

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 7:30:53 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 8:04:51 PM
Time Spent: 00:33:57
IP Address: 216.220.17.123

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Gary Kleinsasser
City/Town:	Choteau/Lakeside
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	gkleinser@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

The pike will hurt the fishery more than anything please keep the no limit. I would move to catch and kill all Pike. I like the idea of 20 Lake Trout. I feel like there should be a mandatory deep water fish release required on every boat or the big fish don't stand a chance anyway. Perch are key for a better fishery so I think there should be a limit of no more than 30.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, October 01, 2026 4:05:39 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, October 01, 2026 4:11:25 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:45
IP Address: 173.40.193.125

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Ray Ward
City/Town:	kalispell
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	iceyfreeze71@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I Think we need to rework the current limits. SLOT limits would be amazing for smallmouth and pike so they do not get stunted out. But still a step in the right direction

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, October 06, 2026 10:10:26 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, October 06, 2026 10:34:23 AM
Time Spent: 00:23:56
IP Address: 72.250.178.161

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Sam Weyers
City/Town:	Columbia Falls
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	Louieshero@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I have fished flathead lake for over 40 years. I remember in 70s/80s as young boy with my dad and great days of Kocanee fishing on Flathead Lake. I fully support the lower limit on lake trout. In my opinion, Mac days has ruined this trophy lake trout fishery. Sure, you can go out and catch 20/30/40...or more lake trout, but most are juvenile and very small fish. The true chances for a flathead lake trout trophy have substantially declined over the years. In fact, during the last 5-6 years, I rarely fish for lake trout, purposely avoid it during Mac days and always catch and release all the lake trout I do catch. Its time we separate from the Tribal ways of trying to protect the bull trout. If we continue to lower lake trout levels (currently estimated to be more than 80X number of bull trout) the fishery will continue to decline. On the other hand, if FWP does not want to lower the limit of lake trout, now could be a good time to reintroduce the Kocanee (now that the highly predatory lake trout numbers are down). Either lower the lake trout limit are try to improve the Kocanee fishery at same time.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 11:24:50 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 11:49:24 AM
Time Spent: 00:24:34
IP Address: 174.45.241.123

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Chancy jeschke
City/Town:	Kalispell
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	chancyfish@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I fully support Wargos proposal for all off Amendment #4 on Flathead lake.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 12:09:59 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 12:15:38 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:38
IP Address: 47.5.22.186

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Pete Jellar
City/Town:	Kalispell
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	admin@petestackleshop.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Peter T. Jeller, and I am writing regarding the proposed 2027–2028 fishing regulations and management direction for Flathead Lake and the western district fisheries.

I strongly believe the public deserves fisheries management that protects the future of our lakes and streams while also respecting the interests of local anglers, guides, families, and communities. I do not support moving regulations and possession limits toward tribal-level standards or management philosophies that do not reflect the desires of much of the public using these waters. The anglers of Montana are not trying to destroy the fishery. We want balanced, sustainable fishing opportunities that preserve the resource for future generations.

With that said, I would like to propose the following management recommendations for Flathead Lake and surrounding western district waters:

- Rainbow trout: 5 fish daily limit with a 5 fish possession limit
- Smallmouth bass: 5–10 fish daily limit with a 5–10 fish possession limit
- Northern pike: 15 fish daily limit with a 15 fish possession limit
- Lake trout: 20 fish daily limit with a protected slot limit from 26 to 36 inches

I believe the 26–36 inch slot limit on lake trout should be implemented as part of a 10-year management plan. The purpose would be to evaluate whether protecting larger predator fish has any measurable effect on bull trout redd counts and overall ecosystem balance. After 10 years, the data can be reviewed honestly and transparently to determine whether adjustments are necessary.

Over the last 20 years, current management strategies have not produced the results many anglers were promised. Instead, we have seen increasing numbers of smaller lake trout and fewer quality-sized fish. Larger predator fish help naturally regulate smaller lake trout populations. The same principle applies to pike and smallmouth bass. These species are now established parts of the ecosystem, and whether people like it or not, the ecosystem has already changed dramatically since the 1960s.

