

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, December 17, 2021 1:46:46 PM
Last Modified: Friday, December 17, 2021 2:00:46 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:00
IP Address: 199.96.16.11

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brian
City/Town: Butte
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

This is an insane amount of tags for these units. You can call them either sex but its primarily a bull permit. In fact I dont know of any hunters that have had a special es tag and decided to shoot a cow. This does not benefit the public land hunter at all in these units. The only person this still benefits is the private land owners and out of state hunters allowing more chances for them to draw the tag. If anything these units quotas should decrease to provide better hunting opportunity for bulls and increase only the cow permits for these districts and only on private lands. No BLM or State land cow permits because you are teaching the elk to find these private land sanctuaries with the cow tags. If land owners want help managing elk there are plenty of programs and I believe if they want landowner preference for bull elk then they should have to allow limited bull elk opportunity to the public or else they should be in the same draw as the rest of us

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, December 17, 2021 6:55:24 PM
Last Modified: Friday, December 17, 2021 6:56:35 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:11
IP Address: 50.46.6.81

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Dorian Boling
City/Town: Libby
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I support these changes

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, December 18, 2021 4:25:23 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, December 18, 2021 4:36:16 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:52
IP Address: 63.153.1.66

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Dave Shimek
City/Town: Shepherd
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Simply offering too many tags that can be hunted on the public land. You need to keep fewer on public land. Have a separate private land special draw available only on private land. Let the private guys compete amongst themselves.

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, December 18, 2021 11:16:40 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, December 18, 2021 11:27:28 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:47
IP Address: 135.134.190.212

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Richard A Schneider
City/Town: Ekalaka
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Once again.....bad idea. We do not need more bull elk harvested in these HD's. Reduce the herd by harvesting more cows. You can call these permit either or sex but the added harvest will be of bull elk which do not need to be thinned out. Stay at 250 permits and let the cow numbers be reduced to get the population down.

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, December 18, 2021 11:45:39 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, December 18, 2021 11:54:32 AM
Time Spent: 00:08:53
IP Address: 69.57.95.72

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Diane Borgreen
City/Town: Glasgow
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly disagree with the increase of either-sex permits. This does absolutely nothing to reduce elk populations, which is supposedly the stated goal in these districts. If anything, the issuance of either sex permits should be suspended entirely and all hunting in these units should be cow only until objectives are met. This proposal has no foundation in biology.

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, December 18, 2021 5:48:47 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, December 18, 2021 6:49:43 PM
Time Spent: 01:00:56
IP Address: 107.77.197.208

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Drew Stuart
City/Town: Three Forks
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Either sex tags are essentially bull tags and bull tags=\$\$ for outfitters and private landowners. If you want to reduce elk herds to reduce crop damage the perfectly obvious solution is to REMOVE bull tags from the table (especially on private land) and move to unlimited cow tags during the general season...Especially on private land where elk take refuge and create crop damage (in case I haven't said it enough). Worsech said he sympathizes with land owners (who are fortunate enough to own a ranch! HA) 'they are not able to hunt on their own land every year!'... I say, 'why in the hell can't they hunt deer, antelope and cow elk every year!' I love hunting cow elk. They're delicious and I even get buck fever when closing the distance on a watchful herd of cow elk-a trophy whitetail doesn't even give me that feeling! I believe all of the proposals I've heard from Gianforte's commission are intended to sneakily privatize MT's elk. If you increase either sex tags (bull tags/\$\$) by 50%, hunting pressure on already heavily pressured public lands will increase. As a result of the 50% increase in public land hunting pressure, a 50% increase in elk will take refuge on the private land where they are supposedly not wanted due to crop damage. As soon as these elk are on private land the 50% increase in either sex tags (bull tags/\$\$) will be monetized by the outfitting industry and wealthy large landowners, further disincentivizing public access to private land and a substantial cow harvest-which is what is always needed to reduce crop damage! COMMON SENSE. Quit trying to steal our elk! Just because you own a ranch doesn't mean you get to own the wildlife-that's democracy!

#7

COMPLETE

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Started: Sunday, December 19, 2021 3:11:38 PM
Last Modified: Sunday, December 19, 2021 3:20:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:27
IP Address: 153.90.19.34

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Luke Colberg
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose the proposal to increase the either-sex firearm permits in these districts. Increasing the amount of either sex tags will only increase the public land pressure for hunting bulls, and increase the ability for landowners to outfit their lands. If the goal is to decrease elk populations, then the commission should increase cow tags. This proposal is nothing but a gift to landowners and lobbyist groups that support the privatization of Montana's wildlife. The commission needs to reconsider this proposal.

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 20, 2021 10:03:23 AM
Last Modified: Monday, December 20, 2021 10:07:04 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:41
IP Address: 47.44.124.100

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Dan Gagner
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I'm not in favor of increasing either-sex permits in these units. All this will do is push any of the last remaining elk on public land onto private and only make the over objective problem worse.

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 20, 2021 3:20:58 PM
Last Modified: Monday, December 20, 2021 3:26:34 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:36
IP Address: 144.46.104.12

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Vince Cebuhar
City/Town: Billings
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support increasing ES permits in any of these districts by 50%. The accessible public lands in these districts are already crowded and increasing ES permits will only further crowd these areas. If the problem in these districts is over population objectives then increased cow permits (preferably on private lands) is the answer, not increased ES permits. This will not help lower elk populations, it will only deteriorate the public land hunting experience.

#10

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Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 7:26:32 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 7:31:22 AM
Time Spent: 00:04:50
IP Address: 174.204.13.31

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Nick Trott
City/Town: Glasgow
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

FWP:

I oppose the proposed changes to the 900-20 limited archery elk permit regulations in HDs 401, 403, 411, 426, 447, 450, 455, 530, 580, 500, 502, 520, 557, 570, 702, 704, and 705; from limited permits to unlimited permits or unlimited permits on public lands and general license on private lands.

And I oppose eliminating the limited archery elk permits in HD 417.

These proposed changes will not contribute to lowering elk populations; they will only lower elk populations on public lands and will increase populations on private lands where elk are harbored.

These proposed changes in regulations only cater to nonresident land owners and private land outfitters that harbor elk. Eliminating the limited archery elk permits, with the nonresident cap of 10% of the total number of permits, is what nonresident land owners and private land outfitters have lobbied for. Outfitter clients and nonresident land owners will not have to draw a permit for a trophy elk hunt.

The reason for the limited archery elk permits was to eliminate crowding in the Missouri River Breaks and the other 23 HDs with limited rifle elk permits. Non residents were taking 55% to 65% of the bulls.

Please keep the limited archery elk permits.

Thank you

Nick Trott

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 8:21:19 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 8:25:28 AM
Time Spent: 00:04:09
IP Address: 128.177.52.54

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brayden Davis
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to the proposed 50% increase in permits in these HDs. This was done 2 years ago in most of these HDs by the last Commission against what biologists proposed which has resulted in ZERO increased harvest. More permits does not equal more harvest unless there is access. This will further push elk from accessible lands to private lands where there is no access. Cow hunting is population control not bull hunting.

#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 10:27:12 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 10:36:27 AM
Time Spent: 00:09:15
IP Address: 184.167.114.66

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jeremy DeHerrera
City/Town: BILLINGS
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am impartial to this. I think people apply for these units in hopes of having a chance at a trophy bull and adding more bull permits will not help the over objective elk situation you guys have created. Please do not allow the increase in permits. I have applied for years in these units in hoping of drawing a bull tag but would rather wait for a chance to kill a trophy instead of having more permits. Allow more cow elk hunting on private and public.

#13

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 12:05:35 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 12:07:46 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:11
IP Address: 199.155.252.64

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Alex Dado
City/Town: McAllister
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am in favor of this.

#14

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 5:40:04 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 5:43:54 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:49
IP Address: 72.174.29.211

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Kristopher George
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support

#15

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 12:13:17 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 12:32:40 PM
Time Spent: 00:19:22
IP Address: 199.155.58.173

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Michael Lucas
City/Town: Lewistown
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

this further reduces trophy potential and has minimal impact on overall elk numbers and primarily benefits outfitters and landowners, feeding the "pay to play" interests. Opposed to increases in either sex permits. If elk numbers are over objective and this is FWP's main concern, give out more cow tags.

#16

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 12:31:40 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 12:34:41 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:00
IP Address: 63.153.99.157

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Don Patterson
City/Town: Corvallis
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose this and would suggest increasing the Cow permits only, not either sex.
We need to reduce cows not bulls for units over objective elk population.

#17

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 1:57:32 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 2:25:13 PM
Time Spent: 00:27:41
IP Address: 174.45.248.37

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Russell Cordum
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Please don't turn Montana into Utah. There were 136,285 Montana residents that bought licenses this year. Keep them in mind when setting seasons, quotas, and regulations. Please don't let the big money influence your decisions. The legislator received a ton of backlash for proposing hunting regulation changes, please don't repeat their mistakes. Do what's best for the residents of this state, not for Gianforte's campaign contributors.

Bull elk and buck deer tags shall not be bartering tools, or gifts, no matter the situation. Everyone should have the same opportunities for tags, no matter how much land you own. I don't care how many elk the Wilkes brothers have on their place, they should not receive extra tags. Any of those 136,285 hunters would love to have an opportunity at those elk. Use the existing tools at your disposal (hunters) to reduce the numbers of elk in an area. If people want elk off their land, they should let tag holders on their property to remove those animals. If the landowners don't want the legal tag holders on their place, then they'll have to live with those animals on their property, or use non-lethal means to get rid of them.

One comment on non-resident tags. I don't believe that guided non-resident hunters should have better odds at tags than DIY folks. All non-residents should have to apply for tags in the same system, with no preference on if they use a guide or not. The outfitters and landowners are profiting from a public resource, they should not get special tag allocations for this. Their clients should have the exact same odds of drawing as my dad, an Idaho resident, that doesn't use a guide.

