

# #1

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:06:56 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:13:23 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:06:27  
**IP Address:** 199.180.93.226

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Allen Wellborn  
**City/Town:** Sheridan  
**State/Province:** WY  
**Email Address:** ford67cowboy@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

As a non-resident hunter who frequents Montana for upland hunting, specifically Pheasants, I am in full support of the funding of the stocking program. The Northern Rockies have had a rough few years of winters and disease that has made a noticeable impacts on the wild populations. Supplementing these populations with pen raised birds will help maintain hunter satisfaction and allow the wild populations to rebuild.

---

## #2

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:22:56 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:26:34 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:37  
**IP Address:** 192.160.47.200

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Taylor Wilcox</b>
City/Town:	<b>Missoula</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>taylor.m.wilcox@gmail.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I would much prefer that FWP invest resources in habitat restoration and preservation versus year-to-year put-and-take of captive pheasants.

I think the implied message that new hunters need penned birds (i.e., they need to have early success in killing birds) in order to be interested in hunting does a disservice to the diverse motivations of our hunting community and the tenacity and outdoorsmanship of new members to this community.

---

#3

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:23:51 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:27:02 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:11  
**IP Address:** 66.109.159.180

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Jerry Boquist  
**City/Town:** Heron  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** jerryboquist@msn.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

All for it. I have hunted Idaho WMAs and it seems to work well. I propose the majority of the releases be in central and western part of Montana, since pheasant populations seem to be good in eastern part.

---

#4

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:11:17 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:13:30 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:13  
**IP Address:** 97.121.193.167

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Michael Emch</b>
City/Town:	<b>Columbus</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>emch1837@gmail.com</b>

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Waste of Tax Payer dollars on birds that will not survive. Nice job FWP another wasteful idea. Be better to manage predators and habitats then waste money on releasing farm raised birds that won't survive long after release.

---

#5

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:50:08 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:54:12 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:04  
**IP Address:** 174.204.3.236

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** KNUTE OLSON  
**City/Town:** Clinton  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** oknute@gmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Use that money to improve habitat. Pay ranchers for Crp or not to graze state lands that will get us lots more pheasants in the long run. Crp also benefits all wildlife.

---

#6

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 7:20:27 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 7:21:18 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:00:50  
**IP Address:** 174.45.49.1

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

Name: **jim stipcich**  
City/Town: **Helena**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **stip@mt.net**

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I think this is a great program. Win- win. More Birds.. More youth hunters. Glad to see it.

---

#7

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 7:27:43 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 7:36:11 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:27  
**IP Address:** 98.127.75.22

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Mike Mershon</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>mtnkid82@msn.com</b>

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I ask the commission to opt for the alternative to NOT approve the release of pen raised birds in Montana.

Time and time again it has been noted that pen raised birds when released to the wild have abysmally low survival rates. This program will do nothing more than bolster predator populations and waste money, which could be applied to other programs that have proven to bolster hunter recruitment, retention.

If the commission does approve this wasteful program, please eliminate the five year approval period and just approve a one year test to be evaluated next year.

---

#8

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 8:03:56 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 8:07:23 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:26  
**IP Address:** 96.2.230.76

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Ty Stender  
**City/Town:** Sioux Falls  
**State/Province:** SD  
**Email Address:** tj.stender19@hotmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I don't believe this is a good use of resources as it is a short term proposal with high risks such as disease spread and competition to the wild population. I think the financial resources are better spent on conserving and boosting the wild population and opening up/promoting more access for hunters.

---



#9

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:29:03 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:35:55 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:06:51  
**IP Address:** 71.15.201.20

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Hunter Stier  
**City/Town:** Belgrade  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** hunterstier@gmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Dear Commissioners,

Please review the myriad of pheasant research that suggests the release of pen-raised birds is a futile endeavor and fiscally irresponsible. Our children and other potential hunters will be best served by a decision to redirect these funds towards improving upland bird habitat across our state.

Thank you for your service in helping steward our wildlife and wildlife habitat.

-Hunter Stier

---

# #10

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 4:39:33 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 4:47:58 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:25  
**IP Address:** 66.113.57.181

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Mike Birrer  
**City/Town:** Poplar  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** emikeyb@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

The preparations, planned procedures, and goals are sound and beneficial to the state. Not only will the project retain and recruit hunters, it will also attract out-of-state hunters and their contributions to the state's economy.

---

#11

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:04:56 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:05:57 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:01  
**IP Address:** 72.175.35.247

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** David Snyder  
**City/Town:** Kalispell  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** Snyderdf@yahoo.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I would support a pheasant release program on public lands, especially in Zone 1.

---

# #12

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:28:35 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:31:02 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:27  
**IP Address:** 174.45.227.208

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>BRIAN HOILAND</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings Mt</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>Mtbjh@yahoo.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Approve of pheasant release.

---

# #13

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 1:43:29 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 1:47:35 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:06  
**IP Address:** 72.250.179.148

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Dave Heine  
**City/Town:** Kalispell  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** dave@daveheine.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am in favor of this proposal. In Western Montana it would be great to see the release areas also include federally owned wildlife management lands. In the Flathead Valley the Blaisdell and North Shore water fowl production areas would add hundreds of acres of land that could be used for hunting if it had upland bird populations.

---

# #14

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 3:08:06 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 3:18:15 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:10:09  
**IP Address:** 47.37.13.101

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>George Harvey</b>
City/Town:	<b>Dillon</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>chuckharveyre@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Great! I fully support this idea. I have visited with FWP personnel in the Townsend area for at least 6 years and they kept saying that pen raised birds don't survive the winter. They don't have to survive the winter. I raised English Pointers in Townsend for years and I would take them to the Canyon Ferry project to look for pheasants and we would walk for hours without seeing a bird. Very hard to train dogs when they can't find a bird.

This way you will have hunters that are happy and dogs that will be very excited. For example if you turned 100 birds loose and 90% were harvested and 2% survive the winter you still have 2 birds that made it and might raise more the next year. I know that FWP did have a program where they turned loose 100,000 birds in Montana because I applied for some on my land near Geraldine. Use hunter money to turn birds loose. Thank you for trying this. Before I had always gotten a big NO from FWP personnel.

---

# #15

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 3:24:45 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 7:09:16 PM  
**Time Spent:** 03:44:31  
**IP Address:** 69.145.145.182

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Gabe Katzenstein**  
City/Town: **Missoula**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **gabekatzenstein@gmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Hello,

I would like to voice my opposition to the release of pen raised pheasants. I believe that funds should be focused on wild populations of pheasants; such as land acquisition, habitat restoration, or biological studies which could increase natural breeding populations.

Thank you to everyone at FWP for the work you do facilitating hunting opportunities and preserving our wonderful state!

Gabe Katzenstein

---

# #16

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 9:18:04 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 9:31:10 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:06  
**IP Address:** 174.204.12.143

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Brandon Gould</b>
City/Town:	<b>Ulm</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>brandon.gould429@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am strongly opposed to the use of funds for releasing put-and-take pheasants on state lands. The idea that money should be put into this project for non-native birds to essentially be released with the only benefit being a small amount of localized public opportunity, rather than using funding to bolster native game bird populations is frankly mind-boggling. My professional and educational wildlife ecology background tells me the very grim statistics for pen-raised birds (single digit survival rates) and spotlights this as an attempt to prop up upland gamebird hunting opportunity to pacify the most vocal outdoorspeople rather than address the key issues of habitat and farming practices harming game birds today. I would much rather see 4 million dollars go into improving sharptail populations for generations by strengthening wintering and nesting cover than putting out truck birds to make people happy for the short term. More bread and circus ideology trumping scientific practice again.

---



# #17

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, April 22, 2022 8:31:58 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, April 22, 2022 8:35:35 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:36  
**IP Address:** 70.33.15.147

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Richard Schwalbe  
**City/Town:** Big Sky  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** rjschwalbe@aol.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Don't like the optics. This looks like transferring \$1million from taxpayers to pheasant hunters. On the face of it, it does not look like a good investment; will there be an ADDITIONAL \$1million or more in state revenues (benefit to tax payers) from this investment? Seems unlikely...what research has been done on the economics?

---

# #18

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, April 22, 2022 9:35:31 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, April 22, 2022 10:09:37 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:34:06  
**IP Address:** 158.68.232.103

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Michael OBrien  
**City/Town:** Butte  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** michael.obrien@umontana.edu

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

While I can appreciate the effort of stocking pheasants on state owned land, habitat improvement/preservation should be either equal or higher on the priority list. One small example is state lands bordering my ranch in central Montana. I own OBrien Inc in T14N R15E, with two state parcels that border us (480 acres total). The state owns roughly 1.3 miles of easily accessible river bottom (Ross Fork Creek). My dad worked with the state on game bird habitat improvement roughly 30 years ago, but since then I haven't seen or heard anything. Our game bird populations in the area have large swings up and down, which I believe is due mainly to the lack of habitat and winter cover. Even with little to no cover, we continue to have good numbers of hungarians, sharptail, and some pheasants. This area would be an ideal place for not only a habitat improvement project, but also pheasant release to improve the numbers. Both state parcels have easy access, are relatively flat and easy to walk for hunters, are very near communities (Moore, Hobson, Lewistown) and have plentiful food sources for birds. We just lack the necessary cover to help stabilize our bird populations. The area is a favorite among local hunters already. I commend the FWP for trying something new and I hope that this bird release will help improve the hunting experience for hunters of all ages. I would be happy to help with releases or work on habitat improvements again, both on state lands or my private ranch. If we build the habitat, bird numbers will likely improve and lead to a more sustainable future for hunting in Montana.

