



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Meeting Date: June 24, 2021

Agenda Item: 26 Mile MDT FAS Endorsement, Region 3

Action Needed: Endorsement

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background

The pioneered fishing access site and boat launch known locally as “26 Mile” is located at mile marker 26 between Gardiner and Livingston on HWY89 and has a long history of public use. In 2019 the approximately 39-acre parcel was erroneously believed to be private property and fenced off from public access. In January it was determined that the parcel was owned by MDT and therefore public land. MDT contacted department staff to gauge interest in acquiring a Recreation Permit for the development of a Fishing Access Site.



Public Involvement Process & Results

If endorsed by the commission, the department would perform their due diligence and a period of public scoping in the process of acquiring the appropriate Recreation Permit from MDT for the development of an FAS.

Alternatives & Analysis

The commission could choose to endorse this proposal and the department would pursue the scoping, acquisition and development process. Conversely, the commission could choose to not endorse the proposal and the department will not pursue the proposed FAS. The proposed site currently provides public access to the river, but additional development would be expected to improve safety and recreational use for the public and commercial users.

Proposed Motion

I move the Fish & Wildlife Commission authorize the department to pursue acquisition and development of the site for public access.