

Wickman, Erik

From: Wild Trout Adventures <mac@glacierflyfishing.com>
Sent: Friday, April 5, 2024 1:28 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Attachments: 4 (d) rule section-4d-rules_0.pdf; Fish Species Identification_2023-03-26_111728.pdf; Swan River Fishing Regulations 2.docx

Dear Commissioners,

As a sportsman, and as an outfitter on the Upper Swan River for the past 34 years the intent of the regulation on the Swan River was to prevent misidentification of fish. Before this regulation was changed, we have watched multiple violations regarding the take of Bull trout, most people think they are a different species such as a Brook or Brown trout. There is no cell phone service on the upper Swan. I was also a part of Cutthroat study on the upper Swan and out of 3000 fin clips of fish that look like Cutthroat none of them are genetically pure. The Swan River's composition of fish species is a cross of Cutthroat and Rainbow. There are no pure strains of these species. They are a derivative of Rainbow trout and Cutthroat which FWP admits must be released which is on page 28 of the fishing regulations. What is even more discerning is that the public process was not made available to the sportsman. They simply went in, admitted there was no public comment, and changed the regulations. Sportsmen of the Swan Valley were not happy. We thought we would have heard of it but we didn't basically we were hoodwinked. Their actions have caused a lot of frustration for the angling community, and it created major distrust for FWP Region 1. Regulations are meant to protect resources not to cause harm to them. I have attached a letter that I forwarded to the Regional Supervisor which was written originally to Nathan Reiner and completely shows that this regulation is in violation of State and Federal law, ESA.

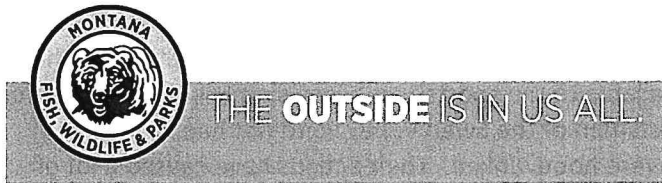
Sincerely,
Mac Vinnedge
Wild Trout Adventures

Wickman, Erik

From: Bell, Crissy
Sent: Friday, April 5, 2024 9:56 AM
To: mtduckhunter@gmail.com
Cc: Wakeling, Brian; Wickman, Erik
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] REPEAL OF BIG GAME MANAGEMENT POLICY

Thank you for your comment!

Crissy J. Bell | *Paralegal*
Legal Unit
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Cell: (406) 594-8071



[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)



"It is the Legal Unit's mission to provide customer service and inclusive collaboration, while exercising independent judgment, competence, and integrity."

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From: mtduckhunter@gmail.com <mtduckhunter@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 1:44 PM
To: Bell, Crissy <cbell@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] REPEAL OF BIG GAME MANAGEMENT POLICY

Dear Commissioners,
I support the repeal of this policy.
Thank you for the continued great work w/ Montana's big game animals.

Take care,
Steve

Steve Christian
PO Box 562
Colstrip, MT 59323
Cell - 406/740-1025
mtduckhunter@gmail.com

Wickman, Erik

From: Wakeling, Brian
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 4:46 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Elk Hunter Survey Article Missoula Current

It is my speculation that he is referring to our conclusion that 72% support our elk management when it was more like 40% support and 32% were neutral. I made those numbers up since I don't have the report in front of me, but it was something like that. We presented the actual report in addition to the summary so others could draw their own conclusions.

This is my guess based on what he says, but that survey was completed almost a year ago and this is old news. Could be he is talking about something else entirely.

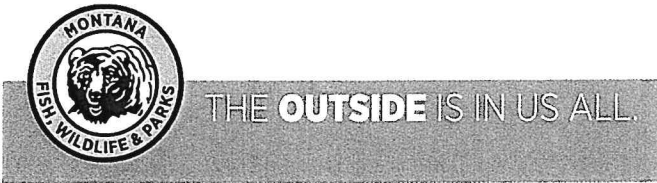
BFW

From: Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> on behalf of FWP Commission <FWComm@mt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 4:39 PM
To: Wakeling, Brian <Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Elk Hunter Survey Article Missoula Current

Any idea what he's referencing? Chair Robinson got the comment, but the commenter did not send any reference material and she does not want to respond without knowing...

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager*
Headquarters | Director's Office
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)



From: Jerry McGuire <mangeymoos@yaho.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 8:52 AM
To: FWP Commission <FWComm@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Elk Hunter Survey Article Missoula Current

After read this article on FWP Elk Hunter Survey, I was shocked at the the FWP conclusion.

My question is what is the Commission doing for oversight, this also bring up other surveys conducted by the department. Sportsman deserve the true picture no more flower conclusion that are biased.

Consider having an independent contract look at this survey and produce a report. Have future surveys conducted by contractors.

Thanks, I look forward to ur response.

Jerry McGuire

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer \[mail.onelink.me\]](mailto:Search, Organize, Conquer@mail.onelink.me)

Wickman, Erik

From: Jerry McGuire <mangeymoos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 3:06 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: Re: Automatic reply: [EXTERNAL] Elk Hunter Survey Article Missoula Current

Thanks for the automatic response, but I would like a response from the Commissioners especially. Region 1.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer \[mail.onelink.me\]](#)

On Wed, Apr 3, 2024 at 8:52 AM, FWP Commission
<FWComm@mt.gov> wrote:

Thank you for submitting your comments to the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission. The public comment period for the topics in the Regular Meeting on April 17, 2024, opened on February 28, 2024 and ran through March 28, 2024. With the exception of comments regarding Vice Chair Tabor's proposed amendment (accepted through April 11th), other comments submitted after March 28, 2024 cannot be accepted. Comments can always be made during the meeting by registering to comment via Zoom. The Zoom registration period will be open beginning on April 2 and will run through April 16.

Wickman, Erik

From: moga-will@mt.net
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 12:54 PM
To: FWP Commission
Cc: Scott Vollmer; 'andy guy'
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: MOGA Support for Fishing Regulation Amendment on Swan River
Attachments: MOGA Support for Fishing Regulation Amendment on the Swan River v2.pdf

Hi Eric,

Thank you again for taking the call and for removing the previous submission, please use this one instead.

Will Israel
Executive Director
Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)
Big Hearts Under the Big Sky
O: 406.449.3578
C: 406.439.1205
Email: moga-will@mt.net
MOGA: Website [montanaoutfitters.org] and Facebook [facebook.com]
Big Hearts Under the Big Sky: Website [bigheartsmt.org] and Facebook [facebook.com]
Learn About the Hunter and Angler Defense Fund [HERE \[montanaoutfitters.org\]](http://montanaoutfitters.org)



From: moga-will@mt.net <moga-will@mt.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 11:48 AM
To: 'FWComm@mt.gov' <FWComm@mt.gov>
Cc: Scott Vollmer <vollmerscott@yahoo.com>; 'andy guy' <flyfishin24@yahoo.com>
Subject: MOGA Support for Fishing Regulation Amendment on Swan River

FWP Commission,

Please see the attached statement from MOGA in support of the fishing regulation amendment on the Swan River. We thank you for your consideration of our position on the amendment and look forward to attending the commission meeting here in a couple of weeks.

Will Israel
Executive Director
Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

Big Hearts Under the Big Sky

O: 406.449.3578

C: 406.439.1205

Email: moga-will@mt.net

MOGA: Website [montanaoutfitters.org] and Facebook [[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)]

Big Hearts Under the Big Sky: Website [bigheartsmt.org] and Facebook [[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)]

Learn About the Hunter and Angler Defense Fund [HERE](http://montanaoutfitters.org) [montanaoutfitters.org]



Wickman, Erik

From: Jerry McGuire <mangeymoos@yaho.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 8:52 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Elk Hunter Survey Article Missoula Current

After read this article on FWP Elk Hunter Survey, I was shocked at the the FWP conclusion.

My question is what is the Commission doing for oversight, this also bring up other surveys conducted by the department. Sportsman deserve the true picture no more flower conclusion that are biased.

Consider having an independent contract look at this survey and produce a report. Have future surveys conducted by contractors.

Thanks, I look forward to ur response.

