

Central District Proposals

Waterbody or Fishing District:

Madison River, Region 3

Proposed change, addition, or deletion (for existing regs, include District Standard or Exception to the District Standard. Indicate new language in *italics*, deleted language with a ~~striketrough~~):

Page 65 delete:

Madison River

~~Warm Springs Day Use Area to confluence with Jefferson River~~

- ~~• No fishing between 2 pm and midnight from July 15 through August 15.~~

Rationale (biological justification for proposing this change. Include how this change addresses a fisheries management problem):

The Restrictions and Closures Rule that implements the hoot owl restrictions is currently being revised. With the new revisions it is anticipated that there will no longer be a need for a standing hoot owl on the Lower Madison. The Department will propose to lift the standing hoot owl and to manage using the drought rule.

Regulation Type (clarification, enforcement, conservation, relevancy, management plan, other):

Relevancy: the intention of the standing hoot owl restriction was to provide protection to the fishery during the hottest part of the year. The same can be achieved by the implementation of the restrictions and closures rule.

Public Engagement (summary of any public scoping or outreach that has been completed as it relates to this change. Includes public meetings, sporting group meetings, surveys, etc.):

This proposal has been discussed with members of the outfitting community; there is significant support for this change from outfitters.

Interdivisional Review (most likely input from Enforcement, but input from Com Ed, Legal, and Wildlife may also be appropriate. Multiple divisions will review in Helena via RRAM):

Nonbiological Information (is there an organized advocacy for this change, controversy, other information that decision makers should be aware, relevant MCA or ARM to justify this change):