

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1:47 PM  
**To:** Pankratz, Adam  
**Subject:** Re: FW: FAS closures  
**Attachments:** Outlook-FWPTagline.png; Outlook-y.png; Outlook-t.png; Outlook-p.png; image001.jpg; Outlook-i.png; Outlook-f.png

Hi Adam, thank you for sharing this information with me. I really do appreciate it. If you ever don't get a quick response from me on the email, you can call me on my regular cell phone or text me. I try to keep all the communications through the regular commission email, but sometimes I don't always have it with me so if you just ping me I will respond immediately. 406.581.4202.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 16, 2024 at 10:45 AM Pankratz, Adam <[APankratz@mt.gov](mailto:APankratz@mt.gov)> wrote:

Hello Commissioner Brooke,

Just an FYI for you. Seasonal low temperatures and ice jams have led to significant flooding at the below fishing access sites on area rivers. They will be temporarily closed for public safety.

Please reach out anytime.

My cell is 406-570-4943

**Adam Pankratz**

*Warden Captain*

Enforcement Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

1400 South 19 [google.com]<sup>th</sup> Ave

Bozeman, MT 59718

O: (406) 577-7900 | D: (406) 577-7898



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

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**From:** Jacobsen, Morgan <[Morgan.Jacobsen@mt.gov](mailto:Morgan.Jacobsen@mt.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:56 AM

**To:** Schroeer, Linnaea <[lschroeer@mt.gov](mailto:lschroeer@mt.gov)>; Holtmeyer, Martin <[Martin.Holtmeyer@mt.gov](mailto:Martin.Holtmeyer@mt.gov)>; Pankratz, Adam <[APankratz@mt.gov](mailto:APankratz@mt.gov)>

**Subject:** FAS closures

Hi all,

I'm writing up a news release for the closures at these fishing access sites:

- Selway Park
- Valley Garden
- Ennis

Is that all of the new ones for now, or are you aware of any others?

Thanks!

Morgan

[\[google.com\]](#)

**Morgan E. Jacobsen**

*Communication & Education Program Manager*

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 3

1400 S. 19th Ave. [google.com]

Bozeman, MT 59718 [google.com]

Ph: (406) 577-7891 | C: (406) 579-0158



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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 27, 2023 4:12 PM  
**To:** Hansen, Warren  
**Subject:** Re: Commissioner approval request - Supplemental game damage hunt  
**Attachments:** image002.png; image004.png; image003.png; image001.jpg; image005.png; image006.png

Hi Warren, thank you this one looks good to go. I approve.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Wed, Dec 27, 2023 at 1:51 PM Hansen, Warren <[Warren.Hansen@mt.gov](mailto:Warren.Hansen@mt.gov)> wrote:

Hi Susan,  
Please see the game damage hunt request for your review and approval.  
Thank you,  
Warren

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

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**From:** Cunningham, Julie <[juliecunningham@mt.gov](mailto:juliecunningham@mt.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 26, 2023 10:47 AM  
**To:** Hansen, Warren <[Warren.Hansen@mt.gov](mailto:Warren.Hansen@mt.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner approval request - Supplemental game damage hunt

Hi Warren –

Pat is all ready to start, just need that commissioner approval, please?

Thank you!  
Julie

**Julie Cunningham**  
*Bozeman Area Wildlife Biologist*  
Wildlife Division  
[\[fwp.mt.gov\]](http://fwp.mt.gov) Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 3

1400 S. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Bozeman, MT 59718  
O: (406) 577-7865



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[\[pinterest.com\]](https://www.pinterest.com)

**From:** Waltee, Dean <[DWaltee@mt.gov](mailto:DWaltee@mt.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 11:11 AM

**To:** Cunningham, Julie <[juliecunningham@mt.gov](mailto:juliecunningham@mt.gov)>; Hansen, Warren <[Warren.Hansen@mt.gov](mailto:Warren.Hansen@mt.gov)>

**Cc:** Brozovich, Shane <[sbrozovich@mt.gov](mailto:sbrozovich@mt.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Commissioner approval request - Supplemental game damage hunt

Hi Julie,

I'll defer this to Warren as I don't have the ability to authorize the needed approvals within the Game Damage Database.

Dean Waltee

Wildlife Biologist

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Sheridan, MT

406-842-7407

**From:** Cunningham, Julie <[juliecunningham@mt.gov](mailto:juliecunningham@mt.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 10:31 AM

**To:** Hansen, Warren <[Warren.Hansen@mt.gov](mailto:Warren.Hansen@mt.gov)>; Waltee, Dean <[DWaltee@mt.gov](mailto:DWaltee@mt.gov)>

**Cc:** Brozovich, Shane <[sbrozovich@mt.gov](mailto:sbrozovich@mt.gov)>

**Subject:** Commissioner approval request - Supplemental game damage hunt

Warren and Dean,

Cedar Creek in the Madison Valley would like another supplemental game damage hunt this year as they had last year. Same rules and map (attached).

They are approved in the system, all we need is for commissioner Brooke to please review the hunt materials here (only the dates will change) and let us know if she approves or not, and then get that entered into the system.

Could one of you please forward this to Commissioner Brooke and if she approves, note it in the system so we can get started?

Thank you,

Julie

**Julie Cunningham**

*Bozeman Area Wildlife Biologist*

Wildlife Division

[\[fwp.mt.gov\]](http://fwp.mt.gov) Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 3

1400 S. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave

Bozeman, MT 59718

O: (406) 577-7865



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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1:26 PM  
**To:** Hayes Goosey  
**Subject:** Re: HD 313 boundary change

Hello Hayes,

Would be good to chat about this matter. I am leaving town on the 8th and will be back late January but would really like to sit down and discuss. Let me know if you are in town or lets schedule something for later this month.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Sun, Dec 17, 2023 at 5:17 PM Hayes Goosey <[hayesgoosey@gmail.com](mailto:hayesgoosey@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello Commissioner Brooke,

I wanted to reach out to you and visit about the recent commission decision to separate HD 313, returning the western portion to HD 314.

I was hoping to get a better understanding why you chose not to reach out to me in regards to this proposal, given we had discussed a similar idea. After our discussions in Bozeman, I was left hopeful that you would help to bring interested parties together to provide a unified front on the issue or at least give people the option be apart of the steering process. That didn't happen and I'm left uncertain as to why.

I hope your time on the commission is treating you well and I look forward to visiting with you on the subject. Let me know when is convenient for further discussions. As the matter continues to develop, I would like to be a part of the ongoing conversations.

Best regards,  
Hayes Goosey  
Livingston

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2024 11:41 AM  
**To:** Jeff Reed  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hello! New MOGA President and Executive Director  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** <[moga-will@mt.net](mailto:moga-will@mt.net)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 23, 2024 at 11:11 AM  
**Subject:** Hello! New MOGA President and Executive Director  
**To:** Pat Tabor <[pat.tabor@swanmountainoutfitters.com](mailto:pat.tabor@swanmountainoutfitters.com)>, <[CommissionerRegion2@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion2@mtfwp.org)>, Susan Kirby Brooke <[CommissionerRegion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion3@mtfwp.org)>, <[kcwalsh@simmsfishing.com](mailto:kcwalsh@simmsfishing.com)>, Brian Cebull <[bcebull@nanceres.com](mailto:bcebull@nanceres.com)>, Lesley Robinson <[threelazyj@yahoo.com](mailto:threelazyj@yahoo.com)>, <[CommissionerRegion7@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion7@mtfwp.org)>

Hello Commissioners,

My name is Will Israel, I'm the new ED for MOGA and I wanted to reach out and make a quick introduction of myself and the new MOGA President Chris Francis

As MOGA embarks on its 50th year advocating for the outfitting and guiding industry, we're thrilled about what lies ahead. The last five decades have laid a strong foundation thanks to the dedication of the many who've come before us.

Taking the helm at MOGA, we are proud to introduce ourselves and eager to get to know you, your business, challenges, and priorities for the year ahead. We want to understand where you can contribute to our efforts—whether through the Big Hearts program, participation in legislative initiatives, or outreach to FWP and other regulators.



Our membership has grown, and our members are expanding our client offerings beyond traditional hunting and fishing. From backcountry yoga retreats to scenic canoe trips, MOGA members are innovating to meet client needs and making a significant impact on local communities and statewide economies. We look forward to your involvement as we navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Chris Francis, MOGA President

Will Israel, MOGA Executive Director

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### Meet Chris Francis, MOGA's New President

Recently elected as MOGA President, Chris will serve a two-year term in the role and replaces outgoing president Dusty Crary.

*In his own words:*

It is with privilege and responsibility I take the helm of MOGA as we enter our 50th year as the leading voice of Montana's outfitters. The leadership for well over two decades has made for an extremely strong, vibrant and effective trade association, one that each and every contributing member should be very proud of. When we say it's our mission "to protect, enhance and effectively represent the Montana outfitting industry in all its forms," this is something myself and our board members takes very seriously. Our collective passion for the outdoors fuels not only our livelihoods, but our way of life.

As we look forward to 2025, we will be navigating an evolving landscape with opportunities to improve the success of Montana outfitting. Collaboration will be our cornerstone: engaging with policymakers, stakeholders, and local communities to amplify our voice and champion the causes which define our association.

### Meet Will Israel, MOGA's New Executive Director

Appointed as MOGA Executive Director, Will replaces Mac Minard who served in the role for the previous 19 years.