Jerry McGuire
[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer \[mail.onelink.me\]](mailto:mail.onelink.me)

Wickman, Erik

From: Matthew Ladra <mladra@jhmi.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 6:36 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

I am writing this letter to strongly support the return to catch and release only for our Swan River rainbows. As one of the more unique and prolific wild rainbow streams in Montana I see no reason why there should be any need for harvest options given the numerous other opportunities to keep rainbows in the area. The Swan river is why I return to that area of MT year after year and would hate to see that beautiful stream compromised further.

Matt

Matthew Ladra, MD MPH
Director, Pediatric Radiation Oncology
Endowed Professor, Radiation Oncology and Molecular Radiation Sciences
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Mobile (650) 714-1044
Fax: (202) 537-4964
Office: (202) 243-5286
Email: mladra@jhmi.edu

Wickman, Erik

From: mtduckhunter@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2024 7:08 AM
To: FWP Commission; Wickman, Erik
Cc: Steve Christian
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: 2024-25 Migratory Bird Comment - Establish New Central Flyway Zone 3
Attachments: Proposal for a New Central Flyway Zone 3 - 2025.pdf

Dear Sirs:

Please see attached. I submitted this proposal on March 19. I received an auto reply that you had accepted it. This comment is not on the FWP Commissioners meeting webpage in the "ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS" section.

You have posted the subsequent addendum letter (3/21) for the same comment topic that I submitted on March 19. However, my second letter (3/21) is an Addendum w/ references to my first letter (3/19). Both must be posted to have the full context of the Central Flyway Zone 3 proposal understood.

Thak you,
Steve

From: mtduckhunter@gmail.com <mtduckhunter@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:22 AM
To: fwcomm@mt.gov; CommissionerRegion6@mtfwp.org
Cc: 'McNew, FAYE' <FMcNew@mt.gov>; 'McDonald, Ken' <kmcdonald@mt.gov>; ryanwilliamson@mt.gov
Subject: 2024-25 Migratory Bird Comment - Establish New Central Flyway Zone 3

Dear MT FWP:

I wish to provide you with a comment for the April 17, 2024, Commission meeting.
I cannot make an on-line comment.

Is the attached an acceptable format for inclusion w/ the public comments for the 2024 Migratory Bird Regulations?

Thank you,
Steve

Steve Christian

PO Box 562
Colstrip, MT 59323
Cell – 406/740-1025
mtduckhunter@gmail.com

Wickman, Erik

From: oehleroutdoors@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2024 10:12 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River Proposed Fishing Regulation Amendment

Hello, I would like to voice my opposition to the proposed amendment which would implement catch and release for rainbow trout on the Swan River. As noted by the department, this change would reduce harvest opportunity for river anglers and contradict the Statewide Fisheries Management Plan. Concerns noted in the amendment seem to already be addressed by the department or current regulations, and moving to catch and release for rainbow trout would not address the lake trout predation.

If the single hook regulation is accepted, I would recommend the commission to follow the recommendation of the department to implement the single hook regulation for the entire Swan upstream of Swan Lake.

Thank you.

Wickman, Erik

From: Walter Embrey <walter@embrey.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 10:39 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River Catch and Release

I am in full support of changing the Swan River back to catch and release for rainbow trout.

Thank you,
Walter

WALTER EMBREY
FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF EMBREY PARTNERS
OFFICE 210.824.6044
MOBILE 210-260-4646
EMAIL walter@embrey.com
embrey.com [embrey.com]



Please note my new email address and EMBREY's updated website address.

Wickman, Erik

From: Mark Fuller <fullerfishing@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 10:32 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River Proposed Regulation Change

Dear Commission Members,

I am writing to encourage the commission to please pass the proposed regulation changes to the Swan river drainage that would eliminate take of rainbow trout and make the species catch and release for the entire drainage.

MT FWP changed the regulation a few years back to allow take of rainbow trout in the Swan. This resulted in an unintentional and detrimental impact on the already low density rainbow trout fishery. Catch rates of the high coveted rainbow trout have declined and there has almost certainly been incidental take of cutthroat/rainbow hybrids due to the public's inability to discern if the trout species they caught is a hybrid or pure strain.

