



1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bozeman, MT 59718

January 31, 2022

To: Governor's Office, Sheena Wilson, State Capitol, Room 204, P.O. Box 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801  
Environmental Quality Council, State Capitol, Room 106, P.O. Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620-1704  
Dept. of Environmental Quality, Metcalf Building, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901  
Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation, P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks:

Director's Office

Parks Division

Lands Section

FWP Commissioners

Fisheries Division

Legal Unit

Wildlife Division

Design & Construction

MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, P.O. Box 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202

MT State Parks Association, P.O. Box 699, Billings, MT 59103

MT State Library, 1515 E. Sixth Ave., P.O. Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620

James Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, P.O. Box 1184, Helena, MT 59624

Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624

Robert L. Sanders, Ducks Unlimited, P.O. Box 183, Elliston, MT 59728

Abby Dresser, Ducks Unlimited, 240 Jackson Lane, Belgrade, MT 59714

Montana Wildlife Federation, P.O. Box 1175, Helena, MT 59624

Jeff Sturm, Pheasants Forever, 3445 York Rd., Helena, MT 59602

Gallatin Wildlife Association, P.O. Box 5276, Bozeman, MT 59717

Broadwater County Commissioners, 515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The enclosed Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for the proposed renewal of six existing agricultural farming leases and one existing bee yard (apiary) lease on the Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area (CFWMA). For the proposed new seven (7) year leasing period (January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2029), lessees will be given the choice of doing either a cash lease or a payment in-kind lease (payment is in services rendered in lieu of a cash lease payment). Currently, five of the leases are cash leases and one is a payment in-kind lease. The agricultural farming leases, if approved by the Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission at its April 2022 meeting, would be valid from January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2029.

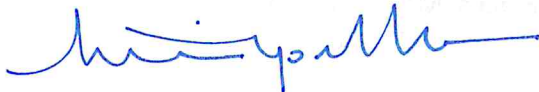
These agricultural farming leases have existed on the CFWMA for decades and as such the proposed action would retain the long-standing status quo. The agricultural leases provide food and cover for a host of wildlife species that utilize the CFWMA while also demonstrating that sustainable agricultural production can co-exist with wildlife and even benefit many wildlife species.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks invites you to comment on the attached proposal. Public comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. March 2, 2022. Comments on the EA should be sent to:

Attention: Adam Grove  
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
P.O. Box 998  
Townsend, MT 59644

Or e-mailed to [adgrove@mt.gov](mailto:adgrove@mt.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marina Yoshioka', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marina Yoshioka  
Region Three Supervisor

Attachment