

Montana Antelope Governor's Tag Proposal

To: Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Licensing Bureau

From: North American Pronghorn Foundation (NAPF) EIN: 33-1557127
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Purpose: Proposal for 2027 Montana Governor's Antelope Tag Auction

"The North American Pronghorn Foundation (NAPF) enhances pronghorn populations and habitats through advocacy, stewardship, stakeholder partnerships, and our hunting heritage." This is our mission statement, and despite our organization's relatively young age, we are honored to have quickly made an impact in our membership number growth, and more importantly, projects to help pronghorn populations both in Montana and nationwide.

As stated in our founding charter and on our website (www.pronghorns.org), NAPF is committed to enabling antelope to occupy as much of the historic range as feasible by preserving, enhancing, and where possible, recovering the sagebrush steppe ecosystem on which pronghorn and other species rely. We advocate for the scientific management of pronghorn and their ecosystem, and work in partnership with stakeholders including Native American tribes, energy producers, farmers and ranchers, state wildlife agencies and the public to ensure beneficial policies and practices. The NAPF also emphasizes education regarding our hunting heritage and will work to ensure our hunting culture's continued role in the North American model of wildlife conservation. With a vision of being the premier advocate for pronghorn and the sagebrush steppe ecosystem, we pledge to act with the utmost degree of trust and transparency for our members, partners and public.

Conservation Projects

We are composed entirely of volunteers enabling a maximization of funds going directly to conservation projects. In addition, we have board members in multiple pronghorn states across the west enabling us advocate for pronghorn at multiple levels whether its government policy, conservation group symposiums, and boots on the ground projects including the following:

Montana Projects-

US Highway 212 Connectivity Project- A pronghorn collar study begun by the Wyoming Migration Initiative and Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. revealed the Highway 212 corridor and fencing just outside of Broadus, MT to be a major barrier to seasonal pronghorn movements.

NAPF contributed \$55,080 of the \$152,860 budget in partnership with MT FWP and the Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation to replace 10.5 miles of woven wire fence with wildlife movement friendly fencing and gates to greatly aid wildlife ability to cross this corridor and minimize winter kill. A special thanks to Brett Dorak and Ryan DeVore of MT FWP for their involvement with this project.

Box X Ranch Fencing Project- Taking place near Alzada, MT on June 13 & 14, 2026, NAPF helped send volunteers and materials (gloves, fencing plammers, hats and food) to remove 8.1 miles of wildlife unfriendly fencing.

Hansen, Tauck, and Cinch Buckle Ranches in Southeast Montana received funding from NAPF to assist with wildlife friendly fence conversion. These efforts were guided by data collected by the MT FWP and WYGF using GPS collars in coordination with the Powder River Coalition.

Nationwide Projects-

Wyoming-

Boardman Ranch fencing project in the Northeast part of the state just ten miles south of the Montana received funding in part from NAPF to help convert 7.5 miles of wildlife unfriendly fencing.

Wildhorse Ranch Conservation Easement in Sublette County received \$9,000 from NAPF to help protect 232 acres of private lands identified by WYGF as critical for pronghorn migration.

The Powder River Coalition which has helped antelope in both Wyoming and Montana received funds from NAPF to help purchase a line spooler attachment for their Bobcat machine which is very useful in fencing projects

Nevada-

Pronghorn Translocation (Nov. 6 & 7, 2025)- NAPF sent volunteers and provided material assistance to assist NDOW (Nevada Dept of Wildlife) for helicopter translocation of 58 antelope from Management Area 4 which had a very healthy and sizeable population to Management Area 1 whose population had been suffering. In addition to the translocation, metrics for further study including blood samples, body temperature, age, sex, ear tags and a portion received GPS tracking collars.

The Kumiva Guzzler Build occurred on May 16, 2026 and NPAF volunteers in coordination with NDOW helped with a water enhancement project that involved making a

54x60 ft apron to direct rainwater to large underground tanks linked to a year-round accessible drinker that was given a 6,000 gallon headstart via watertruck.

Idaho-

The Little Lost Drainage in Unit 51 was approved for a \$7500 donation by NAPF in coordination with IDGF to convert 1.7 miles of 6-strand fence to a more wildlife friendly alternative.

Fundraising History

The NAPF has had considerable success with both in-person and online formats to raise monies for pronghorn conservation. We had our first in-person fundraising event in May of this year in Bozeman with special guest speakers including Randy Newberg of Fresh Tracks and Hunttalk notoriety and Andrew Jakes of the Wyoming Migration Initiative. This Montana based event raised over \$12,000 with all of those funds going towards Montana conservation.

In the digital domain, NAPF completed its first online raffle ending July 1 which raised over \$31,000 to pronghorn conservation. In addition, one of our members is the founder of her own digital marketing company, Malapai Media, and she has been integral in expanding NAPF's footprint in the online world enabling us to effectively reach conservation-minded folks via email, our website (www.pronghorns.org), Facebook (North American Pronghorn Foundation) and Instagram (@napf_official). As such we feel highly confident to raise very substantial funds for MT FWP to put towards pronghorn conservation.

MT Antelope Governor's Tag Strategy

NAPF understands the appeal of a Governor's tag lies in large part to two factors; scarcity of tags and potential for a trophy sized animal. As such, NAPF feels that for antelope, the best chance for raising the most funds is via a raffle as compared to other big game animals whose Governor's tags are usually done by auction. Antelope tags in Montana largely are not as difficult to draw as the other big game species and historically, Montana falls behind several other states in record book entries for these animals. Nevertheless, Montana sells a very significant amount of antelope SuperTags, over 12,000 per a recent MT FWP posting, making pronghorn a very suitable species to raise considerable funds to the state for their conservation via a raffle.

Our recent raffle experience was very successful and we expect a Governor's Tag raffle to follow suit. We would plan to hold this raffle online in the winter when many hunters are restless and beginning to daydream of the upcoming season. Online raffles are able to reach large swaths of people especially considering our footprint in the social media landscape and NAPF has partnered with EventGroove and Stripe to receive a charity discount to hold a raffle and help keep costs to a minimum. With this in mind, NAPF will need to retain up to 10% of the raffle proceeds to cover the payment processing costs, online advertising, and our minimal material costs as NAPF itself is composed completely of unpaid volunteers.

Conclusion

The North American Pronghorn Foundation is honored to be in consideration to help raise funds for the conservation of these majestic animals via Governor's tag. We are proud of how much we have accomplished for antelope conservation and how effective we have been at raising money in this regard especially given our relatively young age. Please see the attached bylaws and documentation of our 501c charitable standing, and we encourage you to visit our website (www.pronghorns.org) as well. Thank you for presenting us with this opportunity and please contact Josh Newsted at 406-403-6994 or josh@pronghorns.org.