



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Meeting Date: February 13, 2020

Agenda Item: Mallard's Rest FAS Temporary Construction Closure (R3)

Action Needed: Proposed

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background:

Mallard's Rest Fishing Access Site is located on the Yellowstone River, 13 miles south of Livingston. Site amenities include a boat ramp, campsites, and picnic areas. The access road lies between the steep hillside of HWY 89 and the Yellowstone River and descends to this heavily used area. This road is in very poor condition due to erosion and heavy use and needs major repairs. As there are no access alternatives to this FAS, a full closure is required for adequate repair. The timing of this project will coincide with spring runoff to minimize impact on camping, boating and fishing activities. The department is requesting to close the site for a maximum of three consecutive weeks between May 1 and June 15, 2020.

Public Involvement Process & Results:

FWP will institute extensive public outreach in early 2020 informing the public that work will be performed during this time so alternative access points may be utilized. Work is planned for the spring run-off period when use of the river is at the lowest point.

Alternatives and Analysis:

Because this is not an emergency closure, commission action is needed to establish a legally enforceable closure. Without commission action, the site can be closed, but legal action cannot be taken against violators of the closure. Construction activities will largely preclude physical access to the FAS. The department recommends instituting a full temporary closure to ensure public safety and avoid conflicts with construction activities on the road.

Proposed Motion:

I move the commission approve the proposed temporary closure of the Mallard's Rest Fishing Access Site as recommended by FWP.