Montana is blessed with beautiful country and an abundance of animals.

For 100 years, FWP and the general public have worked hard to achieve these results. Every resident of this state should be rewarded for this bounty, not just large land owners and those with political influence.

#18

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 3:17:28 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 3:20:03 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:34
IP Address: 66.171.17.139

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Tom Lipko
City/Town: Poplar
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I support leaving the season structures and districts the same last year with no changes. These scope of the proposed changes is insane.

#19

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 11:38:59 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 11:41:46 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:46
IP Address: 72.250.142.34

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Andrew Reuterskiold
City/Town: Roundup
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

If the elk numbers are higher, then I agree with the increase in tag numbers

#20

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, December 23, 2021 7:52:32 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, December 23, 2021 7:58:47 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:15
IP Address: 128.177.52.54

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Hannity Davis
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to increasing permits by 50%. Permits were nearly doubled or doubled 2 years ago by the Commission over the biologists recommendations. This led to zero net harvest of bulls due to access and overcrowding on public lands. This proposal is based on zero data. Where did the number 50% come from? Biologists adjust quotas in the spring after winter surveys and harvest data comes in. There are actually TOO MANY permits in many of these HDs due to access. Populations are managed by harvesting cows, which most of these HDs you can already harvest 3 cows per person. ACCESS to elk is the issue here not the number of bull permits.

#21

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, December 24, 2021 6:02:31 AM
Last Modified: Friday, December 24, 2021 6:11:14 AM
Time Spent: 00:08:43
IP Address: 199.96.16.11

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jared Green
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Reduce public land tags to 300 and add 300 private land only either sex tags to 702,704,705. Also You must start setting limits to the number of nonresidents allowed to hunt the public land in eastern montana. Or just keep your blinders on and only manage for money as you have done for the last 10 years. Montana is the joke of western states game management.

#22

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, December 24, 2021 6:31:15 PM
Last Modified: Friday, December 24, 2021 6:39:11 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:55
IP Address: 208.123.201.227

Page 1

Q1 Respondent skipped this question

Please provide the following information:

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

No

#23

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 27, 2021 9:15:36 AM
Last Modified: Monday, December 27, 2021 9:20:47 AM
Time Spent: 00:05:10
IP Address: 137.26.84.2

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Derrick Mueller
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to the increases in the number of either sex tags being allocated for these districts under the guise of helping to meet population objectives. Killing bulls is not how you control the elk population. Similar to the proposal for changing the 900-20 tag, all this will do is provide more outfitter opportunity on private land where most of the elk in these districts reside. More effort needs to be put into programs that would grant the public access to these elk as opposed to just throwing more tags around.

#24

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 27, 2021 12:31:12 PM
Last Modified: Monday, December 27, 2021 1:07:00 PM
Time Spent: 00:35:48
IP Address: 72.21.226.76

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brody Chapman
City/Town: Monticello
State/Province: MN

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

These are some of the last places in the state that the liberal MT season structure hasn't destroyed the age class structure of the bulls. There is no biological basis for these changes and they will not help with any over objective concerns but they will decrease the quality of the hunting experience in these units. I strongly oppose these changes.

I encourage the FWP to only make these decisions based upon biological basis that would do the most good for the most people. These changes would give a couple more hunters an opportunity but that opportunity isn't going to be worth a whole lot anymore if the general/unlimited permit archery changes and these changes go forward.

#25

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 27, 2021 12:57:49 PM
Last Modified: Monday, December 27, 2021 1:30:58 PM
Time Spent: 00:33:09
IP Address: 174.204.16.209

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Shane Johnson
City/Town: Columbus
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Everyone knows that you can't decrease elk numbers by killing bulls. I don't understand this change as it will not increase elk harvest overall. It only caters to outfitting and having more bull tags available to sell and hunt in private lands. If this is the goal then make them available to be used only on private lands. We don't need increased pressure on public lands in these units as the elk are already mostly on private. I also think the population objectives you are trying to manage these herds with are outdated and incorrectly obtained. This plan needs updated now.

FWP is a public agency that is supposed to manage publicly owned wildlife. Please keep this in mind when you propose changes. Manage with science based decisions not with politics.

Thank you

#26

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 27, 2021 2:05:07 PM
Last Modified: Monday, December 27, 2021 2:16:02 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:55
IP Address: 98.127.32.137

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Name: | Bryan Grotjohn |
| City/Town: | Billings |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I believe it is a terrible idea to keep increasing the amount of permits in these areas. There are already very few elk on public land during the general season. Adding permits only adds to the problem. More hunters equals more pressure which will keep animals on the private grounds. I would like to see less permits granted for all special draw areas for rifle season or shortened seasons for these areas. As a lifelong resident hunting quality has gone way down every year and adding permits will only make it worse. We live in a great state that provides excellent opportunities for all but by increasing permit numbers and lengthening seasons is not the answer.

General rifle season is too long. Shorten to 3 weeks. If you're going to do five weeks make the last 2 weeks muzzleloader/archery only.

#27

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 11:32:44 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 11:55:13 AM
Time Spent: 00:22:28
IP Address: 72.175.198.249

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Vincent Castro
City/Town: Billings
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Increasing these permits will not manage the elk population. It is well known that many of the larger populations stay on private ground so selling more tags will not decrease their numbers. This will only increase the amount of hunters all fighting to harvest an elk on public land, which are not where the herds are. I think instead of increasing these tags this way, more out of state hunters should be required to book hints on private land in order to draw a tag. This will actually have an impact on the population if you require them to shoot one sex or the other. If anyone has the opportunity to shoot a bull or cow most hunters will kill the one with horns. If these decisions were based on science, why would fwp propose shooting more bulls when it is known that to have an effect on the population cows must be taken? Isn't this the reason for shoulder seasons? Instead having either sex tags will incline more people to shoot young bulls and some of these districts that carry larger bulls will never see them again. I cannot support a regulation that increases tags but will not help with the issue at hand. Overcrowding on public land is becoming an issue and the size of your wallet should not determine if you harvest an elk in Montana or not.

#28

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, December 31, 2021 12:07:48 PM
Last Modified: Friday, December 31, 2021 12:28:15 PM
Time Spent: 00:20:26
IP Address: 216.161.192.30

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Jon Von Eschen**
City/Town: **Great Falls**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am not in favor of increasing either-sex rifle permits by 50% in these units. I believe that doing so will only cause further over-crowding on public lands, resulting in elk remaining on inaccessible private land. I have had the 411-20 permit, most recently in 2018, and was disappointed in the lack of elk on public land. Increasing the permits from 300 to 450 will not do anything the alleviate the overabundance of elk on private land, as the vast majority of landowners in that district do not allow hunting. I have personally experienced the N Bar Ranch in 411/535 drive their fence lines to ensure that elk do not leave their property to go to public. Increasing permit numbers will only cause successful permit holders to be forced to hunt the same areas as each others which will further escalate the elk numbers.

#29

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, January 02, 2022 9:49:46 AM
Last Modified: Sunday, January 02, 2022 9:58:38 AM
Time Spent: 00:08:51
IP Address: 216.14.233.206

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Name: | Kyle wengerd |
| City/Town: | Noxon |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I support the increase in rage numbers in these units

#30

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 03, 2022 11:51:04 AM
Last Modified: Monday, January 03, 2022 12:01:33 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:29
IP Address: 69.145.52.107

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brett Hyde
City/Town: Gallatin Gateway
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

By increasing the limited either sex permits you are going to further push game to inaccessible private land. It seems to be a recurring theme to decimate the game animals on public land and push them to private. This is a bad idea. You do not reduce herd population by harvesting male animals. More cow tags and less either sex permits.

#31

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 03, 2022 1:46:25 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 03, 2022 1:50:40 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:15
IP Address: 72.174.64.64

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: James Paul
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly disagree with an increase in the number of either-sex permits for all the hunting districts being considered for increases.

#32

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, December 27, 2021 5:25:34 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 03, 2022 3:26:31 PM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 208.45.5.150

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Name: | Royce Dake |
| City/Town: | ULM |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

HD 450 should be included. Rather than eliminate the permits for this HD raise the number of permits from 5 to 15 or 20 rather than open it for anyone with a general license. Issue an un-limited number of archery permits

#33

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 03, 2022 3:28:36 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 03, 2022 3:33:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:42
IP Address: 161.7.109.158

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jacob Williams
City/Town: LEWISTOWN
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support these changes. This will not help with over objective elk numbers. FWP should focus on increasing public access to private lands for cow hunting.

#34

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 8:36:38 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 8:43:27 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:48
IP Address: 71.15.197.241

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Schuyler Watt
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Pressure is already high in these limited entry units and an increase in either-sex tags will only exacerbate the problem. Increasing the opportunity to hunt cows on private land solves reducing the elk population. This increase in either-sex tags will only serve to further diminish the hunt quality in these limited entry districts.

#35

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 9:52:43 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 9:54:28 AM
Time Spent: 00:01:45
IP Address: 71.15.198.123

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Caleb Lucy
City/Town: Bozem
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I respectfully and fully oppose this change. Thank you.

#36

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 8:46:37 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 10:09:40 AM
Time Spent: 01:23:03
IP Address: 216.166.169.57

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: TROY PAULSON
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am against this proposal. I have not seen any biological reason to increase these limited permit tags. If you want to decrease population you hunt cows, not bulls.

#37

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 5:33:08 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 04, 2022 5:39:23 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:15
IP Address: 107.116.7.31

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Shawn Dean
City/Town: Burlington
State/Province: KY

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

You don't manage elk numbers by utilizing either-sex tags. If you want to reduce populations temporarily increase the availability of antlerless tags. If you feel that the bull/cow ratio needs to be adjusted next year, then do it then. Only thing you'll accomplish here is decimating an entire age class and lower hunt quality in future years.