We cannot realistically return Flathead Lake to what it once was generations ago. What we can do is responsibly manage the fish populations that currently exist to maintain a healthy and sustainable public fishery.

I also believe Fish, Wildlife & Parks must continue improving public transparency throughout the management process. The public deserves access to real science, open discussion, and measurable results instead of management approaches that simply “throw the book at it” without reevaluating whether the strategies are actually working.

Additionally, I oppose the continued emphasis on building stocked fishing ponds throughout the Flathead Valley and across Montana as a substitute for proper river and stream management. These ponds do not replace natural fisheries. Many become overheated, unsustainable, and produce poor-quality fish. More importantly, they take focus and resources away from maintaining healthy rivers and streams where both kids and adults should be able to experience quality fishing opportunities in natural environments.

In closing, I oppose the proposed 2027–2028 regulation package in its current form. I ask Fish, Wildlife & Parks to consider more balanced management strategies that protect both the fishery and public opportunity while maintaining transparency and accountability throughout the process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter T. Jeller
Kalispell, Montana

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Peter T. Jeller, and I am writing regarding the proposed 2027–2028 fishing regulations and management direction for Flathead Lake and the western district fisheries.

I strongly believe the public deserves fisheries management that protects the future of our lakes and streams while also respecting the interests of local anglers, guides, families, and communities. I do not support moving regulations and possession limits toward tribal-level standards or management philosophies that do not reflect the desires of much of the public using these waters. The anglers of Montana are not trying to destroy the fishery. We want balanced, sustainable fishing opportunities that preserve the resource for future generations.

With that said, I would like to propose the following management recommendations for Flathead Lake and surrounding western district waters:

- Rainbow trout: 5 fish daily limit with a 5 fish possession limit
- Smallmouth bass: 5–10 fish daily limit with a 5–10 fish possession limit
- Northern pike: 15 fish daily limit with a 15 fish possession limit
- Lake trout: 20 fish daily limit with a protected slot limit from 26 to 36 inches

I believe the 26–36 inch slot limit on lake trout should be implemented as part of a 10-year management plan. The purpose would be to evaluate whether protecting larger predator fish has any measurable effect on bull trout redd counts and overall ecosystem balance. After 10 years, the data can be reviewed honestly and transparently to determine whether adjustments are necessary.

Over the last 20 years, current management strategies have not produced the results many anglers were promised. Instead, we have seen increasing numbers of smaller lake trout and fewer quality-sized fish. Larger predator fish help naturally regulate smaller lake trout populations. The same principle applies to pike and smallmouth bass. These species are now established parts of the ecosystem, and whether people like it or not, the ecosystem has already changed dramatically since the 1960s.

We cannot realistically return Flathead Lake to what it once was generations ago. What we can do is responsibly manage the fish populations that currently exist to maintain a healthy and sustainable public fishery.

I also believe Fish, Wildlife & Parks must continue improving public transparency throughout the management process. The public deserves access to real science, open discussion, and measurable results instead of management approaches that simply “throw the book at it” without reevaluating whether the strategies are actually working.

Additionally, I oppose the continued emphasis on building stocked fishing ponds throughout the Flathead Valley and across Montana as a substitute for proper river and stream management. These ponds do not replace natural fisheries. Many become overheated, unsustainable, and produce poor-quality fish. More importantly, they take focus and resources away from maintaining healthy rivers and streams where both kids and adults should be able to experience quality fishing opportunities in natural environments.

In closing, I oppose the proposed 2027–2028 regulation package in its current form. I ask Fish, Wildlife & Parks to consider more balanced management strategies that protect both the fishery and public opportunity while maintaining transparency and accountability throughout the process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter T. Jeller

Kalispell, Montana

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Peter T. Jeller, and I am writing regarding the proposed 2027–2028 fishing regulations and management direction for Flathead Lake and the western district fisheries.

I strongly believe the public deserves fisheries management that protects the future of our lakes and streams while also respecting the interests of local anglers, guides, families, and communities. I do not support moving regulations and possession limits toward tribal-level standards or management philosophies that do not reflect the desires of much of the public using these waters. The anglers of Montana are not trying to destroy the fishery. We want balanced, sustainable fishing opportunities that preserve the resource for future generations.

