

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, July 14, 2023 7:50:39 AM
Last Modified: Friday, July 14, 2023 7:54:26 AM
Time Spent: 00:03:46
IP Address: 67.44.224.111

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Stephen J Christian
City/Town:	Colstrip
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	mtduckhunter@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

I support the allocation of funding for this program. Perhaps there are opportunities to partner with the Wetlands Advisory Council and the Upland Game Bird Enhancement in funding joint projects.

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, July 16, 2023 6:28:58 AM
Last Modified: Sunday, July 16, 2023 7:41:01 AM
Time Spent: 01:12:02
IP Address: 69.145.21.85

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: KC York
City/Town: Hamilton
State/Province: MT
Email Address: info@trapfreemt.org

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

A nongame work plan is vastly incomplete without facilitating the role of the beaver. They are critical to the success of healthy watersheds and species ranging from moose to songbirds, as well as the creation of natural firebreaks and overall healthy watersheds. 50% of North America's threatened or endangered species rely on beaver created wetlands for their survival. Beaver need to be protected from Montana's current unlimited and unreported 5 1/2 - 9 month long recreational trapping season. To not cease this unregulated trapping of beaver is disingenuous to the nongame work plan.

In addition, the trapping and killing needs to be closed for rare, sensitive, species of concern, at risk, whose populations are unknown, or who are the feed source for others, e.g., swift fox, porcupine, rabbits and hares, marten, fisher, civet cat, aka spotted skunk. These species are much in need of research and responsible proactive conservative responses for wildlife management in the interim and thereafter.

Thank you,
KC York, on behalf of our board of directors, and constituents
Trap Free Montana
PO Box 335
Hamilton, MT 59840

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:03:01 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:27:17 AM
Time Spent: 00:24:16
IP Address: 97.121.208.227

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society**
State/Province: **MT**
Email Address: **mtws.pastpres@gmail.com**

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

The Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society, a professional organization of wildlife biologists, researchers, and managers in Montana, is in support of the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024. These efforts are of great importance to our species and resources, as well as for training the next generation of wildlife professionals.

#4

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Last Modified: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:29:26 AM
Time Spent: 00:01:19
IP Address: 97.121.208.227

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Andrea Litt
City/Town:	Bozeman
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	arlitt@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

I am in strong support of the FY2024 Workplan for the Nongame Wildlife Account. The Nongame program and the efforts included in this plan are essential for countless species in Montana and to train future wildlife professionals.

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
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Last Modified: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 3:31:17 PM
Time Spent: 00:10:56
IP Address: 172.56.113.8

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Elena Tillman**

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

Beaver need to be protected from trapping as the most important mammal for wildlife and are not evident at all in the work plan! In addition, the closing of trapping and killing is needed for rare, sensitive, species of concern, at risk, and who's populations are unknown or who are the feed source for the others identified, i.e. swift fox, porcupine, fisher, rabbits and hares, civet cat, aka spotted skunk. Research is warranted to determine species' status and needs.

#6

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Last Modified: Sunday, July 23, 2023 6:24:32 PM
Time Spent: 00:11:26
IP Address: 38.141.44.35

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Peg Brownlee
City/Town:	Florence
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	pegster153@hotmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

Wildlife counts need to be honest and scientifically-sound. The public needs accurate information to provide feedback on the "management" of OUR wildlife. This is especially true with furbearer harvest data, which FWP has failed to publish for two seasons.

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
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Last Modified: Monday, July 24, 2023 11:16:21 AM
Time Spent: 00:01:29
IP Address: 98.97.11.138

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Frank Szollosi
City/Town:	Missoul
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	frank@mtwf.org

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

Please accept the following comments on behalf of the Montana Wildlife Federation, Montana's oldest and largest hunter-led conservation organization, founded in 1936.