Until we have better tools or opportunities to understand what the baseline fisheries populations are in the swan for any species, I believe it is best to err on the side of caution and not allow the taking of rainbow trout in the Swan. Thank you for your time and dedication to our state's beloved wildlife resources.

--

Mark Fuller

Owner, Head Guide

Wild Montana Anglers

m: (406) 261-4343

w: wildmontanaanglers.com [wildmontanaanglers.com] e: mark@wildmontananglers.com

Wickman, Erik

From: Cameron Powell <powellsarah@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 9:52 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Catch and release

Dear Friends,

As avid fishermen and homeowners on the Swan River here in Bigfork, I am writing in support of the proposal for the catch and release of rainbow trout on The Swan. Thank you for all you do to protect and provide for wildlife and hunting/fishing in Montana.

Sincerely,
Sarah and Cameron Powell
Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Dudley Snyder <dudley_snyder@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 8:12 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River rules

Please give serious consideration to making the Swan River a "Catch and release" only river to allow the fishery to rebuild its numbers and become a true "blue ribbon" fishery! We have a summer home on the lower river and have seen the trout numbers slowly decline over our 22 years there. Places where you could catch a 15-18" rainbow are now empty of fish.

DS

Dudley Snyder 488 N. Guenther Ave., New Braunfels, TX 78130 (830) 625-9138

Wickman, Erik

From: Jimmy Boyd <jimmy@hollandpeakranch.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 7:07 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan river catch and release

To whom it may concern,
Please change the swan river back to catch and release for rainbow trout. This seems like a no brainer.

Sincerely
James D. Boyd
391 Underwood Road
Condon, MT. 59826

Wickman, Erik

From: Todd Tanner <todd.tanner@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 12:18 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River Problems

Dear Fish & Wildlife Commission,

As a longtime Montanan, a serious angler, a business owner and a Bigfork resident, I'm asking you to designate the entire Swan River, from the headwaters to Bigfork Bay, as catch & release for cutthroat, rainbow and cutt-bow trout. The Swan is not a fertile river and the current fishing regulations, along with the presence of pike and lake trout throughout the Swan drainage, will eventually destroy the fishery. Let's give the river a chance to recover by instituting catch & release regulations.

2024 will be the 19th year I've fished the Swan. During that time, I've seen the cutthroat and rainbow trout fishery decline markedly. The pike and the lake trout have had a substantial impact on the trout in the river, while the current FW&P regulations that allow anglers to keep 5 rainbows is definitely making things worse.

Please protect the Swan by designating the entire river as a catch & release fishery. If we don't act soon, the fishery will decline further and the situation will grow even more dire.

Thank you,

Todd Tanner

Todd Tanner
178 Wolf Creek Ranch Road
Bigfork, MT 59911
406.792.5545 (C)
todd.tanner@mac.com
SchoolOfTrout.com [schooloftrout.com]

Wickman, Erik

From: Libby Stultz <libby.cartwright@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 12:31 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan river amendment

Thank you for you for changing your stance on harvesting rainbow trout on the Swan River. Let's work together to protect this resource. Thank you for all your time and effort.

Libby Stultz

Wickman, Erik

From: Bent Fly Fishing <info@bentflyfishing.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 12:22 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River rule chane

Dear Montana FWP

I wanted to reach out on behalf of the swan River regulation amendment. I think this is a great move to protect the resource! Thank you all so much for your hard work!

Ryan Stultz 406-212-6646
Bentflyfishing.com

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#) [aka.ms]

Wickman, Erik

From: Susan edwards <baads_baads@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 12:21 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

I am writing to ask that the Swan River be catch and release for Rainbow trout. I want to preserve the sport of fishing and not have the fish population drop for future generations.

As a second generation Montanan I am keenly aware of the negative impacts happening to our fish and wildlife with the influx of non Montanan politicians and their wealthy friends.

Please fight to keep the fish in the rivers!

Susan Edwards

Wickman, Erik

From: Andy Perry <andy.perry19@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 11:46 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Revert Swan River Catch and Release on Rainbow Trout

Please make the Swan catch and release again for rainbow trout. Due to the high mountain characteristics and heavy out of state tourists use on the river, this system cannot maintain its quality as a fishery without catch and release.