With that said, I would like to propose the following management recommendations for Flathead Lake and surrounding western district waters:

- Rainbow trout: 5 fish daily limit with a 5 fish possession limit
- Smallmouth bass: 5–10 fish daily limit with a 5–10 fish possession limit
- Northern pike: 15 fish daily limit with a 15 fish possession limit
- Lake trout: 20 fish daily limit with a protected slot limit from 26 to 36 inches

I believe the 26–36 inch slot limit on lake trout should be implemented as part of a 10-year management plan. The purpose would be to evaluate whether protecting larger predator fish has any measurable effect on bull trout redd counts and overall ecosystem balance. After 10 years, the data can be reviewed honestly and transparently to determine whether adjustments are necessary.

Over the last 20 years, current management strategies have not produced the results many anglers were promised. Instead, we have seen increasing numbers of smaller lake trout and fewer quality-sized fish. Larger predator fish help naturally regulate smaller lake trout populations. The same principle applies to pike and smallmouth bass. These species are now established parts of the ecosystem, and whether people like it or not, the ecosystem has already changed dramatically since the 1960s.

We cannot realistically return Flathead Lake to what it once was generations ago. What we can do is responsibly manage the fish populations that currently exist to maintain a healthy and sustainable public fishery.

I also believe Fish, Wildlife & Parks must continue improving public transparency throughout the management process. The public deserves access to real science, open discussion, and measurable results instead of management approaches that simply “throw the book at it” without reevaluating whether the strategies are actually working.

Additionally, I oppose the continued emphasis on building stocked fishing ponds throughout the Flathead Valley and across Montana as a substitute for proper river and stream management. These ponds do not replace natural fisheries. Many become overheated, unsustainable, and produce poor-quality fish. More importantly, they take focus and resources away from maintaining healthy rivers and streams where both kids and adults should be able to experience quality fishing opportunities in natural environments.

In closing, I oppose the proposed 2027–2028 regulation package in its current form. I ask Fish, Wildlife & Parks to consider more balanced management strategies that protect both the fishery and public opportunity while maintaining transparency and accountability throughout the process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter T. Jeller
Kalispell, Montana

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 9:35:28 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 9:48:25 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:57
IP Address: 47.5.118.203

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	jack P kirkland
City/Town:	Lolo
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	kirkland11@hotmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

leave it alone it is working.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 9:50:01 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, October 07, 2026 9:51:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:17
IP Address: 72.174.136.244

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Tristan Higgins
City/Town:	Columbia Falls
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	tristan.higgins@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I strongly oppose every single change proposed by Wargo. Native species should be the priority for fisheries management, these amendments are not science based and would be harmful to native fisheries. Instead of expanding the slot limit on lake trout, it should be eliminated.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, October 08, 2026 9:55:17 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, October 08, 2026 9:57:46 AM
Time Spent: 00:02:28
IP Address: 47.44.118.67

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Susan Lake
City/Town:	Ronan
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	jlake@ronan.net

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

Please accept this comment on behalf of the Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board. Susan Lake, Board Chair

Q3

Optional: Upload your comments

Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board comments_10.07.2026.pdf (267KB)

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, October 08, 2026 11:15:18 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, October 08, 2026 11:21:38 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:20
IP Address: 174.252.167.22

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Mike Coyler
City/Town:	Big arm
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	susanandmikec@bresnan.net

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I oppose reducing the daily limit on lake trout from 100 to 20. There are so many of these non-native trout in that lake that limiting the number we can remove is unnecessary

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, October 08, 2026 1:00:41 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, October 08, 2026 1:30:29 PM
Time Spent: 00:29:47
IP Address: 173.239.254.32

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Troy Smith
City/Town:	Whitefish
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	hightrails406@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I would like to issue my support for pursuing a kokanee fishery to be reestablished in Flathead Lake. I agree with Wargo that the fishery has drastically changed since efforts were last made with kokanee and it is worth at least considering the feasibility of reestablishment of the population.