We are strongly supportive of the proposed nongame work plan in its current form and we wish to gratefully acknowledge the remarkable advancement of this program over the last few years. Nongame species account for over 85% of the species in Montana and have some of the most pressing conservation needs. Oftentimes, these species are the first to be pushed for listing under the Endangered Species Act simply because of the lack of adequate population estimates, poor funding and little regulatory framework in place. This work plan helps ensure that state management of wildlife stays in place while also incorporating elements of both the Legacy proposal that MWF worked on and Senate Bill 442 from the 2023 session.

In particular, MWF is supportive of efforts to establish a habitat restoration and enhancement project program within the non-game program and stands ready to help assist in both drafting of rules as well as helping find appropriate projects. The allocation of approximately \$454,000 out of the total allocation of \$1.1 million represents a significant investment in on-the-ground efforts and we believe this is a strong first step towards building this program for future growth considering the 4% allocation of recreational marijuana tax revenue which could potentially be as much as \$6 million per year if appropriated & allocated at the full amount. MWF applauds the agency's long-term vision on how to implement both the program and the revenue stream associated with it.

Furthermore, MWF is strongly supportive of the effort to update the SWAP, and the inventory & monitoring work associated with the other large share of the funding. The efforts are complementary to the habitat restoration and enhancement program and should help guide future efforts.

MWF also applauds FWP's efforts to engage in more educational opportunities and the proposed internship.

As FWP moves down this path, we also suggest reaching out to other states for input on rule making for the habitat restoration and enhancement portion if the agency decides to make this a granting opportunity rather than an FWP action, and we strongly encourage FWP to reach out to all stakeholders during the development of this program to ensure significant support from the landowner, conservation, outfitter and hunting & angling community. By bringing stakeholders in early to the process, FWP can ensure strong support when it comes time to advocate for increased appropriations and allocations, and to ensure that education happens across the widest swath of Montanans who would benefit from this exciting and innovative approach to non-game wildlife conservation.

Sincerely,
Frank Szollosi
Executive Director,
Montana Wildlife Federation.

#8

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Last Modified: Monday, July 24, 2023 2:41:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:43:12
IP Address: 208.70.13.191

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Angela James
City/Town: Great Falls
State/Province: MT
Email Address: trolln406@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

Please protect beavers as an important part of ecological systems in Montana.

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
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Last Modified: Monday, July 24, 2023 3:31:15 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:12
IP Address: 216.14.234.178

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Dr. Kari Gunderson
City/Town: Swan Valley
State/Province: MT
Email Address: cnd2543@blackfoot.net

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

I am a 3rd generation Montanan and have lived and worked in the Swan Valley for 45 years. Please see my comments below regarding beavers.

FWP Commissioners should close areas to beaver trapping resulting in improved wildlife habitat and fisheries. Unlimited and unregulated recreational and commercial trapping should be closed. Nonlethal methods like beaver deceivers will reduce the need for lethal trapping of beaver for damage control. Beavers need to be protected from trapping for the benefits they provide for riparian habitat and the wildlife and fish that occupy these areas. This is not evident in the FWP work plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

#10

COMPLETE

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Time Spent: 00:06:13
IP Address: 98.127.139.93

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Susan Kronenberger
City/Town: Helena
State/Province: MT
Email Address: kronesue@bresnan.net

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

I urge you to end trapping of nongame wildlife. There is no ecological, environmental or human health reason to torture and kill so many thousands of wild animals. A small percentage of the population make money selling pelts - and this is not a sound reason to harm and waste this great public resource. PLEASE - STOP THIS IMMENSE SUFFERING.

#11

COMPLETE

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Time Spent: 00:34:53
IP Address: 216.14.235.91

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: Rob Rich
City/Town: Condon
State/Province: MT
Email Address: rlrch3@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024

I wholeheartedly endorse the FWP Commission to approve the Nongame Wildlife Account Workplan for FY2024. I would also endorse increasing funding and capacity in this area wherever other related opportunities become available.