---

# #19

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, April 22, 2022 10:15:20 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, April 22, 2022 10:18:15 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:55  
**IP Address:** 67.204.153.160

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Norm Ploss</b>
City/Town:	<b>Bend</b>
State/Province:	<b>OR</b>
Email Address:	<b>ndeanploss@aol.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Recommend releases only occur where wild populations do not exist or are extremely small. They should not occur in existing wild pheasant range.

---

# #20

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, April 22, 2022 12:12:01 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, April 22, 2022 12:21:44 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:42  
**IP Address:** 72.250.159.224

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Harvey Nyberg  
**City/Town:** Lewistown  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** henmt1@comcast.net

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I urge you to stop this wasteful program. I remember back in the 1980's when the Department finally decided to stop raising and releasing pheasants. At that time, the Department had figured out that it was not financially sound. To make it cost effective, they would have to raise them, kill them, pluck them and hand them out to "hunters" at the check station. I don't see anything that has changed to make it cost effective. In addition, shooting pen raised birds which do not know how to use habitat is hardly sporting. it comes down to shooting tame birds which is hardly sporting. Finally, my boys started hunting with me when they were 4 and 6 years old. By hunting with me, they learned to appreciate wildlife and wild places and the social aspects of enjoying time afield with family and friends. Hunting is so much more than killing animals that we shortchange our kids when we reduce hunting to killing. All we really do in that case is give non hunters one more reason to oppose hunting. Rather than spend scarce state financial resources on put and take shooting, put that money where it will make a difference - restoring habitat and funding block management to provide places for legitimate hunting activity. Harvey Nyberg, Lewistown

---

# #21

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Saturday, April 23, 2022 6:19:44 AM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, April 23, 2022 6:23:44 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:59  
**IP Address:** 97.121.221.53

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Dave Shimek  
**City/Town:** Shepherd  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** superdtoo@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am fully supportive of the pheasant release program and ask that you expand this wonderful program. Please extend this program to all kids not just those to 15 years old. We want to be able to hunt together as families. It is very arbitrary that the age limit is 15 and under for the youth hunt. Our 16-17 year old school age kids want to participate with our families during the hunts. We participated last year and the hunt was a great success and very fun for the kids. I hope this is a permanent planting program. Just expand the hunt to include all youth!

---

# #22

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 2:28:33 PM  
**Last Modified:** Sunday, April 24, 2022 2:39:47 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:11:14  
**IP Address:** 216.24.45.35

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Sean Eckert  
**City/Town:** Townsend  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** smeckert131@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I support the release of pheasants on state owned lands for youth hunter recruitment and retention. To facilitate this releases need to be timed to maximize youth opportunity. Most youth attend school during the week and as such, any releases early in the week benefit established or retired hunters more than youth. I suggest releases later in the week or prior to the season to ensure youth benefit is maximized.

---

# #23

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, April 25, 2022 7:05:33 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, April 25, 2022 7:08:36 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:02  
**IP Address:** 47.37.12.189

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Shannon Maness</b>
City/Town:	<b>Dillon</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>shannonfmaness@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This program would be a great success to draw in young hunters and get them excited about hunting. Pheasant are resilient birds that can adapt and prosper in many environments. This program would be a benefit to the state and a good use of suitable state lands.

---

#24

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, April 25, 2022 7:34:53 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, April 25, 2022 7:37:51 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:57  
**IP Address:** 73.125.94.177

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Jack Ballard  
**City/Town:** Red Lodge  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** jackballard62@msn.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I do not support this proposal. The money would be much better spent improving existing pheasant habitat, particularly on public land. Many of these "recruitment" programs, especially when oriented toward youth hunters are utilized mostly by families who are already avid hunters. Their effectiveness is very questionable. Habitat improvement on the other hand, has long-term benefits for all Montana hunters.

---



#25

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, April 25, 2022 9:59:47 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, April 25, 2022 10:04:45 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:57  
**IP Address:** 72.174.36.34

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name: **BRUCE GAARE**  
City/Town: **GREAT FALLS**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **bruce.gaare@dwcogf.com**

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am not in favor of doing released birds except for limited situations, such as a youth hunt. Released birds have an extremely low, almost no, survival rate. I would rather see the funds go to habitat rather than a quick meal for a predator.

---

# #26

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, April 25, 2022 4:45:15 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, April 25, 2022 4:47:37 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:21  
**IP Address:** 161.7.82.111

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Ken L. Jansa</b>
City/Town:	<b>Glasgow</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>kjansa2011@yahoo.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I would just be curious if any of the release will happen in Eastern Montana. Hopefully, we are in the stocking plans!!

---

# #27

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:14:28 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 9:25:53 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:11:25  
**IP Address:** 184.167.151.251

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Earl Lenci</b>
City/Town:	<b>Great Falls</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>elenci@bresnan.net</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Seems like a waste of money. Ben raised pheasants are not afraid of predators, such as coyotes and skunks. Put a small gps tracker on a few birds to see how long they live.

---

#28

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 1:09:55 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 2:46:20 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:36:24  
**IP Address:** 174.45.250.232

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Dr. Pete Coppolillo**  
City/Town: **Bozeman**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **Pete.Coppolillo@GMail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am against FWP's Pheasant release proposal for 3 reasons:

- 1) Prison Labor is unethical. I wouldn't buy consumer products made by people who are paid pennies on the dollar for their work, and I don't think it's acceptable for the state or our hunters to benefit from that either. Let's end indentured servitude, especially for recreational purposes;
- 2) Pen-raised and planted birds should not be a substitute for better habitat management. I can't tell you how many State Sections I've walked onto hoping for a good hunt, only to leave disgusted because it's been hammered, whether grazed to stubble, hayed, or cultivated and left scabby and weed covered. A single lessee should not have the right to degrade a piece of land that hundreds of others use and benefit from, even if those benefits are non-monetary. Take that \$1M and invest it in shelter belts, feed plots and teach our kids that habitat is key-- then they'll learn why it's called HUNTING and not KILLING, and that it's supposed to be a challenge (and see #3, below);
- 3) Finally, until MT reforms our model for funding, particularly bird hunting and fishing, where individuals pay once for what is increasingly dozens or even scores of days of pressure on the resources. With people living longer, retiring earlier, and spending more time hunting, our revenues are flat or decreasing, while the pressure on the resources is increasing. Change the model so that more hunters-- particularly out of state hunters that pay a fraction of what they should to bird hunt and fish in one of the best states in the whole union to do so-- help expand the protected, publicly accessible, hunting estate. Under the current system, we're just subsidizing the degradation of pheasant populations that are already under heavy pressure.

Please know that I'm a grateful user of Montana's State Lands. My comments reflect my deep appreciation for, and intention to keep, using them for the rest of my life, and for my children's grandchildren to do the same. Thanks for hearing my comments.

---

#29

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Sunday, May 01, 2022 9:13:01 PM  
**Last Modified:** Sunday, May 01, 2022 9:53:41 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:40:40  
**IP Address:** 69.145.123.244

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Robert Connell  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** connellrobert@hotmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Having lived in the past in Kansas, and having hunted in Kansas, South Dakota, and now Montana, I strongly support release of pheasants on state-owned land. Please consider ensuring there is nesting cover and feed (e.g., wheat, milo, corn) to maximize survival.

Additionally, please consider allowing roadside ditches across the state to grow to allow for nesting and cover from predators for pheasants and sharptail grouse.

Further, please consider allowing roadside ditches to be considered public hunting, as does South Dakota. By both allowing roadside ditch grass growth and public hunting, Montana's bird hunting experience would be even better and rival that of South Dakota.

---

# #30

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, May 03, 2022 2:43:57 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, May 03, 2022 2:55:43 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:11:45  
**IP Address:** 184.167.56.30

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Dave Pappas  
**City/Town:** Havre  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** ratman6850@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

The overall Pheasant population has been in decline these last several years. I am absolutely all for any and all efforts to repopulate pheasants in the state

---

# #31

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 05, 2022 11:49:46 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 05, 2022 11:50:37 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:00:50  
**IP Address:** 184.166.83.213

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Kevin Farron</b>
City/Town:	<b>Missoula</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>kevin@backcountryhunters.org</b>

---

Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

The Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (Montana BHA) represents roughly 3,000 dues-paying sportsmen and women in Montana who value robust fair-chase opportunities and public access. Above all else, we value quality habitat that fosters healthy populations of wildlife.

It comes as no surprise that our Chapter vehemently opposes FWP's proposed Motion to approve the release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

What was a terrible idea just got worse: avian flu is here and spreading.

FWP's April 18th press release cautioned hunters of the dangers, stating the "Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus was detected in a snow goose from Canyon Ferry and a Canada goose from near Belgrade last week. HPAI was detected earlier this month in domestic poultry in Judith Basin and Cascade counties... HPAI viruses are extremely infectious and fatal to poultry and some species of wild birds." Now the first case of a transmission to humans (at a poultry plant at a prison) has just been reported. More than 25 states have confirmed the disease and had to destroy millions of birds already.