Will is a multi-generational Montanan who currently resides in Jefferson City. He recently retired from the US Army where he served for 21 years as an Airborne Ranger in Special Operations. For the past two and half years, Will worked as Director of Training, Programs, and Events for a veteran's organization and most recently as served as the Chief Strategy Officer for a veteran-owned outdoor recreation business, SABO Outdoors.

*"I consider myself fortunate to have been in the right place at the right time when the Executive Director opportunity presented itself. Since then, I've gained a profound understanding of the vital mission of the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association—dedicated to safeguarding, enhancing, and representing the diverse facets of the Montana Outfitting Industry. Leading this industry demands a disciplined and dedicated individual with a strategic mindset, capable of navigating the ongoing challenges and developing effective strategies for our association. I eagerly anticipate embracing these challenges and seizing opportunities for future growth. Together, we'll engage in collaborative efforts to champion the Outfitter and Guide industry in Montana, recognizing the significance of our shared mission."*

Our sincere appreciation for your hard work and dedication to the conservation efforts here in the Treasure State, we look forward to working with all of you for many years to come!

Will Israel

Executive Director

Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

Big Hearts Under the Big Sky

O: 406.449.3578

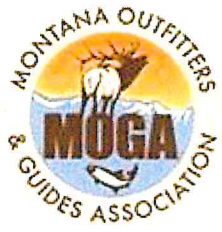
C: 406.439.1205

Email: [moga-will@mt.net](mailto:moga-will@mt.net)

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

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

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



**BIG**   
**HEARTS**  
*under the* **BIG SKY**  
MONTANA OUTFITTERS & GUIDES ASSOCIATION

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Randy Newberg <randy@onyourownadventures.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** Re: Meet to discuss Region 3 Wildlife topics

Thanks, Susan. That sounds great.

I am in Bozeman the week of February 5th. Let's try to meet up that week. Tuesday morning, the 6th and anytime on Thursday is wide open for me.

Best,

Randy

### Randy Newberg

6341 Johnson Road

Bozeman, MT 59718

On Sun, Dec 31, 2023 at 11:41 AM FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

Hi Randy,

Good to hear from you. I had planned on reaching out to you months ago but time sped by, so thanks for the email!

Would be very good to meet and discuss some of the issues. I am leaving on the 8th and back on the 25th. Let's try to get together end of January or early February.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Sun, Dec 31, 2023 at 11:29 AM Randy Newberg <[randy@onyourownadventures.com](mailto:randy@onyourownadventures.com)> wrote:

Susan:

It has been many years since we worked on land projects together. At that time I had founded the local rod and gun club, Headwaters Fish & Game Association.

Since then, I have built some large media platforms focused on the interest of self-guided hunters and public access. I've always offered to be eyes/ears for the Region 3 FWP Commissioner and give feedback based on the thousands of Montana hunters who follow our platforms. I apologize that I haven't reached out sooner. I just got home last night to cap off a very long season in the field.

I am traveling a lot in January, but if you think there is value in meeting for a coffee to discuss how my platforms can help your work on the FWP Commission, I would be excited to do that. My best times in the nearest term are January 10th, 11th, and 12th.

Thanks for your consideration of this idea. I hope I can be of help in your work as an FWP Commissioner.

Happy New Year.

Best,

Randy

**Randy Newberg**

[6341 Johnson Road \[google.com\]](#)

[Bozeman, MT 59718 \[google.com\]](#)

Ph: 406.570.4399

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 8:58 AM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] New Signature

Perfect!

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 8:57 AM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Signature

How's that?

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** jaydan johnson <jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 2:21 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: 80% vs 85% let-off

Thank you so much!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone \[mail.onelink.me\]](#)

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 2:19 PM, FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org> wrote:

Hi Jayden,  
Yes I will discuss this with the department and get back to you.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Feb 13, 2024 at 1:26 PM jaydan johnson <jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hi Susan,

I'm not affiliated with the MBH. Regardless of whatever the MBH wants to advocate for, don't you think it's a problem that there's an absurd rule on the books that FWP openly won't enforce and is nearly impossible for the public to comply with? That puts hunters in a very uncomfortable situation where they can choose to disregard a rule that isn't going to be enforced or attempt to comply with it, which would likely mean not bow hunting.

Myself personally, I'm just not comfortable intentionally violating a FWP commission rule despite assurances from FWP that it won't be enforced. The rule needs to be repealed and I think only the commission can do it. Will you please take steps to repeal this rule.

Jaydan Johnson  
406 241 1864

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone \[mail.onelink.me\]](#)

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 11:54 AM, FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org> wrote:

The MT Bowhunters Association was involved in this a few years back and apparently opposed one of the amendments. Any consideration of this type of change would involve public scoping and involvement with all groups, including MBA. I don't know if

you're a member but you might reach out to the MBA to see where they weigh in on the matter.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Feb 13, 2024 at 8:39 AM jaydan johnson <[jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com)> wrote:  
Hi Susan,

Thanks for getting back to me. Does this mean the commission will abolish the rule?

Jaydan

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone [mail.onelink.me]

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 7:03 AM, FWP Commissioner Region 3  
<[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

Hi Jaydan,  
Here is the response I received from Brian Wakeling in the Helena  
FWP office.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wakeling, Brian** <[Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov](mailto:Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov)>  
Date: Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 4:50 PM  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: 80% vs 85% let-off  
To: [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)  
<[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>

Commissioner Brooke:

The regulation covering the use of compound bows and their  
let-off is governed by Commission Regulation, or CR. It is not  
ARM or statute, so the commission has it within their  
authority to modify or repeal.



Back in 2016, the commission entered into an agreement with the Montana Bowhunters Association that established an agreement on how we would evaluate these items. It is my understanding that the department brought forth an amendment for the commission's consideration a few years ago (2-4, not certain of the exact date) that was originally supported by the MBA to remove the 80% let-off. For enforcement officers, it is impossible to determine in the field if a hunter is in compliance with this regulation. My understanding is that violation of this regulation will disqualify an entry into the Pope and Young record book. Our officers are not enforcing this regulation currently. However, when this was brought before the commission, the MBA identified this agreement (attached) and did not support an amendment at that point in time. Consequently, the commission chose not to make any change at that time.

FWP does not enforce this regulation, it may disqualify an entry into Pope and Young if it is determined that the entry does not comply with this regulation, MBA may not support a change based on a prior agreement and matrix with the commission, but this is absolutely within the scope of the commission's authority to change.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

602-561-3732

BFW

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3  
<[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2024 12:46 PM  
**To:** Wakeling, Brian <[Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov](mailto:Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: 80% vs 85% let-off

Hi Brian,  
Is this something the Commission can change and/or needs to change?

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

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From: **FWP Commissioner Region 3**  
<[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>  
Date: Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 12:45 PM  
Subject: Re: 80% vs 85% let-off  
To: jaydan johnson <[jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com)>

Hi Jayden, I will bring this matter to the attention of the Department and see if the rule can be modified and let you know what I learn.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 9:49 AM jaydan johnson  
<[jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:jaydanjohnson@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Hi Susan,

I'm a resident of Belgrade, Montana and am writing to address the current commission rules for compound hunting bows in Montana. The rule as outlined in the 2023 regulations provides "The normal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent as advertised by the manufacturer." Page 22 of the 2023 Deer Elk Antelope regulations. It is nearly impossible to purchase a hunting bow in this state that meets that requirement. Matthews has yet to ship any 80% let-off mods for their bows but readily ships and sells 85% let-off bows. Hoyt's new bow has a selector switch that allows the user to set the let-off at 85%, 80%, or 75%. Regardless of the selector switch the Hoyt bow still has a "maximum" of greater than 80% "as advertised" by the manufacturer. FWP openly declines to enforce this rule and manufacturers continue to advertise and sell bows with a greater than 80% let-off to hunters and for good reason. The rule is arcane, arbitrary, and gets in the way of hunters taking more ethical and accurate shots as opposed to a wounding shot. The challenge in bow hunting is getting into position for a shot, let-off has nothing to do with that.

The speed limit on the highway used to be 55mph. It's now up to 80mph because with modern advancements, vehicles can be driven safely at higher speeds. I've got nothing against anyone who wants to drive an old 76 F-250 at 55mph, just do so in the slow lane. I urge you to increase the commission rule on let-off or altogether do away with it. FWP won't enforce the rule and manufacturers are not selling bows that are legal to hunt with. The only one stuck without a chair when the music stops is the public land hunter and that is wrong. Please fix this rule. Thank you.

Jaydan Johnson  
(406) 241-1864

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2024 11:52 AM  
**To:** KC Walsh; Wickman, Erik  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Black bear memo  
**Attachments:** image005.png; image002.png; image004.png; image003.png; image001.png

Can Commissioner Walsh and I please have a copy of the memo?

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 1:36 PM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Those were internal memos and have been removed from public view. It is still unknown why those were sent to the commission email account, since they were not public comment. That is why they are visible to the commissioners at this point.

I will get with Brian and see if he can help you with the answers.

~E

**Erik Wickman** | *Assistant to the Director* | *Commission Coordinator*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2024 12:43 PM

**To:** Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Black bear memo

Hi Erik, can you tell me who authored the black bear memo to Brian Wakeling that is in the public comment packet?  
"Letter to BWakeling R4"

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2024 2:57 PM  
**To:** Eric Christophersen  
**Subject:** Re: Black Bear Season Setting Proposals

You can call anytime.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Thu, Feb 1, 2024, 7:43 AM Eric Christophersen <[16mileoutfitting@gmail.com](mailto:16mileoutfitting@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Good Morning Commissioner-

I am sorry I was unable to connect with you yesterday. Is there another time that I could give you a call, that would work for you?

