fishing on the Upper Madison River for the past 18 years and believe that the Walk/Wade Sections of the Madison from town to Ennis Lake and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should **REMAIN** Walk / Wade.

Thanks,

Margot McGee

Margot McGee
Email: a.margot.mcgee@gmail.com
Cell: (214) 519-1465

From: [Sandy Sandy Oaks Oaks Ranch](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] fisheries
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 10:05:28 AM
Attachments: [Scan 2021-12-17 10.58.46.pdf](#)

Please find attached a letter of support for maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison river.

Sincerely,
Leo

From: [Spencer Diebel](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade, Rest/Rotation Public Hearing Today
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 9:54:31 AM
Attachments: [Montana FWP Comments Dec 2021.pdf](#)

Please see the attached.

--

Spencer C. Diebel

From: [Doug Harbison](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade, Rest/Rotation Public Hearing
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 9:41:47 AM
Attachments: [Montana FWP Comments Dec 2021.docx](#)

Hello,

Please see attached comments letter. Thank you.

From: [James Cagle](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 12.11.6702 WALK/WADE SECTIONS OF MADISON RIVER
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 9:27:27 AM
Attachments: [Montana FWP Comments Dec 2021.docx](#)

Dear Commissioners,

Please find my comments letter to your proposed rules changes. I am against your proposed repeal of 12.11.6702.

Best,

James A. Cagle
Inroads Realty
O | 972.764.5402 C | 214.763.3085
jcagle@inroadsrealty.com

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From: [Charlie Burford](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 8:27:26 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

--

Charlie Burford
Work: 214-447-7511
Cell: 469-261-8268
Email: CharlieSBurford@gmail.com

From: [William McGee](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk / Wade Section of the Upper Madison
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 8:13:51 AM

Madison River Comments, FWP

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am a land owner on the Upper Madison River and have been enjoying this resource my entire life.

The Walk/Wade Sections of the Madison from town to Ennis Lake and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should REMAIN Walk / Wade in order to continue to protect these pristine sections of the Madison River. If it were to open up to allow fishing from a boat, these sections would be subject to an unsustainable amount of pressure. Additionally, breeding and refuge grounds for an abundance of waterfowl species would receive unnecessary pressure and crowding.

Please let me know of any questions.

Many thanks for all you do,

William McGee

214.500.5216

From: [Smith, Mary Catherine](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 7:53:46 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Mary Catherine Smith

Mary Catherine Smith

Senior Communications Manager

HKS

350 N Saint Paul St, #100, Dallas, TX 75201

+1 214 969 3358 | www.hksinc.com [hksinc.com]

To send large files, please use my [Thru](#) dropbox [hks.thruinc.net]

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From: [Paula Burford](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed rule changes
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 7:12:17 AM

"Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely, "

Thanks,

Paula M. Burford

35 years fishing on the Madison

214 769-1199

From: [Margaret Hasemann](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 6:52:08 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

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Sincerely,

Margaret Hasemann Scadron
734.277.7918

From: [Meek, Katheryn](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 6:50:54 AM

"Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

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Sincerely, "

Thanks,

kathy meek hasemann

Katheryn Meek, Professor
Microbiology & Molecular Genetics, Pathobiology & Diagnostic Investigation
Biomedical and Physical Sciences Building
567 Wilson Rd., Rm 2215
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824

kmeek@msu.edu

From: [Charlie Burford](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.702
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 6:29:51 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

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Sincerely,

Charlie Burford

O: 214-447-7511

Charlie@burfordbrothers.com

www.BurfordBrothers.com [burfordbrothers.com]

7001 Preston, Rd. Suite 405

Dallas, TX 75205



[\[linkedin.com\]](https://www.linkedin.com)



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From: [patrick wallace](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 5:53:34 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat.

The walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen and the repeal of the current rule will lead to overcrowding in sections of the Madison River not able to handle additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Pat Wallace

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ClearDirection1](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River walk/wade
Date: Friday, December 17, 2021 4:31:31 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat.

The walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen and the repeal of the current rule will lead to overcrowding in sections of the Madison River not able to handle additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Bob Smith

From: [Mike Cagle](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 12.11.6702 WALK/WADE SECTIONS OF MADISON RIVER
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 7:17:31 PM
Attachments: [Montana FWP Comments Dec 2021.docx](#)

Commissioners, please find my comments letter to your proposed rules changes. I am against your proposed repeal of 12.11.6702.

Mike Cagle
1221 W. Campbell Road, Ste. 101
Richardson, TX 75080
mcagle@inroadsrealty.com
T 972.764.6001
C 214.502.6313

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From: [Patrick K. McGee](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Cc: [Patrick K. McGee](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of Walk/Wade Sections of Madison
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 5:40:20 PM

Madison River Comments, FWP

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am a land owner on the Upper Madison River and have been enjoying this resource for over 20 years.

The Walk/Wade Sections of the Madison from town to Ennis Lake and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should REMAIN Walk / Wade!

Sincerely,

Patrick K. McGee

From: [King Offutt](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Do not Repeal 12.11.6702
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 12:15:59 PM
Attachments: [20211216142252484.pdf](#)

Please see attached. Thank you

William N. Offutt
President and COO
BC Wood Properties

From: [Mike Terry](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter from Mike Terry Regarding Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 10:35:54 AM
Attachments: [Repeal of 12.11.6702 - Letter from Mike Terry.pdf](#)

Dear Commissioners,

Please find attached my letter regarding Repeal of 12.11.6702

Regards,

Mike Terry
President

M. Terry Enterprises, Inc
12240 Inwood Road
Suite 300
Dallas, TX 75244
<http://mterryenterprises.com/> [mterryenterprises.com]

214.368.1550 ph
214.361.4835 fx
mike@mterryent.com

From: mary.catherine.smith
To: [FWP Madison River COM](mailto:FWP.Madison.River.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 9:35:20 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Mary Catherine Smith

--

Mary Catherine Smith
214.557.8274

From: [Michael Terry](#)
To: commissionerregion6@mtfwp.org
Cc: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of 12.11.6702 - Need Walk/Wade Sections
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 8:30:27 AM
Attachments: [MT FWP Madison River Rules Letter.pdf](#)

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioner Lesley Robinson,
I highly support maintaining the current walk and wade sections of the Madison River. The sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis lake and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge shouldn't allow fishing from a boat. These walk and wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen and ensure the vital spawning grounds near lake Ennis are not over pressured and damaged. Any impact to this stretch of the river will damage the health of the entire river. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure. Please get this right for the wildlife and everyone's sake. Thanks for taking the time to listen.

