

#1

COMPLETE

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	MIKE GETMAN
City/Town:	Lewistown
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	mhg4556@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Public Use and Commercial Use Fee Schedules

I support Alternative B to adopt the proposed public use and commercial use fees.

FWP provides many amenities for the public and commercial use of state parks, fishing access sites, wildlife management areas, and other FWP-managed sites that are highly desired, but at a financial burden to the Agency. I strongly feel that users should pay for the amenities they use. Modifying these fees will financially help FWP to continue providing these services.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#2

COMPLETE

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Zack Boughton
City/Town:	Bozeman
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	zackboughton@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Public Use and Commercial Use Fee Schedules

So a guide or outfitter can use a fishing access site/sites over a hundred times in a year and pay \$150 but if I want to go shoot commercial photos with one person putting a boat in a river it costs me \$50 per day or \$300 a year? Tell me how that makes any sense when it comes to use and impact on the public resource. Where are the studies on use numbers for popular fishing access sites regarding classes of use/users? The highest use should pay the most to use it if we're going to have commercial fees.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#3

COMPLETE

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Will Israel
City/Town:	Helena
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	director@mogamt.org

Q2

Please comment on Public Use and Commercial Use Fee Schedules

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission
c/o Commission Liaison Jesse May
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701

September 22, 2026

RE: Public Comment - Proposed Public and Commercial Use Fee Schedules
October 14, 2026 Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting

Dear Commissioners:

The Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA) submits the following comment on the proposed update to the public and commercial use fee schedules.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF WORK

MOGA wants to recognize the work of Renee Lemon and Liam Harry at FWP for their efforts in developing these updated schedules. Fee reviews of this scope are complex undertakings, and the level of documentation, comparative research, and public engagement the Department brought to this process reflects genuine professionalism. The staff's use of CPI data and benchmarking against surrounding states and federal entities gives the proposed schedules a principled, transparent foundation. That kind of methodology makes for defensible policy and we appreciate the rigor behind it.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SCHEDULES

Commercial use fees have not been comprehensively updated since 2007. Public use fees last saw a full review in 2014. MOGA supports the adjustments as appropriate. The cumulative CPI increase over the relevant periods is a reasonable basis for the proposed changes, and the Department's approach of simplifying fee structures while benchmarking rates against comparable jurisdictions reflects sound management. MOGA supports adoption of the fee schedules as proposed by the Department.

REQUEST FOR CLARITY ON FEE STACKING IN RESTRICTED WATERBODIES

The proposed commercial fee structure introduces per-client-day rates alongside existing restricted waterbody fee structures, some of which already carry per-trip, per-client, and gross revenue components. MOGA asks the Department to provide clear written guidance on how the new per-client-day rate interacts with the existing restricted waterbody fee frameworks for rivers such as the Madison, Smith, Beaverhead, Big Hole, Blackfoot, and Clark Fork.

This is not an objection to the fee structures themselves. It is a request for clarity so that permit holders understand exactly what they owe and can accurately account for fees in advance of each season. Clear, predictable fee structures serve both the public and the agency, and we want to make sure the guidance accompanying the final schedules addresses this question directly.

CONCLUSION

MOGA supports the Department's proposed fee schedules and commends the staff for the quality of this review. We ask only that final guidance include clear direction on fee interactions in restricted waterbody contexts. We appreciate the Commission's consideration and welcome continued dialogue.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Israel

Executive Director
Montana Outfitters and Guides Association
2021 11th Ave, Ste. 12, Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-3578 office
director@mogamt.org
montanaoutfitters.org

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#4

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Scott Vollmer
City/Town:	Gallatin Gateway
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	vollmerscott@yahoo.com

Q2

Please comment on Public Use and Commercial Use Fee Schedules

Dear Commissioners,

I am supportive of the commercial use fee adjustments as proposed by the Department. As a fishing outfitter, my costs for the FAS permit increase with this proposal but I appreciate the Department keeping this cost increase at a reasonable CPI adjustment. Additionally, I would like to provide a sincere thank you to the Parks Division to listening and taking the time to understand the profound impacts their original commercial fee adjustments would have on the outfitting industry and adjusting their proposals based on our feedback. Thank you very much to the Parks Division and thank you for your time.

Scott Vollmer
MOGA President Elect

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments