



4600 Giant Springs Rd.
Great Falls, MT 59405
March 2, 2021

Dear Interested Parties:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MFWP) is seeking to offer bid on a 6-year agricultural lease opportunity on the Beckman Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The bid process seeks to establish a mutually beneficial haying lease with MFWP, wherein lessee irrigates and hays one (or possibly two) cuttings grass/alfalfa fields totaling ~75 acres, and then will continue irrigating the fields for fall wildlife forage. Summary and terms of the proposed lease opportunity is included in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

MFWP is currently seeking review and public comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment for this proposed agricultural lease. The EA may be obtained by viewing MFWP's website <http://fwp.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/environmentalAssessments/>. A 21-day public review and comment period will be available March 2 – March 23, 2021. Comments may be made online on the EA webpage or may be directed by mail or e-mail to the addresses below. Comments must be received by MFWP no later than 5:00pm on March 23, 2021.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks - Beckman WMA Ag Lease
Attn: Sonja Andersen
Lewistown Area Office
333 Airport Rd
Lewistown, MT 59457
or email comments to: sandersen@mt.gov

As part of the decision-making process under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), a Decision Notice for this EA will be issued soon following the end of comment period. The Draft EA will be considered as final if no substantive comments are received by the deadline. The Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission has the final decision-making authority over MFWP lease proposals and will make their determination on this lease at their April 1, 2021 meeting.

Thank you for your interest and involvement,

Sincerely,

Gary Bertellotti
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Region 4 Supervisor
gbertellotti@mt.gov
(406) 454-5840