Poultry farms are on high alert and biologists and epidemiologists are both concerned of the potential devastating impacts of the disease. Nowhere will HPAI spread more quickly than at a pen-raised stocking facility. Regardless of what precautions FWP promises, once there's an outbreak, at best, the entire flock will need to be wiped out, making this program an even bigger waste of license dollars; at worst, diseased birds will be released and infect wild populations of game birds, or humans.

This new variable alone should be enough to shut down this proposal, immediately.

But alas, if risking our entire wild bird populations and putting the health of Montanans in jeopardy is not enough, we have other longstanding concerns.

While HB 637 authorized the department to spend up to \$1M each fiscal year for a pheasant-stocking program, this legislation does not mandate that FWP actually do it. Repeatedly, hunters have asked that the department not comply, and instead, listen to the science and the concerns of Montanans; this is a waste of money, the wrong way to recruit new hunters or expand sustainable populations of pheasants, and poses significant threats to the health of our wild birds. The decision notice by the department to proceed with the project flies in the face of the strong opposition received by concerned sportspeople and conservationists. What is it going to take for FWP to listen to the people including their own field biologists?

We encourage the Commission to adopt the listed (and purposefully oversimplified, perhaps even misleading) alternative and "opt to not approve the release of pheasants for youth recruitment and retention." To move forward with this stocking facility at this time would not only be extremely unpopular and avoidable, it would be incredibly irresponsible.

Sincerely,

The Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

---



# #32

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, May 06, 2022 10:45:19 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, May 06, 2022 10:52:10 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:06:51  
**IP Address:** 184.167.218.198

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Barbara Gregovich  
**City/Town:** Butte  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** bgbmontana1@msn.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Please do NOT raise pheasants and definitely do NOT release them onto state-owned land! The current bird flu virus that is now in Montana is a prime example of how devastating this would be to our wild bird population, INCLUDING wild pheasants and other game birds! I am born and raised in Montana and have paid taxes since I was 16 years old. This state-owned property is owned by ME, and those like me - citizens of Montana. Do NOT do this!

---

# #33

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Saturday, May 07, 2022 11:29:13 AM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, May 07, 2022 1:12:11 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:42:57  
**IP Address:** 72.250.159.69

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Mike Getman**  
City/Town: **Lewistown**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **mhg4556@gmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I oppose the annual release of pen-raised ring-necked pheasants in an attempt to engage the youth in sport hunting and urge the Commission to stop this effort – it's expensive and the potential for disease transmission is a concern.

HB 637 provided funding for this is a waste of precious tax dollars. I don't have the exact amount of money spent on this effort in 2021, but based on information in the Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice, I'm estimating it cost over \$40,000 (2,094 birds were released at an estimated cost of \$20/bird = \$41,880). With 78 youth participating last year, this program cost at least \$536.92 per participant.

FWP recently halted their wild sharptailed grouse transplants and Wyoming Game and Fish recently euthanized 1,200 of their breeding pheasants to prevent the potential spread of avian influenza. This is a poor time to be increasing efforts to develop facilities to raise and release of up to 50,000 birds.

If you decide not to stop this project, I urge you to consider authorizing the continuation of this project only at the 2021 level, by purchasing birds, and not expending significant funds to develop facilities at the Montana State Prison.

---

# #34

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, May 09, 2022 2:55:30 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, May 09, 2022 4:57:54 PM  
**Time Spent:** 02:02:24  
**IP Address:** 108.174.125.178

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Gavin Herbert</b>
City/Town:	<b>Victor</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>huntem14@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Dear Montana FWP,

I appreciate all that you do to ensure the outdoor and hunting heritage of Montana. I am an aspiring wildlife professional and look up to you all as examples of the profession.

The reason I am commenting on your plan to release pheasants in region 3 is because of my interest in hunting. Being born and raised in Montana has made hunting a huge part of my life and I love to see efforts to expand opportunities. I do not think that pheasants are the correct way to expand on opportunities, however.

First, pen raised pheasants are significantly less likely to survive in the wild compared to wild birds (Diefenbach, Riegner, & Hardisky, 2000). This is well known by many so I will not bother by going into much detail and will provide studies for you to look over.

Second, parasitizing nests of native game birds is something pheasants do quite often (Geaumont, Sedivec, & Schauer, 2010). This is a particular issue west of the continental divide because of the large decrease in sage and sharp-tail grouse numbers.

Third is my personal opinion. There is nowhere near the sense of accomplishment killing a bird that was raised in captivity. I pursue animals because they are wild. Shooting a bird that has seen a few BBs fly passed him and has lived his whole life to survive is much more of a reward. If you decide to stock birds how would a person distinguish wild from captive. This would persuade me to hunt a different location.

I also find much more joy in hunting animals native to Montana (not that I do not like to kill a pheasant now and again). I think that this funding would be more beneficial going to habitat projects to further help our native game birds and not be a possible pressure of them. I hope for a day when I can drive a few hours from my home and hunt sage grouse, prairie chickens, and sharp-tail grouse. You all are our part of the path to make that happen.

If you could please explain why the reasons that I listed are not realistic issues, please write back to me.

Gavin Herbert  
1008 Hwy 93 N Victor, MT  
(406) 303-1051

### Works Cited

Diefenbach, D., Riegner, C., & Hardisky, T. (2000). Harvest and reporting rates of game-farm ring-necked pheasants. WILDLIFE SOCIETY BULLETIN, 1050-1059. Retrieved from [https://um-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/openurl?url\\_ver=Z39.88-2004&url\\_ctx\\_fmt=info:ofi%2Ffmt:kev:mtx:ctx&url\\_ctx\\_fmt=info:ofi%2Ffmt:kev:mtx:ctx&rft.atitle=Harvest%20and%20reporting%20rates%20of%20game-farm%20ring-necked%20pheasants&rft.a](https://um-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&url_ctx_fmt=info:ofi%2Ffmt:kev:mtx:ctx&url_ctx_fmt=info:ofi%2Ffmt:kev:mtx:ctx&rft.atitle=Harvest%20and%20reporting%20rates%20of%20game-farm%20ring-necked%20pheasants&rft.a)

Geaumont, B. A., Sedivec, K. K., & Schauer, C. S. (2010). RING-NECKED PHEASANT NEST PARASITISM OF SHARP-TAILED GROUSE NESTS IN SOUTHWEST NORTH DAKOTA. The Prairie Naturalist. 42, 73-75. Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tpn/226/>

---

#35

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 4:44:59 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 4:50:37 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:37  
**IP Address:** 170.189.193.3

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Darren Sullivan</b>
City/Town:	<b>Anahuac</b>
State/Province:	<b>TX</b>
Email Address:	<b>supermann292@yahoo.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This proposal is a complete waste of time and resources. Anybody, and I mean literally anybody, with two good functional brain cells knows that pen raised pheasant will not last two days once released in the wild. You may as well take the project money, including what's been spent on the "study", and burn it, that's the same end result you'll see. Instead of chasing a fairy tale that any biologist will say is pointless, instead spend that money on fixing and protecting the habitat. This will ensure long term viability and success for many animals, not just the pheasant, and see an actual return on the investment. The current proposal is a fraud to the taxpayer, a waste of resources, and an embarrassment to the outdoor community as a whole. Montana has become the laughing stock of the country when it comes to wildlife management.

---

# #36

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 5:09:52 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 5:13:41 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:48  
**IP Address:** 172.58.44.190

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Brandon Sandau**  
City/Town: **Lewistown**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **sandau01@hotmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am opposed to releasing farm raised poultry as a game species. Where is the sport in that? We in Montana preach fair chase and then you come out with a game farm style hunt. Not worth the increased health risk to our already present population to shoot some dumb birds. Dogs will grab most of them without a shot fired.

---

# #37

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:14:22 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:16:35 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:13  
**IP Address:** 69.146.77.87

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Bill R Iverson</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>billiversonrealestate@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

NO to pen raised pheasants! YES to predator control and YES to improved habitat.....!!

---

#38

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 7:59:09 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 8:02:19 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:10  
**IP Address:** 174.45.36.252

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Timothy J Davis</b>
City/Town:	<b>Helena</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>helenatim@mt.net</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Other than releasing pheasants for the Youth Hunt which is great to give the kids some real shooting opportunities, I believe this program to be a waste of money. Mortality rates on pen-raised birds is basically 100%. Which is nice for the predators, but does little for hunters.

We would be better off investing in more Block Management or creation and preservation of more habitat.

---



#39

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:08:10 AM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:36:41 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:28:30  
**IP Address:** 161.7.39.7

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

State/Province: **MT**

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

As a Montana hunter I am appalled that so much evidence exists that shows releasing pheasants does no good yet the commission wants to release them anyways. Outside organizations and biologists within the agency all agree that releasing pheasants doesn't help the population. Last year when they were released on WMAs the predators came in and ate most of them up which increased predator populations and density thus reducing the existing populations. Pheasants should not be raised and released in Montana. Focus on habitat improvement not raising birds.

---

# #40

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 2:21:18 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 2:22:29 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:10  
**IP Address:** 184.167.134.21

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **alen albrecht**  
City/Town: **Billings**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **honestal111@yahoo.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Where are the state owned lands that you will release the birds on  
Thanks Alen

---

#41

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 3:29:47 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 3:38:47 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:00  
**IP Address:** 47.45.141.76

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Larry D. Mitchell  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** larrymitchell@bresnan.net

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am opposed to the proposed pheasant release program. The state would have more to gain long term by putting the money wasted on this put and die program into improving pheasant habitat and hunter access. This proposal is a holdover myth perpetrated by wannabe pheasant farmers in NE Montana in the Big Ed Smith days and state production payments for his buddies. Spend the money where it will do the PHEASANTS more good....not the shooters, the weather, and the predators.

---

#42

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 7:19:32 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 7:23:41 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:08  
**IP Address:** 174.212.229.76

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Larry Vojkufka**  
City/Town: **Columbia Falls**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **wildstuffed@gmail.com**

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I would agree.

---

#43

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:13:59 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:16:55 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:56  
**IP Address:** 162.244.172.12

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Ron Hvizdak  
**City/Town:** Eureka  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** hviz@interbel.net

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

The proposed release of pheasant to supposedly increase hunting opportunities is taking Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks back to old days of wasting money on "feel good" projects that do not have any benefit to pheasant populations. The practice of releasing pheasants was discontinued for good reasons many years ago. It was determined that doing so was a big waste of taxpayer dollars and didn't help in overall pheasant populations. Having good habitat is the key to good pheasant populations. It would be far more beneficial and economically prudent to do more work improving habitat both on public and private lands than to release birds that likely won't survive long at all. Please, do not get the State of Montana back to the dark ages of wasting money on pheasant releases. I would much rather see my tax dollars and license money going to things that actually help pheasant populations, such as habitat improvement.

Thanks,  
Ron Hvizdak

---

#44

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 11, 2022 10:29:23 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 12:03:53 AM  
**Time Spent:** 01:34:30  
**IP Address:** 209.181.27.180

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Travis Hall  
**City/Town:** Stevensville  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** [writing@travishall.org](mailto:writing@travishall.org)

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Please oppose the implementation of a pheasant farming operation in Montana. This short-sighted program would be detrimental to wild bird populations in the state, Montana's unrivaled conservation legacy, and the very idea of fair chase ethics in the Big Sky state. It would waste critical funding when the inferior birds that it rears are either de-populated due to disease concerns or die in the harsh elements of the Montana landscape. It would undermine the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and pose a major risk to our wild bird populations by exacerbating the spread of the always-deadly avian influenza. I don't need to tell Commission members that high path AI is already decimating wild bird populations all over the American West, so why in God's name would be want to implement an unethical and unnatural program that could only serve to make this already disturbing disease outbreak markedly worse. This is a no-brainer on so many levels. Please support the future of fair chase, the future of the North American Model and the health of Montana's priceless wild birds by opposing this ill-conceived idea of pheasant farming in Montana!!!

---

# #45

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:05:07 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 9:11:30 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:06:23  
**IP Address:** 174.198.129.239

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Rick DeVries**  
City/Town: **Laramie**  
State/Province: **WY**  
Email Address: **woodshed@wyoming.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This is a poor idea and should not be pursued. Do not remove money from habitat! This is an instant gratification plan that will only harm what Montana has attempted to build over the years. There is No science to support this idea, only politics. BAD IDEA. Thank you.

---

# #46

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 2:15:53 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 2:17:45 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:52  
**IP Address:** 174.247.151.67

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** William Klatt  
**City/Town:** Denton  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** wek100@hotmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This has been tried all around the US and there has not been very good luck. Feeds the hawks is about all. No way am I for this.

---



#47

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:41:18 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 6:42:33 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:14  
**IP Address:** 69.163.81.188

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Eric Williamson  
**City/Town:** BOZEMAN  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** erukwild@gmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Will the birds be sterilized so they don't breed with wild birds?

---

# #48

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, May 13, 2022 9:37:04 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, May 13, 2022 9:42:22 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:18  
**IP Address:** 173.29.65.187

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Randal McDowell**  
City/Town: **Victoria**  
State/Province: **MN**  
Email Address: **sub4racing@hotmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Habitat! Habitat! Habitat! NOT Pheasant release!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

An utter waste of time, energy, resources and money!!!!!!!!!!

What a joke! Montana FWP is being LAZY!

Releasing Pen Raised birds is not the answer! Find ways to increase suitable habitat and land owner access!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

FWP is being lazy!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Do more!! Find alternative ways to increase pheasant habitat and thus more pheasants.

I couldn't be more disappointed in Montana FWP!!!

---

# #49

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, May 13, 2022 7:34:23 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, May 13, 2022 7:40:00 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:37  
**IP Address:** 108.174.125.7

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Tom Deveny</b>
City/Town:	<b>Missoula</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>tomdeveny@cybernet1.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Please recognize this as a terrible mistake and take the loss.

Please use some common sense. Think Habitat.

We need the risk of infection to be zero.

---

# #50

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Saturday, May 14, 2022 4:13:13 PM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, May 14, 2022 4:23:53 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:10:40  
**IP Address:** 72.255.143.137

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Phil Jacob</b>
City/Town:	<b>Moccasin</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b><a href="mailto:jacobphil383@gmail.com">jacobphil383@gmail.com</a></b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Please do not release pen raised pheasants at this time.

---

# #51

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, May 16, 2022 8:15:19 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, May 16, 2022 8:20:05 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:46  
**IP Address:** 174.204.2.156

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Rick Hunt  
**City/Town:** Kalispell  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** rhunt441@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I disagree with this pheasant release program. Game farm pheasants have been proven to have very high mortality rates within the first several months. This is a large waste of FWP funds that would be better spent acquiring more access thru BMA's and improving habitat. Please do not pass this project.

---

#52

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, May 16, 2022 8:20:42 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, May 16, 2022 8:20:54 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:00:12  
**IP Address:** 174.204.2.156

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Rick Hunt  
**City/Town:** Kalispell  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** rhunt441@gmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I disagree with this pheasant release program. Game farm pheasants have been proven to have very high mortality rates within the first several months. This is a large waste of FWP funds that would be better spent acquiring more access thru BMA's and improving habitat. Please do not pass this project.

---

#53

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, May 16, 2022 5:06:17 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, May 16, 2022 6:09:13 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:02:55  
**IP Address:** 98.127.184.174

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Curtis Ferrin  
**City/Town:** Billings  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** cferrin@bresnan.net

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am opposed to releasing pheasants on state owned land for the following reasons

- 1) The objective of recruiting and reengaging people in upland bird hunting cannot be realized by releasing pen raised birds . I think instead , the pheasants will provide inexperienced and occasional shooters a couple of days to shoot at something and that will be it .
  - 2) Fish Wildlife and Parks should be managing wildlife as opposed to farming .
  - 3) 1 million dollars would be better spent on upland bird access programs and even more important improving habitat .
  - 4) Pheasant releases are done when the above habitat and access programs have failed .
  - 4) Releasing of pen raised birds does not value the philosophy of fair chase , nor what it means to be a hunter .
  - 5) We already have people who farm pheasants , release them and have people pay to shoot them . Making it free doesn't make the concept any better .
  - 6 ) I can also know full well this program is a done deal . The whole plan to raise these birds at the Montana State Prison is in motion . A million dollars has already allocated and the Montana Legislature has already passed the bill and can say look what we've done for bird hunting , but that won't keep me from shedding a tear for the state of pheasant hunting in Montana .
-

# #54

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, May 16, 2022 7:24:05 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, May 16, 2022 7:45:39 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:21:33  
**IP Address:** 98.127.75.22

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Mike Mershon</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>mtnkid82@msn.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I again am writing in opposition of the pheasant release program. There are much better ways to spend the money. We all know it will do nothing to bolster wild populations; and frankly with the rise of the avian flu could potentially harm populations, so if it is purely about RRR than it would be a much better investment to put together a program for participants to go out and work with landowners enrolled in the BMA program doing habitat work, then letting them hunt wild birds.

This habitat improvement would create robust growth in wild birds, bolster hunter/landowner relations and teach new hunters what, where and how to identify good pheasant habitat allowing them to take that knowledge with them.

---



#55

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 6:59:25 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:03:16 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:50  
**IP Address:** 63.153.26.18

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Drew Steinberger</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>drew.steinberger@gmail.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Please DO NOT waste funds on releasing pheasants on state-owned land.

As a seasoned hunter and a hunter who mentors many new people I understand the need for opportunity, but long term opportunity should be made with increased access and improved habitat. Spending money on birds that have virtually no chance of survival is a waste of my money.

Hunting is not an instant gratification past time, nor should we try making it such.

Thank you  
Drew

---

# #56

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:18:48 AM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 7:24:40 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:52  
**IP Address:** 45.84.120.194

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Garrett VandeSandt**  
City/Town: **Roberts**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **garvandesandt@gmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I believe this proposal would be beneficial to the newer generation of upland game hunters. it would make it less difficult to scout and harvest pheasants in Montana for young hunters.

---

#57

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:47:40 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:51:57 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:16  
**IP Address:** 107.127.35.39

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Brad Nielsen  
**City/Town:** Culbertson  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** brad.d.nielsen@gmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Instead of wasting 1 million dollars on birds that have next to zero survival skills, how about spending that 1 million dollars on pheasant habitat? Give wild birds a leg up and that will lead to better youth opportunities for the long term instead of the weekend bump that these pen raised birds will live for.

