



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Meeting Date: April 19, 2022

Agenda Item: FAS Annual Rule Extension

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background:

The commission adopted the Fishing Access Site (FAS) Annual Rule in April of 2021. Since then, the department established the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division and transferred responsibility for the FAS program from the Fisheries Division to the new division. As part of this reorganization, the department is examining ways to establish greater consistency in its visitor use fees, including camping fees at fishing access sites and state parks. At this time, the department recommends that the commission extend the FAS rule for one year with no changes other than replacing “Fisheries Division” with “Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division” throughout the rule.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

N/A

Alternatives & Analysis:

Alternative A. Adopt FAS Annual Rule with no changes besides clarifying that the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division is now responsible for the FAS program.

Alternative B. Adopt FAS Annual Rule with changes in addition to clarifying Division responsibility.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale:

The department recommends that the commission adopt the current FAS Annual Rule and fees for one year with no changes other than replacing “Fisheries Division” with “Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division.” This will allow time for the department to complete its assessment of FAS rules and fees for consistency with the rules and fees for state parks.

Proposed Motion:

I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt a one-year extension of the current 2021 Fishing Access Site Rule as proposed.