



# MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

**Meeting Date:** February 4, 2021

**Agenda Item:** Intake Fishing Access Site Land Transfer from BLM (R7)

**Action Needed:** Final

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 minutes

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**Background:** Intake Fishing Access Site on the Yellowstone River has been managed by FWP for approximately 50 years. The site consists of shared land ownership between FWP, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM ownership (6.41 acres) within the campground was recently discovered from two land surveys in 2001 & 2018. The department wishes to acquire (at no cost) the BLM property within the campground by way of BLM's Recreation and Public Purposes Act Patent process (R&PP). An R&PP application was completed by FWP and BLM in 2018.

**Public Involvement Process & Results:** Bureau of Land Management completed an Environmental Site Assessment July 2019 and solicited for public comment in the Federal Register September 10, 2020. A decision notice letter was provided to FWP by BLM November 6, 2020 agreeing to convey the BLM tract at Intake FAS to FWP.

The department also completed an Environmental Assessment and solicited for public comment in December 2020. No public comments on the EA were received. The department issued a decision notice January 2021 to accept the BLM land conveyance.

**Alternatives and Analysis:** No alternatives have been evaluated.

**Agency Recommendation & Rationale:** The department recommends that the commission approve this proposal to accept the BLM property within Intake FAS boundary via BLM's Recreation and Public Purpose Act Patent process. Conveyance of this property to FWP simplifies ownership of the site and derived recreational values. The transfer also ensures FWP's investment in the existing recreational infrastructure (gravel access road, primitive camping sites, vault latrine, and property fencing) in the campground on the 6.41 acres will remain and continue to serve the public.

**Proposed Motion:** I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission direct Fish, Wildlife and Parks to accept the no-cost land transfer of 6.41 acres of Bureau of Land Management property within Intake Fishing Access Site.