Sincerely,
Michael Terry (406) 682-3301
56 Cottonwood Lane
Ennis, MT 59729

Michael Terry



12240 Inwood Road, Suite 300
Dallas, TX 75244

Direct: 214-891-3096
Mobile: 214-728-0933

<http://mterryenterprises.com/> [mterryenterprises.com]

From: [Travis Terry](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk / Wade in the Madison River
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 7:46:18 AM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Travis Terry, I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,

Travis Terry

From: [Scott Burford](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support maintaining the current walk/wade sections of the Madison River
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 6:59:07 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Madison River Rules Comment

madisonrivercom@mt.gov

Attention: Fisheries

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,



Scott Burford, CFA

O: 214-523-2333

C: 214-675-1984

Scott@burfordbrothers.com

www.burfordbrothers.com [burfordbrothers.com]

7001 Preston Road, Suite 405

Dallas, TX 75205



[\[linkedin.com\]](https://www.linkedin.com)



[\[facebook.com\]](https://www.facebook.com)



[\[instagram.com\]](https://www.instagram.com)

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anyone or make copies thereof.

From: [Mark Momberg](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River regulations
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 6:41:16 AM

Greetings FWP commissioners,

I am writing to express my view that walk and wade sections from Hebgen to Lyons Bridge and Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake remain walk and wade without the ability to fish from boats.

In 1989 my family and I started our fly fishing adventures walking and wading these sections. We find it to be the only refuge left on the Upper Madison River. To alter the the walk and wade and permit fishing from boats in these sections would degrade the river experience remarkably.

As I understand a strong majority of public comments support the position I do. In this case the best scenario is to preserve the walk and wade character of these sections. Thank you for your consideration.

Mark Momberg
4615 Equestrian Lane
Bozeman, MT
406-580-4636

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Steve Becker](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk wade
Date: Thursday, December 16, 2021 6:26:54 AM

I am a fisherman who travels to Montana every year to fish the Madison. Please keep the walk wade sections in place and do not change the regulations that have worked for years especially on the lower river where the river narrows and boats are extremely disruptive to waders.

From: [Dale Tribby](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade rule
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:30:30 PM

Madison River Commission;

I would ask that you maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River and I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702. This section of the river was never intended to be accessed by boat. Even though it can be quite a hike, I appreciate fishing this stretch of river without the presence of drift boats. In the past, when I have observed drift boats floating down the river, I see them sneaking a cast into a pool I am in the process of accessing. There is a reason boats were prevented from using this portion of the river, namely to reduce overcrowding. With the huge increase in angler use, especially by outfitted clients, this extra pressure is not needed.

Please make the correct decision, avoiding the well orchestrated pressure from FOAM and their allies.

Thank you

Dale Tribby
Miles City, MT
406.951.4429

From: [Keith Shein](#)
To: [Snyder, Jessica](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Additional Comment
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:00:42 PM

I had previously written the Commission regarding my belief that ARM 12.11.6702 should be rescinded, and that fishing from boats should not be allowed in the walk-wade section of the Madison River. I'm writing again, after today's meeting, to reconfirm: any repeal of the proposed rule should not nullify the walk-wade section of the Madison River but return it to its original intent: no fishing from boats in this section of the river. The walk-wade section itself should not be overturned.

Keith Shein
25 Big Bend Road
Cameron, MT 59720

From: [Paul Gulbas](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/wade section on the Madison
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:36:57 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2021-12-15 at 6:34:38 PM.png](#)

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to handle this additional fishing pressure.

Sincerely,



Paul S Gulbas,MD

From: [Logan Owens](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Rules Comments
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:04:14 PM

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Madison River Rules Comment
madisonrivercom@mt.gov
Attention: Fisheries
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Repeal of 12.11.6702

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the maintaining the current walk/wade sections on the Madison River. Specifically, the sections from Ennis Fishing Access Site to Ennis Reservoir and from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge should not allow fishing from a boat. These walk/wade sections provide safe fishing conditions for wade fishermen. The repeal of those rules will lead to overcrowding on sections of the Madison not able to take this additional fishing pressure.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Logan Owens
Tex-Mix Partners
512-968-5820
logan@texmix.com

From: [jackie.mathews](#)
To: [Snyder, Jessica](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Walk/Wade Section
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 5:19:13 PM

We are writing to confirm that our previous comment in favor of repealing ARM 12.11.6702 is a comment in favor of keeping the regulation in effect that prohibits fishing from a boat on the upper Madison River Walk/wade section.

Thanking you in advance for considering our comment we remain;

Respectfully,

Craig and Jackie Mathews
80 E Horse Creek Rd
Cameron, Mt 59720

From: [greg kirchoff](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] raynolds to lyons
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:50:01 AM

please keep this section of the madison river to wading ONLY.
the boats have PLENTY of the river to fish and the experience of wading without boats should be preserved. at least in some areas. i have been fishing the madison for over 50 years and was there when boats first starting floating. i think a little wading preservation is earned and deserved by those of us who never get into a boat. and that particular stretch is not very long.

please repeal 12.11.6702.
thank you.

greg kirchoff
15 sturdy lane
cameron, mt. 59720

Sent from my iPad

From: [Andrew Friedrich](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Upper Walk /Wade Rules
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 7:38:16 PM

To the Commissioners of the FWP:

I write with my strong support to repeal allowance of fishing from a boat or vessel on the Madison's upper walk/wade section. I write as a non-resident who has no vote at the ballot box. But I do have a vote on where I expend my fishing trip dollars. I first came to fish what is now called the \$3.00 Bridge area long before it was called that, but you really did have to pay \$3.00 way back then. Over the decades since I've made many, many visits, and hope to make more. I'm opposed for two basic reasons. One is just personal, and in the overall scheme of things, trivial. I don't like getting low holed, high holed or whatever holed by floaters, who can access waters I have no hope of reaching on foot. To allow fishing from a boat, even just for a couple of days a week, will explode that. But more importantly, the fish need refuge. More important than ever in these days of intense fishing pressure on the upper Madison, there must at very least be some places where they can't be reached by a cast or drift. Please act to preserve that.