---

#58

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:51:32 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:00:50 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:18  
**IP Address:** 174.45.106.82

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Troy Carter  
**City/Town:** Bozeman  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** troymikecarter@gmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I oppose the release of pen-raised pheasants on our state lands. The risks that pen-reared pheasants bring (genetic dilution, disease) outweigh the benefits. Invest the funds into improving habitat conditions for wild birds.

---

#59

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:06:13 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:13:59 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:07:46  
**IP Address:** 104.28.116.191

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Mike Ryan  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** mikemiloryan@gmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am commenting in opposition to MT-FWP's proposed pheasant release. I encourage FWP to put the funding planned for what is in essence a put and take game bird program into habitat improvement instead. As reported by numerous state and federal wildlife management agencies while stocking of pheasants is still in demand in some jurisdictions, it is futile from a biological standpoint if the habitat can not support resident populations.

---

#60

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:26:42 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:28:07 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:25  
**IP Address:** 69.145.111.90

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Clayton Lukes  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** ClaytonLukes77@gmail.com

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am 100% on board with this idea.

---

# #61

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:34:14 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:42:47 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:33  
**IP Address:** 204.144.182.237

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Kristen Barbaree  
**City/Town:** Columbia Falls  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** [Krismedic162@gmail.com](mailto:Krismedic162@gmail.com)

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am against the stocking of pheasants on state owned land in Montana. I feel that the funds set forth for this project could be utilized to support wild bird habitat. Last year, I hunted over 30 + days in Eastern Montana and found a lot of previous good bird habitat destroyed by cattle due to drought. These funds could be used to support ranchers who participate in BMA with better water sources for cattle as to not destroy riparian habitat that wild birds need for productive life. I do not believe stocking pheasants will ensure that bird numbers remain stable. If wild bird habitat is not protected and maintained, the efforts of stocking are futile. Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Kristen Barbaree  
Columbia Falls, MT

---

#62

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:21:16 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:51:49 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:30:33  
**IP Address:** 69.145.59.26

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Lester Kish</b>
City/Town:	<b>Bozeman</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>lesterakish@aol.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Releasing pheasants under the guise of providing hunting opportunity is a waste of money. Wildlife managers learned long ago that stocked bird survival is poor at best. Indeed, it is well established that the majority of released birds perish soon after release, and, as such are never available for the hunter. The best tool available for increasing the number of birds available for hunters is habitat enhancement. I recommend that the money be spent on a proven program with lasting benefits, that being habitat improvement. Put and take hunting should be left to the shooting preserves.

---



#63

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:51:54 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 10:56:40 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:46  
**IP Address:** 107.208.170.94

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Archie Petersen</b>
City/Town:	<b>Summerfield</b>
State/Province:	<b>NC</b>
Email Address:	<b>archiepetersen@yahoo.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I wonder if y'all have made certain it won't make the state flock more susceptible to winter deaths. Just asking. Thanks for all you wonderful people do.

---

#64

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:01:19 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:09:22 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:02  
**IP Address:** 72.250.159.159

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** SEAN STROHM  
**City/Town:** Lewistown  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** SEAN\_STROHM@HOTMAIL.COM

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am opposed to any release of pheasants. The risk of introducing disease and "dumb tame pheasant" genetics that could permanently harm the wild pheasant population far outweighs the potential benefit.

---

#65

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:05:56 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:20:53 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:14:56  
**IP Address:** 69.145.90.1

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

State/Province: **MT**

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Why risk the spread of disease for such a little impact? One million dollars worth of pheasants spread across the state would be so unimpactful. Now tie in the fact that their mortality rate when turned out is extreme that you will essentially create little to no benefit. Also, will there be wildlife studies done on release sites? How will these non native pen raised animals impact the native and wild wildlife? Will this increase the predator count which will put a greater strain on the wild animals once the pen raised birds have died off?

I am all for improving our hunting opportunities in the state. However, as someone who has hunted "private game preserves" and released pheasants in those preserves. I think this is a bad idea. Even the owners of those private game preserves will admit that transplanting pheasants has little to no impact on populations. Most of the released birds die before they get hunted.

---

#66

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:36:55 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:40:07 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:11  
**IP Address:** 174.199.8.202

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Brandon Schad  
**City/Town:** Owatonna  
**State/Province:** MN  
**Email Address:** brandonjschad@gmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This is a joke. Releasing pen reared birds is a waste of license dollars, and potentially compromises wild game bird populations through competition for resources or the introduction of disease.

---

#67

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:01:39 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:13:15 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:11:35  
**IP Address:** 174.247.146.129

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

**Name:** Phil Tuccillo  
**City/Town:** Livingston  
**State/Province:** MT

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This money should be used for pheasant/upland bird habitat not pen raised birds that won't live much more than a few months.

---

#68

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:09:31 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:19:22 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:51  
**IP Address:** 161.7.22.147

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Andrew Lam  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** andrewjohnlam@gmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am a Helena resident, an agricultural scientist, a gun dog trainer, and a very avid pheasant hunter. I urge the commission NOT to approve the pheasant release program. This is throwing money away, a total waste, whereas spending the money on habitat and access is a proven investment with a guaranteed return.

Again, I urge the commission to NOT APPROVE the release of pen-raised pheasants.

---

#69

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 1:09:56 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 1:12:59 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:02  
**IP Address:** 184.167.57.190

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Russell Earl  
**City/Town:** Havre  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** kingruss3@hotmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Yes please, please make a effort to release along the Hi-Line to built a great area to bring hunters up to the Hi-Line to boost the economy,

---

#70

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 1:16:59 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 1:19:19 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:19  
**IP Address:** 174.45.73.149

---

Page 1

**Q1**

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Dylan snyder</b>
City/Town:	<b>Missoula</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>snyds29@gmail.com</b>

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Completely against release of pheasants

---



# #71

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 2:09:25 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 2:33:56 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:24:30  
**IP Address:** 35.131.34.18

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Marcus Hockett</b>
City/Town:	<b>Bozeman</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>m.a.hockett@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Given the status of avian flu moving across the state, it just seems like a bad idea. Following strict biosecurity protocols is great, but it still just seems like a low reward for such a high risk.

I would love to see that money be re-allocated for creating better pheasant habitat because that would be an actual investment in our wildlife, rather than just splurging our money for (maybe) 1 season of pheasant hunting.

---

#72

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 3:15:04 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, May 19, 2022 3:18:19 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:15  
**IP Address:** 174.193.203.129

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Matthew Cowan  
**City/Town:** Dillon  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** huntingfreak3356@gmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I'm all for the release of pheasants on state owned ground. The problem that I can see occurring though is that with hunting pressure, the released pheasants will quickly move to private land. Inevitably increasing the problem that we still have, limited public entry to quality hunting on private lands.

---

# #73

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, May 20, 2022 9:29:09 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, May 20, 2022 9:42:10 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:01  
**IP Address:** 174.204.10.226

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Tyler Brothers**  
City/Town: **Hamilton**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **tylerbrothers@hotmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This HB is a waste of resources, many studies have concluded that pen raised birds don't survive and effect wild populations. If you want kids to get involved in hunting then start with more opportunities for kids with hunting tags for big game, waterfowl, and upland birds. It's not how we should spend money to justify a program for the prison system. I grew up and hunted pheasants in the Willamette Valley where all the pheasant stocking programs where started. The hunt was a rodeo with kids and dogs and guns, a recipe for disaster. If you want more kids involved then give them more opportunities with the wildlife we have established in the state. Hunting wildlife preserve is not hunting, it's a Walmart in the bush , please don't raise and release pheasants. Follow the science. Thanks Tyler Brothers

---

#74

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, May 30, 2022 2:44:56 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, May 30, 2022 2:56:45 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:11:49  
**IP Address:** 206.127.124.53

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Fred J</b>
City/Town:	<b>Townsend</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>fredjakubowski69@gmail.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Absolutely terrible idea and program! Strongly oppose pheasant stocking! Waste of money and resources and potentially introducing diseased birds into wild areas. Please stop this from occurring! This is NOT wildlife management in Montana

---

# #75

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, June 07, 2022 9:53:35 AM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, June 07, 2022 10:56:10 AM  
**Time Spent:** 01:02:35  
**IP Address:** 107.77.196.36

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Donna Hansen  
**City/Town:** Helena, Montana, United States  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** Jeffdonna1976@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Quoting Ryan Busse - We should be a culture creating a sustainable future for wild birds, not a shortcut of pen raised farms. Thank you for the opportunity to again comment on the Pheasant Stocking Program. Now that we had an unpopular test year lets drop the release program. The release program guarantees killing, not hunting. Now that the commission is again looking at the release program lets hope they represent the majority in the public comment and vote down the pheasant release program. Now if you are worried about what to do with the prison program - have them raise meat chickens and laying hens for prison consumption.

---

#76

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:05:29 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:07:12 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:43  
**IP Address:** 72.174.185.205

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Dale L George</b>
City/Town:	<b>Great Falls</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>daleisfishing@gmail.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

What a waist of money.

Habitat is the ONLY way to make the hunting better.

No way would I consider this a good thing.

---

#77

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:28:26 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:33:37 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:11  
**IP Address:** 35.133.16.171

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Andrew Poskaitis  
**City/Town:** Anaconda  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** aposkaitis@gmail.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Would planting before hunting season be the best way to make sure the birds become resident? Would staged planting in areas off limits to hunting for a year be better? Or early spring to see if they can lay wild clutches? Obviously they will mostly be decimated by hunting pressure if all farmed.

