



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

June 10, 2022

Dear Interested Person:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to implement a 9-year comprehensive habitat management program on Fleecer Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA) designed to improve range conditions for wintering elk and other wildlife species. The program would include: 1) a renewal of a fee grazing lease and a modified grazing exchange-of-use (EOU) agreement with a coordinated grazing program between FWP, the adjacent landowner (Fleecer Cattle Company, formerly Smith 6-S Livestock) and potentially the U.S. Forest Service (USFS); 2) a renewal of an exchange-for-services (EFS) agreement on the Fleecer Addition portion of the WMA; and 3) incorporation of controlled burning on an as-needed basis to better manage smooth brome fields on the WMA. This habitat management program would extend from May 2023 through October 2031.

This Draft EA is available for review through any of the following:

- Copies of EA will be emailed/postal mailed to neighboring landowners, local conservation groups, and other interested parties, including over 250 individuals on the Butte Wildlife Biologist's email distribution list.
- Public notice will be posted on the Fish, Wildlife & Parks web page: <http://fwp.mt.gov> "News", then "Recent Public Notices"). The Draft EA will be available, along with the opportunity to submit comments online.
- Copies of the draft EA will be available at FWP Region 3 Headquarters and Butte Area Resource Office; by phoning 406-494-2082; or by emailing [vboccadori@mt.gov](mailto:vboccadori@mt.gov).

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks invites you to comment on the attached proposal. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on July 1, 2022. Comments can be made on the FWP website [www.fwp.mt.gov](http://www.fwp.mt.gov), emailed to [vboccadori@mt.gov](mailto:vboccadori@mt.gov), or mailed to 1820 Meadowlark Lane, Butte, MT 59701. Please put "Fleecer Grazing" in the subject line.

Sincerely,

Marina Yoshioka  
Region Three Supervisor