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APPENDIX C

Drought Related Fishing Restrictions and Closures

In 2008 the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted administrative rules authorizing the department to implement angling restrictions or angling closures during drought pursuant to criteria in <u>ARM 12.5.501-509</u>. These rules are intended to minimize fishery impacts from angling during periods of extremely high temperature, low flow, or both. In most years, angling restrictions and closures may be used on only a few waters. In extreme drought years, such as 2021, 33 restrictions or closures were implemented.

As outlined in <u>ARM 12.5.501-509</u>, the department may restrict or close fishing based on angling pressure and defined temperature or flow criteria. Angling restrictions are typically time of day closures, also known as "hoot owl" closures, and prohibit fishing between 2:00 pm and midnight. An angling closure prohibits all fishing on designated waters at all times. Criteria used to determine angling restrictions and closures are found in <u>ARM 12.5.507</u>. Generally, a restriction or closure will be implemented when fishing pressure coupled with high water temperatures, low flows, or both, contribute to excessive fish mortality. Temperature thresholds vary by type of fishery: non-native salmonid, cutthroat trout, or bull trout. Criteria for lifting an angling restriction or closure can be found in <u>ARM 12.5.508</u>. Generally, a restriction or closure is lifted when temperature decreases, flows improve, or angling pressure decreases. Implementing or lifting a restriction or closure may be delayed if the restriction may be in place for a short period of time. For example, a hoot owl restriction may be in place on a river section and a rain or short-term weather event may push water temperature into reopening criteria but continued hot and dry temperatures are forecast after the short-term weather event. In this scenario the department would keep the restriction in place as conditions are expected to quickly deteriorate again following the event.

Per <u>ARM 12.5.507</u> the department shall define non-native salmonid, cutthroat trout, and bull trout waters where these rules are typically applied. Table C-1 summarizes waterbodies and sections where drought related fishing restrictions and closure are typically applied and defines the management focus in that water (non-native salmonid, cutthroat trout, or bull trout). Additional discussion for each of these waterbodies can be found in Part II of this plan. Although these rules will most commonly be implemented on the waterbodies in Table C-1, restrictions or closures could be implemented on other waterbodies when angling pressure and environmental criteria are met.

Some waterbodies have drought management plans in place which outline criteria that differs from <u>ARM 12.5.501-509</u>. Currently, the Big Hole River, Jefferson River, and the Blackfoot River have drought management plans that include angling restriction and closure criteria.

Table C-1: Waterbody, FWP Region, Section, Fishery type, and restriction criteria for waterbodies that commonly see angling pressure and environmental conditions that warrant a fishing restriction or closure (<u>ARM 12.5.507</u>).

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
	<u>s</u>	outh Fork Flathea	nd River Drainage
South Fork Flathead River	Confluence of Danaher and Youngs Creeks to Hungry Horse Reservoir at Crossover Boat Ramp (RM 99.9 to 42.0)	Bull trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperature reaches or exceeds 60°F for three consecutive days. Temperature measurements relevant for criteria will be taken using portable temperature recorders above confluence with Spotted Bear River. Temperatures at this location are representative of temperatures throughout South Fork Flathead River.
		Swan River	I
Swan River	Outlet of Cygnet Lake to the Inlet of Swan Lake (RM 79.4 to 23.8)	Bull trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperature reaches or exceeds 60°F for three consecutive days. Temperature measurements relevant for criteria will be taken using portable temperature recorders upstream of the inlet to Swan Lake. Temperatures at this location are representative of temperatures throughout the upper Swan River, and not the portion influenced by warm water outflow from Swan Lake. Angling restrictions would likely include, but are not limited to closures around the creek mouths on bull trout spawning tributaries (Goat Creek, Lion Creek, Elk Creek, Woodward Creek, Jim Creek, Cold Creek, Piper Creek, Lost Creek, and Soup Creek).
Nouth Foul	Concelieur	Flathead Rive	
North Fork Flathead River	Canadian Border to Confluence with Middle Fork Flathead River (RM 216.8 to 158.4)	Bull Trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 60°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant flow and temperature criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12355500 near Columbia Falls MT

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
		Westslope Cutthroat Trout fishery	 Angling restrictions would likely include, but are not limited to, closures around the creek mouths on bull trout spawning tributaries (Big Creek, Coal Creek, Red Meadow Creek, Whale Creek, and Trail Creek) Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant flow and temperature criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12355500 near Columbia Falls MT
Middle Fork Flathead River	Confluence with Bear Creek to Confluence with South Fork Flathead River (RM 45.3 to 0.0)	Bull Trout fishery Westslope Cutthroat Trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 60°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12358500 near West Glacier, MT and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders. Angling restrictions would likely include, but are not limited to, closures around the creek mouths on bull trout spawning tributaries (Nyack Creek, Park Creek, Ole Creek, Bear Creek, Charlie Creek, Long Creek, Granite Creek, Morrison Creek, Schafer Creek, Clack Creek, Bowl Creek, and Strawberry Creek) Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12358500 near West Glacier, MT and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable
Flathead River	Confluence of Middle Fork and South Fork	Westslope Cutthroat Trout fishery	 Paily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for 3 consecutive days or

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
	Rivers to Pressentine FAS (RM 148.7 to 137.0)	Upper Clark Fork	 stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant flow and temperature criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12363000 near Columbia Falls, MT.
Upper Clark	Flint Creek to	Non-native	Daily maximum river temperature reaches
Fork River	confluence of Warm Springs Creek and Silver Bow Creek (RM 264.5 to 330)	salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gauge 12324200 at Deer Lodge. Measurements at this gauge are representative of temperatures throughout the Clark Fork upstream of Flint Creek.
Lower Little Blackfoot River	Confluence with Clark Fork River to Hwy 12 Bridge at Elliston (RM 0 to 26.2)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days- Temperature measurements relevant for criteria will be taken using portable temperature recorders at the FWP Fishing Access Site at river mile 9.3. Temperatures at this location are representative of temperature throughout the lower Little Blackfoot River downstream of Elliston, MT.
Upper Little Blackfoot River	Hwy 12 Bridge at Elliston to Kading Campground (RM 26.2 to 39.5)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 66°F for three consecutive days. Temperature measurements relevant for criteria will be taken using portable temperature recorders at Sunshine Camp at river mile 31. Temperatures at this location are representative of temperature throughout the upper Little Blackfoot River.
Warm Springs Creek	Confluence with Clark Fork River to Meyers Dam (RM 0.0 to 17.2)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 66° F for three consecutive days. Temperature measurements relevant for criteria will be taken using portable temperature recorders near Anaconda, MT at river mile 13.8. Temperatures at

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
			this location are representative of temperatures throughout the reach of Warm Springs Creek downstream of Meyers Dam containing westslope cutthroat trout.
Silver Bow Creek	Confluence with Warm Springs Creek to confluence with Blacktail Creek (RM 0 to 28.8)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum water temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. Temperature measurements relevant for criteria will be taken using portable temperature recorders at Miles Crossing. Temperatures at this location are representative of temperatures throughout Silver Bow Creek. The Silver Bow Creek reach will include the mainstem stream, excluding the mileage contained within the Warm Springs Ponds (RM 1.1 to 5.2).
	Clar	k Fork River – Flint	t Creek – Rock Creek
Upper Rock Creek	Mouth of Stony Creek to confluence of the West Fork and Middle Fork (RM 39 to 52	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12334510 at Rock Creek near Clinton and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Lower Rock Creek	Mouth of Rock Creek to mouth of Stony Creek (RM 0 to 39)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 73°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12334510 at Rock Creek near Clinton and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Clark Fork River	Mouth of Blackfoot River to mouth of Flint Creek (RM 212 to 265	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 73°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12324400 at Clark Fork near Garrison and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
Flint Creek	Confluence with the Clark Fork River to mouth of Trout Creek (near Philipsburg) (RM 0 to 36)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12324400 at Clark Fork near Garrison and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
		Blackfoot Riv	er Drainage
Blackfoot River and Tributaries	Entire drainage	Non-native salmonid sport fishery, cutthroat trout fishery, bull trout fishery	 Criteria is outlined in the <u>Blackfoot River</u> <u>Drought Response Plan</u>.
		Bitterroot Riv	_
Lower Bitterroot River	Confluence with Clark Fork River to Veterans Bridge at Hamilton (RM 0.0 to 54.9)	Non-native salmonid fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 73°F for three consecutive days or stream levels fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12352500 near Missoula and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Upper Bitterroot River	Veterans Bridge at Hamilton to the confluence of the East and West Forks (RM 54.9 to 83.0)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days or stream flow falls below 5th percentile of the daily mean value for the date. Measurements for relevant criteria will be measured at USGS gauge 12344000 at Darby and site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
West Fork Bitterroot River	Confluence with the East Fork to Painted Rocks Dam (RM 0 to 22.7)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Lower East Fork Bitterroot River	Confluence with the West Fork to Hwy 93 crossing at Sula (RM 0 to 13.8)	Non-native salmonid fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 73°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
Upper East Fork Bitterroot River	Hwy 93 crossing at Sula to Star Falls (RM 13.8 to 37.9)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Lower Lolo Creek	Confluence with Bitterroot River to South Fork Lolo Creek (RM 0 to 11.8)	Non-native salmonid fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 73°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Upper Lolo Creek	Confluence with South Fork Lolo Creek to headwaters (RM 11.8 to 30.1)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum water temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
		Middle Clark Fork	River Drainage
Middle Clark Fork River	Flathead River confluence to Blackfoot River confluence (RM 93.3 to 212)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gauge 12353650 at Superior. Measurements at this gauge are representative of temperatures throughout the middle Clark Fork.
St Regis River	Confluence with Clark Fork River (including 100 yd radius at the mouth) to Twelvemile Creek (RM 0.0 to 12.5)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Upper Fish Creek	Confluence of South and West Forks to the headwaters (RM 9.2 to 17)	Bull trout waters	 Daily maximum temperatures reach or exceed 60°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Lower Fish Creek	Confluence with Clark Fork River (including 100 yd radius at the mouth) to confluence of	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
	South and West Forks (RM 0.0 to 9.2)		
Cedar Creek	Confluence with Clark Fork River to confluence of Oregon Gulch and Cedar Creek (RM 0.0 to 6.1)	Bull trout waters	 Daily maximum temperatures reach or exceed 60°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site-specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Trout Creek (near Superior)	Confluence with Clark Fork River (including 100 yd radius at the mouth) to confluence with Vann Ness Creek (RM 0.0 to 7.1)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
Rattlesnake Creek	Confluence with Clark Fork River (including 100 yd radius at the mouth) to former dam location (RM 0.0 to 3.8)	Cutthroat trout fishery	 Daily maximum temperatures reach or exceed 66°F for three consecutive days. Measurement for relevant criteria with site specific temperature monitoring with portable recorders.
		Ruby River D	rainage
Ruby River	Confluence with the Beaverhead River to Duncan District Road crossing (River Mile (RM) 0 to 13.9)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 0602300 Ruby River near Twin Bridges. Temperature measurements will also depend on portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
		Beaverhead Rive	er Drainage

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
Beaverhead River	Confluence with the Big Hole River to Hwy 91 S (RM 0 to 53.7)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06023100 near Twin Bridges. Temperature measurements will also depend on portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
		Big Hole River	Drainage
Big Hole River, Section I	North Fork of the Big Hole River to Saginaw Bridge on Skinner Meadows Rd (RM 98.1 to 144.3)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. A full fishing closure will be implemented when average daily flow falls below 20 cfs. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gauge 06024450 below Big Lake Cr at Wisdom. Lifting of temperature related restrictions or closures will occur when daily maximum temperatures are less than 70°F for three consecutive days or on September 15. Lifting of flow related restrictions or closures will occur when flows exceed 40 cfs for 7 consecutive days or October 31.
Big Hole River, Section II	Dickie Bridge to North Fork of the Big Hole River (RM 71.7 to 98.1)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. A full fishing closure will be implemented when average daily flow falls below 100 cfs. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at DNRC gage Big Hole River near Wise River, number 41D 08000. Lifting of temperature related restrictions or closures will occur when daily maximum temperatures are less than 70°F for three consecutive days or on September 15. Lifting of flow related restrictions or closures will occur when flows exceed 140

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
			cfs for 7 consecutive days or on October 31.
Big Hole River Section III	FWP Maiden Rock FAS to Dickie Bridge (RM 42.5 to 71.7)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. A full fishing closure will be implemented when average daily flow falls below 150 cfs. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06025250 Maiden Rock near Divide. Lifting of temperature related restrictions or closures will occur when daily maximum temperatures are less than 70°F for three consecutive days or on September 15. Lifting of flow related restrictions or closures will occur when flows exceed 200 cfs for 7 consecutive days or on October 31.
Big Hole River Section IV	FWP Tony Schoonen FAS to FWP Maiden Rock FAS (RM 18 to 42.5)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. A full fishing closure will be implemented when average daily flow falls below 190 cfs. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06026210 Big Hole River near Glen. Lifting of temperature related restrictions or closures will occur when daily maximum temperatures are less than 70°F for three consecutive days or on September 15. Lifting of flow related restrictions or closures will occur when flows exceed 240 cfs for 7 consecutive days or on October 31.
Big Hole River Section V	Confluence with the Jefferson River to FWP Tony Schoonen FAS (RM 0 to 18)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. A full fishing closure will be implemented when average daily flow falls below 100 cfs. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06026420 Big Hole