Thanks,

### **16 Mile Outfitting**

Eric Christophersen  
MT Outfitter #49011

[www.16mileoutfitting.com](http://www.16mileoutfitting.com) [[16mileoutfitting.com](http://16mileoutfitting.com)]

On Jan 30, 2024, at 5:32 PM, FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

Ok, call me when you're done with the plumber.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 5:21 PM Eric Christophersen <[16mileoutfitting@gmail.com](mailto:16mileoutfitting@gmail.com)> wrote:

I am generally pretty flexible. We just moved into a new home and I have a plumber coming in the morning to fix a mistake they made when they ran some water lines. He thinks he'll be here between 9:00 and 9:30. I just need to get them pointed in the right direction, hopefully. Hopefully before then or after then would work for you? Let me know what is a good time for you and I'll make that work.

Thanks again for your time and look forward to the conversation,

## **16 Mile Outfitting**

Eric Christophersen

MT OUT #49011

[www.16mileoutfitting.com](http://www.16mileoutfitting.com) [[16mileoutfitting.com](http://16mileoutfitting.com)]

On Jan 30, 2024, at 5:13 PM, FWP Commissioner Region 3  
<[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

What does your day look like tomorrow morning? We could chat anytime before 10:30am.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 2:06 PM Eric Christophersen <[16mileoutfitting@gmail.com](mailto:16mileoutfitting@gmail.com)>  
wrote:

Thanks for your quick response. I would be happy to hear your concerns. I can give you a call at your convenience if you let me know a time and the best number to reach you?

Thanks,

## **16 Mile Outfitting**

Eric Christophersen

MT OUT #49011

[www.16mileoutfitting.com](http://www.16mileoutfitting.com) [[16mileoutfitting.com](http://16mileoutfitting.com)]

On Jan 30, 2024, at 2:02 PM, FWP Commissioner Region 3  
<[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

Hi Eric,

Thanks for reaching out again. I have been talking to the biologists in Region 3 and I have concerns about this amendment. If you want, I would be happy to chat on the phone with you and share my thoughts and hear yours.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 2:00 PM Eric Christophersen  
<[16mileoutfitting@gmail.com](mailto:16mileoutfitting@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello Commissioner Brooke-

I had reached out to you a week or so ago, regarding the upcoming black bear season setting FWP commission meeting.

I simply wanted to circle back around to you and see if you had given any thought to those proposals or the amendment that was brought forth by Commissioner Cebull?

I am fairly new to this whole process and am excited to learn it and be a part of it. I also know that you are likely a very busy person and have enough on your plate.

I would enjoy hearing your thoughts on the changes that are being presented. MOGA is working diligently to move these proposals forward and we like to hear what the concerns or thoughts are, that are out there.

Thanks for your consideration on this,

**16 Mile Outfitting**

Eric Christophersen

MT OUT #49011

[www.16mileoutfitting.com](http://www.16mileoutfitting.com) [[16mileoutfitting.com](http://16mileoutfitting.com)]



## Wickman, Erik

---

**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 10:35 AM  
**To:** Dan Vermillion  
**Subject:** Re: Boundary Change for HD 313 and 314

Hi Dan, I don't have my commission phone with me. Can you give me a call at 406-581-4202?

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 10:17 AM Dan Vermillion <[dan@sweetwatertravel.com](mailto:dan@sweetwatertravel.com)> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Brooke,

I hope you are doing well and that you are enjoying serving on the Commission. Given the weather, I think you are going to be busy this summer with Hoot Owl restrictions. It is really a challenging year to sell fishing trips in August. Folks are expecting ou August to be pretty difficult.

I was reading the Gazette the other day and noticed Bret French's article on the HD 313 and 314 boundaries. While I suspect the decision has been made, I also remember that the regulations will not be printed until after the final season setting regulations are approved at the February meeting. To that end, I would respectfully ask for re-consideration of the the boundary change for 313 and 314.

I was the commissioner when the Department proposed to limit the bull permits in 313 to hopefully counteract the historically low mature bull numbers in the EMU covering 313. When we considered this, both Edwin Johnson (CUT's outfitter) and Warren Johnson (Hell Roaring) were strenuously opposed to the change. While my memory may not be completely accurate, it is my recollection that in the season prior to the change, outfitted customers accounted for well over 80 percent of all of the bulls harvested in 313. Edwin accessed the elk on the private Royal Teton lands, and Warren and his guides simply beat the public hunters to elk when they left the Park. It is also my recollection that just about every mature bull elk that left the Park was being harvested the first morning they left the Park. So, it is understandable that the outfitters were opposed to the change. The public, on the other hand, was actually pretty supportive.

Contrary to Edwin's statements, we made the change to improve the mature bull ratio on that EMU. It had nothing to do with bison and nothing to do with expanding a buffer zone. In fact, at the time, Edwin came into my office and specifically asked me if I would change the boundary so his guests could simply apply for the general license opportunity in 314 instead of living under the special permit structure that would have limited bull harvest in an effort to build the numbers up to our objective. As you know, we moved forward with a compromise position that allowed for three weeks of unlimited hunting, with a heightened attention towards rapid closure if we had a mass migration occur due to cold weather during the three weeks of general license harvest. We included the west side of the river from Sphinx Creek south in the restricted harvest portion of 313 because of the obvious data showing that having a restrictive license on the east side of the river but an unlimited general license on the west side would undercut any

population gains in the bull population.in [population.in] my time on the Commission, their verbal attacks on Karen were completely excessive and, most likely, prompted Karen to move to New Mexico to work as a biologist. We agreed to a compromise to hopefully provide some protection to the mature bulls as they left Park but also allow for the outfitters' clients to have three weeks of general license opportunity. It was compromise purely meant to keep the peace and refrained from implementing the management prescription (5 week special permits) to give Warren and Edwin some operating space.

It is my understanding that the Bull numbers have improved but have not reached the objective the plan calls for. Based upon my experience, I fear the work done to re-build the bull ratio since our compromise will be undone. With this new boundary, these elk will be under fire for all five weeks, and, if history is any guide, the overwhelming percentage of the mature bull elk will be harvested by outfitted customers not the Montana residents that are hunting 313 on the east side or, now, the west side. There will literally be folks driving the roads at 1 a.m. with high vision binoculars finding the elk as they leave the Park and then deploying their customers into pinch points to harvest the elk before most resident hunters even know where the elk are.

Additionally, each year I was on the commission, we faced the challenge of hopefully keeping the tribal halves focused on bison rather than elk. In 313, we were able to make a strong conservation argument to the tribal fish and wildlife entities that the population could not withstand additional harvest as evidenced by the limited permits. In my time at the Commission, the Treaty hunters largely refrained from harvesting elk as the permits they received from their fish and wildlife departments did not include elk which were being managed restrictively to build back the bull portion of the herd. Now, with it being a general license opportunity, the Treaty hunters will have a much stronger case for hunting elk in January when they are up there hunting bison. We are, as an agency, in effect, saying that we no longer have any conservation or population concerns for the bull elk population. This, much like it did with bison in 2005, gives the green light for elk harvest by unlicensed (by Montana) tribal hunters.

I understand how hard your job is and how hard it is for a commissioner to resist a change that the rest of the Commission really wants. With this easy winter, the elk population should do pretty well, but, when we have another winter like last year, those elk are going to get heavily harvested. Unlike 1992 when I guided for Hubbards and the NYE was pushing 20,000, the NYE is still trying to get back to objective. With the southern part of 314 now extending to the Park boundary on the west side of the river, the elk leaving 313 will be heavily hunted and the bull ratio will struggle to get where the department and the elk plan want it to be.

I respectfully urge you to re-consider this boundary change. It is not supported by the science and will ensure that very few mature bull elk will survive the hunting season if they find themselves outside of the Park in Hd313 and its new inclusion on the west side of the Yellowstone.

Dan Vermillion  
Sweetwater Travel Company  
PO Box 668  
Livingston, MT 59047  
(406)222-0624 (O)  
(406)223-0066 (C)  
[dan@sweetwatertravel.com](mailto:dan@sweetwatertravel.com)

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 27, 2024 12:13 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik  
**Subject:** December travel and meetings

Dec 4 met with greater Yellowstone coalition for an hour in their offices. 22 miles round trip.

Dec 5 attended wolf ARM meeting at region 3 hq for 2 hours. 18 miles round trip.

Dec 6 attended CAC meeting at region 3 hq for 2 hours 18 miles round trip.

Dec 12 attended Yellowstone Upper Watershed work group meeting in Emigrant. 4 hours 98 miles round trip.

Dec 14 met with Warren Hansen at region 3 hq for 1.5 hours 18 miles round trip

Dec 14 traveled to Helena for open meeting legal training and overnight

Dec 15 Commission meeting and then home 258 miles round trip.

Dec 16 313 wolf quota review via zoom.

That's all 😊

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

**Wickman, Erik**

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**From:** Jeff Reed <Jeff@reedfly.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 5:35 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** RE: Followup on Today's Call

I'll dig it up over the weekend and send it to you.

You'll see that YNP were fine with 6, but split between 313 and 316. Brian's comments were not the whole truth.