---

#78

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:34:03 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:37:18 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:15  
**IP Address:** 172.58.45.128

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** John Ferriter  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** jackferriter@yahoo.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Bad idea. Success rate low for farm raised game birds. Stop meddling with the natural process. Not concerned with out of state hunters and attempts to influence Montana regulations and guidelines.

---



#79

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:45:23 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, June 08, 2022 5:59:01 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:37  
**IP Address:** 71.32.48.195

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Laurien Riehl  
**City/Town:** Missoula  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** rieh136@yahoo.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Pheasant release is a Great idea. We would really like to see shortened seasons on the Flathead reservation with released birdsshorter seasons may help in get the bird numbers up. They also need to do more safe areas for the birds to come and go into the hunting areas.

---

#80

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, June 09, 2022 7:04:32 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, June 09, 2022 7:10:26 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:53  
**IP Address:** 174.45.227.208

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** BRIAN HOILAND  
**City/Town:** Billings Mt  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** Mtbjh@yahoo.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

The state of Washington has a program like this and it works very well. They have given youth the opportunity to hunt and see birds which is a win win for hunting. All ages of hunters get a chance to hunt pheasants . I would like to see block management areas for pheasant hunting with stocked birds giving land owners more incentive to allow access.

---

# #81

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 9:48:33 AM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 10:01:45 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:12  
**IP Address:** 154.27.110.251

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Michael A McGouldrick</b>
City/Town:	<b>Helena</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>mtmedic13@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am a bird hunter. That said, I am also a fishing person. Here is my issue with this program. MT-FWP spends thousands of dollars destroying river system to kill nonnative brook trout, lake trout or a host of other fish species. In the name of native species protection. And now they want to spend millions of dollars releasing pheasant with have the life expectance of days at best to increase hunter numbers. This action is against their mission statement but, is about dollars. Nonnative fish are the same as nonnative game birds. They both are nonnatives. The commission needs to pick a stance and stick with it. Hell, if you want to increase hunter opportunities for bird hunters release a bird that will live say California valley quail, or Sharptails.

---

# #82

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 6:38:25 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 6:44:42 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:06:17  
**IP Address:** 174.45.248.59

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Jamie Dobbs  
**City/Town:** Bozeman  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** jamieraedobbs@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

My grandpa was a long time hunter, growing up in Three Forks Montana. I can imagine him shaking his head in disappointment about this decision to release pheasants on state-owned lands. It sure doesn't make me want to pick up hunting. To get more people hunting, you need to get our older generation excited about hunting, so that they are excited to teach the younger generations. Hunting is a tradition. A family activity. Listen to the hunters, the conservationists. Protect more habitat. Nurture the existing habitat for wild birds. Don't manufacture fake fun by stocking the wild.

---

#83

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 7:04:30 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 7:07:51 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:20  
**IP Address:** 207.255.46.220

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Michael Louis Javick  
**City/Town:** Johnstown  
**State/Province:** PA  
**Email Address:** mikejavick@yahoo.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Hi, Although not a Montana resident i would implore you to leave the native pheasant population alone. You have no clue what damage genetically and otherwise you are inflicting . Less money coming in "SO WHAT" ! Thank you, Sincerely, Mr. Michael Javick in SW Pennsylvania.

---

# #84

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 7:38:22 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 7:51:10 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:12:47  
**IP Address:** 162.244.173.174

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Diane Hackett Carlton</b>
City/Town:	<b>Trego</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>dianehackett1@mac.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

After reading the program intent and some pros and cons I would like to formally disagree with this state bill and intent to release farm-reared pheasants into the wild for purposes of hunting upon release. Not only does it appear, from other states' attempts that it doesn't work in the long term but that wild bird populations will be affected negatively. Rearing animals in a sterile environment does not prevent spread of disease. Just the opposite as the sterily raised birds' immune systems are wide open to any infection which they will pick up and spread to the wild birds as well as die off themselves due to weak immune responses. Plus the ethics of release and shoot does not teach good sportsmanship to children. This is a money grab situation vs a well thought out program for real hunting encouragement for young folks. Part of that problem, I believe, rests in the socialist school agendas that seem to be teaching children that killing and eating meat is bad so that they accept fake meat. You can't have it both ways, here. Please do not pass this bill. Thank you.

---

#85

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 8:23:49 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 8:43:19 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:19:30  
**IP Address:** 67.133.97.100

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Joel Maes</b>
City/Town:	<b>Helena</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>joelmaes@mt.net</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I'm opposed to the pen reared release program for several reasons. In the late 1970's I worked at the Warm Springs "bird farm" where I was involved with raising pheasants for fall release. These were birds raised from incubators on site and gradually transferred to chicken wire covered runs. Most of these had vegetation in the form of yellow rapeseed for cover and possibly some feed although they were fed birdseed primarily. Crowning in the early stages led to high mortality and following release survival was not only very low but because they were raised in pens that were only 5-6' high, they learned to run rather than fly from danger. If your idea of sportsmanship is ground sluicing and if you don't mind your hunting dog "retrieving " an unshot bird that refused to flush then this is the program for you. Finally,Im guessing the cost/ bird has not declined in the past 46 years. This is a classic political solution that ignores the basics of habitat, biology, ethics and common sense,not to mention sustainability. A million dollars can be better spent elsewhere to recruit young hunters. Acquiring better access to wild populations might be a good start.

---

# #86

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 9:30:07 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 9:43:47 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:40  
**IP Address:** 72.175.61.2

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Linda Nelson**  
City/Town: **Medicine Lake**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **ljwnelson@charter.net**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

As a lan owner in NE MT, I can tell you that hunting season is a mixed bag. Some hunters shoot from the road, some shoot too close to homes, some don't ask before hunting on private property, some leave gates open. Some are very good, follow the rules and even say thank you for the opportunity to be on our land. Just saying I don't agree with taking away "real" hunting. We have enough problems.

---



#87

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 11:19:10 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 11:23:43 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:32  
**IP Address:** 216.14.243.191

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Roy O'Connor  
**City/Town:** Missoula  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** rsoc2001@yahoo.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Montana history has shown how successful that allowing wild trout to populate our rivers has been in attracting fisher man from all over the world. I would suggest allowing wild pheasant to continue to populate well run state wildlife management areas will create great hunting opportunities, rather than stocking food for predators and a less challenging hunting experience than wild birds.

---

#88

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:15:15 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 17, 2022 3:23:25 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:09  
**IP Address:** 23.230.46.22

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Doug Gledhill</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>gledhill_d@yahoo.com</b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I am opposed to the release of penned pheasants into the state parks because I have concerns about impacts on wild pheasants and their habitat. I don't think it was well thought out and I believe it will have unintended negative consequences. If FWP is looking for more revenue perhaps taxing recreational equipment would be something to entertain instead, while also considering habitat expansion to ensure wild pheasants a more secure future.

---

#89

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 20, 2022 7:44:55 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 20, 2022 7:52:20 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:07:25  
**IP Address:** 63.153.80.80

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Jeff Nerison  
**City/Town:** Frenchtown  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** jeff\_nerison@q.com

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

If the goal is to encourage young people to get in to hunting, from my experience, having them shoot pen raised birds is not the way to do it. I introduced my son to wild pheasant hunting as soon as he was old enough to hunt, and he became big fan. Several years later, I got him a hunt at a "shooting preserve". He hated it, and didn't even shoot the canned birds. I was afraid he had been turned off on hunting completely. I personally have shot planted birds in another state and wouldn't ever do it again. It is not real hunting any more than shooting a farmers cow in his pasture is. Don't waste our money.

---

# #90

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:47:45 AM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:53:19 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:33  
**IP Address:** 67.143.160.38

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Ellen Guyer  
**City/Town:** Ekalaka  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** emarguyer@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I do not agree with the pheasant stocking program. I don't think it is a well thought way to add quality hunting experience to Montanans, or improve the environment of our wild animals. We can do better than stocking birds from sterile stock pens in the attempt to make sustainable hunting experiences in our state. It seems like an expensive band aid solution with little positive outcomes but for a select few people.

---

# #91

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, June 24, 2022 5:46:45 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, June 24, 2022 5:48:37 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:51  
**IP Address:** 208.184.22.30

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Michael D Faw  
**City/Town:** Dillon  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** mikefaw@earthlink.net

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

YES!! this will be in line with the RRR efforts and give youth an opportunity to hunt an exciting species. There should be minimum tract size limit before release, such as at least 200 acres. And let residents know well in advance so they can make plans

---

# #92

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 27, 2022 10:25:12 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 27, 2022 10:33:46 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:33  
**IP Address:** 69.145.223.79

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Randall Knowles</b>
City/Town:	<b>Great Falls</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>KnowlesMontana@Juno.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Montana Sportsmen quit the practice of releasing pheasants [upland birds] decades ago because it does nothing to enhance the upland bird hunting experience in Montana. The Montana private game farms which offer pheasant hunting release the birds which are to be harvested on the day of the hunt and do not expect any survivors to live beyond 3 days. These facts and the science to back it up have not changed. Raising & releasing pheasants is a WASTE of sportsmen's dollars. These dollars are better spent on upland bird habitat improvement. The almost non-existent survival rate of pen raised upland birds is the reason that Pheasants Forever has partnered with BLM to jointly pay for the cost of a BLM employee who is 100% dedicated to improving upland bird Habitat on BLM land. Montana would do well to follow suit with DNRC lands. Pheasants Forever does not spend any money on releasing pen raised upland birds. Pheasants Forever are the experts in upland birds and all of their efforts go into habitat development.