Low nutrients in the river and unstable water levels will not allow the swan to maintain populations as a catch and take river.

Thank you for your consideration,

Andy Perry

Cascade Montana

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer \[mail.onelink.me\]](mailto:andy.perry19@yahoo.com)

Wickman, Erik

From: ConusBear <principessaali@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:57 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River Regulations

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to make the Swan River catch and release for rainbow trout like it always was before it changed it in 2021.

Wickman, Erik

From: charles rigler <riglercp@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:42 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan river management

To Whom it May Concern:

Please return the swan river to catch and release.

Thank you,
Charles Rigler

1134 Hwy 89 South
Gardiner, MT 59030

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Joel Huff <joel.huff2@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 8:00 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

As a frequent fisherman on the Swan River, I strongly urge you to change the fishing regulations for rainbow trout back to catch and release. Thank you.

Joel Huff
Bigfork, MT

Wickman, Erik

From: Leciel Lowery <leelowery@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 5:29 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River, Change to fishing regulations

Dear FWP Commission members,

My name is Lee Lowery, I am a seasonal resident of MT., and have been for almost 40 years.

It is my understanding the commission is considering a change to current fishing regulations on the Swan River.

The Swan as I know it is a wonderful and beautiful drainage, in my judgment it should be protected at all cost.

I STRONGLY support a change from current regulations of four (4) Rainbow Trout per day, to CATCH & RELEASE ONLY for Rainbow Trout.

The Swan is simply far too delicate a fishery to allow taking of Rainbow Trout and should at the earliest time be regulated CATCH & RELEASE only for Rainbow Trout.

In closing I thank the commission members for considering my opinion

Best Regards
Lee Lowery
116 Russell Dr.
Cascade MT 59421

Wickman, Erik

From: Frank Capocciana <fpcapra@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2024 1:41 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SWAN RIVER CATCH AND RELEASE

I would like to express our support for restoring THE SWAN to catch and release. The River is, in my experience ,one of the less productive of waters. Removing the pressure on it would be a move toward a more sustainable, productive River. Thank you, Frank Capocciana,12278 Swan Landing, Bigfork Mt. 59911

Sent from my iPad

Wickman, Erik

From: Robb Boyd <robbboyd@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 6:11 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River Rainbow Trout

I'm writing to support changing the Swan River back to catch and release for rainbow trout. We live on Swan Lake and it's important to have these beautiful fish in more abundance.

Thank you,

Robb Boyd
13962 Rainbow Dr
Bigfork

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Mary Lou Micheaels <mlmicheaels@mac.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 6:00 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River catch and release

I am writing to ask that the Swan River be catch and release for Rainbow trout. Our home is on the river and we want to preserve the sport of fishing and not have the fish population drop.

Thank you,

Mary Lou Micheaels
12311 Swan Landing
Bigfork, MT 59911

*Mary Lou Micheaels
14035 N. Moon Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85023
Email: mlmicheaels@mac.com
Cell: (602) 510-1654
Home AZ.: (602) 993-0019
Home MT: (406) 837-0644*

Wickman, Erik

From: Kirk Evenson <kevenson@marralawfirm.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 5:33 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PROPOSED FISHING REGULATION AMENDMENT FOR APRIL COMMISSION MEETING-SWAN RIVER

I support the proposed amendment to the Swan River regulations as set forth by the Region 1 Commissioner. The anecdotal evidence from outfitters and citizen anglers is more persuasive than FWP's response. FWP has little evidence in support of the fairly new 5 fish limit. Given the over 100 years of presence of rainbows, with the absence of west slope cutthroat for decades, supports the return to catch and release regulation. I support the amendment.

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Randall Yee <randalleyee@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 3:44 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Rainbow trout

I'm writing this letter in regards to the fishing on the Swan river. Can you please make sure we maintain Catch and release of rainbow trout on the river? I greatly appreciate your help regarding this matter ..

