



Region 2 Headquarters
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59804
Phone 406-542-5500

June 15, 2021

Dear Interested Citizen:

Enclosed you will find for your review the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) proposal to develop approximately 1.5 acres of private land (encumbered by an FWP Conservation Easement) along upper Rock Creek for the purpose of providing safe, legal public access to Rock Creek, which would include improvements associated with a fully-developed Fishing Access Site (FAS). The site is approximately 14 miles west of Philipsburg in Granite County.

Currently, vehicle and boat-trailer parking are concentrated on Highway 348 (Marshall Creek Road) and Upper Rock Creek Road, with pioneered boat ramps existing along the road. This proposal moves use to the FAS and reduces traffic congestion and streambank degradation. Proposed developments include designated gravel parking area, single-wide concrete boat ramp, gravel access road, concrete vault latrine, boundary and privacy fencing, and informational signs. Development of the site would provide the only developed FWP-managed FAS on Rock Creek, while offering legal access to this popular stream for fishing, floating, wildlife viewing, and picnicking.

The EA may also be obtained by mail from Region 2 FWP, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula 59804; by phoning 406-542-5500; by emailing shrose@mt.gov; or by viewing FWP's Internet website <http://fwp.mt.gov> ("Recent Public Notices"). Comments may be directed by mail or email to the addresses above. Comments must be received by FWP no later than July 14, 2021.

As part of the decision-making process under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), I expect to issue the Decision Notice for this EA soon after the end of the comment period. The Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission has the final decision-making authority for FWP's FAS development proposals, and the Commission could be asked to render its decision on this proposal at its regularly scheduled August 2021 meeting.

Sincerely,

Randy Arnold
Regional Supervisor

RA/sr