This money would be better spent buying easements to Public Land.

I stand firmly against using Sportsmen's dollars to release pen raised upland birds aka Pheasants. If Montana wants to use General Fund dollars for this folly so made it be, BUT not Sportsmen's dollars.

---

#93

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, June 30, 2022 7:15:02 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, June 30, 2022 7:35:59 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:20:57  
**IP Address:** 199.155.73.66

---

Page 1

### Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>John Wagoner</b>
City/Town:	<b>Twin Bridges</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b><a href="mailto:jwagonerwelding@yahoo.com">jwagonerwelding@yahoo.com</a></b>

---

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I do not support releasing pheasants on state-owned lands. Put-take hunting scenarios take away from one of the greatest responsibilities as a hunter, which is to protect and enhance wildlife habitat. Put-take hunting creates an illusion that game species can thrive in poor habitat, and also takes away from the fair-chase of MT hunting. I would prefer MT\_FWP take the \$1million budget to support this program and improve or create pheasant/ upland bird habitat on state owned lands. MT used this approach for our trout rivers, and is now the best trout fishing in the world!

---

# #94

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Sunday, July 03, 2022 4:19:17 PM  
**Last Modified:** Sunday, July 03, 2022 4:24:07 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:49  
**IP Address:** 184.167.69.72

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Bob and Sue Dickenson  
**City/Town:** GreatFalls  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** suedickenson6845@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

We oppose the idea of raising pen pheasants and releasing them into the wild population. Our concerns are disease, unrealistic hunting opportunities for young hunters, threats to wild populations from increased human activity, and the wastefulness of putting out birds which have a very slim chance of surviving in the wild. Just doesn't make sense! Other states which have tried it have found that it really doesn't work very well.

---



# #95

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 07, 2022 11:05:25 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 07, 2022 11:15:22 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:56  
**IP Address:** 63.153.28.139

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Scott Bischke  
**City/Town:** BOZEMAN  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** scott@scottbischke.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

It is a really bad idea to pen raise domestic pheasants and release them. It will not only result in diseased populations -- both those that are pen raised and by transference, wild pheasants. This is a TERRIBLE idea. Please instead focus on increasing habitat for pheasants (and actually all wildlife, game or non-game) and also for increasing public access. Please, please, please, do your job and don't fall prey to the politics of the rich and/or of the right. Thanks. SDB

---

# #96

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Saturday, July 09, 2022 7:13:21 PM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, July 09, 2022 7:31:44 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:18:23  
**IP Address:** 69.146.155.199

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Bruce Farling</b>
City/Town:	<b>Missoula</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>brucefarling@gmail.com</b>

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Folks,

The EA and decision to release up to 50,000 pen-raised pheasants does not reveal the cost of this action. The Legislature simply directed the department to spend UP TO \$1 million a year on the releases, but it did not require the department to spend that much. FWP needs to state precisely how many birds it will release per year in the next five years, where they will be released and how much it will cost per year. I recommend the department use an adaptive management approach that only incrementally increases spending on this program, and that any annual increases should be based on annual monitoring that meets the objectives of introducing and retaining new hunters. FWP should not have a goal of blowing a million dollars each year on this program. These funds are better spent on other programs that benefit wild fish and wildlife and the habitat that supports them.

All previous releases of pen-raised pheasants in Montana have produced little to no documented public benefit. Certainly FWP has never really demonstrated empirically any significant, let alone measurable, benefit to Montana bird hunters, among others. And so, FWP should scale down this proposal. Releasing anything near 50,000 birds a year will provide, at best, a negligible and short-term benefit because of the documented high natural mortality rate that occurs within a short period after birds are released. Most of these birds will perish from weather, predation, starvation or disease. The Legislature stated that the primary objective of this program is to increase recruitment and retention of new, young hunters. In the EA FWP says it will monitor this objective, but it doesn't say how this will occur. FWP also never addresses how exposing new hunters to the exercise of shooting newly released pen-raised pheasants contributes to education of these new hunters to fair-chase hunting, the standard of most hunting of game species in Montana.

Basically, this is an ill-conceived and unnecessarily costly program. FWP should be very precise in how it monitors the program to demonstrate to the public, and lawmakers, genuine success and, of course, failure.

Bruce Farling  
Missoula, Montana

---

#97

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Sunday, July 10, 2022 6:12:43 AM  
**Last Modified:** Sunday, July 10, 2022 6:31:20 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:18:37  
**IP Address:** 47.47.156.190

---

Page 1

**Q1** Respondent skipped this question

Contact information:

---

**Q2**

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Pen released pheasants rarely survive in the wild for any extended time period and pen raised pheasants are more likely to hurt the wild population of pheasants by spreading disease. Please consider not supporting HB 637.

---

# #98

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, July 11, 2022 7:03:24 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, July 11, 2022 7:05:43 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:18  
**IP Address:** 63.153.20.156

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Dave Shimek  
**City/Town:** Shepherd  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** superdtoo@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I participated in the hunt last year with my son and it was a great hunting experience. There was opportunity and a lot of fun. I fully support the release program and hope you expand the program to kids under 18 years of age. I also hope you continues to release birds after the youth hunt for all pheasant hunters. It's a great program for pheasants where there really is difficult access.

---

#99

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, July 11, 2022 3:33:41 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, July 11, 2022 3:43:32 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:51  
**IP Address:** 65.153.91.106

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Cody Ristau  
**City/Town:** belgrade  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** codyristau@live.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Dear Representatives,

Pen Raised pheasants do not belong on state owned lands. This proposal will hurt the overall hunting experience for new comers and youth setting unrealistic goals of what upland hunting should be. Instead the money used for pen raised pheasants should go to Access programs with private landowners or habitat. Especially for youth, having a program to allow youth hunters hunt private land with wild birds and good habitat. This will one give a good hunting experience for the youth, 2 will create realistic hunting goals and hunting scenarios going forward. The other concern is safety, releasing pheasants into state lands will congregate sportsmen creating very unsafe scenarios. Finally let's not forget about the disease outbreak that is a huge concern with the influenza taking over many bird populations across the country. Please do your part and listen to the citizens and organizations that represent us sportsmen and vote NO on pen raised pheasants.

Thanks,  
Cody

---

# #100

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, July 12, 2022 1:42:20 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, July 12, 2022 1:48:18 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:57  
**IP Address:** 184.167.199.218

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Montana Pheasants Forever</b>
City/Town:	<b>Havre</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b><a href="mailto:hvandongsel@pheasantsforever.org">hvandongsel@pheasantsforever.org</a></b>

---

## Pheasant Release for R3

### Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Dear Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commissioners,

The following letter represents Pheasants Forever's formal position regarding Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks' (MTFWP) proposed programmatic pheasant release program. As the nation's largest upland habitat conservation organization whose mission is grounded in science, we believe (1) the pheasant stocking effort is a detriment to the incredible wild bird hunting opportunities in the state of Montana and (2) the program lacks meaningful steps to track recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) of Big Sky hunters.

#### Pheasant Stocking is Futile

Stocking of pen-raised pheasants is not an efficient means to increase wild bird populations, as shown by numerous studies over the past 40 years (see attachment). Additionally, genetic dilution of wild bird stocks and the potential of disease transmission is a real threat. Developing and enhancing habitat, on the other hand, has proven to help increase ring-necked numbers along with other iconic Montana wildlife species.

#### R3 Efforts Deserve Evaluation

Under the context of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, of which hunters have led, Pheasants Forever has made R3 activities a priority. We acknowledge that MTFWP's proposed pheasant release program may contribute to hunter recruitment and retention efforts. However, we believe any R3 benefits of released birds are dependent upon MTFWP strategically coordinating and promoting new hunter opportunities, rather than intending releases to augment wild bird populations. To that end, we strongly encourage the commission to only approve the pheasant release program intended to promote youth hunter recruitment activities once a monitoring mechanism has been identified.

#### Recommended Next Steps

- **Metrics and Evaluation:** As suggested above, R3 program monitoring should be identified to assess return-on-investment for taxpayers.
- **Funding Considerations:** Pheasants Forever recommends one year of R3 program funding, followed by a reassessment of the program's effectiveness in achieving the state's R3 goals.
- **Habitat Management:** Instead of propagating pen-raised birds at Deer Lodge State Prison, task inmates with habitat improvement projects through the state nursery, or meaningful work on public lands that can contribute to a brighter future.

In closing, Pheasants Forever vehemently opposes the use of funds for the purpose of stocking pheasants for establishing or supplementing existing wild pheasant populations. We also see shortcomings in the proposed release program for R3 purposes and strongly encourage further development of the MTFWP's plan for this intent. Instead, Pheasants Forever would welcome the opportunity to work with MTFWP and the legislature to develop a solution directing these funds toward habitat efforts that would provide more benefits to upland birds, iconic wildlife, and a wider array of Montanans.

If you have any follow-up questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at my email below.