Sincerely,

Randall E. Yee, DO
Advanced Orthopedics and Sports Medicine
7195 Advanced Way
Las Vegas, Nevada 89113
Phone (702) 740-5327 Fax (702) 740-5328

Wickman, Erik

From: Brandy Connell <nicoblu24@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 3:38 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Dear Commissioners

We need to change the swan back to catch and release for rainbow trout like it used to be before 2021 to save this fishery for future generations. We need to act now and not let this special river get ruined! Thank you Brandy Connell

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone \[mail.onelink.me\]](mailto:nicoblu24@yahoo.com)

Wickman, Erik

From: Thomas Verhey <twverhey@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 3:29 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SWAN RIVER

I'm sending this email to strongly request that the Swan River be changed back to a catch and release program. Regards -
Tom Verhey Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: DONNIE SEAY <bubbieseay@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 2:50 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Please change the Swan River back to catch and release.

Nancy Seay

Bigfork, Montana

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Baker II, John D <JDBaker@patriottrans.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 1:59 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Please change the Swan River back to catch and release

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Wickman, Erik

From: williamjamesnutt@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 1:53 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River fishery

Hi, my name is Bill Nutt and I live at 1521 Mann Rd., Condon, MT. I frequently fish the swan river. I understand that it is no longer going to be catch and release. I believe this is a mistake because it is already deteriorating. The fishing in the last few years has gone downhill and opening it so that you may keep fish is not a great idea. It should remain catch and release thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Jon Trachta <jon@trachtalegalmediation.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 1:10 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan river catch and release ONLY.

Change the Swan to catch and release only.
Jon

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Wickman, Erik

From: Dale F. Kinsella <DKinsella@khiks.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 1:09 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

PLEASE PLEASE return the Swan River to catch and release only. As a Montana resident that has watched the decline of our smaller rivers as a result of little regulation (e.g. North Fork Blackfoot), The Swan needs this protection.
Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Rod Stultz <rodstultz@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 1:05 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Upper swan River

This is an Open door for poachers this river is one of our true treasures in the Flathead valley, it is already under big time pressure from lake trout and brook trout and whatever else may be in there in my opinion the only way to save this river is to make it catch and release again as it shouldn't be, we need to take care of it and treat it wisely catch and release will only benefit this River.

Wickman, Erik

From: Rick Dawson <rick_dawson@redskyland.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 1:02 PM
To: Gary S Dunlap
Cc: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Swan lake

I also support catch & release. The change shouldn't have ever been considered

Rick Dawson, Manager/Owner
RED TR-Racing LLC
RedSunset Entertainment LLC
RedSky Land LLC
405-470-2015 - off
405-818-3583 - cell
rick_dawson@redskyland.com
PO Box 32396
Edmond, OK 73003

> On Mar 23, 2024, at 1:49 PM, Gary S Dunlap <Gary@garysdunlap.com> wrote:

>

> I support Swan Lake as catch and release.

Wickman, Erik

From: Gary S Dunlap <Gary@garysdunlap.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 12:50 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan lake

I support Swan Lake as catch and release.

Wickman, Erik

From: Scott Lindsey <Scott@lindseyrefrigeration.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 12:46 PM
To: FWP Commission
Cc: Andy Guy
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan.

Please change the swan back to catch and release for rainbow trout.

Thank you!!

Scott Lindsey.

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: John Micheaels <jam@bmsslaw.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 12:29 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Catch and Release only on Swan River

Dear FWP folks- good afternoon. I am writing in favor of returning the Swan River to catch and release only. My wife and I have owned a home on Swan River for the last 25 years. During that time I have enjoyed fly fishing hundreds of times on the upper Swan River- all catch and release. Only by returning the Swan to catch and release only will the cutthroat and rainbow be sustained for future generations. Thank you for all the work you do to preserve the fish and game in Montana. Best- john micheaels

Sent from my iPhone

John A. Micheaels
Beale, Micheaels, Slack & Shughart, P.C.
7012 N. 18th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85020
(602) 650-2465 (office)
(602) 363-3870 (cell)
(602) 285-1516 (fax)
<http://www.beale-micheaels.com/> [beale-micheaels.com]

“Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out.” John Wooden

Wickman, Erik

From: Matt Hargrave <matthrgv@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 12:19 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan river rainbow harvest rule change

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this email in regards to the Swan River rainbow harvest rule change. Since its inception, there has been a noticeable decrease in rainbow trout caught. This rule is changing the angling experience on the Swan River for the worst. Please consider repealing this rule and implementing catch and release only for rainbow trout on the Swan River.