#38

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 9:37:13 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 9:41:09 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:55
IP Address: 174.45.254.99

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Samuel Norde
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Oppose

#39

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 11:09:10 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 11:15:15 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:05
IP Address: 69.144.12.73

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Bruce McGee
City/Town: LAUREL
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

With the over population I would think that an even higher increase in permit numbers might be a good idea. More like 700 permits?

#40

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 8:37:45 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 05, 2022 8:45:28 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:42
IP Address: 69.150.96.128

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Name: | Kalob Ownby |
| City/Town: | Murfreesboro |
| State/Province: | TN |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I agree with this motion.

#41

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 06, 2022 8:19:59 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 06, 2022 8:44:55 AM
Time Spent: 00:24:56
IP Address: 184.166.77.132

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Henry McHenry
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

As a public land hunter, I really appreciate the motivation to improve opportunity and access for elk hunting. But it seems like you're thinking about it backwards. Making either-sex/antlerless tags valid on public land only improves hunting on private land. You know this. It doesn't matter what you call it--permit, B license, whatever it may be. Reducing cow tags and restricting their use to public pushes elk to private land, and in most units will not reduce populations. If you're saying we have too many elk, that must mean that we aren't shooting enough of them. My thought then is that we should pressure elk to public land by increasing opportunities on private land. Thanks for your time and effort.

#42

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 06, 2022 2:29:53 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 06, 2022 2:35:01 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:07
IP Address: 184.166.74.251

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jared Larsen
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Strongly oppose this. These units are such sought after opportunities because of the trophy class and potential of a once in a lifetime hunt, increase the number of tags will only diminish these things.

#43

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, January 08, 2022 5:38:47 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, January 08, 2022 5:41:55 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:08
IP Address: 38.121.43.212

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Tyler Wittenberg
City/Town: Shepherd
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I don't believe the increase in permits will have to happen if you proposal of making people stick to a unit to hunt there bull elk. It will force those who draw that permit to hunt harder.

#44

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, January 09, 2022 1:17:55 PM
Last Modified: Sunday, January 09, 2022 1:24:00 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:05
IP Address: 206.127.124.53

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Name: | Fred Jakubowski |
| City/Town: | Townsend |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Strongly opposed to increasing either sex elk permits. The emphasis is reducing elk numbers in these over objective areas. Giving large landowners more bull tags WILL NOT reduce elk numbers nor allow additional public access. If anything, reduce the either sex permits and go cow only.

#45

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:50:44 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:57:43 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:58
IP Address: 140.194.140.21

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Name: | Josh Baltz |
| City/Town: | Libby |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

This proposal will only increase the number of bull elk harvested. This proposal will not effectively decrease the elk populations in these HD's. This proposal is yet another attempt to monetize our elk herd and reward landowners and outfitters. Stop insulting our intelligence by using the "elk are above objective" statement. Due to proposals like this, the majority of sportsmen and women in Montana have lost all trust with the F&W Commission, FWP and our state administration. Stop the special interests and represent the majority!

#46

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 10, 2022 1:23:45 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 10, 2022 1:25:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:36
IP Address: 140.194.140.21

Page 1

Q1 Respondent skipped this question

Please provide the following information:

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

No. No. No. Antlerless only! Stop the special interests!

#47

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 10, 2022 11:28:50 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 10, 2022 11:35:16 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:25
IP Address: 205.185.109.43

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Name: | DRAKE ATWOOD |
| City/Town: | Rexburg |
| State/Province: | ID |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am in favor of the above proposals to increase either sex firearm permits, in hopes that it will reduce hunter congestion during archery season.

#48

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 8:38:24 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 8:44:39 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:14
IP Address: 184.167.113.231

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Name: | Cory Hess |
| City/Town: | Billings |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

These numbers should not be adjusted until we receive a new elk management plan.

#49

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:05:52 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:17:26 AM
Time Spent: 00:11:34
IP Address: 173.225.89.117

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Nathan Miller
City/Town: Priest river
State/Province: ID

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I have hunted this area since 2004 and it is not over populated with elk. Elk herds stay on private land and most land owners don't allow the public to hunt on there land so in my opinion that's there problem and they should not be compensated for crop losses and there shouldn't be an increase in cow permits to try to decrease the impact of elk on private land owners that are not willing to allow the public hunt on there land to fix the problem of there land becoming a Sanctuary for elk from the public

#50

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 1:10:23 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 1:15:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:32
IP Address: 207.196.166.247

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Eric Meredith
City/Town: East Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Either sex elk permits should not be increased in any of the districts. The reasoning behind this seems to be to decrease the number of elk, especially on private land. Increasing either sex permits, which are essentially bull permits, do not have any effect on the overall population. To decrease herd numbers it is the counts of cows that is more important. The easiest way to decrease the elk population if it is needed is to increase access to the elk. There is no shortage of hunters that would like to shoot their cow elk in these districts, the problem is access. If private land owners believe there is too many elk on their land the simple solution is for them to allow hunting on their land. ACCESS, ACCESS, ACCESS should be the focus, not increasing bull tags.

#51

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 1:50:37 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 2:30:27 PM
Time Spent: 00:39:50
IP Address: 35.131.34.18

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Marcus Hockett**
City/Town: **BOZEMAN**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

In HDs 411 (535), 417, 426, and 702/704/705 I oppose increasing permit numbers by 50%. Elk are already heavily pressured on publicly accessible land. Increasing either-sex permits will further the hunter access issue to elk by pressuring elk to inaccessible private land.

Instead we should focus on access. The block management system needs to re-evaluated and preference given to landowners who provide access to elk. Too much emphasis is currently placed on acreage and not enough credit is given to the quality of experience and species available. Most of your revenue comes from big game deer and elk licenses, so why does it seem like half of the block management land is primarily bird hunting opportunities?

#52

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 10, 2022 5:39:56 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 4:37:09 PM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 174.45.153.32

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Name: | Eric Bashore |
| City/Town: | Billings |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Montana FWP:

Regarding the Region 5 archery-only either-sex elk permit, I think it is a really good change to aggregate the limited draw elk Hunting Districts (502, 535, 555, and 590) on the eastern side of Region 5 into one 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit. This is a good middle ground, since the multi-region 900-20 archery-only either-sex elk permit was probably too expansive and a singular Hunting District would be too restrictive, given that you can only hunt in the Hunting District(s) associated with the archery-only either-sex elk permit. This regional 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit will also allow archery hunters to hunt migratory elk in the Bull Mountains that cross Highway 12 frequently between Hunting District 535 and Hunting District 590.

However, I would advocate that this 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit and all the other archery-only either-sex elk permits be first and only choice, and instead of being unlimited, that a relatively higher (finite) quota be established which would allow the 10 percent non-resident cap to apply to this 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit and all the other archery-only either-sex elk permits. Montana FWP has stated that the existing 10 percent non-resident cap would not apply if the archery-only either-sex elk permits are unlimited.

Regarding the general proposal to increase the firearm either-sex elk permits by 50 percent in select over objective elk Hunting Districts (411, 417, 426, 535, 590, 702, 704, and 705), I would advocate far more caution since this could destroy the mature age class structure of bulls presently in these Hunting Districts in one or two years (that has taken many years to build). Additionally, this proposal does not appear to be supported by the recommendations of the Montana FWP biologists and was certainly not widely vetted through stakeholder groups ahead of its release to the public. There are already other significant proposed 2022-2023 elk hunting changes in these same Hunting Districts to address over objective elk populations as follows: considerably increasing the number of archery-only either-sex elk permits, allowing an unlimited number of antlerless elk B licenses, continuing and expanding elk shoulder seasons, etc. I would implore you to approve the same number of 2021 firearm either-sex elk permits (no increase) in these Hunting Districts, or maybe only increase them by a more conservative and measured 10 percent, especially in light of all these other significant proposed 2022-2023 elk hunting changes mentioned above. In my opinion, this would be a much more conservative and responsible approach until the current outdated Montana Elk Management Plan can be updated.

Finally, for all big game species I advocate for mandatory reporting of hunter harvest/success as a prerequisite for issuing the following year's applicable big game license/permit (as opposed to the current inaccurate and ineffective telephone survey methodology). Especially for species such as elk where the elk harvest and elk objective numbers are so heavily scrutinized, accurate harvest/success and hunter distribution data is mandatory for effective elk management decisions going forward.

Sincerely,
Eric J. Bashore
(Billings, MT)

#53

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 4:48:52 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 4:50:50 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:57
IP Address: 174.45.153.32

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Name: | Eric Bashore |
| City/Town: | Billings |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Montana FWP:

Regarding the Region 5 archery-only either-sex elk permit, I think it is a really good change to aggregate the limited draw elk Hunting Districts (502, 535, 555, and 590) on the eastern side of Region 5 into one 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit. This is a good middle ground, since the multi-region 900-20 archery-only either-sex elk permit was probably too expansive and a singular Hunting District would be too restrictive, given that you can only hunt in the Hunting District(s) associated with the archery-only either-sex elk permit. This regional 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit will also allow archery hunters to hunt migratory elk in the Bull Mountains that cross Highway 12 frequently between Hunting District 535 and Hunting District 590.

However, I would advocate that this 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit and all the other archery-only either-sex elk permits be first and only choice, and instead of being unlimited, that a relatively higher (finite) quota be established which would allow the 10 percent non-resident cap to apply to this 595-21 archery-only either-sex elk permit and all the other archery-only either-sex elk permits. Montana FWP has stated that the existing 10 percent non-resident cap would not apply if the archery-only either-sex elk permits are unlimited.

