



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

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Meeting Date: February 22, 2023

Agenda Item: 2023-24 Flathead Indian Reservation Non-Member Fishing and Hunting Regulations

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 Minutes

Background: The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) and the State of Montana have a cooperative management agreement on the Flathead Indian Reservation (created under MCA 87-1-228 and through a subsequent state-tribal agreement) that provides for presentation and approval of coordinated tribal regulations and season frameworks for fishing and bird hunting regulations to the Fish and Wildlife Commission. Tribal recommendations are presented to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council, which votes on tentative proposals and opens them to general public review and comment. The council then meets for final adoption. The proposals are also presented to the joint Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board. Commission approval is subject to final tribal council approval. The tribe is not proposing any hunting or fishing regulation changes for non-members for the 2023-24 regulation year, which spans March 1, 2023 through Feb. 28, 2024.

Public Involvement Process & Results: The CSKT Natural Resources Department posted a 30-day public notice through Feb. 3, 2023 to collect input. For more information, visit <http://www.csktnrd.org>. The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council and the Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board processes include public comment as well.

Alternatives & Analysis: None considered.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale: Recommend approval of 2023-24 Flathead Indian Reservation non-member fishing and hunting regulations subject to tribal council approval.

Proposed Motion: I move that the Fish and Wildlife Commission approve the 2023-24 Flathead Indian Reservation non-member fishing and hunting regulations as presented and subject to final tribal council approval.