Thank you

Matt Hargrave
Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Donnie Seay <donnie.seay@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 12:18 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Please make fishing on the Swan all catch and release.

Donnie Seay

Sent from my iPad

Wickman, Erik

From: Scott Slaphey <scottslaphey@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 11:36 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River catch and release policy

Dear Sirs,

I'm not a permanent resident of Montana. But I do love Montana and visit regularly, mostly to fish. I just wanted to ask that consideration be given to maintaining a catch and release policy for rainbow trout on the Swan River. The Swan river is very special place and a catch and release policy will certainly help to ensure that it remains that way. I have fished many rivers in other states where the rainbow trout fishery has been negatively affected by excessive harvesting of fish. Please protect the Swan river.

Thank you,
Scott Slaphey

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: pierce scranton <piercescranton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 11:27 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Please,
Keep it catch and release. It's a unique river with limited number of fish.

Pierce Scranton
Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Linehan Outfitting <linehan@fishmontana.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 11:11 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fishing regulations/Swan River comments

To: FWP Commissioners

I'm writing to encourage the commission to adopt catch and release regulations for rainbow trout on the Swan River.

By some accounts the rainbow trout populations are dropping. Adopting catch and release or at the very least decreasing the rainbow trout allowable harvest would help sustain this wonderful fishery.

Thanks for the consideration.

Tim

Tim and Joanne Linehan

Linehan Outfitting Company
35309 Yaak River Road
Troy, MT 59935
406-295-4872
800-596-0034
www.fishmontana.com [fishmontana.com]

For the latest photos and updates, follow us on Facebook and Instagram:

www.facebook.com/LinehanOutfittingCompany [facebook.com]

www.instagram.com/LinehanOutfittingCompany [instagram.com]

Wickman, Erik

From: Kent Goodman <ktgoodman33@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:59 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River - in support of Catch and Release fishing for Rainbow trout.

I am in favor of Catch and Release fishing for Rainbow trout in the swan river.

Thank - Kent Goodman
Hagerman Idaho
208-921-5673

Wickman, Erik

From: Brad Stephens <bjs9312@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:43 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

I support returning the Swan River to catch and release trout fishing only. Thank you for your consideration.

Brad Stephens

Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: Van Korell <vkorell@towerrockinv.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:37 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Please be informed I fully support the proposal for catch and release on the Swan River.

Get [Outlook for iOS \[aka.ms\]](#)

Wickman, Erik

From: Kathleen Moon <laughinghorselodge@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 10:02 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Please keep Swan River catch and release.

Kathleen Moon

Wickman, Erik

From: Randy Dix <attfish@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 9:54 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

This is to communicate my hope that you will move the Swan River back to catch and release status for rainbow trout. It is a fragile fishery that deserves the utmost protection. Thank you.

Randy Dix
815 Stuart Street
Helena, MT 59601

Wickman, Erik

From: Rex Amini <ramini@sageenergy.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 9:48 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Rainbow catch and release

Having lived part time on the Swan for over twenty years and having fished the Upper Swan many times during that period, I am vigorously IN FAVOR of catch and release for rainbow on the Swan River and would consider removing fish from the river a complete travesty.

Rex Amini
Bigfork
Sent from my iPad

Wickman, Erik

From: Kirk Johnston <montanakj@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 9:27 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yes to Swan River Catch & Release for Rainbow

Dear Committee:

I want to strongly urge the FWC to **change the regulations to a Catch and Release format for Rainbow trout in the Swan River**. I have fished the Swan for more than 40 years and guided on the Swan in the 90's. Having grown up in the area and watched the fishery change, it's time we preserve what we have there as a wild trout fishery. By instituting a catch and release policy for wild rainbow populations we could re-establish a declining fishery and manage the Swan according to the wild species that are truly thriving in the river. This could be a win for the Swan! Thank you!