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
			 River below Hamilton Ditch near Twin Bridges. Lifting of temperature related restrictions or closures will occur when daily maximum temperatures are less than 70°F for three consecutive days or on September 15. Lifting of flow related restrictions or closures will occur when flows exceed 200 cfs for 7 consecutive days or on October 31.
Joffersen Diver	Confluence	Jefferson River	
Jefferson River	Confluence with the Madison River to confluence of the Beaverhead and Big Hole River (RM 0 to 77)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days. A full fishing closure can be implemented when average daily flow falls below 280 cfs. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06026500 Jefferson River near Twin Bridges. Lifting of temperature related restrictions or closures can occur when daily maximum temperatures are less than 70°F for three consecutive days or on September 15. Lifting of flow related restrictions or closures can occur when flows exceed 300 cfs for 7 consecutive days or October 31.
		Madison River	
Madison River	Hebgen Reservoir to Yellowstone National Park boundary (RM 123.1 to 126.3)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06037500 near West Yellowstone. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
Madison River	Ennis Reservoir to Varney FAS (RM 45.1 to 59.7)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
			 below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06040000 near Cameron, an FWP operated gage near Ennis, and potentially at portable temperature recorders elsewhere in the Madison River. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
Madison River	Mouth to Madison Dam (RM 0 to 41.7)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at the NWE operated gage near Blacks Ford FAS, USGS gage 06041000 below Ennis Reservoir, and potentially at portable temperature recorders elsewhere in the lower Madison River or Ennis Reservoir. Lifting of angling restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
		Gallatin River	Drainage
Gallatin River	Mouth to Hwy 84 crossing (RM 0 to 32.7)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06052500 at Logan. Temperature measurements will also depend on portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
East Gallatin River	Confluence with the Gallatin River to the confluence	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	• Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5 th

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
	of Bear Creek and Rocky Creek (RM 0 to 42.1)		 percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at DNRC gage 41H 08900 near Manhattan and from portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of angling restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
	Mi	ssouri River – Dea	rborn Drainage
Missouri River	Town of Cascade Boat Ramp to Holter Dam (RM 2,166.3 to 2,202.1)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) gage 06066500 below Holter Dam. Additional temperature loggers will be deployed through the reach and monitored by FWP staff, as necessary. Shifts in angling pressure due to fishing restrictions or closures on other waterbodies that could adversely impact the fishery.
		Smith River D	Drainage
Smith River	Eden Bridge to the confluence of the North Fork Smith River and South Fork Smith River (RM 22.4 to 121)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for 3 consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06077200 below Eagle Creek. Temperature measurements will also depend on portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover.
		Sun River Dr	_
Sun River	Mouth of Muddy Creek to Hwy 287 Bridge (RM 17.2 to 67.5)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for 3 consecutive days, or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date.

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria		
			 Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gauge 06085800 at Simms. Temperature measurements may also depend on portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide fish cover. 		
Upper Yellowstone Drainage					
Upper and Middle Yellowstone River	Hwy 212 Bridge in Laurel to Yellowstone NP Boundary (RM 382 to 558)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06191500 at Corwin Springs, USGS gage 06192500 at Livingston, USGS gage 06195750 at Springdale, and USGS gage 06195950 at Big Timber. Measurements at these gages are representative of temperatures and discharge throughout the upper Yellowstone drainage. Shifts in angling pressure due to restrictions or closures on other waterbodies that can adversely impact the fishery. 		
Shields River	Confluence with the Yellowstone River to USFS Crandal Creek Bridge (RM 0 to 60.1)	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum river temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall below the 5th percentile of daily mean values for the date. Measurements relevant for criteria will occur at USGS gage 06195600 Shields River near Livingston. Temperature measurements will also depend on portable temperature recorders throughout the basin. Lifting of angling restrictions may be delayed until adequate flows are present to provide adequate fish cover, typically at least 50 cfs at the Shields gage. 		
Stillwater River	Confluence with the Yellowstone River to	Non-native salmonid sport fishery	 Daily maximum water temperature reaches or exceeds 73°F for three consecutive days or stream flows fall 		

Waterbody	Reach	Classification	Criteria
	Absaroka FAS		below the 5 th percentile of daily mean
	(RM 0 to 13)		values for the date.
			Measurements for relevant criteria will
			occur at USGS gage 06205000 Stillwater
			River near Absarokee.