Andrew Friedrich
Port Townsend, Washington

From: [Paul Kirwin](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Walk/Wade Section
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 6:01:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Gentlemen and Ladies,

I am writing to add my voice to maintaining the status of the Raynolds-to-Lyon section of the upper Madison River. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

Having owned many float boats, the first one I couldn't afford, my wife and I have enjoyed many wonderful days on the Madison. However, recently, the pressure has gotten to the fish and us. There has to be a place on the upper Madison where fish don't experience the intense pressure that they feel below Lyons Bridge. Three dollar bridge is a gem and needs protection from guides/people fishing from boats.

Thank you for your consideration. I am an owner of property in Madison County.

Respectfully,

Paul Kirwin
3001 Meadows Drive
Park City, UT 84060

Paul Kirwin
1-800-645-0741 x505
[email](#) | [linkedin \[linkedin.com\]](#)

CHANNEL SIGNAL 
[Speed the Path to Purchase](#)
[\[channelsignal.com\]](#)

From: [Bruce Dau](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:41:41 PM

I fish the walk and wade section for much of the summer and early fall. It's important to:

1. Maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; and
2. Repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702

Allowing boat fishing would ruin the experience for most walk and wade anglers.

Also, Please consider closing fishing access between Hebgen and Quake Lake during the spring spawn in 2022. Last year, low water outflows at the end of the spring spawn left some of the redds high and dry. Now, with the unpresidented failure at Hebgen Dam the redds from fall spawn have been endangered. Until further studies show the effects of these potential damaging episodes, I believe that an obvious action is to close fishing between the lakes in spring 2022.

Bruce Dau

From: [Alison Child](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:30:20 PM

I am writing to encourage you to repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 which would allow fishing from boats in the Reynolds to Lyons section of the upper Madison River.

We contributed to the fundraiser that has kept the 3 dollar bridge open to public fishing. We always expected that the area would be open to foot fishing only. If you don't have a boat, this is really the best area to fish.

The river is under extreme pressure from guide trips. We need at least one area that the fish can be left alone from the boat pressure. At least the fish can go to the middle of the river there without too much harassment from anglers.

I also think we need to be very careful about how the river is managed this year. We don't know the ramifications yet of the damn malfunction. If we have to shut fishing off to bring populations back up, I'm fine with that. We need to think long term.

We own property in Madison County but our permanent address is in Park City Utah.

Thanks for your consideration and service,

Alison Child
3001 Meadows Drive
Park City, UT 84060

From: [David Klatt](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River hearing
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:58:17 PM

December 11, 2021

To Whom it Concerns:

I believe the change that was made allowing people to fish out of the boat in the wade section was a big error. The wade section should have been totally restricted to walk/wade fishing with no float access, let alone allowing people to fish out of a boat.

The rest rotation is a token effort to limit outfitter access. Since the moratorium on the number of guides was dropped way back in the 1980's the number of guides has exploded. You cannot get away from them. The Madison River is way too valuable to allow commercial activities to totally overrun the place. Fulfilling every young kid, from back east's, dream to be a fishing guide on the Madison River is not resource management.

The recent Hebgen Dam failure should have been a significant warning how fragile this wonderful natural resource is and how quickly it could be ruined.

Thank you, David Klatt West Yellowstone

From: [Barbara McClure](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River the upcoming decisions
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 10:12:51 AM

I am writing in support of maintaining the walk/wade status of the Reynolds to Lyons section of the upper Madison River and of repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702, the proposal that allows fishing from boats.

I have been fishing the Madison River for over thirty years, and six years ago my husband and I built a home in the Sundance Bench development where we reside six months out of the year. We'd stay longer, but our roads aren't plowed. In all the years I've been on the river, it's only in the past four or so years that I've seen a drastic increase in the amount of fishing and boats floating down river. At times the river looks like a Disney amusement ride there are so many, and back-to-back. While I understand the importance of income for the guides and the ecumenic advantages of having people visiting the state and keeping the small businesses alive, it's important to consider the long-term effects of over-fishing the river. Conservation can help maintain the health of the river and fish keep fishermen and women coming. Please consider the long-term benefits.

Respectfully,
Barbara McClure
25 Big Bend Road
Cameron, MT 59720

From: [SHEILA GUTHRIE](#)
To: [FWP Madison River.COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 3:24:17 PM

I agree that Montana should maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; and I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

Regards,
John Guthrie

From: [Robert Leasure](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of administrative rules related to the Madison River
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:54:43 AM

Good morning,

I want to express my support for repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 regarding opening of the Madison River between Reynolds Pass and Lyon Bridge to fishing from boats. As someone who has fished this stretch of river for over 20 years the current rule prohibiting fishing from boats in the stretch has worked well and provides the wading angler a welcome place to fish without dealing with a constant stream of boat anglers. I can say that I have never had a conflict with anyone floating through this stretch and stopping to fish (currently allowed). The impacts of opening this portion of the river to fishing from boats would also be extremely problematic should the current rest/rotation rule be enforced, particularly on Sundays.

I also fish the Madison below Lyon Bridge from my boat and most assuredly recognize the crowding which has been increasing on the river. However, I don't feel that either of these proposed regulations will do much to address the issue, merely shifting the impacts.

Thank you,

Robert Leasure
P.O. Box 1610 (1062 Chokecherry Lane)
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

From: [Patrick O'Toole](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NO to fishing from boats
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 1:13:21 PM

Emphatic NO to allowing fishing from boats between Quake and Lyons. As a dedicated wade fisherman this would completely ruin that stretch for me and other waders. What would be the point of huffing it from Reynolds or \$3 to attempt to find open water just to have a parade of boats casting to the bank your standing on? The walk/wade regs were created for a reason so let's not abandon them now.

Limit the number of out of state fishermen during peak season and the upper maddy will be worth going to again. Fishing pressure needs to be mitigated or the fishery will suffer. So instead of this rest/rotate nonsense which only puts an increased amount of pressure on the stretches of river not being rested, let's create a non resident fisherman daily limit. I understand that they bring in tourism dollars, but at what cost? Overrun the fishery now for an influx of tourism so that money is made in the short-term, in turn ruining the fishery and losing tourism in the long run due to worsened fishing? I understand that the resources in our area are available for everyone whether a local or from out of state, but I'm a firm believer in "Rather some people have a great time then everyone have an ok time." With the amount of people fishing the Madison during peak season, hard to believe anyone is having better than an "ok" time.

-Pat O'Toole

From: [Rege Dinkel](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed repeal of two ARM rules re: rest rotation and walk/wade sections of the Madison River
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 10:35:44 AM
Attachments: [RD Madison River Recreation Plan Comments 12082021.docx](#)

I'm in favor of MFWC repealing the two ARM rules pertaining to the rest rotation and walk/wade sections of the Madison River. My comments are attached. Thanks for your consideration.



Virus-free. www.avg.com [[avg.com](#)]

[\[avg.com\]](#)

From: [Dan Stockton](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal of adm. rule # 12.11.67o
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 12:31:36 PM

Montana Fish & wildlife Commission,

This letter is to inform the commission that I am in favor of repealing rule #12.11.670 and restricting float fishing from Raynolds Bridge to Lions Bridge. I see no valid reason to change this long standing regulation.

Sincerely Dan Stockton

"Perhaps fishing is, for me only an excuse to be near rivers.
If so, I am glad I thought of it"
Roderick Haig-Brown

From: [Tom McGuane](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 12:45:23 PM

I hope the walk-wade status of Reynolds-to-Lyons will be maintained. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702

There is very little of this kind of fishing left in Montana. It is mostly how we always fished before fishing became an extractive industry. I have no problem with drift boat fishing but it's very hard on any other form of the sport and there ought to be room for both, especially since wade fishermen are asking for so little. I remember a thoughtful drift boat guide offering to float Norman Maclean, author of "[A River Runs Through It](#)", down the Bitterroot. Mclean was unnecessarily blunt in replying, "*That's not trout fishing!*" I don't agree with this, and quote it for humor; but I have been fishing in Montana for 65 of my 82 year and I hope some room might be kept for those of us who like to stand in rivers while we fish. We look forward to seeing other wading anglers, and their guides, on the river.

Tom McGuane
McLeod, Montana

From: [dave arterburn](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Upper Madison River regulations
Date: Sunday, December 5, 2021 7:02:33 PM

My wife (Doris Arterburn) and I (James David Arterburn) wish to urge you to maintain the Wade-Walk restrictions on the Madison River from Reolds Pass to Lyons bridge and to repeal Rule 12.11.6702. Thank you. Dave Arterburn, 7 Sturdy Lane, Cameron , Mt 59720

From: [George Pyne](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Raynolds to Lyons bridge on Madison River
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 8:14:01 AM

To whom it may concern: Thanks for maintaining walk/wade status for the Raynolds Pass to Lyons bridge area on the Madison River. Please repeal the administrative rule that would allow fishing from boats on this section. Thanks, George Pyne, 29320 Kings River Road, Orovada Nv. 89425.

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows

From: [DeMott, Robert](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk and Wade stretch of upper Madison
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 3:08:32 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am one of the many anglers who completed a questionnaire last summer (2021) concerning whether float fishing should be allowed from the Reynolds Pass/Three Dollar Bridge area of the Madison River down to Lyons Bridge. I was happy to have been asked, and delighted to respond. My unequivocal response was No! Never! Not in anyone's lifetime! Outside of greed and hubris, there is no need to open that section to float fishing.

I have fished this area of the Madison for 32 years in a row, so I do not consider myself an uninformed outsider or occasional sport and in fact I have written a fair amount about the delights of that stretch of river in my book, *Angling Days: A Fly Fisher's Journals* (NY: Skyhorse Publishing, 2019). I am 100% committed to keeping that great stretch of unique, beautiful, bounteous wild trout water free from float fishing, which if it had been allowed by a recent (and thank God reversed) MFW Commission act, would have exponentially increased pressure on that part of the river and would have probably hastened an unfortunate element of decline that could only compromise and damage what is surely one of the most unique stretches of angling water not just in Montana, but in the entire USA.

I have already in recent years had a number of encounters with driftboaters floating down that stretch of river. Some do more than drift and look at the scenery; some are actively fishing from boats, which is in fact illegal and unethical. A couple of years ago a guide and his two clients fished right down the Idaho side of the Madison below Three Dollar Bridge and nearly ran me over. I was crouched down in the water a few feet from the bank watching a feeding trout downstream. The oarsman wasn't watching. I jumped out of the water when I heard his oarlocks creak behind me, and just in time. Other anglers have told me something similar has happened several times and with increasing frequency in the past two years in the walk/wade section. I think I speak for many of us, then, when I say it is paramount to protect that stretch from further incursions. Given effects of climate change, rising water and air temperatures, minimal snow pack, decline of insect populations, etc., the fish have enough formidable hurdles, so why add one more by giving access to a juggernaut style of angling? The glorious place is special and should be protected for what it is without hesitation. It is why people like me come to Cameron, MT from all over the world, year after year.

It should be clear by now that I favor—wholeheartedly—repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 that would allow opening of the Reynolds Pass/Three Dollar Bridge to Lyons Bridge section of the Madison. And to that I will testify further should the need arise.

Bob DeMott
TU Life Member
FFI Casting Instructor
Athens, OH

From: [Ken Faber](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 1:28:04 PM

Dear sir or Madame,

My daughter and I want you to maintain the walk/wade status of Raynolds-to-Lynn's section of the upper Madison River; and

We favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702(that's the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to Fishing from boats)

We also feel that there is enough traffic for the people willing to hoof it, why make more for who aren't willing.

Thank you for your time and trouble.

Ken and Katy Faber
1017 Calendula Cir.
Billings, Mt. 59105
Ph. 253-306-6625
Email kenf4800@gmail.com

From: peter.q.tovar
To: [FWP Madison River COM](mailto:FWP.Madison.River.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade Status of Upper Madison
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 11:16:06 AM

Dear Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission:

Thank you for keeping these nine river miles free from float fishing at your October 28th Commission meeting by maintaining the ban on float fishing.

I am an out-of-state fisherman who buys an annual license. I greatly appreciate Montana fishing and definitely want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River.

Also, I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

Thanks again for listening and acting to protect overuse of the Madison.

Sincerely,
Peter

--

Peter Q. Tovar
140 Dodds Lane
Princeton, NJ 08540
609-651-3830

From: [Fred M.](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 7:11:27 AM

Just wanted to add my voice to **maintain the walk/wade status of the Raynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River**, and repeal the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats.

As a visitor to your beautiful state in the past (and hopefully many more trips in the future), I urge you to **keep the Raynolds-Lyons section of the Madison River as wade-fishing-only.**

Sincerely and in appreciation for your consideration,
Fred P. Monacelli
ALS NUMBER: 04/06/1955-115

New address:
5308 Mountain Park Drive
Indian Springs, Al 35124

From: [Ursula and Tim Anderson](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 and Walk/Wade only on the Madison River
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 7:58:32 PM

Dear Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission,

My wife and I were two of the people who answered in September of this year a brief questionnaire in support of retaining the walk/wade-fishing-only character of the Reynolds-Lyon stretch of the Madison River. We have been fishing that part of the river every year for over 20 years and certainly have contributed to Montana's recreational revenue.

We remain very much in favor of keeping that stretch walk/wade only and so are in favor of repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702. The walk/wade character does not preclude commercial guiding or private watercraft. Guides with clients in boats or private individuals in boats simply have to step out of their watercraft to fish. Walking and wading to fish on that stretch without a boat is also available to commercial guides and their clients.

The Madison is a magnificent river which offers more than adequate water for fishing from a boat downstream of Lyons. That water includes not just Lyons to Ennis Lake, but Bear Trap Canyon and the river further downstream.

Tim Anderson
3387 Reliez Highland Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549

From: [jackie.mathews](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River WALK-WADE stretch
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 7:29:07 PM

To; Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission

1 December, 2021

Thank you in advance for allowing us to comment on the WALK-WADE stretch of the Madison River.

Please maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyon section of the upper Madison River

And, we favor repealing the Administrative Rule 12.11.6702, the rule that would open this section of river to fishing from boats.

Respectfully,

Craig and Jackie Mathews
80 E. Horse Creek Rd.
Cameron, Mt 59720
406-682-3038

From: [John Donlon](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/wade section
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:12:16 PM

I want to maintain the walk/wade section between Reynolds to Lyons and I favor repealing administrative rule 12.11.6702.....please protect this beautiful river for future generations...ps ...its going to need all the help it can get from us Anglers going forward.....John Donlon.....1155 us highway 287n cameron mt

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android \[go.onelink.me\]](#)

From: [Terry Middleton](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed repeal of ARM 12.11.6702
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 2:02:45 PM

Dear FWP commissioners,

I am writing to request that the commission vote to repeal ARM 12.11.6702. I have travelled to Montana every summer for over 30 years to fish the Madison and other area waters. For as long as I can remember the stretch of the Madison from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridge has been referred to as the walk/wade stretch. The character of the water in this stretch makes it well suited to the wading angler. While I would prefer to see the regulations changed to eliminate boats entirely from this part of the river, a return to the previous regulation prohibiting fishing from boats at any time is what is needed right now.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this matter.

Terry Middleton
Gladstone, MO

From: [Mark Rais](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reynolds Pass area
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 12:36:54 PM

Be it known that I'd wish that they would repeal administrative rule 12.11.6702 and let us maintain walk/wade area.
I spend 2 summer months in Cameron and fish this section regularly.
Hope also the Hebgen dam problems get fixed quickly
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sally Stoner](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] opening the Madison River to fishing from a boat
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 12:03:41 PM

I've been fishing the Madison River since 1988. My first night I fished the evening hatch below Reynolds Bridge with Maggie Merriman. It was magic. Please maintain the walk and wade section from Reynolds to Lyons for wading anglers, and repeal Administrative Act 12.11.6702. SO we can continue to enjoy the serenity and beauty of that section without the disruption of boating anglers.

Thank you,

Sally I. Stoner
3062 La Due Street
Arroyo Grande, CA
93420-5447

--

Sally I. Stoner
Badass River Chix
Anglers, Artists, Musicians, Writers

From: [Walt and Joan Pease](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Walk/Wade Administrative Rule Repeal
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 9:13:28 AM

Dear Sirs-

I am writing to support the repeal of the administrative rule allowing fishing from boats in the walk/wade section of the Madison River above Lyons Bridge. This repeal has been recommended by the work group evaluating this situation. I am against allowing fishing from boats for the following reasons:

- 1) Fish protection – The fish in this section of the river currently have some sanctuary in sections of the river inaccessible to wading fishermen. By allowing fishing from boats in this critical section, this protection will be removed. The fish in the upper river are currently under stress, with a particular decline in brown trout populations. These fish need more protection, not less. And, as of this writing, the current Hebgen Dam malfunction will also cause even more harm to our fish, and they do not need increased pressure from fishing from boats.
- 2) Angler conflict – No section of the river comes close to the number of wade fishermen in this section. If fishing from boats were allowed, the crush of boats coupled with wading fishermen will be a conflict disaster.
- 3) Sanctity for the wade fishermen – For years this section of river has been a haven for those who want to get away from float fishermen. The experience of wade fishing the Madison will never be the same once fishing from boats is allowed here.
- 4) Boater safety – I don't need to tell you how rocky this section of the river is. Imagine the number of fishermen standing up in boats when their boat inevitably collides with these rocks and pitches the unsuspecting anglers into the water. This section is not safe for standing up in boats and fishing while moving.

There are more reasons, but these are all very compelling arguments for keeping the status quo for the walk / wade section of the upper Madison.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Walter Pease

1631 Summit Ridge
Lebanon, TN 37090

From: [David Latimer](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 8:48:39 AM

To - Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

From David Latimer
4096 S. Chief Joseph
ISLAND PARK, Idaho 83429

I would like to thank you for maintaining the ban on float fishing from Reynolds Pass to the Lyons Bridge. It will keep this area great for fishermen, fish, and the tourist industry. I hope you will maintain the walk/wade status of this section of river and will repeal the administrative rule 12.11.6702.

I love this area and think the quiet and beauty of this area is partly due to not having float boats allowed, they have enough areas to fish without ruining this area for us waders.

Thank you for all you do !

David Latimer

From: [Jim Smith](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Walk Wade Section
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 8:42:15 AM

1. I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River;
and
2. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 (that's the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats)

--



Jim Smith
20 Osprey Lane
Cameron Mt 59720-9692

From: [Doug Demirelli](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Wade/walk fishing Reynolds to Lyons
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 10:55:48 PM

Hello,

I have enjoyed fly fishing the Madison River since July 1994 in the area around Reynolds Pass Bridge.

Please maintain the walk/wade status of Reynolds to Lyons section of upper Madison River.

Please repeal the administrative rule 12.11.6702.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Doug Demirelli
2437 NW Lemhi Pass Drive
Bend, Oregon
97703

From: [John Honch](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reynolds-Lyons section of the Madison River
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 9:21:07 PM

This is JohnHonch. Address 4629 Palm Drive. LaCanada, Calif 91011. I am writing in support of maintaining the walk/wade section of the upper Madison River. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702. With the increasing density of private ownership along the river, walking access has become more and more limited. There are Ike's and mikes of river below LyonsBridge to accommodate drift boats.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Amanda Jungles](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter in Favor of Repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 8:49:51 PM

Hello,

I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River. I am in favor of repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

I am a Bozeman resident, female angler under 35 years old, with a deep love for wade fishing the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River. I drive several hours to fish this stretch on the weekends, all year long. I am usually alone, I do not have access to a boat nor can I afford a guide service, and I like to wade fish here knowing that the trout have a place to hide if I spook them at the banks.

There are already so many outfitters out on boats and I have personally experienced a guide parked in this section who did not give me any space and basically ignored me, though I was there first.

I do not want to feel unsafe and potentially disrespected for being a wade angler in the section where I have always felt at peace. There are many other parts of the river for them to float, please protect this part for solo walk/wade angling women like me.

Respectfully,

Amanda Eva Jungles (*She/her/hers*)
1805 S Rouse Avenue
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Jim McMahon](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Upper Madison River
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 8:40:00 PM

Jim McMahon
2224 Summerhill Drive
Encinitas,CA 92024

I would like to let the Commission know the following:

1. I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; and
2. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 (that's the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats)

I have been wade fishing the upper Madison River (Reynolds - Lyons) for the past 50 years and request you keep the Reynolds-Lyons section of the Madison River as wade-fishing-only.

Kind Regards,
Jim McMahon
Cell 760.505.2074

From: rick@engmgnt.com
To: [FWP Madison River COM](http://FWP.MadisonRiver.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Raynolds-to-Lyons Madison River
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 6:39:50 PM

Greetings:

I have fished the Madison for a few years and greatly enjoy the experience!

I appreciate that the Commission voted to keep this stretch of river free from the boats and I ask that the Commission permanently repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 that allows boats on the river from Raynolds Pass to Lyons.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Richard Golden, P.E.
Engineering Management
P.O. Box 492
Franktown, CO 80116
303.956.4410

From: [Keith Shein](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Repeal Rule 12.11.6702
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 6:35:46 PM

FWP Commission:

I'm writing to urge the repeal of the new rule that will allow fishing from boats in the walk-wade section of the Madison River. Fishing from boats in this section of the river will give fish no place to rest. Currently, with wade anglers only fishing from banks, fish can run to the middle of the river for safety. Allowing anglers to fish from boats will remove that safety and encourage the decline of fish in the Madison in this section of the river important to spawning. This cannot happen. Further, allowing fishing from boats in the walk-wade section will remove the one portion of the river where wade anglers don't have to compete with boats. This will encourage social conflict on an already over-crowded river. Please don't take away the only portion of the river I can fish without undo competition.

Please act as stewards of the river. Reverse the rule to allow fishing from boats in the walk-wade section of the Madison River.

Sincerely,
Keith Shein
25 Big Bend Rd
Cameron, MT 59720

From: [Rick Melvoin](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River issue
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 5:39:04 PM

To Those Studying the Future of the Madison River:

As an angler who has fished the Madison for almost 40 years, I urge you to maintain the walk/wade status of the Raynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River. Put differently, I am passionately opposed to any regulation changes that would allow fishing from boats or other floatation devices.

This change would seriously degrade what has been a magical, even legendary part of this world-famous river. This section has been a wade section for many decades. Fishermen from literally all over the world come to wade this water. Allowing fishing from boats for other types of floatation devices would dramatically degrade this wading and fishing experience, lead to dangerous conflicts between those wading and those in boats, and result in overfishing and deterioration of the experience that brings people to this river and the Yellowstone area.

I favor **repealing** Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 (that's the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats)

Please don't allow the river to be hurt. There is already a cancer growing downstream, in the area from Lyons to McAtee where fishing from boats is allowed without adequate regulations to protect the fish and fishing. Overfishing has resulted in a dramatic decline in the quality of the fishery. Spreading the cancer to the wade section will not ameliorate the problems this has caused.

Respectfully,
Richard Melvoin
Island Park, Idaho

From: crcksk6@gmail.com
To: [FWP Madison River COM](http://FWP.MadisonRiver.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 5:34:00 PM

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:Mail[go.microsoft.com]) for Windows 10

Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission

Dear Commissiours,

My family and I would like to thank all of you for voting to reverse the course and maintaing the band on float boat fishing on the Madison river from the Raynolds Pass/Three Dollar Bridge area downstream to Lyons Bridge.

I have been fishing the section of the river for over 20 years along with my family and friends. This is one portion the Madison that is truly family friendly. Many young fly fisherman have learned this sport here on this stretch of river.

I ask and strongly urge you to repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

Thank you again,
Charles Kessler
71 Redwood rd.
Star Valley Ranch, WY 83127

From: [ROBERT ASCANIO](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/wade Upper Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 4:38:04 PM

Dear Commission,

It is with GREAT pleasure I write to you today knowing that you've done God's work and reversed rule #12.11.6702! This is great news. My son Sam and I have traveled to MT to fish the Madison over the past several years. Our favorite stretch is between Reynolds-to-Lyons. We LOVE wading/walking that section. Allowing boats to float that area would be a disaster for the river and what it stands for.

Thank you for doing the right thing!

Bob Ascanio, M.D.
16 Poppy LN
Falmouth, ME 04105.

From: [Ken Kehmeier](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] repealing Ad Rule 12.11.6702
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 3:41:26 PM

My name is Ken Kehmeier and fish the Upper section of the Madison River Reynolds to Lyons and I want to maintain the walk/wade fishing status on this stretch of river. I am in favor of repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 that would allow float fishing in this section of the Madison

thank you for considering this
Ken Kehmeier
1718 Silvergate Rd, Fort Collins, CO 80526
970-2274891

From: [Tom Cook/USA](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Boat fishing on the Upper Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 3:18:23 PM

I want to maintain walk/wade fishing on the upper Madison from Raynolds to Lyons Bridge and favor repealing Administrative rule 12.11.6702, if you open this up to boat fishing then were to the ground pounders like myself who has been fishing here for 40+ years get to fish? Its bad enough they can float this section and get out and fish, many a time I have been walking down to a spot to fish only to have a boat full of fisherman beat me to the spot since they float faster than I can walk. Sincerely
Tom Cook

Tom Cook

Senior Director - Retail / Land

Direct: +1 801 303 5488

Main: +1 801 322 2000

Mobile: +1 801 244 0729

tom.cook@cushwake.com



170 South Main Street, Suite 1600

Salt Lake City, UT 84101 | USA

<http://www.cushmanwakefield.com/> [[cushmanwakefield.com](http://www.cushmanwakefield.com/)]

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From: [Charles Friedman](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River-Raynolds Pass/Three Dollar Bridge area downstream to Lyons Bridge-Fishing From Boats
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 2:40:02 PM

Dear Sir,

I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Raynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River.

I am absolutely 100% opposed to any regulation changes that would allow fishing from boats or other floatation devices..

This would seriously degrade the fishing. This section has been a wade section for many decades. Allowing fishing from boats for other types of floatation devices would adversely effect this wading and fishing experience, lead to dangerous conflicts and result in overfishing and deterioration of the experience that brings people to this river and the Yellowstone area.

I favor **repealing** Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 (that's the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats)

Don't allow the river to be hurt. There is a cancer growing in the current area from Lyons to McAtee where fishing from boats is allowed without adequate regulations to protect the fish and fishing. Overfishing has resulted in a dramatic decline in the quality of the fishery. Spreading the cancer to the wade section a few days a week will not ameliorate the problems this has caused.

There will be an economic price to pay-ultimately.

Charles Friedman
Cameron MT
Los Angeles CA

From: [Bruce Tidwell](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison Wade Fishing
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 1:10:51 PM

Trilled to see that the Madison River from Raynolds Pass/Three Dollar Bridge to Lyons Bridge will remain closed to fishing from boats, truly this is great news. I am a strictly catch and release fly fisherman and have enjoyed being able to wade fish this section for years and for the most part had wonderful success. Keeping the river free of boat fishing will, I hope, ensure many fun and successful days of fishing to come. I want to extend my gratitude to you for listening to our voice, when I filled out the survey I figured that it was an effort in futility, but I see that I was wrong. Again, I'm pleased with the repealing of Administrative Rule 12.11.6702, I feel this will preserve a wonderful stretch of the river.

Bruce Tidwell
5393 Henry's Lake Rd
Island Park, Idaho 83429

From: [Katy Faber](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River walk/wade only
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 12:33:01 PM

Hello and good afternoon!

I wanted to reach out with my support for maintaining the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

My father and myself like to retreat to the quiet campground in the Reynold's-Lyon section of the Madison River for a summer weekend of fishing. I like the quiet and less used section of this river. I can fling my line without worrying about boats being in the way or disturbance from the boat and people. Thank you for listening to the anglers and preserving the section of this river.

Katy Faber
1017 Calendula Circle
Billings, MT 59105

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jeffrey Melvoin](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River regulations
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 12:19:42 PM

To whom it may concern,

I reside in Los Angeles, but am a summer resident of Last Chance, Idaho, where we have a family home on the Henry's Fork.

As an avid fly-fisherman who has fished the Madison for many years, as my father did before me, I am writing to urge you to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison.

Correspondingly, I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702, which would open up this section to fishing from boats.

The Madison offers many pleasures along its length, but none can surpass the beauty and serenity of fishing the Reynolds-to-Lyons stretch on foot.

This amazing length of unspoiled water presents challenges and rewards for the seasoned angler that boat fishing would eradicate through increased traffic, pressure, and the predictably bad manners that would result as boats compete with waders for prime pools and runs.

I applaud your recent decision to maintain the ban on boats and, along with every fisherman in the region I know, encourage you in the strongest manner to make that ban permanent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeff Melvoin
139 S. Medio Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Mobile: 310-880-9444

From: [John Barzizza](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 10:33:58 AM

Dear Commissioners,

I want thank you for the repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 and your decision NOT to open the Reynolds to Lyons stretch of the Madison River to boat fishing.

It is essential that we protect the waters of Montana as much as we can to maintain the resources and hopefully help offset increased fishing pressure, environmental changes and growth that is effecting the waterways in many areas in the state.

I am a resident of Big Sky and a dedicated fly fisherman. I applaud all reasonable efforts to reduce fishing pressure on Montana's rivers and streams, particularly in high heat and drought conditions.

F. John Barzizza

From: [jimwilson](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River Fishing Regs.
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 10:22:02 AM

For the past 5 years I, and others, have been advocating to keep the Raynolds Pass to Lyons Bridge free of boats. It is designated Wade Only and should be just that.

There are so many anglers that derive pleasure knowing they won't be overrun with boats as they make their way to the Madison. The boats control the vast majority of the river, this is our only safe haven. Let's also not forget the FISH. The numbers/size have been in decline and for obvious reasons, pressure being the greatest detriment. Please, help this magnificent resource flourish, it's what makes Montana so wonderful. Lastly, I find it reprehensible that the FWP and the Commission have tried without any success to limit the number of boats/fishermen on this River. The Madison is surely not what it used to be, and the Blue Ribbon status is long gone. When will the FWP and the Commission put BUSINESS aside and do the right thing?

Sincerely,
Jim Wilson

1509 US Hwy 287 N.
Cameron, Mt. 59720

From: jcovey@cybertrails.com
To: [FWP Madison River COM](http://FWP.MadisonRiver.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk and wade fishing access
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 9:59:10 AM

I am in favor of retaining the Walk and Wade policy on the portion of the Madison River from Quake Lake to Lyons Bridgend repealing the regulations that allow fishing from float boats.

In addition, I am also in favor of not allowing any float boats in the area other than recreational use.

