

Expanded Hunter Education

Intent: To improve hunter/landowner relationships with programs similar to the Master Hunter program. This would improve hunter quality and with certification possibilities a potential way for program graduates to access private land to hunt.

Justification: Hunters that don't respect private property, feel entitled to hunt private property because they own public wildlife, or just don't believe in the concept of fair chase make relationships and partnerships difficult to create.

Description:

FWP should partner with organizations such as One Montana or Bitterroot Valley Hunter Enhancement Program and using their programs to improve hunter ethics and hunter quality which will increase a hunter's ability to have quality access to harvest and improve land owner/hunter relationships.

FWP would have a list of landowners that would be interested in providing access to the hunters that took the course.

People/Organizations:

This recommendation could in itself create partnerships between FWP, hunters, and landowners, and hunting organizations. There would need to be a strong link to the communication plan recommended in the Elk Management Citizen Advisory Group recommendations.

Timeline:

Not identified by the Elk Management Citizen Advisory Group members.

FWP Authority to Take Action:

FWP would have the authority to create this program.

Limitations/Unintended Consequences:

There could be a fiscal responsibility on the part of FWP.

Feasibility of Implementation:

Not identified by the Elk Management Citizen Advisory Group members.