

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, May 01, 2024 12:22:39 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, May 01, 2024 12:25:32 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:52
IP Address: 63.153.13.246

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Q1

Contact information:

Name: **Clinton Caffrey**
City/Town: **BOZEMAN**
State/Province: **MT**
Email Address: **cdcaffrey@hotmail.com**

Q2

Please comment on Isaac Homestead Addition

I hunt this area with my kids and this would be a great addition to the WMA and protect the area from future development.

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 02, 2024 7:39:03 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, May 02, 2024 8:42:11 AM
Time Spent: 01:03:07
IP Address: 67.44.224.2

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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 Isaac Homestead Addition

Dear Commissioners,

I support the fee-title land acquisition for the Isaac Homestead WMA. This is an important WMA utilized by sportsmen throughout the year.

Thankyou,
Steve Christian

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 03, 2024 9:01:59 AM
Last Modified: Friday, May 03, 2024 9:13:52 AM
Time Spent: 00:11:53
IP Address: 164.159.62.2

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Tom Radandt
City/Town:	Libby
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	tomradandt0@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Isaac Homestead Addition

I encourage the commission to approve this proposal. the addition of these lands will increase recreational opportunities and conserve sagebrush habitat. People live in Montana for the recreational opportunities and we need places to hunt, trap and fish.

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 03, 2024 11:23:53 AM
Last Modified: Friday, May 03, 2024 11:46:48 AM
Time Spent: 00:22:55
IP Address: 72.255.143.137

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Phil Jacob
City/Town:	Moccasin
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	jacobphil383@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Isaac Homestead Addition

In favor of Isaac Homestead Addition.
AND....thanks for retaining the YSR closure.

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, May 06, 2024 7:12:57 AM
Last Modified: Monday, May 06, 2024 7:19:15 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:17
IP Address: 97.121.207.17

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Rick Miller
City/Town:	Colstrip
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	grrizzz@q.com

Q2

Please comment on Isaac Homestead Addition

Please take advantage of this amazing opportunity. I enjoy the existing IH access every year, but am noticing increasing hunter presence and resource pressure. Adding the proposed acreage will certainly help address that growing concern.

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, May 23, 2024 9:43:11 AM
Last Modified: Sunday, May 26, 2024 7:59:56 AM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 74.207.178.151

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	John Wornom
City/Town:	Billings
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	john_wornom@yahoo.com

Q2

Please comment on Isaac Homestead Addition

Ducks Unlimited comment on proposed MTFWP Isaac Homestead WMA Addition
Submitted by John Wornom, DU volunteer and state policy chair, Billings, Mont.

Ducks Unlimited appreciates the efforts made by the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission to conserve wetland habitats, expand opportunities for public recreation, and work in concert with local farmers and ranchers who produce food, support a local economy, and conserve valuable habitat concurrently. In that spirit, we are commenting to support the 414 acre addition to the Isaac Homestead Wildlife Management Area (WMA) that will connect the currently separated east and west units of the WMA.

DU members have a personal commitment to this proposal because the Migratory Bird Wetland Program funds and Habitat Montana funds originate, in part, from sportsmen and women and conservationists like the 8,000 plus Montana members of Ducks Unlimited and the waterfowlers, hunters, and outdoors enthusiasts who make up our more than 600,000 adult and youth members across the United States. We appreciate the wetland and riparian focus of this proposed tract, and we are glad to hear there is the opportunity for collaboration with a local agricultural producer in a cooperative farming lease arrangement. In our own voluntary, incentive-based conservation work, we work hand in glove with farmer and rancher partners to achieve our wetland and waterfowl habitat mission. This project strikes us as a similar opportunity. Simultaneously, it has a broad public benefit, not only for recreation and access, but also for the widespread ecosystem benefits that come to water, soil, wildlife and local economies with good conservation work.

Since 1937, Ducks Unlimited has conserved and restored more than 15 million acres of the most critical habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife across the continent. Ducks Unlimited is proud to count more than 8,000 Montanans in their membership helping accomplish its habitat mission. Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems on the planet. They are invaluable not only to waterfowl and wildlife, but are integral for water storage and filtration, carbon sequestration, and resilient cattle grazing and forage production. We are proud to partner with Montana FWP in our habitat efforts and we are privileged to provide opportunities for voluntary, incentive-based conservation practices with Montana farmers, ranchers, and private landowners.

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 9:37:33 AM
Last Modified: Monday, May 27, 2024 10:28:37 AM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 72.175.53.185

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Q1

Contact information:

Name:	Montana Wildlife Federation
City/Town:	Missoula
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	jeff@mtwf.org

Q2

Please comment on Isaac Homestead Addition

On behalf of the Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF), Montana's oldest and largest hunter and angler-based conservation group, founded in 1936 by conservationists, landowners, hunters and anglers. MWF is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization comprised of staff, more than 5000 members, and 14 affiliate clubs throughout the state who share a mission to protect and enhance Montana's public wildlife, lands, waters, and fair chase hunting and fishing heritage. Please accept these comments in full support of the Isaac Homestead Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Addition.

Our members hold a deep appreciation for pristine landscapes, accessible public lands, and healthy wildlife populations. Consequently, we are enthusiastic about the prospect of this proposed addition to the current WMA, particularly given its potential to safeguard habitats for mule deer, white-tailed deer, pronghorn, many waterfowl species, greater sage-grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, and others. We are also enthusiastic about noxious weed control and the protection and enhancement of the predominantly two main habitats throughout the property both the high sagebrush steppe and the riparian river bottom.

The proposed acquisition would make the WMA into one, publicly accessible unit. The west unit is larger and is accessible via a county road. The east unit historically was accessible; however, the river channel migrated north into a steep embankment, completely washing away the road. Currently, the public is only able to access the east parcel via the Yellowstone River, utilizing FWP fishing access sites (FAS) located upstream or downstream of the WMA. Despite that, even access from the upstream FAS is challenging as there is a diversion dam that limits passage by watercraft. By acquiring this 413.929 acres of land that separates the two parcels and installing a FAS, FWP would be increasing public access to high quality lands in an area where access has traditionally been very limited in opportunity for the public. Public access is available on the Lower Yellowstone River, though these limited sites are heavily used, which identifies a need and a desire for more.

We respectfully request that the funding for this addition be sourced exclusively from Habitat Montana allocations. Habitat Montana was specifically established and financed for acquisitions of this nature. While we acknowledge the rationale behind utilizing Migratory Bird Wetland funds given the significance of waterfowl species in the river corridor, we contend that these funds would be more effectively utilized for wetland habitat easements and enhancements.

The Isaac Homestead Wildlife Management Area Addition encapsulates the values of the Montana Wildlife Federation, and we endorse its advancement. We extend our appreciation to the Department for their facilitation of this initiative and for identifying opportunities for access, conservation and economic development along the Lower Yellowstone.