Regarding the general proposal to increase the firearm either-sex elk permits by 50 percent in select over objective elk Hunting Districts (411, 417, 426, 535, 590, 702, 704, and 705), I would advocate far more caution since this could destroy the mature age class structure of bulls presently in these Hunting Districts in one or two years (that has taken many years to build). Additionally, this proposal does not appear to be supported by the recommendations of the Montana FWP biologists and was certainly not widely vetted through stakeholder groups ahead of its release to the public. There are already other significant proposed 2022-2023 elk hunting changes in these same Hunting Districts to address over objective elk populations as follows: considerably increasing the number of archery-only either-sex elk permits, allowing an unlimited number of antlerless elk B licenses, continuing and expanding elk shoulder seasons, etc. I would implore you to approve the same number of 2021 firearm either-sex elk permits (no increase) in these Hunting Districts, or maybe only increase them by a more conservative and measured 10 percent, especially in light of all these other significant proposed 2022-2023 elk hunting changes mentioned above. In my opinion, this would be a much more conservative and responsible approach until the current outdated Montana Elk Management Plan can be updated.

Finally, for all big game species I advocate for mandatory reporting of hunter harvest/success as a prerequisite for issuing the following year's applicable big game license/permit (as opposed to the current inaccurate and ineffective telephone survey methodology). Especially for species such as elk where the elk harvest and elk objective numbers are so heavily scrutinized, accurate harvest/success and hunter distribution data is mandatory for effective elk management decisions going forward.

Sincerely,
Eric J. Bashore
(Billings, MT)

#54

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 13, 2022 8:51:30 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 13, 2022 9:18:03 AM
Time Spent: 00:26:33
IP Address: 70.33.15.147

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Richard Schwalbe
City/Town: Big Sky
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

This may not be the appropriate proposal (the description above is confusing)

Applying increase to PRIVATE LANDS ONLY (in HD535)

1. Has serious political overtones implying that the wealthy have special privileges, exacerbating the rich/poor divide. It looks like corruption.
 2. Appears to be an "end-around" to the proposal removed from the December 14, 2021 agenda as the result of substantial public backlash.
-

#55

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 13, 2022 2:32:02 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 13, 2022 2:51:02 PM
Time Spent: 00:19:00
IP Address: 69.146.25.17

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Pat Van Eimeren
City/Town: Whitefish
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Are these units 200% over objective like the next proposal? There is no rational as to why these units were selected. Why increase either sex permits when the goal is to reduce populations. Cow permits should be increased rather than either sex permits to meet the intended goal.

#56

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 14, 2022 6:32:03 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 14, 2022 6:34:37 AM
Time Spent: 00:02:34
IP Address: 174.242.234.32

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Blake Gustovich
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

These should be bull only permits. We should have 0 cow hunting on public land and unlimited cow hunting on private land.

#57

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 14, 2022 5:11:00 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 14, 2022 5:19:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:55
IP Address: 4.4.123.193

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Ronald G Schott
City/Town: Ennis
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Do not increase Either Sex permits by 50 percent. To reduce populations increase cow harvest not bulls. Use biology not wishes of outfitters and private land owners that limit access.

#58

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 14, 2022 9:59:37 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 14, 2022 10:02:08 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:30
IP Address: 50.37.159.152

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Name: | Eric |
| City/Town: | Libby |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Leave everything alone please

#59

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, January 15, 2022 8:59:00 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, January 15, 2022 9:21:55 AM
Time Spent: 00:22:55
IP Address: 96.3.14.116

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jack Sorum
City/Town: Florence
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose this proposal and offer the following justification for my objection.

The units I am the most familiar with are 702/704/705 which I have frequently archery hunted. This area within SE Montana has become famous for producing world class bulls including the current Pope and Young typical archery world record, and the Montana state nontypical rifle record. There have been multiple Boone and Crocket class bulls killed in the region of Montana and multiple bulls over 300" killed each year. This has been a phenomenal elk hunting destination for years and a place Montanans should value and be proud of. The opportunity to hunt 702/704/705 with a rifle tag should be on a very limited basis and should be managed in accordance to current quotes which seem to be maintaining a relatively good mix of trophy bulls and older class bulls. If FWP is so concerned with outdated population objectives, issue cow tags for private land. This will be a far better tool to obtain a lower elk population and will maintain the excellent trophy base this area has been known for. I would further encourage FWP to reevaluate the "elk objectives" which are not biologically based and are grossly outdated.

I urge you to defeat this proposal and maintain the great elk hunting and trophy class bulls these bundled units have historically produced and will continue to produce if we leave current rifle quotas in place.

#60

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 10, 2022 7:23:02 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, January 15, 2022 9:42:25 AM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 98.127.75.22

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Mike Mershon
City/Town: Billings
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Do NOT increase permits in these limited entry units. The issue is not getting a tag, it is accessing the elk. Increasing permits will only further propagate the issue and further push elk off of accessible lands reducing hunter success and enjoyment. The only way to increase permits is if they come with access.

#61

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, January 15, 2022 10:15:51 AM
Last Modified: Saturday, January 15, 2022 10:32:19 AM
Time Spent: 00:16:27
IP Address: 172.221.79.246

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Name: | Rachelle Schrute |
| City/Town: | Belgrade |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

RE: The Proposed Changes to the 2022-2023 Elk Hunting Season

OPPOSE

"Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, through its employees and citizen commission and board, provides for the stewardship of the fish, wildlife, parks, and recreational resources of Montana, while contributing to the quality of life for present and future generations."

It seems that the mission of Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks is being disregarded. Public comments have been strongly disregarded, as has been thoroughly demonstrated with this year's proposals and re-proposals.

Because of intense pressure from the public, conservationists, and biologists, the previous proposal had to be thrown out. This new proposal is nothing more than a veiled passing of the same, non-conservation-minded outcome.

It is my opinion that the unbundling/unlimiting of the 900 permit will not decrease pressure, will not facilitate access to inaccessible herds, and will not aid in the controlling of populations. The idea that it forces bowhunters to stick to one unit will, in my opinion, make people hunt those areas harder and increase pressure in MANY units. The only benefit I see here is giving a few of the big-ticket landowners access to unlimited archery bull tags. This seems money-driven, not conservation-driven. It solves none of the issues discussed by the commission, our hunters, our biologists, or our conservation-minded landowners.

In regards to increasing the either-sex rifle permits in 411, 417, 426, 535, 590, 702, 704, 705 by 50%:

WHY? I feel like we've all been screaming it from the mountain tops.

COW ELK CONTROL THE POPULATION. Increasing the either-sex permit is blatantly for the financial benefit of a select few. It does nothing to control the population or increase access to inaccessible herds. It simply sells more trophy bull hunts.

The public comments are being ignored.

The biologists are being ignored.

True conservationists are being ignored.

Each re-proposal consists of small changes or rewordings to the previous proposals which were thrown out, showing an agenda bias that disregards the people of Montana.

I'm asking this commission to throw out these proposals and take a moment to think about the precedent being set. The mission of this commission is to speak for the benefit of the people and our wildlife populations. A choice to disregard both is a direct affront to the seats you hold and will inevitably destroy what's left of the public's faith in our own commission.

We are asking you to do what's right for our elk populations and the people of Montana. You have both an opportunity to do a lot of good here and an opportunity to do a lot of harm. I'm asking that you don't continue to take steps that will dismantle the wildlife and hunting paradise we've always protected in the great state of Montana.

#62

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, January 15, 2022 1:15:58 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, January 15, 2022 1:30:35 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:37
IP Address: 38.97.192.173

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jeremy Hogsett
City/Town: Roberts
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Do not increase permit numbers. Revisit your objective numbers. They are too low. The landscape can and will support the current numbers of wildlife.

#63

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Saturday, January 15, 2022 2:25:08 PM
Last Modified: Saturday, January 15, 2022 2:28:46 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:37
IP Address: 174.45.253.23

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Trevor Nichols
City/Town: Belgrade
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose this measure as I believe it is yet another attempt to prioritize and commercialize a public resource, our wildlife. If we want to reduce elk numbers this should be done through increased cow tags and damage hunts on private lands. I do not believe this proposal is founded in science.

#64

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 17, 2022 7:52:30 AM
Last Modified: Monday, January 17, 2022 8:04:14 AM
Time Spent: 00:11:43
IP Address: 209.181.27.246

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jeff Watkins
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose the increases until we have a new Elk Management Plan in place so an accurate science base objective can be established. Based on the EMP inaccessible elk should not be counted in the objective. This needs to be addressed and many of the elk in these "over objective" areas are not accessible and therefore should not be included.

#65

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 17, 2022 12:49:44 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 17, 2022 1:00:24 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:40
IP Address: 208.75.142.58

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Kurt Rued
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposal to increase either-sex elk firearm permits by 50% in all of these districts. The FWP briefs/justification literature states, "Harvesting antlerless elk has the largest effect on population growth". The "either-sex" permits are essentially high-value trophy bull elk permits, which does very little to address objectives. Is the goal to work toward elk objectives, or is it to quickly ruin the premier elk hunting in Eastern MT?

#66

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 17, 2022 4:51:52 PM
Last Modified: Monday, January 17, 2022 5:05:09 PM
Time Spent: 00:13:16
IP Address: 162.57.254.49

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Name: | Mollie Hunt |
| City/Town: | Glendive |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Why is this being proposed? How does this measure ensure that herd numbers remain in the targeted range?

#67

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 11:10:00 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 11:54:52 AM
Time Spent: 00:44:52
IP Address: 174.45.45.206

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: brian mccullough
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

change all ES permits to antlerless or branch antlered bull.

#68

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 4:21:36 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 4:33:27 PM
Time Spent: 00:11:51
IP Address: 204.124.92.254

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Michael Kelly**
City/Town: **Miles City**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose this proposal. The science for these areas is old and the carrying capacity threshold used to justify these increases is outdated. This proposal would only serve to increase pressure on public lands, which are already overcrowded, and drive the elk herd onto private land. This was not proposed by the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, because clearly whoever wrote it had absolutely no understanding of herd dynamics or population management. If they did, they wouldn't have wasted the ink to write it down in the first place.

It comes across as a ploy to drive elk further onto private lands and increase the profits received by outfitters and guides on private lands. The proposal is absolute nonsense, and whoever supports it must not give a darn about the public land hunters of Montana who hunt to fill their freezers and provide for their families.