---

**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 4:48 PM  
**To:** Jeff Reed <Jeff@reedfly.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Followup on Today's Call

Jeff,  
I have asked for the letter but still have not gotten a copy. Let me know if you do find it. Merry Christmas to you and your family.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Fri, Dec 15, 2023 at 4:19 PM Jeff Reed <Jeff@reedfly.com> wrote:

I would highly recommend you read the letter that YNP sent to FWP in 2022. I can dig it up sometime if necessary.

It didn't escape me that Commissioner Cebull nodded his head re: the comment about 10 being the Park's recommendation, and then he repeated that notion in his comment. Even though he, and Pat, were wrong about the recommendation of 10. It was good to see that Molly corrected them with the entire story.

What also wasn't discussed is that the Park recommend that WMU 313 and 314 be left as is, and it was still combined in to one unit. This had an increased impact on harvest as everyone knows it is easier to hunt wolves leaving the Park near Gardiner. It's probably worth revisiting this topic as a potential amendment. Our social constituents will reach out when we feel like we've educated the public with data, taken a feel for what they think about it, and then collectively provide input to Susan.

It never ceases to amaze me the complexity of being a commissioner. Just wanted to make sure you knew, Susan, a little more of the history.

I too was out hunting, copenhagen in my lip, and I actually got something 😊

Merry Christmas,

Jeff

The logo for 'reedfly' features the word 'reedfly' in a lowercase, serif font. A small silhouette of a fly is positioned above the letter 'd'.

Dr Jeff Reed  
Owner

m 1.425.246.0025

[jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:jeff@reedfly.com)

[www.reedfly.com](http://www.reedfly.com) [reedfly.com]

[Book Jeff's Calendar \[bit.ly\]](#)

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 5:02 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: FW: Bird Dog Survey Summary

Checking into this! 😊

**Erik Wickman** | Assistant to the Director | Commission Coordinator  
Headquarters | Director's Office  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024 4:56 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: FW: Bird Dog Survey Summary

Hi Erik,

This is very interesting but was wondering if anyone has put these numbers into a spreadsheet format? Back in the day when we did polls and surveys you would get the numbers in rows and percentages put into numbers making it easier to draw conclusions from the data. If not, no big deal... thank you 😊

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Feb 13, 2024 at 7:16 AM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good morning, commissioners,

Please see the attached document which is a summary of the Bird Dog Training Survey results. In the interest of time, so you can adequately review and digest this information, I am sending it in this email.

Later today, I will upload the results to the website and also add it to the information on the Google Drive and in the virtual binder.

Respectfully,

~E

**Erik Wickman** | *Assistant to the Director* | *Commission Coordinator*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 5:12 PM  
**To:** Gail Brewer  
**Subject:** Re: wolves taken in region

Gail, I do not hate wolves. Or any other predator for that matter. Our job is to find a balance across all wildlife populations and it is never an easy decision for me.

I believe the non consumptive public does and should have a voice in these decisions and will continue to listen and consider those views.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 5:06 PM Gail Brewer <[brewerg@peak.org](mailto:brewerg@peak.org)> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Brooke,

Thank you for replying to my letter. At some point in all of this decision making all voices must be heard. I never knew until all of this wolf hate surfaced that biology ( the study of life) is behind all of the killing of animals for the benefit of those that would kill other animals and make money off of it. Killing to kill and to gain power over is never the right path be it humans or animals. No one has ever said why killing is the only way to manage wolves or any other animal. If the non consumptive community had a say in the initial decision making it would be different, but we are always turned aside. Money and power from politicians, trappers, outfitters, big agriculture and livestock production always seem to win the day because they are the only ones who can play. Please consider some of the ways in which we can coexist.

Thank you.

Gail Brewer

**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 [mailto:[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 3:55 PM

**To:** Gail Brewer  
**Subject:** Re: wolves taken in region

Hi Gail,

I appreciate your comments. The wolf quota was set in August and the Region 3 biologists stated there was no new biological data that changed their recommendations from August.

While I understand you are frustrated, please know that I will carefully consider any new data they present in order to make a decision this year that would change this number. The commission takes public comment on the season setting but not for the review unless there is a change.

Again, thank you.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 3:31 PM Gail Brewer <[brewerg@peak.org](mailto:brewerg@peak.org)> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Brooke,

Just checked my data from the wolf dashboard. As of December 31, 20 wolves were killed in region 3 not counting Unit 313. As of today another 21. I would say that was an uptick in number of killed wolves. 3 ½ months-20 wolves, one month 21! Very disappointed that no one else has a voice or say in this.

Sincerely,

Gail Brewer

## Wickman, Erik

---

**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2024 7:22 AM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik  
**Subject:** Re: Region 1 Wolf Harvest Review  
**Attachments:** image004.png; image002.png; image003.png; image001.png; image005.png

I will be available when needed.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 7:11 AM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good morning, commissioners,

Over the weekend, Region 1 passed the 75% level for wolf harvest quota. As you know, the rule you created last year requires a special meeting to review that wolf harvest, just as we did with WMU 313 in December and Region 3 last week.

Please indicate your availability for a special meeting this coming Wednesday or Thursday afternoon via Zoom.

Respectfully,

~E

**Erik Wickman** | *Assistant to the Director* | *Commission Coordinator*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 5:32 PM  
**To:** Dagmar Riddle  
**Subject:** Re: Region 3 wolf hunting review meeting

Dear Dagmar,

Thank you for the email. I did hear your voicemails a few months back and listened to your comments and continue to do so. I'm sorry this is not enough for you. The public does have a voice and I do have an obligation to listen to your comments and consider these for decision making but this does not necessitate me to meet with you personally.

I respect your comments on the issues before the commission and will continue to consider your views before I make any decision on wildlife management.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 1:46 PM Dagmar Riddle <[runswithwolves@gmail.com](mailto:runswithwolves@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello Commissioner Brooke,

I live in Whitehall, which is in WMU Region 3. I contacted you months ago to have a meeting with you, and you refused. You responded with, you will listen to me in the one to the two minutes I would have to comment at commission meetings. Well, you know that is not enough time to voice my concerns about our wolves and all wildlife in not only Region 3 and WMU 312, which lies within Region 3. Also I found out you met with individuals who do not reside in Region 3, but not with me. Do I need to bring this up in today's meeting on your refusal to listen to me, a constituent of yours, concerning the wildlife in Montana? I am very angry how you commission refuse to treat wolves like other wildlife and are ok with their suffering and death by cruel trappers and many hunters, as well as voting to on the cruelty being done to them, as well as allowing bounties on them.

I hope you do the right thing today by voting to end hunting, trapping, and snaring any more wolves in Region 3. MTFWP, as you commissioners have no idea how few wolves are still alive with your unscientific IPIM guesstimates. I am signed up on ZOOM at today's meeting and I can tell you I am very angry at how you all show your dislike, and hatred of wolves. May I remind you that wolves and all wildlife do NOT belong to any state or state agency, but belong to our great land and nation, and to us, the public. You are supposed to vote to manage wolves and all wildlife for The Public Trust, and to listen to US, not just to wildlife haters and killers. So the right thing for Our wolves and vote to end hunting and trapping in Region 3 !!! If you would like to discuss wolves and wildlife with me, you can meet with me or call me at 706-208-3321

BTW, I have many years of wolf knowledge and experience, as well as knowing personally wolf experts and wildlife biologists, including Carter Niemeyer. I have a degree in Environmental Management And Restoration Technology, as well as a certificate in Fish And Wildlife Law Endorsement from CA Fish And Wildlife. My instructors were retired Chief Of Warden's, Chuck Monroe, and the head of Delta Enhanced Enforcement Team(DEET)

Dagmar Maria Riddle

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 16, 2023 5:08 PM  
**To:** Marc Cooke  
**Subject:** Re: Special meeting for 313  
**Attachments:** fb3a441c.png

That picture is disgusting in so many ways.

I know yesterday was difficult for many people and that passion is not lost on me. Every quota on every single wildlife species is a decision I take very seriously. I talked to both Warren and Brian Wakeling before the meeting to make sure the biologists recommendation had not changed. I assure you I am listening to the non-hunting crowd even though you might doubt that. A

Have merry Christmas. I am spending the holidays with 2 new grandbabies from 2023 both of which are the 7th generation born in this state. I hope they too will appreciate the wildness and public lands this state has afforded us all.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Sat, Dec 16, 2023 at 4:09 PM Marc Cooke <[marc@wolvesoftherockies.org](mailto:marc@wolvesoftherockies.org)> wrote:

*Commissioner Brooke,*

*I wish I could say that I was not disappointed with the outcome of yesterday's WMU 313 special meeting. Others and I see this differently than some on the commission. It seems that the non-consumptive individuals continue to be ignored. It was only one wolf that we wanted. The anti-wolf individuals that call this area their home are a despicable group. I have attached a photo taken several years ago for your review. I caution you before looking at it. It's not a bloody photo, but it is very eery and disturbing from my point of view. It took us several years to identify these individuals, but we did. They are from the 313 area and organized using unethical and illegal means to kill wolves....especially Yellowstone wolves. If you want to talk about this, feel free to call me.*

*All the best and Merry Christmas, Marc*



*Marc Cooke*

*Wolves of the Rockies*

*Stevensville, Montana*

*Cell: 406.493.5945*

*[Marc@WolvesoftheRockies.org](mailto:Marc@WolvesoftheRockies.org)*

*501 C (3) All-Volunteer Org*



## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 7 <commissionerregion7@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 2:02 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik  
**Cc:** Clerget, Sarah; FWP COMMISSIONERS; Graham, Robin; Kujala, Quentin; Rechhoff, Kevin; Viereck, Mackenzie; Wakeling, Brian  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: \*\*\*Special Meeting Required\*\*\*

I can be available on Thursday.