Kirk Johnston
Bigfork, Montana

Wickman, Erik

From: CHRIS MCCREEDY <sightfishing@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 9:15 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River regulations

To the FWP commissioners:

Please change the regulations for the Swan River to be catch and release only for rainbow trout.

Thank you.

Chris McCreedy.
Sent from my iPhone

Wickman, Erik

From: andy guy <flyfishin24@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2024 8:49 AM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Swan River

Dear Commission

I am writing to discuss the critical importance of adopting a catch-and-release policy for rainbow trout in the Swan River like it used to be a few years ago.

The delicate ecosystem of the Swan River relies on maintaining a healthy and sustainable trout population. Catch and release ensures the survival of these fish, contributing to the overall ecological balance. Additionally, it promotes responsible angling practices, fostering a conservation-minded approach among the angling community.

By implementing catch and release, we can preserve the genetic diversity of the rainbow trout population which has been in the Swan River since the 1920s. This measure will safeguard the Swan River's biodiversity, ensuring a thriving aquatic ecosystem for current and future generations. We don't have a cutthroat trout population and cant fish for bull trout so if we continue to let people harvest rainbows the Swan will be ruined. We CANT let this happen for future generations.

I kindly request your consideration of this proposal to protect and sustain the precious rainbow trout habitat on the Swan River. If you have any questions or would like further information, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Andy Guy

Swan Lake, MT

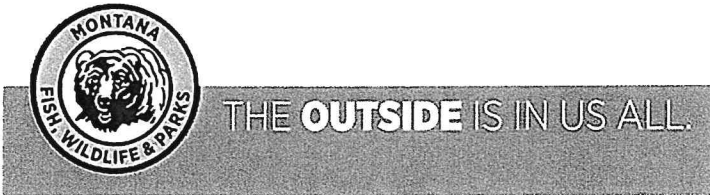
Capt. Andy Guy
Montana Outfitter #22002
Swan Lake, MT 59911
(Tel) 406-871-6938
flyfishin24@yahoo.com

Wickman, Erik

From: Wakeling, Brian
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 1:55 PM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] 2024-25 Migratory Bird Comment - Establish New Central Flyway Zone 3
Attachments: Proposal for a New Central Flyway Zone 3 - 2025.pdf

From: McNew, FAYE <FMcNew@mt.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:43 AM
To: Wakeling, Brian <Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] 2024-25 Migratory Bird Comment - Establish New Central Flyway Zone 3

Faye McNew | *Waterfowl Biologist*
Wildlife Division
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Office: (406) 577-7900 | Cell: (406) 333-8667



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From: mtduckhunter@gmail.com <mtduckhunter@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 9:22 AM
To: FWP General <fwpgen@mt.gov>; commissionerregion6@mtfwp.org <commissionerregion6@mtfwp.org>
Cc: McNew, FAYE <FMcNew@mt.gov>; McDonald, Ken <kmcdonald@mt.gov>; Williamson, Ryan

<ryanwilliamson@mt.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2024-25 Migratory Bird Comment - Establish New Central Flyway Zone 3

Dear MT FWP:

I wish to provide you with a comment for the April 17, 2024, Commission meeting.

I cannot make an on-line comment.

Is the attached an acceptable format for inclusion w/ the public comments for the 2024 Migratory Bird Regulations?

Thank you,
Steve

Steve Christian

PO Box 562

Colstrip, MT 59323

Cell – 406/740-1025

mtduckhunter@gmail.com

Wickman, Erik

From: mtduckhunter@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 12:21 PM
To: FWP Commission
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2024-25 Migratory Bird Comment - Establish New Central Flyway Zone 3
Attachments: Proposal for a New Central Flyway Zone 3 - 2025.pdf

Dear MT FWP and Commissioners:

I wish to provide you with a comment for the April 17, 2024, Commission meeting.

I cannot make an on-line comment.

Is the attached an acceptable format for inclusion w/ the public comments for the 2024 Migratory Bird Regulations?

Thank you,
Steve

Steve Christian

PO Box 562
Colstrip, MT 59323
Cell – 406/740-1025
mtduckhunter@gmail.com