#69

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 7:25:03 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 7:31:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:52
IP Address: 4.4.123.193

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Ronald G schott
City/Town: Ennis
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Upping the eithersex permits does not solve over objective problems. Need to harvest more coes by increasing access to yhe elk diring general rifle session Cows only until the unit is within objective Need to redo the elk plan it is 17 years old and objectives need go be teset

#70

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 8:42:20 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 8:46:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:35
IP Address: 174.22.1.235

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Chris Griffiths
City/Town: Columbia Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

The arbitrary increase of either-sex elk firearm permits by 50% in elk hunting districts 411, 417, 426, 535, 590, 702, 704, 705. This proposal is not based on science or the recommendations of any of the managing FWP biologists in the region. It is furthermore not designed to address overpopulation of elk on private lands as the harvest of bulls does little for population reduction. This proposal is simply an impulsive reaction to the overwhelming opposition to the original proposal of the Commission to convert these controlled rifle elk hunts to general seasons on private lands. The outcome of this action will simply be an overharvest of bulls in the unit.

#71

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:30:25 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 10:30:04 AM
Time Spent: 00:59:38
IP Address: 69.146.1.77

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Jerry Davis**
City/Town: **Helena**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am confused. In the Region 5 proposal it says that HD 535 permits will be reduced by 50%. Here is how it is stated "Decrease quota of Either-Sex permit 411-20 from 300 to 150 (range 50-400) valid in HDs 411 and 535 on public land only. " To be frank I think the majority of the FWP proposals need to be tabled until the New Elk Management Plan is released, so there is a map for biologists to follow in setting seasons and quotas.

#72

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 10:59:54 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 11:10:24 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:30
IP Address: 69.145.123.117

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Marvin mace
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

This proposals is primarily benefitting the very rich landowners and outfitters, because you might get a opportunity opening day, then they move to private land where access is for the ones with the most money.

#73

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 3:02:56 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 3:07:39 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:42
IP Address: 199.155.70.67

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Matthew Strauch
City/Town: Chester
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Changes to Montana's elk hunting regulations SHOULD NOT be made until a more current elk management plan is drafted.

#74

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 3:50:09 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 3:57:49 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:40
IP Address: 184.166.66.97

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Name: | Jake Schwaller |
| City/Town: | Billings |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

The Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, on behalf of our 3,000+ dues-paying members, submits these comments regarding the statewide 2022/2023 either-sex elk permit proposal.

Montana BHA believes that the foundation of Montana's successful hunting heritage is rooted in our state's adoption of public trust principles, and we hold few species in higher regard than our elk. Montana's elk hunting legacy is at stake with these proposals. Montana BHA strongly urges the Fish & Wildlife Commission to maintain the status quo with the seasons as they currently stand until the following issues can be addressed by FWP.

First, we ask that the suite of changes re: elk hunting in Montana be denied for failure to follow sound public process. Both this Commission and the public have a right to fully understand what motivated FWP to suggest these changes without any updated elk management plan or clear data. Since the inception of these proposals, there have been issues with incomplete, missing or confusing information provided by FWP. During many regional meetings, FWP's biologists pointed out that the proposed changes on the website did not match the changes as they understood them, creating a situation where the public truly doesn't even know what we're commenting on. This makes it impossible for the public to fully understand the effects of these proposals, rendering the process, at minimum, ineffective, and potentially in full violation of the public's rights.

Second, the objective population standards being used to justify these statewide changes are based upon numbers that are long outdated. FWP has an obligation to provide updated management objectives prior to any comprehensive alterations to elk hunting in Montana. To make these novel changes without operating on any corresponding new data is not simply unprofessional, it is reckless. It puts the cart well before the horse and provides no means to measure and quantify success, nor to justify the wholesale changes being proposed.

Third, if we were to accept the process and the reasoning behind many of these proposals (which we don't), we're still forced to point out that these proposals do not address the stated problem of too many elk, especially on private lands:

If access to elk is provided, sound principles of biology have repeatedly shown that reduction in cows will reduce populations. Increased bull hunting will make little to no difference, however. Therefore, adding 50% either-sex (bull) permits in some areas will only increase hunter pressure on public lands, which in turn will drive more elk onto private lands. This is counter to addressing the stated problem of too many elk on private lands. For these reasons we oppose the statewide either-sex elk permit proposal.

The Commission's decision now regarding the future of our elk will echo for many years to come. We implore the Commission to make its determinations based upon updated elk management objectives, sound science and comprehensive and transparent public participation and input. Therefore, we ask that the Commission please reject these proposals and maintain the status quo until new elk management objectives are in place. To do otherwise would be a gross breach of the public's trust.

Respectfully,

Jake Schwaller
Montana Chapter of BHA Board Member
montana@backcountryhunters.org

#75

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 5:51:36 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 6:17:20 PM
Time Spent: 00:25:44
IP Address: 209.200.195.28

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

City/Town: **missoula**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I disagree with increasing either-sex firearm permits by 50%. This will increase pressure far too much when we need to be decreasing pressure on public land to allow elk to move off private land where they cause issues for landowners. Either sex tags are just bull tags. This will not open up access on private land but will most certainly increase pressure on public land. I urge you to not continue with this change and instead leave the permits how they exist now but allow for more conversations and better solutions to be had. If elk are really an issue in these places, then no bulls should be harvested and these units should be cow only until the objective is reached. Shooting more bulls will not solve the issue.

#76

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 6:27:45 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 6:41:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:09
IP Address: 172.221.109.3

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jeffrey A Wesen
City/Town: livingston
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

In elk area 702/704/705 I feel after spending some time in those units I believe 340 tags is too much for the area and it will hurt the quality of the experience.

#77

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:25:37 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:36:42 PM
Time Spent: 00:11:04
IP Address: 216.228.40.162

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Name: | Dale Tribby |
| City/Town: | Miles City |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am asking you to put the break on approving any and all changes to the elk hunting regulations until such a time as the elk management plan has been completed. Going forth with these proposals will only make the completion of the EMP more difficult, as it will be hard to not include the elk season changes (that are currently being commented on) into the plan, which may or may not lead to a successful plan. Additionally, I urge you to take a hard look at how any limited licenses are issued. I reside in Region Seven and I can draw a rifle tags for a limited either sex elk tag about one in seven years, whereas archers can essentially receive a permit almost every year. I would ask that FWP establish a set number of either sex elk tags and all applicants apply, with rifle hunters having as good a chance to draw a limited either sex tag as the archers. Thank you

#78

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:54:03 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:58:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:53
IP Address: 47.45.164.174

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Sean Benton
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose these changes, pending a new Elk Management plan.

#79

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:13:16 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:49:59 PM
Time Spent: 00:36:42
IP Address: 66.135.74.147

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Travis Tennison
City/Town: Kalispell
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

For unit 417 as for a lot of other units the problem isn't with the tag numbers. The problem is that most all of the elk are on 1 particular private property that doesn't allow hunting. So they hold the states elk hostage. Increasing the tag numbers doesn't help when there is hardly no chance at hunting them.

#80

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 10:24:57 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 19, 2022 10:52:42 PM
Time Spent: 00:27:45
IP Address: 72.174.11.119

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Charlie Talarico
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

These permits should not be either sex. Keep limited entry for bull elk to provide a fair means of obtaining this sought after area in the state. If we want to reduce elk populations science tells us to increase harvest of antlerless elk. Offer private landowners with over 7,000 acres 1 either sex tag annually

#81

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 9:08:59 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 9:51:26 AM
Time Spent: 00:42:27
IP Address: 174.204.20.55

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **John Herzer**
City/Town: **Missoula**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Soundly reject this proposal!!!! As commissioners you have a primary responsibility to uphold the "North American Model of Wildlife Management" and these changes are in direct conflict with it tenets. It has no value in herd reduction. This is simply a move to assuage a small number of private massive land holders to lease hunts via outfitters or hand out super coveted tags to their wealthy friends. Most of whom are "new land owners" and were well aware of the regulations when they purchased these properties - now they want to bend the rules. Do not let this happen.

#82

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:22:15 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:23:13 AM
Time Spent: 00:00:57
IP Address: 161.7.90.83

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Bret L Lian
City/Town: Jefferson City
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose this increase. What the heck do bull tags have to do with curtailing elk populations? Nothing. This is not based on biology at all. Abandon this idea.

#83

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:28:48 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:30:31 AM
Time Spent: 00:01:42
IP Address: 174.45.92.224

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Dustin fisk
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose the increase of tags. We have an access insure not a tag issue.

#84

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:36:25 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 11:50:35 AM
Time Spent: 00:14:10
IP Address: 204.124.92.253

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Guy Stickney
City/Town: Miles City
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose the increase in ether sex elk firearm permits in these units. These units were identified due to being greater than 200% over objective. This proposal will primarily increase bull harvest which will have no effect on population per FWP's own biologists. Please reject this proposal as it is not founded in science.

#85

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:08:34 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:10:36 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:02
IP Address: 204.124.92.253

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Sarah Dawe
City/Town: Miles City
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support the increased either sex permits for these hunting districts. This proposal is not based in science. It will increase bull harvest which will have no effect on population in these units. Please reject this proposal.

#86

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:21:39 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:31:20 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:41
IP Address: 144.46.104.12

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Angelo Reda
City/Town: Lewistown
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not agree with this proposal. If the objective is to reduce elk number, you do not kill bulls. I would rather see these units go to cow only harvest than to have the either sex permits increased.

#87

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:44:10 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:52:00 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:49
IP Address: 71.36.48.181

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Larry Rattray
City/Town: Proctor
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

The 900 permit was created to reduce overcrowding. The majority of the elk were killed by non residents. Opening this up to general firearm season will really load the area. This will not be a cow reduction hunt as everyone will have a either sex permit and they will not use it on a cow. I would propose making each district a separate draw. While not reducing the complexity of the regulations, it would show the areas of intense interest and keep control of the situation.

#88

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:10:29 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:19:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:53
IP Address: 161.7.39.7

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brian Robbins
City/Town: Anaconda
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Opposed to changes until a new EMP is in place. Reasons are as follows if you choose to read further. As a lifelong Montana Resident with 40 years of hunting, every year for the last several years seems to get just a little worse when it comes to hunting public land. Elk numbers on Public land have been on a dramatic downward spiral in recent years and these proposals do nothing to reverse that trend. I would argue the majority of these elk proposals will only further the decline of elk on public lands. While I've struggled to find the right words to express my comments, I've read Helena Hunters and Anglers Comments as well as Montana Wildlife Federation. I believe they are spot on and I agree with them regarding elk management in Montana.

#89

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:12:21 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:22:59 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:37
IP Address: 35.131.34.18

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Paul Kemper
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

If there is a population issue, the cows must be the focus. Bull harvest does not impact population; it impacts age class amongst a population. This proposal will push more elk to private land sanctuaries and further degrade equal opportunities for all. I propose the units become cow only until objective is met. That can't be done until we have an updated elk management plan.

#90

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:16:33 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:26:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:22
IP Address: 66.109.128.10

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Eric Midtlyng**
City/Town: **Missoula**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to this proposal to increase the either-sex firearm permits by 50%. These are prized opportunities for many and increasing the pressure on bull elk in these areas will do nothing but lower the quality of the experience and do very little to achieve the departments stated goal of population reduction.

#91

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:20:20 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:47:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:26:59
IP Address: 70.33.38.78

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Bridger Kamps**
City/Town: **Ovando**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support this. It makes it hard for the working class hunters and hunters with families who have limited time. They are forced to travel to a distant district that they drew a limited permit in and hunt there and only there. It would be much better to give these hunters the opportunity to be able to slip away for an evening here and there when the opportunity comes and hunt near home. This change would only help people who live close to a limited permit hunting area but end up hurting those who do not. This is not a good change and a terrible look for Montana.

#92

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 4:49:56 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 5:02:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:25
IP Address: 67.143.193.87

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Michael J Casey
City/Town: Clancy
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

It appears the FWP is catering to land owners. As a resident and long time hunter I oppose the 2022 proposed changes. Anywhere but "forest service" is giving private land owners control of cow elk harvests.
I'm opposed to landowner preference unless it is a landowner participating in the BMA. The proposed changes open the door even further for "hunt for profit" using game animals not owned by the landowner.

#93

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 5:09:58 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 5:19:30 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:31
IP Address: 4.4.123.193

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Ronald G Schott
City/Town: Ennis
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Do not arbitrarily up the eithersex permits. The over population is caused by insufficient harvest of cow elk!!! Follow science and public comments.

#94

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 5:31:58 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 6:45:48 PM
Time Spent: 01:13:50
IP Address: 71.15.212.167

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Name: | Jim Mogen |
| City/Town: | Bozeman |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose the proposal the ELK Permit Proposal that states “permits for either-sex elk or brow-tined bull-antlerless elk will limit the holder to hunting for antlered elk within the designated HD for the period identified on the permit.”

Reason: Resident Montana public-land hunters are already facing increased hunting pressure and overcrowding from non-residents and an overall increase in hunters. Having an abundance of public land opportunities available to general tag holders is a big part of what makes Montana unique and special, at least for resident hunters – having the option to pack up and move to another spot if the current area is overcrowded is extremely important to most of us. A quality hunting experience is important to a lot of us and some of us are willing to move around to get that.

Another point - Montana is a really big state and most of western Montana is a general license area, meaning we don't need “permits” to hunt there, just general licenses. Many resident hunters enjoy weekend outings to local general-license hunting spots while still planning longer hunting trips to distant permit areas, areas where distance, time and money may limit us to a single hunting trip per season. By making us choose, this proposal would eliminate weekend opportunities for many permit holders and substantially diminish inflow to local economies that benefit from local weekend hunters - Ennis, MT being a good example. I've hunted elk for more than 30 consecutive years in the mountains around Ennis while still holding an archery permit for eastern MT. I can't afford to travel east more than once or twice a season, nor do I have the time to, but I can hunt near my home every weekend and when I do, I stop in Ennis every time to fill up and buy snacks or grab some dinner or supplies or whatever. Multiply that times the thousands of permit holders in western Montana and I think that should be an eye-opener. This proposal would deprive local economies, take weekend opportunities away, and essentially shorten our season from six weeks to 10 days or so.

Finally, hunting and sharing a hunting camp with friends and family, getting to share those moments in the outdoors, has always been a huge part of what makes hunting so special. However, most permits are awarded under a limited draw system, meaning your chance of drawing is not guaranteed and often very low, and the chance of a partner, let alone several friends or family members, also drawing the permit is much lower if possible at all. Again, not only would this proposal eliminate weekend outings on large tracks of general-license public land for permit holders, but it would also eliminate opportunities to hunt with friends and family.

I suggest limiting this proposal to non-resident hunters. This would give FWP better-control of the annual wave of non-resident hunters while still allowing residents to roam. Most non-resident hunters are destination hunters anyway, with no desire to waste their valuable hunting time running around a state they're unfamiliar with.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jim Mogen

#95

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 8:01:52 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 8:04:16 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:24
IP Address: 174.45.105.98

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Matt Morris
City/Town: Belgrade
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

These changes appear to greatly limit the available regions that a person may hunt with a general license regardless previous of brow tine or anterless regulations. As a person who has family in multiple regions this would limit our ability to hunt different areas with each other. Private land is available however public land is the more prevalent space that is hunted. Limiting the area that you can use a general tag is extremely restricting to the lifelong residents of the state. They have always been able to hunt wherever they have wanted with the exception of draw units that were in place to build populations so that one day it might not be a draw unit and everyone could hunt that area again after a sustaining population had been created. It also appears that there is a push to simplify hunting districts by making larger areas to hunt; unfortunately this seems like something done in an effort to appease those in oppsosition to having to choose a smaller district to hunt in if they are only able to choose one. In an effort to effectively make these changes I believe that changes need to be made more concisely, precisely, and in a volume that is digestible for the general public. In essence these changes are too aggressive with trial and error in a smaller test sample.

#96

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 20, 2022 9:53:58 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 20, 2022 9:55:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:58
IP Address: 140.186.34.22

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Kyle Mlynar**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

More tags is not the answer. There are already too many hunters.

#97

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 5:34:52 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 5:35:45 AM
Time Spent: 00:00:53
IP Address: 174.247.149.85

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Name: | Colton Kaspar |
| City/Town: | Big Timber |
| State/Province: | MT |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Disagree with increase in permits.

#98

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 7:32:16 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 7:34:13 AM
Time Spent: 00:01:56
IP Address: 72.175.57.172

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Wesley Sherman
City/Town: Stevensville
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am strongly opposed to the idea of increasing either-sex firearm permits in the proposed units. It is clear this proposal is intended for landowners and outfitters; the proposed units are significantly private lands. The following are my biological and social reasons for opposing:

Biological:

- There has been no biological, or science-based data provided to the public to allow an increase in either-sex permits. It is noted that much of these if not all the units listed are above objective per the outdated Elk Management Plan, although this proposal does not target reducing herd size as harvesting bull elk is not a management tool for reducing herd size.

Social:

- Although the proposed units are significantly private lands, there are significant public lands to hunt. Increasing the permits sounds like a good idea on paper to the average hunter that wants a better opportunity for drawing and hunting mature bull elk. Increasing the permits will create more people applying for those units because of a potentially greater chance of drawing and in the end will not actually have a better opportunity due to the increase in applicants.

#99

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 7:33:21 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 7:36:22 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:01
IP Address: 98.125.90.185

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Shawn Moody
City/Town: Kalispell
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

No increase in tags, or elk are over pressured which turns then up on private land, build a better relationship with landowners who have problem elk and get hunters access to hunt cow elk on those property

#100

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:04:03 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:56:33 AM
Time Spent: 00:52:29
IP Address: 69.146.110.146

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Ian Wargo**
City/Town: **Kalispell**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Please consider letting the process play out before prior to enacting these drastic changes to our elk regulations. FWP is currently in the process of revising the elk management plan. As part of that process elk objectives will be reviewed and updated. I have to wonder if much of the flack that FWP gets with elk being over objective could be alleviated with adopting a more reasonable elk objective number. I'm not saying the elk objective will go up with the results from the elk management plan, but the results of that plan are critical to making informed decisions on regulation changes. An observation that I think has weigh in this conversation is that Montana is home to approximately 2.6 million cattle and last elk number I saw was roughly 150,000 elk give or take a little. That's roughly 17 times more cattle in the state than elk, begs the question what is the states carrying capacity of elk compared to the elk objective. I think showing the discrepancy between those two numbers would be very educational... Thanks.

#101

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:44:12 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 9:50:53 AM
Time Spent: 01:06:41
IP Address: 66.62.204.66

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Michael Kubas
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support a 50% increase in either sex permits. The fwp needs to update the Elk Objective numbers before such a dramatic change can be considered.

#102

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:19:38 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:26:00 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:22
IP Address: 209.200.195.28

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Sean

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I disagree with increasing either-sex firearm permits by 50%. This will increase pressure far too much when we need to be decreasing pressure on public land to allow elk to move off private land where they cause issues for some landowners. Either sex tags are just bull tags. This will not open up access on private land but will most certainly increase pressure on public land. I urge you to not continue with this change and instead leave the permits how they exist now but allow for more conversations and better solutions to be had. If elk are really an issue in these places, then no bulls should be harvested and these units should be cow only until the objective is reached. Shooting more bulls will not solve the issue.