Bill

On Tue, Jan 2, 2024 at 8:01 AM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good morning, commissioners,

There is a rather urgent need to schedule a special commission review based on the incidental capture of a lynx by bobcat trappers (see page 15 of trapping regs) over the recent holiday weekend.

While the details are different, this review will be similar to the commission review of wolf harvest in WMU 313, and is required by regulations.

Given time for public notice, Thursday would be the earliest but not later than this coming Friday, January 5th. The Vice Chair is 3 hours behind our time due to travel so the meeting will not be scheduled before 1:00 p.m. our time.

I am seeking availability time windows for each of you either Thursday (4<sup>th</sup>) or Friday (5<sup>th</sup>) between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be Zoom only and should not take long.

I have attached the Trapping Regs for ease of reference. You will find the information relevant to this incident on pages 12 through 15.

Once we have a meeting time set, with the required quorum of at least 4 commissioners, I will send out the Zoom link to all involved. Apologies for the late notice, but the incident occurred recently over the holiday weekend.

Please respond with your availability as soon as possible for this special meeting. I will also begin making phone calls after Noon today to assist with scheduling attendance.

Thank you!

~E

**Erik Wickman**

*Commission Coordinator*

*Assistant to the Director*

Director's Office | Headquarters Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 444-7826 | C: (406) 594-8921

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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 3:59 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion1@mtfwp.org  
**Cc:** Wickman, Erik; FWP COMMISSIONERS; Rechhoff, Kevin; Kujala, Quentin  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Special Meeting

Erik,

I am in Mexico, but should be able to participate if you need me for a quorum.

Jeff

### Jeff Burrows

*Region 2 Commissioner*  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-1148  
[commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org)

On Feb 6, 2024, at 11:04 PM, FWP Commissioner Region 1 <commissionerregion1@mtfwp.org> wrote:

I'm available all day Friday from 9:00 am on  
Pat

On Tue, Feb 6, 2024, 12:32 PM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, commissioners,

After discussing things with Legal, having the meeting tomorrow is too soon (not enough time for public notice). We are looking at Friday at 2pm now. This meets Legal's recommendations for proper public notice and is still a reasonable time to respond.

Additionally, since we are already at 70% of quota in R2, the review will encompass both Regions 1 and 2. This will also eliminate the need for an additional special meeting just for Region 2.

Please advise of your availability for Friday overall, and if 2pm works for you.

Thank you!

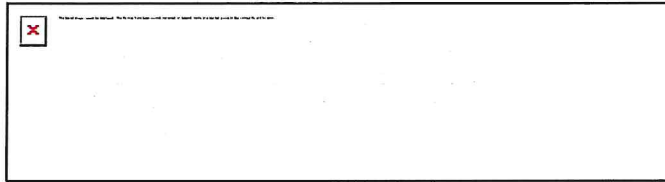
~E

**Erik Wickman** | *Assistant to the Director* | *Commission Coordinator*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1:20 PM  
**To:** brett.french@lee.net  
**Subject:** Fwd: Petition for Restoration of area 314 elk and deer boundary  
**Attachments:** Notes 2023 letter to F&W Commissioners HD 314 (004).docx; Petition Page 2.jpeg; Petition Page 3.jpeg; Petition Page 4.jpeg; Petition Page 5.jpeg; Petition Page 6.jpeg; Petition Page 7.jpeg; Petition Page 8.jpeg; Petition Page 9.jpeg

Hi Brett,

Here is a forward of the notes and petitions from the public on 313/314. Edwin Johnson has really been the most active on this matter but I met with several of the landowners last winter after I was appointed and toured the area with them.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **edwin [montanaguide.com](http://montanaguide.com) [[montanaguide.com](http://montanaguide.com)]** <[edwin@montanaguide.com](mailto:edwin@montanaguide.com)>  
Date: Thu, Nov 16, 2023 at 11:20 AM  
Subject: Petition for Restoration of area 314 elk and deer boundary  
To: [CommissionerRegion1@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion1@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion1@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion1@mtfwp.org)>, [CommissionerRegion2@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion2@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion2@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion2@mtfwp.org)>, [CommissionerRegion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion3@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion3@mtfwp.org)>, [CommissionerRegion4@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion4@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion4@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion4@mtfwp.org)>, [CommissionerRegion5@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion5@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion5@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion5@mtfwp.org)>, [CommissionerRegion6@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion6@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion6@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion6@mtfwp.org)>, [CommissionerRegion7@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion7@mtfwp.org) <[CommissionerRegion7@mtfwp.org](mailto:CommissionerRegion7@mtfwp.org)>  
CC: [moga@mt.net](mailto:moga@mt.net) <[moga@mt.net](mailto:moga@mt.net)>

Dear Commissioners,

This is a summary of landowner's acreage involved in our request for restoration of Elk/Deer Area 314 to its' original boundaries.

Also attached are 8 pages of resident signatures.

Edwin Johnson

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Trish King <wolf16625@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 6:25 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** Re: Please close Region 3 to wolf hunting

Dear Commissioner Susan Kirby Brooks,  
I'm really disappointed in this decision, but I appreciate you taking the time to respond back to me.  
Sincerely,  
Trish King

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 4:41 PM FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

Hi Trish,

Thanks for the email. As you know, there is only public comment if we make a change in the existing quota. The quota was set in August and the biologist have told us there was no new data to make any changes to their recommendations. Therefore the public was not allowed to comment since nothing changed.

I have not heard any information from biologists that entire packs are being wiped out. If you have anything from Park or state biologist that state otherwise, I would be interested in seeing this. During the meeting today, the department presented information that the wolves in Region 3 that have been harvested are spread throughout six counties. While I know some of these may be members of Wolf pack's within Yellowstone National Park, there was no information provided that indicated there were entire packs being wiped out.

Please know that your comments will be heard and considered during the next season setting in August.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 1:01 PM Trish King <[wolf16625@gmail.com](mailto:wolf16625@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Susan Kirby Brooke,

Please close the hunting of wolves in Region 3. Entire packs or almost all are being taken out. This is very dangerous for the integrity of any remaining members. I'm really concerned about what you are allowing to happen to our wolves. I've mentioned it before, and I will say again, I don't believe you have as many wolves on the ground as you have estimated. Please change your method of counting wolves. Do not allow wolf hunting in unit 313, or unit 110 by our National Parks. I tried to comment at your last emergency meeting concerning the closure of unit 313 after 5 yellowstone wolves had been killed, but you decided to go for the 6th one which was again a Yellowstone National Park wolf. A travesty indeed.

Our public lands should not have vile traps and snares set on them. Public safety should come first and yet you continue to cater to trappers and outfitters instead of listening to non-consumptive members who also would like to enjoy recreation besides killing and torturing our wildlife.

Our only hope is that federal protection steps in because states certainly don't seem to value our wildlife. Trophy hunting does not put food on the table. Fur is outdated and there is no need to kill wolves or wildlife that are not causing any problems. Livestock producers can use non lethal methods to deal with predation. We all know that a very small percentage of livestock is actually even taken by wolves.

Please I urge you to close Region 3 and let 12 wolves live.

Thank you,  
Trish king  
[2130 9th St W #162 \[google.com\]](#)  
[Columbia Falls, MT 59912 \[google.com\]](#)



## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2024 1:17 PM  
**To:** Jess Wagner  
**Subject:** Re: Proposed Black Bear Changes

Hi Jess,

Really appreciate your comments and I share many of your concerns. Thank you for the well listed issues.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Tue, Jan 23, 2024 at 9:53 AM Jess Wagner <[jess\\_wagner2@hotmail.com](mailto:jess_wagner2@hotmail.com)> wrote:

Commissioner Brooke,

Although I am not in your region, the proposed statewide black bear changes will have an effect on me, so I hope you will take the time to read my comments. I am writing to you as I am concerned about some of the proposed spring black bear changes here in region 4. I am also including some documents (Region 4's recommendations and Black Bear Mortality Patterns in BMU's 411, 420, 520, and 580) that you might find valuable in guiding your decision on whether or not to support the proposed changes. The data in the documents makes a compelling case for leaving the spring bear hunting in region 4 as is. The experts who are on the ground here in region 4 recommend against expanding the spring season closure to June 15th, as female harvest is already near the established sustainable threshold. The region also recommends retaining the mandatory inspection of harvested bears.

The attached "Black Bear Mortality Patterns" document states that "Current harvest rates in the Snowies, Little Belts and Crazy Mountains are not sustainable. Even in The Beartooths, where a female harvest quota is in place, we have documented a declining population. Increased harvest, especially female harvest, will accelerate these declines. Black bears in the island mountain ranges of central Montana have one of the lowest reproductive rates of any large mammal in North America. Consequently, these populations are susceptible to over harvest and recovery from over harvest takes many years. For example, the bear population in BMU 520 was significantly over harvested in the mid-1980s and took 15 years to recover using very restrictive female harvest sub-quotas."

I will also add some of my own observations. Every spring, I put out 20+ trail cameras on National Forest lands in the island ranges in central Montana. I can tell you, based on the evidence on my trail cameras, that bear activity increases significantly in June. In fact, I get more pictures/videos of bears in June than I do the rest of the months combined. June is the breeding season when bears are moving around more and are much more visible to hunters. I have no doubt that allowing hunting until June 15<sup>th</sup> will have a significant impact on the bear harvest in region 4.

We just introduced hound hunting a few years ago and have already seen an increase in harvest as a result of that added opportunity. It is only going to gain in popularity. I feel that increasing the season length is too soon and we need more time to see the full extent to which hound hunting is going to impact spring bear harvest. It also doesn't make sense to increase harvest while getting rid of the mandatory inspection of harvested bears. Increasing harvest means that data collection would be even more important than ever. I have spoken with region 4 staff, and they have expressed that mandatory check-in is not a burden for the staff. We have already seen ballot initiatives that have led to bear hunting bans in other states. This is likely to happen here in Montana eventually. Although it may seem unlikely at this time, we have already had recent initiatives to ban trapping right here in Montana. Having reliable data to justify having a spring season will be really important in the event that a bear hunting ban initiative is ever introduced.

I would urge you not to support the proposed changes. If the proposed changes are likely to be approved, please consider making an amendment to put a quota in place for the BMU's in region 4. The quota could be based on the average yearly spring harvest over the last 10 or more years. I feel it is important to go back at least 10 years since the attached document states that the current harvest levels are not sustainable. I would also recommend amending the proposal to retain the mandatory inspection of harvested bears. Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Jess Wagner  
Lewistown, MT  
406-939-3458

**Wickman, Erik**

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** Clerget, Sarah  
**Subject:** Question on procedure

Good morning Sarah, if you have a chance, can you give me a quick phone call before 4 o'clock today? I just have a quick question on how this will proceed.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 27, 2023 4:11 PM  
**To:** John Marchwick  
**Subject:** Re: Question on wolf harvest dashboard.

Hi John,

From what I understand of the situation, the reporting call center said it was region three, but that was quickly corrected when FWP found out it was 313. The person who harvested the wolf reported it was in WMU 313 but the call center incorrectly said it was region three. Notwithstanding this, WMU 313 was closed as the regulations provided and within that timeframe.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Tue, Dec 26, 2023 at 7:51 PM John Marchwick <[john.marchwick@gmail.com](mailto:john.marchwick@gmail.com)> wrote:

I shared with you all a screen recording. Just so I understand I thought wolf management unit 313 and region 3 were separate units as far as hunting goes. Why does it say the latest wolf killed in wolf management unit 313 was killed in region 3 and not wolf management unit 313 under the area portion of the dashboard.

**Wickman, Erik**

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** Kujala, Quentin  
**Subject:** Quota review

Good morning, if you have a minute I would appreciate a quick review on what the commission review of the quota can and cannot do.

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Jeff Reed <Jeff@reedfly.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2024 5:06 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** RE: Followup on WMU 313 Wolf Call and The "forgotten" letter from YNP to FWP in 2022

Great. Thanks

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2024 3:33 PM  
**To:** Jeff Reed <Jeff@reedfly.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Followup on WMU 313 Wolf Call and The "forgotten" letter from YNP to FWP in 2022

Sounds good. See you then :)

On Mon, Jan 8, 2024 at 11:51 AM Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)> wrote:

How about meeting at 10am on Jan 26<sup>th</sup> at Joe's Coffee?

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 4:22 PM  
**To:** Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Followup on WMU 313 Wolf Call and The "forgotten" letter from YNP to FWP in 2022

Hi Jeff,

Happy new year. There's no rush, but I think it would be good to visit before the next commission meeting in February. I am back late January, so if we can get together for coffee that would be great. Otherwise, let's just plan to talk on the phone.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Sun, Dec 31, 2023 at 7:53 AM Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)> wrote:

Hi Susan. I'm gone on the 6<sup>th</sup>. I don't have plans to be in Bozeman on the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup>, but if feel like its worth meeting in person, I have no problem making a trip over. Just let me know by Monday morning at the latest.

Thanks,

Jeff

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>

**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2023 1:52 PM

**To:** Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Followup on WMU 313 Wolf Call and The "forgotten" letter from YNP to FWP in 2022

Thanks for this info. If you are in town before 8 January, give me a call and let's meet for coffee. I'm gone from the 8th to the 25th.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Fri, Dec 29, 2023 at 10:27 AM Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)> wrote:

Sorry for the delay. Happy almost New Year.

Well, I can't find the original letter from the Park to FWP on my computer, so I've put in a request for the Park. Did any of you find it.

Susan/Shub/Warren, you can also just rewatch Commissioner Tabor read the park's letter from Cam to the commission here <https://youtu.be/1nKxvNm-B7o?t=29000> [youtu.be] Following that is Doug's testimony here <https://youtu.be/1nKxvNm-B7o?t=29128> [youtu.be]

I think the interaction between Pat Tabor and Doug Smith and others was a great example of how FWP Commissioners can work with the Park. It was a professional engagement after heated exchange.

But I feel like we are losing that professionalism again, after what I saw in this months meeting on WMU 313.

The Park is working with the Region 3 biologists. It doesn't "feel like" nor have I seen any evidence to support it, that FWP Helena, in particular, Ken MacDonald and Dustin Temple are working with YNP. It looks like and feels like to the locals that it is one big pissing match, and has gotten political...which means FWP cherry picks its local supporters and ignores the overwhelming "community social support" that is proven in FWP's own surveys and via our own economic analysis. That is the commission's job: to survey the social support for or against a particular management strategy. **Perhaps the commissioners could request Ken MacDonald and his team provide information about the Park and FWP biologists working together to provide scientific feedback to the Commissioners, who are making PROFOUND decisions that impact people and wildlife. And perhaps you could request that Ken and Dustin actually come down to Paradise Valley and meet with the UYWG (ranchers and tourism operators) and the Business Coalition.**

Decisions from Helena FWP, and from commissioners outside of our region on matters that impact our region, is THE #1 friction for us here locally. If we can get more engagement from Helena with the locals, then I think we can return to some of the professionalism we saw in the vide. After all, how could Edwin Johnson get his 314 amendment passed (with lukewarm support from the biologists and NO overwhelming support from the local community) and yet the Commission voted 4:3 against your much appreciated attempt for an amendment on the female lion quota. It's starting to feel again, like the tourism economy is being ignored.

Thank you Susan for submitting our amendment on lions. We will bring forward an amendment again for next year, and we will be proposing amendments on wolves and grizzlies as well. And we will continue to support our FWP biologists, you, and the YNP biologists on collaborative, neighborly discussions on all things wildlife.

Thank Shub, Warren, and Michael for maintaining civil relationships with YNP biologists and sharing information. The Park has a lot more money and resources to estimate population numbers, and can help FWP out. Ken MacDonald knows that.

Thank god you four are engaging with the local tourism-driven economy and community, even if Helena is not.

Cheers,

Jeff



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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 15, 2023 4:48 PM  
**To:** Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Followup on Today's Call

Jeff,

I have asked for the letter but still have not gotten a copy. Let me know if you do find it. Merry Christmas to you and your family.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Fri, Dec 15, 2023 at 4:19 PM Jeff Reed <[Jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:Jeff@reedfly.com)> wrote:

I would highly recommend you read the letter that YNP sent to FWP in 2022. I can dig it up sometime if necessary.

It didn't escape me that Commissioner Cebull nodded his head re: the comment about 10 being the Park's recommendation, and then he repeated that notion in his comment. Even though he, and Pat, were wrong about the recommendation of 10. It was good to see that Molly corrected them with the entire story.

What also wasn't discussed is that the Park recommend that WMU 313 and 314 be left as is, and it was still combined in to one unit. This had an increased impact on harvest as everyone knows it is easier to hunt wolves leaving the Park near Gardiner. It's probably worth revisiting this topic as a potential amendment. Our social constituents will reach out when we feel like we've educated the public with data, taken a feel for what they think about it, and then collectively provide input to Susan.

It never ceases to amaze me the complexity of being a commissioner. Just wanted to make sure you knew, Susan, a little more of the history.

I too was out hunting, copenhagen in my lip, and I actually got something 😊

Merry Christmas,

Jeff

The logo for 'reedfly' features the word 'reedfly' in a lowercase, serif font. A small silhouette of a fly is positioned above the letter 'd'.

Dr Jeff Reed

Owner

m 1.425.246.0025

[jeff@reedfly.com](mailto:jeff@reedfly.com)

[www.reedfly.com](http://www.reedfly.com) [[reedfly.com](http://reedfly.com)]

[Book Jeff's Calendar \[bit.ly\]](#)

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** John Marchwick <[john.marchwick@gmail.com](mailto:john.marchwick@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 16, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)  
**Subject:** Re: My would be comment on todays meeting

Dear commissioner Brooke,

Again, the issue is not necessarily as much about the quota, but the communication. The quota for some is about where it is, as it borders Yellowstone, and people regardless if they like wolves or not, have strong feelings about the wolves in Yellowstone. Personally I would've liked the quota to be lower sure, but you all agreed in August for it to be 6, so I expected it therefore to stay 6. The issue for me personally, continues to be communication not being clear enough who to get ahold about what issue. I have written for almost 2 years now, and until yesterday I have never gotten a response back from anyone from this commission about my concerns and frustrations. I just think it would be beneficial if it was more clearly stated, when the public will and will not have to opportunity to comment, and giving people more time to sign up to comment and speak to comment. That is just a suggestion from me that you can choose to do and read it whatever and however you want with it.