From: [Bruce Crowell](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade Status of the Upper Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 9:23:08 AM

Name: Bruce Crowell
Address: 6615 La Concha Pass, Austin, TX 78749

Greetings!

I want to see the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River maintained. I would also like to see a repeal of Administrative Rule 12.11.6702.

Thank You! I enjoy wade fishing that stretch of the Madison without having to compete with boats.

Bruce Crowell 512-534-7667

From: [Parker Kennedy](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/wade section of the upper Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 9:12:22 AM

To Whom It May Concern- My name is Parker Kennedy, 1 First American Way, Santa Ana, CA. I support the continuation of the walk wade section between Raynolds Pass and Lyons Bridge and I support the repeal of Admin Rule 12.11.6702. I have fished this stretch consistently since 1966 and I purchased property along the river (in Sundance Bench) in 1988 and built a cabin on the property in 1991. My kids own another property in Sundance and just completed a home there. Your ultimate decision is very important to my family...we love the river. Park

Sent from my iPhone

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From: jneil.jsn@gmail.com
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Cc: ["Hugh Zackheim"](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Walk/Wade Upper Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 9:05:51 AM

To whom it may concern:

I am a seasonal visitor to the Madison River and would like to continue to access the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River for walk and wade fishing. I strongly encourage repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 for the health of the fishery and the river habitat.

Sincerely,

Jim Neil

Brevard, NC

From: [Michael Lee](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River walk/Wade section
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 8:51:20 AM

Each year I spend five summer months fishing the upper Madison river from quake lake outlet to Lyons bridge. Each year I also spend a very little time Fishing below Lyons bridge which in recent years has been extremely crowded with drift boats. . I prefer to “Wade” fish and don’t stay in one place very long as I move slowly through the water. I have had many boat captains that barely allow me 10-20 feet of water to fish on either side of myself by casting into my immediate fishing zone.

Even though the walk/Wade section is also crowded, it is still possible to wade enough to find some solitude. The current walk Wade section is an oasis of like-minded fishermen, who mostly demonstrate good etiquette, conservation, and consideration to others. They are respectful of traditional behaviors on the River. Please maintain the walk/Wade section on the upper Madison River from quake lake to Lyons bridge and do not allow float fishing to destroy this limited access for Wade fishing only.

It will be a sad day for people and wildlife alike, when float fishing is allowed in the walk/Wade section of the upper Madison River. I favor repealing the rule 12.11.6702 which allows float fishing from quake lake outlet to Lyons bridge on the Madison River.

Thank you for your efforts of continuing to maintain an excellent fishing experience for everyone.

Michael Lee
317 skyline drive
Prescott Arizona
602-647-7252

--

Michael Lee (rev.mikelee@gmail.com)
317 Skyline Dr.
Prescott AZ 86303
602.647.7252

From: wolf7@zoominternet.net
To: [FWP Madison River COM](http://FWP.Madison.River.COM)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No fishing from boats on the Raynolds-to-Lyons section of upper Madison
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 8:02:18 AM

To whom it may concern, I would like to enter a keeping the status of the Upper section of the Madison River from Raynolds Pass-to- Lyons Bridge "AS IS".....I am also in favor of repealing administrative rule 12.11.6702... I've been fishing the Madison every year since 1982, and have contributed money for such causes as the buying of ranch property to keep the " Three Dollar Bridge" section open to fishing.... The river is way to narrow for drift boats and wade fishing in the same area....

From: [Jon Hesse](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Upper Madison River Walk and Wade
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 8:00:05 AM

Dear Commission:

I wish to inform you that I hope you maintain the status quo of this important river. I request:

1. I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; and,
2. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 (the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats).

Thank you for your time and for sitting on this Commission.

Jon M. Hesse

Jon M. Hesse, P.C.

Attorney at Law

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1078

Physical Address: 1201 US Highway 10 West, Unit A3 (Point Del Mar Office Complex)

Livingston, MT 59047

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Thank you.

From: [David Holmes](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 9 Miles of wading
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 6:46:45 AM

Keeping the Reynolds Bridge to Lyons Bridge section of the upper Madison River as a fish from a boat free is important to me. It give us a place to be a true fly fisherman. Such a beautiful place to wade and fish. Repealing Admin Rule 12.11.6702 keeping this section of river as wade only would be nice.

David Holmes

From: [Richard Spott](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Float Fishing
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 6:38:55 AM

I agree to the following:

1. I want to maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; and
2. I favor repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702 (that's the rule that would open this section of the Madison River to fishing from boats)

Thanks

Richard Spott
3200 Shooting Star Ln
Bozeman MT 59715

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jason Tanner](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Wade section of Madison River
Date: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 6:07:17 AM

My name is Jason Tanner and I live at 2135 Park Hills Dr, Centerville, Utah and I am urging the commission to

1. maintain the walk/wade status of the Reynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River; and
2. repeal Administrative Rule 12.11.6702

This section of the river has been a sanctuary for me these past two summers. Thank you for allowing me to fish this amazing river.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Randy Brown](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Madison River wade fishing
Date: Monday, November 29, 2021 11:21:29 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am in favor of reversing regulation Rule 12.11.6702

I am in favor of reversing the rule allowing float fishing from Reynolds Pass bridge to Lyons Bridge.

I am not anti- float fishing as I own a drift boat and live on the river above Reynolds pass

However there should be a place set aside on the river where wade fishing can be enjoyed without the interference of a constant flotilla of drift boats

You can float anywhere else you choose on the rest of the Madison- cant we have a small float free sanctuary?

Randy Brown
18 W Brown drive
Cameron MY
59720

4066402560

drhrbrown@pacbell.net

From: [Jimmy Sorenson](#)
To: [FWP Madison River COM](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Raynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River
Date: Monday, November 29, 2021 11:01:09 PM

Hi, my name is Jimmy Sorenson and I wanted to write in to let you know that I would love to see the Montana Fish and Game maintain the walking/wading status of the Raynolds-to-Lyons section of the upper Madison River. To me, having sections like this preserved not only shelters fish, it bolsters future habitat and fish population. It also gives traditional anglers a chance to teach young anglers the sport of fly fishing without being interrupted by drift boats and professional guides.

I am in favor of repealing Administrative Rule 12.11.6702

Let me know if you have any questions, thanks!