#103

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 03, 2022 5:59:36 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:44:26 AM
Time Spent: Over a week
IP Address: 73.62.49.135

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **D.J. Zor**
City/Town: **Columbia Falls**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I disagree with this proposal. Adding 50% either-sex (bull) permits in some areas will only increase hunter pressure on public lands, which in turn will drive more elk onto private lands. This is counter to addressing the stated problem of too many elk on private lands. If you honestly want to decrease elk populations and mitigate conflict on private lands, then increase cow harvest opportunity specifically on private lands. I'm not talking shoulder seasons, which are obviously not working. I'm talking landowners that complain about elk damages need to allow reasonable and easy access in season to reduce cow populations. Increasing bull harvest will not have the same efficacy in herd reduction as targeted cow harvest will. I wonder what the real motivations behind these ridiculous proposals actually are. They are certainly causing a rift of mistrust between the Montanans that care about hunting, fishing and trapping and the current top brass at FWP. This may become a slippery slope that will take a long while for FWP to regain public trust and confidence for doing any meaningful work going forward.

#104

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:26:09 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:45:45 AM
Time Spent: 00:19:35
IP Address: 184.166.66.97

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Kevin Farron
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Please reject the either-sex elk permit proposals. In the same way that Montanans soundly rejecting the idea to remove limited-entry permits and move to general - during both the December Fish & Wildlife Commission meeting but also during the legislature while defeated HB 417 - Montanans can see right through this proposal to increase the same either-sex (bull) tags by 50%. This will do little to address the stated problem of too many elk (on private lands), and in reality will make the problem even worse. If and when access to elk is provided, cows should be targeted to reduce herd numbers, not bulls. Adding 50% more either-sex (bull) permits will only increase hunting pressure on public lands, driving even more elk onto private lands. Killing a few more bulls will have little impact on herd numbers. This proposal will benefit no one other than the private landowners and outfitters who control exclusive access and hunting pressure, and simply want 50% better draw odds for their resident and non-resident hunters. Plus, the success rate for public land hunters in these districts is already low; adding more pressure could end up in even lower success rates. For these reasons, I ask that you please reject the either-sex elk permit proposals and instead look for real solutions to the stated problem (not to mention, the stated problem is questionable due to severely outdated elk management objectives; let's update those first). Thank you, -Kevin Farron

#105

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:05:22 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:56:27 AM
Time Spent: 00:51:04
IP Address: 184.167.219.37

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Cole Dallaserra
City/Town: Butte
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support the increase of either-sex elk permits by 50% in these hunting districts (HD). These HD have high percentages of private land vs public land ratios. The current situation of these areas being way over population objectives is more of an access issue than an opportunity issue. Increasing bull harvest opportunities without increasing public access is only going to compound the situation. FWP would be more well served if they decreased either-sex opportunities and increased antlerless opportunities. Specifically on private lands. Also, increasing antlerless harvest is going to reduce the future bull crop. We don't need to kill bulls to reduce populations. That process will naturally take place with the harvest of more cows. Has there been any studies that model the effect of bull:cow ratios with the increase of antlerless and bull harvest simultaneously? Additionally, we are running on a dated Elk Management Plan with outdated objective numbers that were built off "tolerance" rather than science. We must first determine scientifically based objective numbers to adequately assess biological risks. However, it is known that the promotion of unnatural congregations of wildlife pose considerable biological risks. Landownership is changing and the culture of those landowners is also changing. The traditional agricultural operation is beginning to take back seat to Billionaire playgrounds. Some of those Billionaires have high "tolerance" for large congregations of elk. If we want to maintain the biological integrity of our herds, all users of these ecosystems are going to have to step forward and do their part. Hunting is the most efficient and useful tool for game managers to appropriately manage populations. Although, it is evident with the growing populations in these HD that hunting effectiveness is being hamstrung by access. I'm not sure if we are at that point as mentioned above concerning biological risks, but if we ever do get to a point where serious biological risks are present what is the plan? Why are we waiting until catastrophic events are occurring such as the CWD in the WTD in SW MT region 3? Is there an Administrative Rule allowing MFWP to "cull" and or disperse congregated elk populations if deemed necessary? If not, that might be worth consideration getting something moved forward through legislation.

#106

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:38:25 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:01:26 AM
Time Spent: 00:23:01
IP Address: 76.75.53.57

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brian Scott
City/Town: GLEN
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am fine with increasing quotas where needed as long as the season is the standard 5 week length. So-called shoulder seasons need to stop. If populations are over objective due to landowners concerns then the landowner needs to allow access to those elk during the general season. Allowing bull elk to be monetized should not be allowed if these people want to outfit bull hunts and then request further hunting of cows during the shoulders. They can obviously charge people to hunt but there should be no special concessions. One or the other!

#107

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:14:38 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:19:54 AM
Time Spent: 00:05:15
IP Address: 174.45.253.88

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Paul Dinkins
City/Town: Bozeman
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Dear FWP commissioners,

Please vote no on this massive increase in either-sex elk permits. Montana's hunters are not asking for increased draw odds at the expense of quality hunting, which will furthermore do nothing to alleviate over objective populations. This is just one example of the vast proposed changes which are a complete reimagining of elk hunting in Montana are incredibly ill conceived. There has been a lack of opportunity for public engagement, and lack of input from and time for consideration by the FWP department's professional wildlife managers. With the stated aim of "simplifying hunting regulations" in Montana, what has been proposed only makes things more confusing and further removed from sound science and social input. Based on outdated population standards and no foundation in biology, the proposals seem like they will massively decrease the quality of elk hunting in Montana, especially on public land and do nothing to decrease elk populations in over objective areas. In fact, the proposals will likely drive elk onto private land. These proposals are great for outfitters and horrible for montanans and land owners who actually want to decrease the number of elk on their valuable range land. Specifically I object to the increase of either-sex bull permits in many areas, changing the 900-20 permits, the failed experiment of cow elk shoulder seasons, and the "pick your district" limitations on Montana residents. Please go back to the drawing board and reject the unprofessional and irresponsible "try it and see" approach to regulating this species. Please consider getting back to the long overdue revision of our Elk Management Plan with a diverse group of stakeholders before hastily overhauling elk hunting in Montana. Please vote no, and thank you for your service

#108

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 10:22:59 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:30:11 AM
Time Spent: 01:07:11
IP Address: 184.167.51.75

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Molly VandeVoort
City/Town: Columbia Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I strongly oppose the statewide either-sex elk permit proposal. Biological data have presented unequivocal evidence that reducing cows will reduce total population levels and increased opportunity for bulls does no such thing. With logical ordered thinking, one can easily deduce that additional either-sex (bull) permits in specific areas will lead to increased pressure on public lands, thus incentivizing the herds to move to private land. This perpetuates the stated problems. Clearly there is a disconnect in true objectives, or just a massive oversight.

#109

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:01:10 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:35:33 AM
Time Spent: 00:34:22
IP Address: 69.145.226.87

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Brian Barbaree
City/Town: Columbia Falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

If population control is the goal for increasing these tags, I do not agree with the change. These areas are known for trophy bulls and either sex tags are coveted for this reason. I believe that individuals who draw an either sex tag will not use it for cow harvest and that the number of mature bulls will decrease. . . by 50%. Harvesting more bulls does not actually accomplish anything for population control from a biology perspective. Population guidelines should be met by cow/calf recruitment numbers. If population control is a goal in these areas, an increase in B tags would be more feasible, with tag number based on population surveys done each yearly or biannually. Please do not increase either sex tags in these districts.

#110

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:02:03 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:11:27 PM
Time Spent: 04:09:24
IP Address: 71.32.59.127

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Travis Hall
City/Town: Stevensville
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

This proposal should never have been brought forth without a thorough update to the severely outdated Elk Management Plan. In its previous form, it was resoundingly rejected by members of the public. In its current form, it is based on flawed and outdated statistics at best, and if implemented, it would serve only to benefit the large landowners in these regions and the private interests that serve them. The inclusion of bull elk in this proposal is a real head scratcher. This will do nothing to decrease herd numbers but will undoubtedly benefit the well-heeled, private interests seeking to monetize a priceless portion of Montana's publicly-owned wildlife trust.

#111

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:27:24 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:30:42 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:17
IP Address: 174.212.229.136

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Chris Griffiths
City/Town: Columbia falls
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose the increase in tags. There are very few elk on public land. Please don't make any changes until this issue has been thoroughly studied. I can only imagine how many years of management will go up in smoke in the first week of season if these changes become reality.

#112

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:18:15 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:45:50 PM
Time Spent: 01:27:35
IP Address: 63.153.107.166

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: THOMAS PUCHLERZ
City/Town: Stevensville
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I cannot support this increase without better justification as to where the 50% increase came from. In hunting district 704 where I have hunted for the past ten years the Department has done an outstanding job in meeting the goals established in the current Elk plan. The number of either sex elk permits currently being awarded (225) along with the unlimited 900-20 archery permits has allowed the goal of 30-40 bulls per 100 cows to be met. Increasing the number of tags along with unbundling the archery permits could cause the bull harvest to fall below current goals. I suspect this is the case in many of these units and without adjustment of the goals downward, which I would not support, or some other biological justification I see no reason for this change to occur prior to our new elk management plan being finalized.

#113

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:40:13 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:54:39 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:25
IP Address: 184.166.147.182

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Gary Ingman
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Please do not adopt this proposal. It is ill conceived and will not help to reduce elk numbers overall because bulls will be targeted not cows. Overpopulation issues are largely on private lands within these districts whereas the focus of these permits is on public lands. Increasing limited entry hunting pressure on public lands in these HDs will drive elk to private lands, which will not help to address overpopulation problems on private lands but will favor commercial outfitter exploitation on those private lands.

#114

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:58:43 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 1:09:37 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:54
IP Address: 63.153.87.53

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Randy Hodges
City/Town: Stevensville
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose the sweeping change of increasing bull tags in all units that are twice above objective for two reasons.

1-The department acknowledges that the unit objectives are outdated and need to be re-done in a new Elk management plan. This is not the time to make such large changes.

2-Every biologist in the state acknowledges that bull harvest does not effect populations in any meaningful way. Increasing bull harvest will not accomplish anything other increasing pressure on public lands, which in turn exacerbate the problem of elk not leaving private lands.

#115

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 1:32:21 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 1:33:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:44
IP Address: 63.153.107.166

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: THOMAS PUCHLERZ
City/Town: Stevensville
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I cannot support this increase without better justification as to where the 50% increase came from. In hunting district 704 where I have hunted for the past ten years the Department has done an outstanding job in meeting the goals established in the current Elk plan. The number of either sex elk permits currently being awarded (225) along with the unlimited 900-20 archery permits has allowed the goal of 30-40 bulls per 100 cows to be met. Increasing the number of tags along with unbundling the archery permits could cause the bull harvest to fall below current goals. I suspect this is the case in many of these units and without adjustment of the goals downward, which I would not support, or some other biological justification I see no reason for this change to occur prior to our new elk management plan being finalized.

#116

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:26:03 AM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:15:58 PM
Time Spent: 13:49:54
IP Address: 174.202.73.226

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Hunter Johnstone
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I cannot support this proposal when it lacks so much clarity for population and distribution effects.

#117

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:09:36 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:17:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:19
IP Address: 72.250.159.41

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: SEAN STROHM
City/Town: Lewistown
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not support increasing the permit numbers. These changes will do nothing to decrease elk herds and will only result in more hunting pressure and a poorer quality hunt.

#118

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:30:50 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:37:56 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:06
IP Address: 184.166.98.230

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: John Lodmell
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I urge FWP to scrap this idea and use more basic principles to achieve the elk reduction objectives. Namely, in these areas more cow permits should be made available to all (public and private land) hunters, and increased effort should be made to provide access to our elk on private lands. Furthermore, every effort should be made to avoid allowing landowners from turning our elk into a commodity that is reserved for wealthy and connected hunters only.

#119

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 12:32:35 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:41:05 PM
Time Spent: 02:08:29
IP Address: 67.44.224.177

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: ELIZABETH MCFARLAND
City/Town: OTTER
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

NO, NO NO. NO to either sex firearm permit increase by 50% in 702, 704, 705

FWP data shows that bull harvest in Region 7 is significant with 72% success rate. Without any explanation around this additive proposal or what is broke or a demonstrated issue, once again, an insane, no science, no justification no social aspect pile on for what literally amounts to elk extermination in Region 7. There is NO ANALYSIS ANYWHERE AROUND THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT OF ALL THESE PROPOSALS. This didn't come from Region 7 staff. And of course, and again, this would be much more punitive to bulls. If there is some basis in science, for a need to increase opportunity, make it antlerless licenses on public and private.

#120

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:47:14 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:57:01 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:47
IP Address: 107.191.3.10

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Gene Bosley
City/Town: Cottonwood Heights
State/Province: UT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I suggest a cow-only tag, at a lower price, instead of either sex. Not everyone is after a trophy bull with a cow alternate; some of us would hunt more where better prospects of a meat cow existed.

#121

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:03:27 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:04:25 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:58
IP Address: 97.121.246.71

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: KARSON ROSANDER
City/Town: BILLINGS
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose the proposal.

#122

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 2:38:14 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:19:48 PM
Time Spent: 00:41:34
IP Address: 65.131.198.128

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Aaron Agosto**
City/Town: **Bigfork**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Dear Fish and Wildlife Commisioners,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the statewide either sex permit increase proposal. The stated reasoning is to reduce elk populations on some private lands. Targeting bulls has shown to have little to no effect on overall populations, and without providing access to elk on private lands, increasing the either sex quota will only serve to add to the pressure of elk on public land. This will likely drive elk onto private land and further exacerbate the problems this was designed to solve. In addition, the elk objectives under which this plan was drafted are old and outdated, and in the previous management plan it is very explicitly stated that elk that cannot be accessed can not count against the population objectives. Without looking into and updating elk objectives and the states elk management plan, and increasing hunter access to said problem elk this proposal is seemingly putting the cart before the horse, and I kindly ask you to reject it.

Thank you.
-Aaron Agosto

#123

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:25:54 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:33:03 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:08
IP Address: 158.222.38.73

Page 1

Q1 Respondent skipped this question

Please provide the following information:

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Increasing the either-sex tags by 50% is simply unbelievable. There is no long-term strategy or "science" behind this. The fact you guys are pushing this and don't even have the support from your own biologists is mind blowing. I'm not saying numbers don't need to be updated or looked at, but a change of this kind is not something you just wing. Quite obvious this is driven by landowners looking to make more money, which as a landowner I fully understand. However long term this will just destroy elk hunting in these units. Not to mention it will affect other units across the state with even more pressure and harder draw odds than ever before.

#124

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:27:05 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:33:23 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:17
IP Address: 72.174.6.45

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to any more antlerless tags for private land owners or expansion of existing shoulder seasons. This has been tried and shown it doesn't work. All that does is provide easy and profitable elk for the most fortunate land owners.

The claim that there are "too many elk" is a falsehood. Who says there's too many elk in MT? I've lived and hunted in MT my entire life and I've never heard anyone other than FWP and wealthy land owners say there are too many elk. I especially do not hear this from other hunters.

Here's some facts:

MT total area - 93,155,800 acres

MT public land - ~32,473,220 acres

MT elk according to FWP - ~ 170,000

vs.

CO total area - 66,387,200 acres

CO public land - ~ 26,458,890 acres

CO elk according to CWP 2019 - ~ 282,000

MT has more land and more public land than CO, yet only has only 61% of the number of elk. HOW IS THAT TOO MANY??

My guess is that FWP is taking its marching orders from a very small minority of land owners that are well connected and have deep pockets. They should be thankful they own land in MT and have the privilege of having elk on their property, but because they don't want to lose a little money, they're unwilling to deal with the problems of elk on their land with their own money. Wrong solution to a problem that isn't a problem for 99.99999% of MT citizens. If these land owners don't want elk on their land, they can spend their own money on fences to keep them out or allow easy public access for hunters. Or maybe FWP should stop all predator hunting on those private lands so that predators will naturally reduce the herds on those lands. That won't happen because the land owners don't like predators either.

This is not a problem to begin with and the proposed "solutions" are hand-outs to the most privileged. If FWP wants to continue to operate, they need to remember who they work for. FWP works for all the citizens of MT, not just a few well connected and wealthy land owners. I don't have any ill will against anyone for having wealth or owning a lot of land, but I do not like those that do using their wealth or status as land owners to make all other citizens of MT lose hunting opportunities.

#125

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:21:15 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:34:41 PM
Time Spent: 00:13:25
IP Address: 108.174.125.178

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Marcus Svee
City/Town: Corvallis
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I do not see increasing either-sex permits as a good solution for reducing the Elk populations within over-populated Districts.

I would prefer to see an increase in Antlerless only permits, valid only on Private-land.

Increasing the bull harvest will have a very short-term population reduction.

#126

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:29:12 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:36:00 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:48
IP Address: 72.174.6.45

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Jordan carter
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Montana already has one of the longest rifle seasons of any state. Increasing permits and rifle hunting pressure will make the situation for elk in all of Montana much worse. This added pressure will drive even more elk off of public land and keep them on private land. Making private land owners angry and making it impossible to find elk on our already barren public land.

#127

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:36:49 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:55:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:18:16
IP Address: 174.197.5.214

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Andrew Derickson
City/Town: Augusta
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to increasing the number of either sex elk permits in any of the HDs listed. This would increase hunting pressure in easy to access, public areas and drive more elk to harder to access or private land.

Simply increasing the number of permits has proven to not work in the past and while there may be a short term increase in the number of elk harvested, it would not a long lasting solution.

#128

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:48:53 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:00:24 PM
Time Spent: 00:11:30
IP Address: 97.121.246.71

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: ARTHUR ROSANDER
City/Town: COLSTRIP
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I oppose this proposal.

#129

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:08:28 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:22:59 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:30
IP Address: 69.145.38.50

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Casey Hackathorn
City/Town: Missoula
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Having just hunted the past season with an either sex permit in 417, I oppose increasing the permits in these districts. While I was successful in my hunt, I found the existing pressure on public land to push most elk off of accessible public lands onto private/landlocked public lands making hunting extremely challenging for most hunters. I understand the desire to increase harvest but this will in fact not help and reduce the quality of an already challenging hunt.

#130

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:31:00 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:35:37 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:36
IP Address: 72.250.159.41

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Garrett Strohm
City/Town: Lewistown
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

I am opposed to increasing the quotas in these units because the hunting pressure is already too high

#131

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:34:28 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:39:10 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:41
IP Address: 174.204.11.122

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: Chris Pileski
City/Town: Miles City
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

- I do not support increasing the number of bull tags in these and other limited draw areas as this will further exacerbate the over crowding issues on limited public lands and will have unintended consequences on the MD population in this area as well.
-

#132

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 4:43:38 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 5:04:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:21:16
IP Address: 184.166.84.243

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

Name: **Tavis P Campbell**
City/Town: **Missoula**
State/Province: **MT**

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

Having drawn the Durfee hills tag, which I used 13 bonus points on. I am not in favor of increasing either sex tags. This was not a trophy tag that it used to be. As you know most of the land is private over there and locating trophy bulls is difficult to say the least....unless you are a private land owner.

#133

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:24:42 PM
Last Modified: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:39:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:14:37
IP Address: 184.97.155.214

Page 1

Q1

Please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Name: | Steve Frith |
| City/Town: | Omaha |
| State/Province: | NE |

Q2

Please comment on the proposed 2022–2023 either-sex elk permit proposal:

The North American Model of Conservation can be given credit for the recovery of elk. We should celebrate the increasing population of elk. When the problem is overpopulation I ask that we examine our baseline or objective and compare to science. What is the holding capacity? It's my understanding that the 2005 objectives were not to include private land. I don't feel we have an overpopulation problem but rather private landowners want to have more permits for themselves. Wildlife are not private property so why are private landowners getting preference? If they truly had a problem they would ask biologists or the public for help to deter them from their land.