Sincerely,

Al Eiden  
Director of Field Operations- West Region  
PHEASANTS FOREVER, INC.  
email: aeiden@pheasantsforever.org





# #101

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 14, 2022 11:47:34 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 14, 2022 11:48:47 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:13  
**IP Address:** 97.121.192.78

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Charles Westerman  
**City/Town:** Bozeman  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** CHIPWESTERMAN@GMAIL.COM

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Please do not stock pheasants; it's an ineffective strategy and the money would be far better spent on habitat work to support wild populations. Thank you.

---

# #102

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 14, 2022 4:43:41 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 14, 2022 4:44:47 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:05  
**IP Address:** 184.167.251.238

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>John Gritt</b>
City/Town:	<b>Whitefish</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>jrgritt@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

This is a ridiculous use of important funding that should go to sustainable resources which these stocked pheasants are not.

---

# #103

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Saturday, July 16, 2022 7:28:27 AM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, July 16, 2022 7:29:56 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:28  
**IP Address:** 72.174.147.18

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>David Knoop</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>dknoop2006@yahoo.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I support this as long as the pheasants are released on land accessible to the public including block management land.

---

# #104

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Saturday, July 16, 2022 5:48:04 PM  
**Last Modified:** Saturday, July 16, 2022 5:48:42 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:00:38  
**IP Address:** 99.227.109.93

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Maria cakers  
**City/Town:** Montana  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** mariagard@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

STOP HUNTING

---

# #105

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, July 18, 2022 10:56:46 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, July 18, 2022 10:58:08 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:21  
**IP Address:** 69.145.111.90

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Clayton Lukes  
**City/Town:** Helena  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** ClaytonLukes77@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I've heard from hun dog clubs that pen raised birds are given a large amount of antibiotics in captivity which makes them unsafe for human consumption. Will these stocked pheasants be safe for humans to eat?

---

# #106

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, July 18, 2022 10:56:39 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, July 18, 2022 11:06:26 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:46  
**IP Address:** 184.166.73.9

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Greg Munther  
**City/Town:** Missoula  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** gmunther12@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Ridiculous from a Legislature which has no sound biological basis. Multiple studies have confirmed 1) very cost inefficient due to poor returns of planted birds 2) poor survival....many are dead within sight of the planting truck. Additional potential for disease spread. Instead I propose that additional kids-only BMAs be established with at least one within an hour drive of major Montana towns to allow kids to hunt throughout the season when their parents and them can get out. Really would help with hunter recruitment by allowing multiple trips on REAL pheasant hunting. Additionally bird habitat improvement projects on public lands across the State would have long term benefits to kids. A million bucks a year could benefit kids-only BMAs as well as well thought out habitat projects.

---

# #107

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, July 18, 2022 4:48:04 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, July 18, 2022 4:56:21 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:16  
**IP Address:** 47.37.50.145

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Robert Wood  
**City/Town:** Hamilton  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** robertwood57@yahoo.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Dear Commissioners.

Surely we can do better for our youth than turning loose birds that will die shortly after. Pen raised birds are no a a positive experience for them.

I would rather see some block management pieces used for youth only hunts for Pheasants. Take the money wasted on these farmed birds and pay the fee's for block use. Win win for all.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Robert Wood  
Hamilton

---



# #108

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:45:28 AM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:48:39 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:10  
**IP Address:** 108.174.121.165

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Bruce Suenram  
**City/Town:** Hamilton  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** bsuenram@firelogistics.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I object to releasing pen raise pheasants in the wild. Existing science does not support this effort!

---

# #109

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 3:55:59 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, July 19, 2022 4:04:08 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:08:08  
**IP Address:** 161.7.116.229

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** Katy Beattie  
**City/Town:** Lewistown  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** KATY.ANDERSON@ROCKY.EDU

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I just read in the Lewistown News Argus that 80% of the public comments on the pheasant release EA were against the program. How is the public expected to participate in this process if we are simply ignored. The hunting public in Montana is against this ridiculous waste of money. Studies have shown these birds have extremely poor survival rates and can negatively impact wild populations. Here close to Lewistown we have the Beckman WMA. There are plenty of wild pheasants at the Beckman that are very dumb for the youth opener and pretty easy to shoot. It is a poor decision and ruins the opportunity for other hunters to stock pen raised birds where wild birds are present. This program is poorly planned. There are plenty of areas that don't have wild pheasants that birds could be released without an impact to wild populations or impacting hunters that don't want to shoot pen raised birds. I have shot pen raised birds before. They go down easy with target loads. Wild birds do not. A pen raised bird hit with a load of lead 5's is usually inedible. If you are going to stock pheasants KEEP THEM OUT OF AREAS WHERE PHEASANTS ARE WILD!

---

# #110

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 7:47:44 AM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 7:55:35 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:07:50  
**IP Address:** 98.127.178.33

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Terrence Callahan</b>
City/Town:	<b>Billings</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>terrence.callahan08@gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

As a resident who hunts pheasants around 10 days a year I do not support this proposal. I believe the money would be better well spent improving the state habitat. Last year I took a kid hunting for the youth hunt and it was a good time, he shot his limit of pheasants. However, when I went to the same area for the general opener I came across several dead carcasses of birds which did not survive. If getting a limit of pheasants is the only way to recruit hunters, then I believe they can pay their own money to shoot pen raised birds on game ranges!

---

# #111

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 10:37:28 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 10:50:42 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:13  
**IP Address:** 98.127.130.214

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Ed Bangs</b>
City/Town:	<b>Helena</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>edward100@bresnan.bet</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

You should listen to MT FWP biologists. Captive pheasants are a waste of hunter dollars & this issue has been studied to death. Research shows those most likely to hunt have mentors. The major reason folks don't hunt or stop hunting is loss access. Captive bird shooting focuses resources on the people who are already the most likely to hunt and wastes resource that could actually retain & recruit new hunters and provide lasting benefits for conservationists & wildlife by increasing access & habitat. Millions of dollars will be wasted on a deeply flawed boondoggle when that money could easily be used to benefit wildlife & the future of hunting by focusing funding on habitat & public access.

---

# #112

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 6:47:55 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 6:58:00 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:10:04  
**IP Address:** 71.86.199.140

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

**Name:** D.J. Zor  
**City/Town:** Columbia Falls  
**State/Province:** MT  
**Email Address:** david.zorii@gmail.com

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

I don't support farmed pheasant releases in Montana. This is a waste of license revenue and would be better spent on habitat improvements for native game birds instead of forcing introduction of a non-native species.

---

# #113

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 9:47:12 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 10:04:27 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:17:15  
**IP Address:** 172.226.137.35

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name:	<b>Pete Coppolillo</b>
City/Town:	<b>Bozeman</b>
State/Province:	<b>MT</b>
Email Address:	<b>Pete.Coppolillo@Gmail.com</b>

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Pheasants:

I am an avid and active upland bird hunter, and I am opposed to the pheasant release plans on State owned lands. These releases are problematic for scientific, social, and ethical reasons. I'll elaborate on each below.

First, the science demonstrates that it won't help pheasant numbers. As Musil and Connelly (2009) demonstrate, survival rates for released pheasants are abysmal. Money invested in management of existing habitat, or acquisition of new habitat would yield a far better return than pen-raised pheasants. What's more, those investments would expand, rather than concentrate, the pheasant hunting opportunities for all hunters in Montana.

Second, the "fish in a barrel" nature of released pheasant hunts does not increase youth participation or interest in hunting. I've watched far too many kids have to kick pen raised birds to get them to flush, or even worse, just shoot them on the ground, which is dangerous for them, their dogs, and other hunters. As you all know, the experience of hunting is VASTLY more than killing. Let's invest in helping our kids see THOSE benefits. The sunrise, the frost on the grass, the pheasant tracks after a dusting of snow, and the thrill of watching a dog work, all of which are wonderful with or without a dead bird in hand.

Finally, the ethics. I love hunting and outdoor recreation, but my recreational opportunities will NEVER justify slave labor. Specifically, I'm referring to prison populations paid pennies on the dollar to raise birds for recreational purposes. Prison labor is unethical; full stop. We shouldn't be using it at all, much less to subsidize "fun."

Please oppose the motion, take the \$1M allocated for pheasant rearing and release and invest it in something that will provide real benefits for hunters and the resource: HABITAT.

Thank you,

Pete Coppolillo, Ph.D. Bozeman, MT

Cited:

Musil, David D., and John W. Connelly. 2009. "Survival and Reproduction of Pen-Reared vs Translocated Wild Pheasants *Phasianus Colchicus*." *Wildlife Biology* 15 (1): 80–88. <https://doi.org/10.2981/07-049>.

---

# #114

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 11:45:52 AM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 1:40:01 PM  
**Time Spent:** 01:54:08  
**IP Address:** 35.133.24.17

---

Page 1

## Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Ronan Donovan**  
City/Town: **Bozeman**  
State/Province: **MT**  
Email Address: **ronmdon@gmail.com**

---

## Q2

Please comment on FWP's proposal to release of pheasants on state-owned lands for calendar years 2022-2026.

Pheasant are a non-native, introduced species from Europe/Asia and should not be released into the wild. The amount of money this state spends on fighting invasive species from cheatgrass to mussels to insects is unbelievable and then the state wants to spend \$1M/year on a stocking program? Does that make sense to you?

Thank you for your time,  
Ronan Donovan

---