



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION FWP PROPOSAL & INFORMATION SHEET

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Meeting Date: August 19, 2026

Agenda Item: Upper Missouri River Reservoir Fisheries Management Plan Advisory Committee (R4)

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background: The Upper Missouri River Reservoir Fisheries Management Plan (UMRRFMP) guides fisheries management for Canyon Ferry, Hauser, and Holter reservoirs, and two associated Missouri River sections. The UMRRFMP includes a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) that meets with the department annually to review fishery trends and goals to advise management. As described in the management plan, the commission will appoint a five-member CAC to function in an advisory capacity to FWP for fisheries management decisions in the plan area. The committee will consist of no more than one advocate from five of the following stakeholder groups: unaffiliated warmwater anglers, unaffiliated coldwater anglers, organized warmwater angler groups, organized coldwater angler groups, ice-fishing anglers, conservation groups, kids' fishing, fishing tournament organizer, landowner, outfitter, local government, local business, and other interests.

The existing committee has served since 2022 since appointment by the Commission. After discussions with one CAC member who has been unable to attend the last three annual meetings, the Department seeks to replace this member.

Public Involvement Process & Results: The Department accepted applications to fill the vacant CAC position from May 20 through June 12. Four applications were submitted to the department. The new member should represent one of the following *vacant* stakeholder groups; unaffiliated coldwater anglers, ice-fishing anglers, conservation groups, kids' fishing, fishing tournament organizer, landowner, outfitter, local government, and other interests.

Alternatives & Analysis: The Commission could appoint the Department recommended CAC member. The Commission could appoint a different CAC member. The Commission could not appoint a new CAC member; however, the CAC would remain one member short of what is described in the management plan.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale: The Department recommends appointing Jeremy Garrett as the new CAC member to represent the vacant unaffiliated coldwater angler stakeholder group. As stated in his application, Mr. Garrett also has the ability to represent perspectives of ice-fishing anglers and outfitter stakeholder groups. Appointing Jeremy Garrett to represent unaffiliated coldwater anglers provides balance on the CAC, as unaffiliated warmwater anglers, organized warmwater anglers, organized coldwater anglers, and local business are already represented.

Proposed Motion: I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission appoint Jeremy Garrett to fill the vacant seat of the Upper Missouri River Reservoir Fisheries Management Plan Citizen Advisory Committee.