Sincerely,  
John Marchwick.

On Sat, Dec 16, 2023 at 11:57 AM FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

I will share your frustration with the sign up with FWP staff. I see your point. There was confusion amongst all about how to notice the meeting, how to do it quickly and if there was public comment if nothing changed. I am confident it would have been smoother if not such a small quota and a weekend pending.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Sat, Dec 16, 2023 at 12:16 PM John Marchwick <[john.marchwick@gmail.com](mailto:john.marchwick@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear commissioner Brooke,

The August meeting I did comment on but that was about if I recall the gray wolf arm (administrative, rulling, Montana), and the wolf hunt and trapping season in general through all of Montana, it wasn't reviewing if I recall one specific areas quota. The issue I had was not about the quota being adjusted necessarily as much and seeing if the quota being adjusted was necessary. When I signed up for the meeting in the image below (please select the item(s) you wish to comment on. I was not able to join the meeting until I clicked that agenda item regarding wolf management unit 313, and multiple people I talked to stated cause we all thought cause it was implied while signing up we would have the opportunity to comment, we instead didn't. Communication with this commission for me really has been frustrating and still an issue. This is just a suggestion but going forward when you have meetings like the one yesterday, I really urge you to give more time for people to sign up aside from a couple hours (I wasn't able to sign up until 12:00pm my time and only had until 2:30 mountain time) and maybe clarify when you have meetings like yesterday and when people sign up for them that public comment isn't guaranteed.

I really do appreciate you writing back. Thank you for your time in emailing and writing me back.


Sincerely,  
John Marchwick.

11:57



MONTANA  
FISH, WIL  
PARKS



 SPECIAL MEE  
THE FW COMMI  
WMU 313 QUOTA  
REVIEW DECE

On Sat, Dec 16, 2023 at 11:03 AM FWP Commissioner Region 3 <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)> wrote:

Hi John,

Thank you for commenting on this process. The public was involved and had the opportunity to comment during the August meeting. This meeting was only to review the current quota to determine if an adjustment was necessary. Montana biologists indicated there was no data to warrant changing the existing quota.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Fri, Dec 15, 2023 at 4:35 PM John Marchwick <[john.marchwick@gmail.com](mailto:john.marchwick@gmail.com)> wrote:

I don't think I have ever seen, such dysfunctional, disorganized, short hand noticed meetings. First off, you put your announcement yesterday, that you were reviewing the quota for wolf management unit 313, but only give people 2 hours today to sign up to comment. Why not give them the opportunity to sign up more in advance before today? Like I don't get it.

And secondly, there should've been public comment today regarding the review of wolf management unit 313. You people have got to start listening to your own constituents, I once LIVED in Montana, and the area I was living in was wolf management unit 313, it never felt like the time I was living in Montana, people like yourselves listened to the public. So therefore, you people are one reason why I moved out of Montana. I can't STAND how disorganized you all are and how you never allow anybody to comment on anything. We SHOULD'VE, to those of us who signed up to be there tonight, had the opportunity to comment. But I guess emails you ignore and never read is the only route to ever get in contact with you people.

## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Pankratz, Adam <APankratz@mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2024 8:10 AM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Whitetail GD Hunt - HD 393

Thanks you, will get it going.

---

**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 5:17 PM  
**To:** Pankratz, Adam <APankratz@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Whitetail GD Hunt - HD 393

Hi Adam and Michael,  
This looks good to me, I approve of this game damage hunt on the Sundling Ranch.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Thu, Jan 18, 2024 at 2:03 PM Pankratz, Adam <[APankratz@mt.gov](mailto:APankratz@mt.gov)> wrote:

Commissioner Brooke,

Please see the application for a game damage hunt on the Sundling Ranch for antlerless white tail deer in HD393.

Please reach out with any question or concerns.

Thanks,

**Adam Pankratz**

*Warden Captain*

Enforcement Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

1400 South 19 [google.com]<sup>th</sup> Ave

Bozeman, MT 59718

O: (406) 577-7900 | D: (406) 577-7898



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

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**From:** Yarnall, Michael <[Michael.Yarnall@mt.gov](mailto:Michael.Yarnall@mt.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 4:31 PM  
**To:** Pankratz, Adam <[APankratz@mt.gov](mailto:APankratz@mt.gov)>  
**Cc:** Scott, Drew <[DScott@mt.gov](mailto:DScott@mt.gov)>; Hansen, Warren <[Warren.Hansen@mt.gov](mailto:Warren.Hansen@mt.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Whitetail GD Hunt - HD 393

Adam,

Please see attached for a draft map and letter.

The landowner has been experiencing game damage from whitetails for some time. Last summer/fall we discussed eligibility for the game damage program and options that might be available. Although he leased the property to an outfitter during archery, he allowed 70+ hunter days for deer during the general season (documented via hunter permission slips). This hunt should help disperse some of the deer currently on the property and also reduce numbers. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Michael





## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 27, 2023 4:29 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: WMU 313 Closure - Timeline of Events

MRRE is a regional service that collects data from multiple states and sends it to each respective state Fish and Wildlife agency. There is a call center that takes the calls from the hunters/trappers, collects the information and sends it on to MRRE who tracks it and sends it on to our reps. I don't know yet if it was collated...the hunter did not say anything about it being collated when he reported the take.

~Erik Wickman  
Commission Coordinator



Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 27, 2023 4:07:59 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: WMU 313 Closure - Timeline of Events

What is the MMRE call center? Have we always used them for wolf reporting?  
Was it a collared YNP wolf?

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Wed, Dec 27, 2023 at 12:06 PM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, commissioners,

I am sure you're fielding calls about the details of the sixth wolf being harvested out of WMU 313. Here is the timeline that we have for this event:

The sixth wolf was taken on the evening of December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day. The hunters/trappers have 24 hours to report the take. The responsible party contacted the MRRE Call Center (out of state) after Noon on December 26<sup>th</sup> (well within the time frame required)

Wildlife staff have reviewed the audio from the call center. The caller reported to the MRRE call taker that the wolf had been taken from WMU 313. The call taker is heard to say, "So Region 3.". This is why the harvest was originally reported as being just generally in Region 3, because that's how the MRRE call taker sent it to FWP. What SHOULD have been sent to us from MRRE was what the caller told MRRE, which was specific to WMU 313. We didn't get the specifics, just the general report of a wolf taken in Region 3.

This is a training issue with MRRE that Wildlife Division has been made aware of and is addressing with urgency. It was later reported that the wolf had actually been harvested from WMU 313, at which point verification steps were initiated, research was done, and confirmation was made. The Director instructed me to send out an email to the two wardens in the North and South areas informing them personally of the pending closure of WMU 313, which I did immediately.

The regulations were followed to ensure closure is done 24 hours after notification/verification of the harvest, thus the press release from yesterday afternoon showing the closure date of today at sunset.

Hopefully this timeline is helpful to you as you field calls from concerned citizens and groups.

Please reach out anytime with questions/concerns.

~E

**Erik Wickman**

*Commission Coordinator*

*Assistant to the Director*

Director's Office | Headquarters Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 444-7826 | C: (406) 594-8921

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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 26, 2023 4:19 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik  
**Subject:** Re: WMU 313 to close - Quota reached  
**Attachments:** image005.png; image004.png; image002.png; image006.png; image003.png; image001.png

Thanks for letting me know.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Tue, Dec 26, 2023 at 4:13 PM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, commissioners,

The harvest quota has been reached in WMU 313. This was confirmed by a MRRE report which arrived at our office today. Here is a copy of the press release:

<https://fwp.mt.gov/homepage/news/2023/dec/1226---wolf-season-to-close-in-wmu-313>

By regulation, the WMU closes 24 hours after closure notice, which puts the closure at tomorrow afternoon, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully,

~E

**Erik Wickman**

*Commission Coordinator*

*Assistant to the Director*

Director's Office | Headquarters Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

P.O. Box 200701

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**Wickman, Erik**

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 16, 2023 11:54 AM  
**To:** marlenes52x  
**Subject:** Re: WMU 313

Thank you for your comments.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Fri, Dec 15, 2023 at 5:20 PM marlenes52x <[marlenes52x@gmail.com](mailto:marlenes52x@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Brooke,

I am writing to you on behalf of Yellowstone wolves. I ask that you please close WMU 313 for good. Enough with the killing of wolves!

Sincerely,  
M. Marlene Smith

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

**Wickman, Erik**

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024 1:45 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik  
**Subject:** Fwd: Wolf harvest region 3 and 313  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Hi Erik,  
Can you please share this info with the Commissioners on the wolf call today?

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Hansen, Warren** <[Warren.Hansen@mt.gov](mailto:Warren.Hansen@mt.gov)>  
Date: Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 1:38 PM  
Subject: Wolf harvest region 3 and 313  
To: [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org) <[commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)>  
CC: Wakeling, Brian <[Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov](mailto:Brian.Wakeling@mt.gov)>

Hi Susan,  
  
I am unable to provide a map of harvest at this time, but I can give you a list of harvest by county.

- Gallatin 6
- Beaverhead 6
- Maddison 9
- Deerlodge 1
- Park 11
- Jefferson 8

313 6 (these 6 are not included in 11 that I have listed for Park County)



Please let me know If there is anything else I can get you. This is current from the dashboard as of today from September 1 to today.

**Warren Hansen**

*Wildlife Manager*

Wildlife Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 3

1400 S 19<sup>th</sup> Ave

Bozeman, MT 59718

O: (406) 577-7864



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## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 16, 2023 11:53 AM  
**To:** Josh Shandera  
**Subject:** Re: Wolf management

Thank you for your input on wolf management. I will keep your comments in mind.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Sat, Dec 16, 2023 at 6:48 AM Josh Shandera <[joshshandera2647@gmail.com](mailto:joshshandera2647@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear commissioners,

I'm writing to express my concern and disappointment in the way Montana continues to manage, or rather mismanage, their wolf populations. As a wildlife photographer and traveler, I have spent a great deal of time and money in the state of Montana and wolves are one of the primary reasons I visit. Ignoring the financial benefits that wolves bring to your state through tourism dollars is simply wrong and unfortunate. But more importantly, ignoring the ecological benefits that wolves bring to an ecosystem, of which we are a part of, is something that shouldn't be overlooked. As a keystone species, wolves regulate and maintain ecosystems in the way that they're meant to be. Without them, the negative impacts are felt at every level.

Unless wolves receive the federal protections that they deserve, I would urge Montana Fish and Wildlife to take a few things into consideration.

-Please adopt a more sound and scientific method for counting or estimating current wolf populations. The current methods are outdated and don't utilize the best available science when determining how to sustainably and ethically manage our wildlife. Relying on hunting communities to estimate the population numbers is a flawed and simply inaccurate way of determining those numbers.

-Traps and snares are dangerous, unethical, and often come with unintended consequences. These unethical methods, which also cannot be considered fair chase in any way, have no place in the wildlife management of any species.

-Hunting wolves leads to major pack instability. This is made evident when you look at the changes within the Yellowstone National Park packs after they've been disrupted because of the loss of pack members. Eliminating wolves from a pack through hunting can also lead to a higher incidence of livestock depredation. Hunting wolves does not decrease the likelihood of livestock being taken, as you would lead people to believe.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this email. I know that you're not in an easy position of developing management plans to appease both the hunting and the non-consumptive communities. In short, please just consider the value that wolves bring to the state and the ecosystem and understand that they really do have a place on the landscape.

Thank you,



## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Gail Brewer <brewerg@peak.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2024 10:16 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org; commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** FW: Wolf region 1 and 2 meeting

Dear Commissioners Brooke and Burrows,

First of all Commissioner Brooke I was going to email you directly this morning with the question I posed in the letter that I accidentally sent to you instead of Mr. Burrows, but unexpectedly had to go out of town today and was unable to do so. I am truly sorry that I didn't email you sooner with this question. Thank you for responding, it is good to know that you are double checking. However 20 wolves in 3 ½ months is still different than 20 in less than a month. I didn't listen to the meeting until a few minutes ago, and Mr. Wakeling did address this. You did thank me in your reply for being involved and concerned about the wildlife in Montana that we all love. I don't mean to sound harsh, but the way MFWP is killing wolves to the very bare minimum required doesn't sound like love to me. Why must we get them down to the bare minimum and again why no mention anywhere of nonlethal methods? Moreover, the Yellowstone wolves in particular are loved all over the world, and I still believe that they are being targeted. Putting out bait for an animal and trapping it anywhere is not hunting, but waiting to kill in my opinion. Again I have no issues with hunting for putting food on one's table or taking necessary measures when predators are responsible for killing livestock.

Mr. Burrows if Ms. Brooke hasn't already shown you the email below, I would ask that you take a minute and please read it. Thank you.

Yes, I will continue to be involved and concerned, especially when there is no way that the non-consumptive community is permitted to be involved, whether through an advisory committee like other animals have, or through representation on the commission. Through dialogue I believe that we can understand differing viewpoints and in order to have dialogue all must be represented.

Thank you both again for hearing my concerns and taking the time to reply.

Sincerely,  
Gail Brewer

**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 [mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 09, 2024 12:42 PM  
**To:** Gail Brewer  
**Subject:** Re: Wolf region 1 and 2 meeting

Hello Ms Brewer,  
In response to your comment about me, I asked the question of the biologist so that the other Commissioners would be assured to have the same information as had been provided to me.

Thank you for continuing to be involved and concerned about Montana and the wildlife we all love.

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
Ph: (406) 438-0460 | [commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org](mailto:commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org)

On Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 8:23 PM Gail Brewer <[brewerg@peak.org](mailto:brewerg@peak.org)> wrote:

Dear Mr. Burrows,

As you know I have written to you in the past when you have had meetings to consider closing regions to wolf hunting. You have been kind enough to reply to my emails, and I do appreciate that.

I am writing again because I still do not feel that you have answered some of my questions. You said that you believe that we can coexist with wolves but that lethal methods should be included. However, there is nothing in the wolf plan that even discusses non-lethal methods, and they are never considered by the commission or FWP. The commission is stacked with those who don't like wolves and want to see as few as possible on the landscape. You have also said that there was time for public comment and that is true, however there is no one on the commission or the upper management who is on the non consumptive, non-lethal methods side. I have yet to receive an answer from anyone on why so many wolves have to die, when the science just doesn't back it up. Furthermore too many Yellowstone wolves have again been killed this year. This is not acceptable, and I truly feel that these animals are being targeted and in some instances baited out of the park just to be able to kill them. If there are as many wolves as stated by FWP, why must Yellowstone wolves be killed? The wolves have no understanding of boundaries and most are only out of the park for a short time. I feel these wolves are being targeted for spite by those who never wanted wolves in the first place.

I was also rather surprised at the last meeting that Susan Brooke didn't appear to know what was going on in her region and had to ask about the trends and where the animals were being killed. That should be the responsibility of all the commissioners. Furthermore it was said that the killing was fairly stable when it was not. Twenty wolves from the start of the season to December, and then 20 or so more for most of the month of January is not an even trend. Since the beginning of January there was an increase in wolves mainly due to trapping which in my opinion is cruel and inhumane. Again these animals especially are being baited and many wind up on social media as bragging points. That is not ethical hunting.

It is good that you have these meetings, however to me the meetings are scheduled just so it looks good when in fact the outcome is predetermined before the meeting starts. I have a good feeling that again there will be no comment period.

Thank you for letting me express my opinions.



## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 2:40 PM  
**To:** commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Staffing Update

Thanks so much, Susan! Our fourth daughter and her children are flying in and her sisters don't know it yet!!! It's going to be fun to have ALL four of our daughters, and ALL the grandkids, with us this year!!!

All the best to you and your family for a wonderfully Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

~E

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 3 <commissionerregion3@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 2:34 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Staffing Update

Merry Christmas Erik! Have a wonderful weekend with your family. ❤️

Susan Kirby Brooke  
Region 3 Commissioner  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
406.438.0460

On Fri, Dec 22, 2023 at 2:12 PM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, commissioners,

Below is a memo authored by our Chief of Staff, Robin Graham, addressing some significant changes in staffing that you should be aware of...

~E

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Good Afternoon, Chair Robinson and Commission Members

I am writing to let you know that Hope Stockwell, our Parks and Outdoor Recreation (POR) Division Administrator, has accepted a position with another agency. Her last day with FWP is today, Friday, Dec. 22. Deb O'Neill, the agency's special projects manager, will be stepping in as the interim POR Division Administrator. We will not begin recruiting for a new administrator for at least a year. This time with Deb as division administrator will allow us to focus on division operations and not on hiring a new administrator, which will maintain stability and consistency within the division to keep supporting staff as we prepare a smooth leadership transition. The POR division is in good hands with Deb and the other division leadership staff.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions.

Thank you as always for all your dedication and hard work.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Robin Graham

FWP, Acting Chief of Staff

406-431-7902

[rgraham@mt.gov](mailto:rgraham@mt.gov)



## Wickman, Erik

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**From:** FWP Commissioner Region 7 <commissionerregion7@mtfwp.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 28, 2024 1:15 PM  
**To:** Wickman, Erik  
**Cc:** FWP COMMISSIONERS; Kujala, Quentin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Tuesday, January 30th  
**Attachments:** image003.png

I'm available.

On Fri, Jan 26, 2024, 3:17 PM Wickman, Erik <[Erik.Wickman@mt.gov](mailto:Erik.Wickman@mt.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, commissioners,

We are now late in the day on a Friday and Legal is no longer comfortable with the lead time between notification to the public and the meeting date on Monday.

**For that reason, we are looking for your availability for a meeting on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>.** Commissioner Burrows, I saw that you were available at 3 pm.

I apologize for the redirection, but would everyone let me know their availability on Tuesday January 30<sup>th</sup>, please. Legal believes that if we get the public meeting notice out today or early tomorrow, a Tuesday meeting will be sufficient notice.

Thank you, and again...apologies for the change up.

Respectfully,

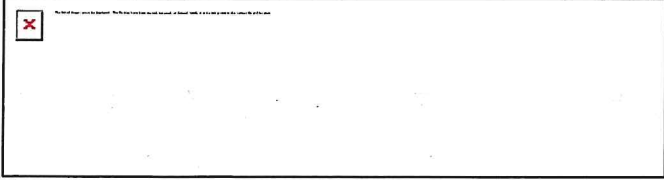
~E

Erik Wickman | Assistant to the Director | Commission Coordinator

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



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