In regards to the lake trout if the issue is an overabundance of smaller fish maybe continue to allow a limit of 100 per day but only allow 20 over 16". I feel like most Mack Days fisherman who are getting the 100/day are jigging small fish from the bottom of the lake. They are not harvesting very many large fish. If the goal is to reduce the number of small fish dropping the limit for the guys who are catching all those small fish makes no sense. I support expanding the slot limit to allow the improvement of the trophy fishery. So to summarize:

100 Lake Trout per day

No more than 20 over 16"

Slot 26-36"

No more than 1 over 36"

Some may say that is too complicated but if you are good enough at fishing to catch 20 fish in a day then you should be able to measure and keep track of your fish.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, October 08, 2026 3:51:13 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, October 08, 2026 5:18:52 PM
Time Spent: 01:27:39
IP Address: 47.5.18.37

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Greg Foley
City/Town:	Kalispell
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	gcfoley@hotmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I support this amendment for the reasons stated. All parties agree that the suppression efforts have not had the desired results of restoring native species. It's not working. There is no reason Flathead Lake cannot have a great recreational fishery that includes large lake trout, smallmouth bass, pike and rainbow trout. Native fish are important and their populations are stable. Continue to monitor the native fish and if a decline is noted, regulations can be changed in the future. Restoring the Kokanee salmon, a traditional food source for native fish, could be the best way to increase their numbers!

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#12

COMPLETE

POOR QUALITY

Flagged for the following:

⚠gibberish

Collector:

Started:

Last Modified:

Time Spent:

IP Address:

Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Thursday, October 08, 2026 5:26:07 PM

Thursday, October 08, 2026 5:31:06 PM

00:04:58

206.183.126.67

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:

City/Town:

State/Province:

Email Address:

Whisper Camel-Means

Pablo

MT

whisper.means@cskt.org

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

Comments from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Q3

Optional: Upload your comments

CSKT_Comment_Letter_Wargo_Amendment_4_10.8.26.pdf (183.8KB)

#13

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, October 09, 2026 11:41:44 AM
Last Modified: Friday, October 09, 2026 12:48:39 PM
Time Spent: 01:06:55
IP Address: 174.215.17.136

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Email Address: **jsjvas@montanasky.us**

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

The appearance of music in 1981 dramatically changed the Flathead food web. Flathead Lake of 1980 no longer exists. Music removed a juvenile lake trout bottleneck, the resulting explosion of small lake trout reduced cutthroat and bull trout by more than 70%. Lake trout numbers have decreased since then due to a combination of cannibalism by large lake trout, angling harvest and netting. Bull trout numbers have doubled to about 70 % of pre-mysis. It was warned that CSKT netting would hit large lake trout hardest and reduce cannibalism. That appears to be happening, small lake trout are increasing. CSKT has modified some netting and re-instituted the 30"-36" slot. A 26@-36" slot may help restore large lake trout quicker but would probably not be in sync with CSKT. The 100 lake trout daily limit is aimed at Mack Days where anglers catch large numbers of small lake trout with many catching more than 20 up to 100 per day. That is the preferred method of removing small lake trout. If the limit is dropped to 20 daily, CSKT may increase netting which is not as selective.

Northern pike and smallmouth bass were illegally introduced. Removing the limit follows FWP policy on illegal fish introductions. Smallmouth bass are taking off along the shoreline and pose a real predation threat to outmigration juvenile cutthroat and bull trout which spread out along the shoreline when they enter the lake.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#14

COMPLETE

POOR QUALITY

Flagged for the following:

⚠gibberish

Collector:

Started:

Last Modified:

Time Spent:

IP Address:

Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Friday, October 09, 2026 4:00:01 PM

Friday, October 09, 2026 4:02:59 PM

00:02:57

184.167.233.72

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:

City/Town:

State/Province:

Email Address:

USFWS

Helena

MT

carter_fredenberg@fws.gov

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

Please refer to uploaded document.

Q3

Optional: Upload your comments

USFWS_Comments_Wargo_Amendments_2_and_4.pdf (340.9KB)

#15

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, October 09, 2026 4:46:37 PM
Last Modified: Friday, October 09, 2026 4:50:01 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:23
IP Address: 216.211.176.99

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Joe Wargo
City/Town:	Columbia Falls
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	mjwargo@montanasky.net

Q2

Please comment on Wargo Amendment #4

I agree with this Amendment #4

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments
