

SENT EMAILS

JEFF BURROWS

Region 2 Commissioner

August 16 to November 8, 2024

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 7:10 AM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Nov 12 meeting

Erik,

I will be at the commission meeting on the 12th. If it is not too late, I would be interested in the setback amendment in Nov.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2024 2:06 PM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Re: Amendment
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; image005.png

Erik,

My amendment looks unchanged and I read the department response. I am ok with the department's response to my amendment.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 9:36 AM Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Good morning, sir,

Attached is your proposed amendment with the department response included.

Please advise if this still meets your intent. If so, let me know and I will distribute it and post it to the website.

If not, please let me know what edits you'd like and we'll get back to work.

Thank you!

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)



[\[facebook.com\]](#)



[\[instagram.com\]](#)



[\[youtube.com\]](#)



[\[twitter.com\]](#)

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfw.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 10:49 AM
To: Ian Wargo
Subject: Re: Commissioner Walsh - Possession Limit Amendment
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png

Thanks Ian, good to hear from you. Hope you had/are having a good hunting season.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Tue, Nov 5, 2024 at 12:49 PM Ian Wargo <IWargo@rpa-kal.com> wrote:

Commissioners,

I just wanted to express my support for Commissioner Walsh's amendment to reduce the combined trout daily possession limit on rivers/streams in the Western and Central Fishing Districts from 5 down to 3 trout.

With growing populations and added pressure, I feel this conservative approach to harvest limits is an appropriate step. In the future, should creel surveys indicate that harvest for consumption is not a significant source of mortality then I could see going back to a 5 fish limit. But given the lack of data I find this conservative approach to be forward thinking and a good amendment.

If we don't take steps like this, and populations were to crash, everyone will be showing up asking why the Commission did not do anything to prevent over harvest. I glad to see this proactive approach.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment, I apologize I did not get my online comment in in time so hopefully you will consider my email.



Ian Wargo, P.E., L.S.I. | Project Manager

p: 406-314-6413 | c: 406-253-9879 | e: iwargo@rpa-kal.com

www.rpa-hln.com [rpa-hln.com]

 [facebook.com]  [linkedin.com]

The materials transmitted by this electronic mail are confidential, are only for the use of the intended recipient, and may be subject to applicable privileges. Any unauthorized dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender and destroy all copies of the communication and any attachments.

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 8:26 AM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Re: Director calling

Will call him this morning.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

On Oct 2, 2024, at 7:07 AM, Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Good morning, commissioners,

The Director has been trying to reach you both by phone to discuss an urgent issue.

He is traveling in the regions today and has spotty cell service. 406-594-7003 is his State cell.

If you're unable to reach him, please contact me immediately for a briefing.

Thank you!

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921

<image001.png>

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)

<image002.png>

[facebook.com](#)

<image003.png>

[instagram.com](#)

<image004.png>

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 12:49 PM
To: Cooper, Emily
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Handicap Fishing License Question

Emily,

The one, lifetime fishing license you refer to is for blind residents?

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Mon, Aug 26, 2024 at 12:51 PM Cooper, Emily <Emily.Cooper@mt.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Commission Burrows.

MT has only one lifetime license (fishing) for a one-time fee of \$10. Otherwise, residents with disabilities may purchase a fishing, general deer, general elk and upland game bird license at ½ cost.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,
Emily

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Cooper, Emily <Emily.Cooper@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Handicap Fishing License Question

Good Morning Emily,

I had a call from a gentleman in region 2 that was asking about a lifetime license for his mentally disabled son. He said there is an allowance for residents that are blind to purchase a lifetime license and was wondering about an allowance for mentally/physically disabled residents. Just wanted to see if you have dealt with this question.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 2:08 PM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mule Deer Number by Hunting Unit

Erik,

Perfect, it will just be used as a reference.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

On Oct 22, 2024, at 9:52 AM, Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Good morning, Jeff,

Attached is something like what you asked for. Brian Wakeling advised that the data used to generate these estimates differ by hunting district because survey data is not collected similarly and or consistently among hunting districts. Also, hunting districts change through the years. Some are renumbered, boundaries are changed, and some don't even exist in some years. The missing data in the spreadsheet represents some of this change over time. We don't present this data often publicly because we have so little confidence in its accuracy. Caution should obviously be used in interpreting any observations one might make from this set of numbers.

The suggestion was also made that because it is statewide data, this might be something worth sharing with the entire commission and simply note that one commissioner asked for it, and it seemed relevant to everyone so we shared it. But Brian wanted the commissioners to know the quality of the numbers (hesitate to call them data) that the Wildlife Division is sharing.

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*
Headquarters | Director's Office
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921

<image001.png>

<image002.png>
[\[facebook.com\]](#)
<image003.png>
[\[instagram.com\]](#)
<image004.png>
[\[youtube.com\]](#)
<image005.png>
[\[twitter.com\]](#)

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 7:03 AM
To: Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mule Deer Number by Hunting Unit

Erik,

I am looking for mule deer numbers/surveys for every hunting unit in the state. Ideally if I could get it in an excel spreadsheet with hunting unit/survey or estimated population/objective in columns that would work best.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Region 2 Commissioner
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
Ph: (406) 438-1148
commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

<Mule deer population estimates by hunting district.xlsx>

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 10:58 AM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Burrows amendment for trapping setbacks in Ravalli County
Attachments: Wolf Setback Amendment.docx

Erik,

Please see the attached amendment for the October meeting.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 4:23 PM
To: karhollon@msn.com
Subject: Email from Jeff Burrows

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:28 AM
To: McKlosky, Kendra
Subject: Fwd: FWP to hold public meetings on fishing regulation proposals

Kendra,

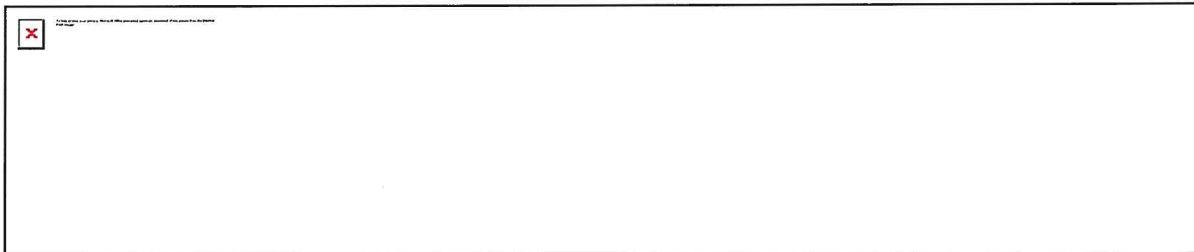
The FWP meeting schedule below does not have months, I assume the Missoula meeting is Sept 4th? Is there a Zoom option for the meeting?

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Montana FWP <montanafwp@announcements.mt.gov>
Date: Fri, Aug 16, 2024 at 1:58 PM
Subject: FWP to hold public meetings on fishing regulation proposals
To: <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>



[links-2.govdelivery.com]

FWP to hold public meetings on fishing regulation proposals

Meetings scheduled, draft regulations available Aug. 21

HELENA - Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks will host public meetings around the state to present proposals for the 2025-26 fishing regulations and answer questions from the public.

The public meetings will all be held at 6 p.m. and at the following locations:

- 27, Miles City, Miles City Community College, Room 110
- 28, FWP Office, Glasgow, 1 Airport Rd.
- 29, FWP Office, Billings, 2300 Lake Elmo Dr.
- 4, FWP Office, Missoula, 201 Spurgin Rd.

- 5, FWP Office, Bozeman, 1400 South 19th St.
- 9, FWP Office, Great Falls, 4600 Giant Springs Rd.
- 11, FWP Office, Kalispell, 490 North Meridian Rd.
- 12, Statewide Zoom Meeting

This past spring FWP held meeting around the state to gather input on regulation changes. That input helped to craft these current proposals.

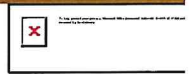
The fishing regulation proposals will be available for public comment on Aug. 21. These proposals will go before the Fish and Wildlife Commission at its Oct. 10 meeting. Commissioners can propose amendments to the regulations, and those amendments will also be open for public comment.

The fishing regulation proposals will be posted Aug. 21 on the Oct. 10 Commission meeting page, found [here \[links-2.govdelivery.com\]](#). All proposals will be available online for review. Comment will be taken through Sept. 19.

Like hunting regulations, Montana fishing regulations go through a comprehensive public review every two years. Fishing regulations are printed during odd numbered years.



Messages sent to commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org using GovDelivery, on behalf of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
 100 North Avenue, P.O. Box 200701 · Helena, MT 59620-0701 · (406) 444-2535



[2.govdeli](#)

[My Subscriptions \[links-2.govdelivery.com\]](#) | [One-Click Unsubscribe \[links-2.govdelivery.com\]](#) | [Help \[links-2.govdelivery.com\]](#) | [Contact Us \[links-2.govdelivery.com\]](#)



Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:08 AM
To: Cooper, Emily
Subject: Handicap Fishing License Question

Good Morning Emily,

I had a call from a gentleman in region 2 that was asking about a lifetime license for his mentally disabled son. He said there is an allowance for residents that are blind to purchase a lifetime license and was wondering about an allowance for mentally/physically disabled residents. Just wanted to see if you have dealt with this question.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 7:03 AM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Mule Deer Number by Hunting Unit

Erik,

I am looking for mule deer numbers/surveys for every hunting unit in the state. Ideally if I could get it in an excel spreadsheet with hunting unit/survey or estimated population/objective in columns that would work best.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 9:26 AM
To: commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org
Subject: Notes

270 elk tag, must hunt in district. What other districts

Non resident apply for specific district for mule deer, ask FWP for mule deer survey for every district

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 12:18 PM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Re: Legal Update Sessions
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; image005.png

Erik,

I should be able to make the 9/17 call.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Mon, Sep 9, 2024 at 7:39 AM Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Good morning, commissioners,

Here are the Legal Update Sessions again with the current availability:

9/17 @ 1pm Brooke – Lane - ??? (1 opening remaining)

9/23 @ 10am (3 openings remaining)

9/30 @ 10am Robinson – Tabor - ??? (1 opening remaining)

For the remaining three commissioners, please advise if you are able to attend any of the dates/times listed above.

Respectfully,

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)



[\[facebook.com\]](#)



[\[instagram.com\]](#)



[\[youtube.com\]](#)



[\[twitter.com\]](#)

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 4:00 PM
To: Denise Boggs
Subject: Re: Montana wolf season setting meeting draws intense interest

Ms Boggs,

Wolf harvest is not just about livestock loss. I do not support running wildlife over with a snowmobile. I disagree that there should be no harvest of animals around YNP.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Wed, Aug 14, 2024 at 10:04 AM Denise Boggs <deniseboggs@hushmail.com> wrote:

32 livestock killed out of over 1 million. Big whoop. The ranchers were compensated so shouldn't complain. More livestock died from disease. Why aren't any of you advocating to stop running over wolves and other animals with snowmobiles??? There should be NO hunting/trapping around YNP - period.

Montana wolf season setting meeting draws intense interest

Brett French

https://billingsgazette.com/search/?sd=desc&l=25&s=start_time&f=html&t=article%2Cvideo%2Cyoutube%2Ccollection&app=editorial&nsa=eedition&q=wolf+season+interest [billingsgazette.com]

Wolf hunting and trapping advocates will collide with state and national wildlife advocates for what will be a lively Montana **Fish and Wildlife Commission** meeting on Friday in the state's capitol.

The meeting was moved to a larger venue for what's predicted to be a bigger crowd as both sides rally their supporters.

At the center of the debate is Fish, Wildlife & Parks' proposal to allow the killing of almost one-third of the state's wolf population in the 2024-25 season. That's too many for some, and not enough for others.

Last season, hunters and trappers killed 286 wolves — 161 taken by hunters (56%) and 125 taken by trappers (44%), according to FWP's **2023 wolf report**. The year before, 254 of the big canines were shot or trapped. For the past five years, despite higher quotas, the wolf harvest has steadily declined.

The state's wolf population is estimated at 1,096 animals that live mainly in the western third of the state. The wolf harvest is heaviest in northwest Montana.

Proposed changes

Two modifications on the agenda, proposed by Region 3 Commissioner Susan Kirby Brooke, come at the urging of Yellowstone National Park Superintendent **Cam Sholly** [wyofile.com].

One would change a **hunting district** north of the park boundary from one unit to two, as it had been in the past. In addition, the proposal would allow the harvest of three wolves in each unit. The idea is to reduce the killing of wolves that spend most of their time in Yellowstone.

“It seems a reasonable compromise to have this small area of the entire state of Montana, where wolves have not caused any problems to other industries, and that have a major contribution to the local economy, to have fine scale management and lower quotas,” Yellowstone wolf researcher Kira Cassidy wrote to the commission.

Chris Morgan, vice-president for the Montana Trapper's Association, disagreed. He wrote the commission saying there is “no biological

justification” for such a change and that Yellowstone’s wolf population is thriving.

The **other amendment** would outlaw the use of any electronic motion-tracking device or mechanism which, in theory, could be used to locate radio-collared park wolves and kill them.

In the **2021-22 hunting season, 21 wolves [billingsgazette.com]** that spent most of their time in Yellowstone were killed by hunters and trappers. Since then, the commission has agreed to reduce the harvest limits at the request of tourism-related businesses who estimated the park’s wolves generate more than \$82 million in visitor spending annually.

Another **agenda modification**, this one from FWP, will move a decision on the wolf trapping season back to the next commission meeting on Oct. 10 to give FWP “additional opportunity to assess wolf trapping dates and where those dates would apply.”

In the past, the agency has been criticized by trappers for waiting until grizzly bears are hibernating before allowing trapping in occupied grizzly habitat, called a floating date. The idea was to avoid trapping any grizzly bears, which are protected under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Not enough

Even if hunters and trappers were to kill all 334 wolves as FWP has proposed, the population would still be more than twice as many as the state’s GOP-dominated legislature wants to see on the landscape.

“The statewide wolf population is NOT BEING REDUCED AS DIRECTED BY THE LEGISLATURE!” Rep. Paul Fielder, R-Thompson Falls, **wrote in an email** to the Fish and Wildlife Commission

It was **Fielder and Sen. Bob Brown [billingsgazette.com]**, R-Thompson Falls, who brought four wolf-related bills to the 2021 Legislature. The bills allow unlimited take of wolves on a single wolf hunting or trapping license, the use of bait while hunting or trapping wolves, and hunting of wolves on private lands outside daylight hours with use of artificial light or night vision scopes.

One bill also requires FWP to reduce the wolf population to a “sustainable” level. Although that word isn’t defined, a population of 450 wolves statewide is the target FWP has set.

Fielder also told the commission if “meaningful wolf population reductions” cannot be achieved by hunters and trappers, then the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Wildlife Services should be considered as an option.

Wildlife Services is an agency contracted for decades to control and reduce predators across the nation, from coyotes to troublesome bears. If meaningful wolf population reductions are not occurring with licensed and regulated hunters and trappers, Fielder suggested FWP “should look at other options to meet Legislative Intent.”

Wildlife Services confirmed the loss of 32 livestock to wolves during 2023, including 23 cattle and eight sheep; and one livestock guard dog, according to FWP’s report.

The Montana Livestock Loss Board paid \$42,842.22 for livestock that were confirmed by Wildlife Services as killed by wolves or probable wolf kills, the report added. In response, Wildlife Services killed 27 wolves for the depredations, “or to reduce the potential for further depredation.” Private citizens legally killed another four.

FWP has also reduced the cost of wolf hunting licenses in an attempt to increase participation. Money raised is used for wolf management and monitoring. Since 2009, wolf license sales have generated nearly \$5.4 million.

National attention

The Montana Legislature's adoption of regulations meant to increase the killing of wolves drew the attention of the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [fws.gov]**. The agency said Montana and Idaho, have "adopted laws and regulations designed to substantially reduce the gray wolf populations in their states using means and measures that are at odds with modern professional wildlife management."

The USFWS decision to not restore federal protections for wolves resulted in a lawsuit by environmental groups this past April. They argue the agency is relying on faulty wolf population estimates generated by the states to conclude the animals are doing well.

Montana uses a model based in part on wolf sightings by hunters, as well as wolf kills and other information to generate its population estimate. Detractors of the methodology say it overestimates the wolf population.

Since wolves were removed from federal protection, FWP estimates their population has declined by about 13%. "From 2019 – 2023, the population consisted of a 5-year average of 189 packs and 1,134 wolves per year," the agency said in its most recent wolf report.

According to **FWP's own projections**, if the annual wolf harvest were to range between 350 to 500 wolves a year, the population would fall below 450 animals statewide in three to five years.

Nonhunters

Wolf hunting and trapping opponents have become increasingly vocal since the 2021 Legislature made regulation changes, which may be affecting nonhunters' backing.

A survey conducted by the **University of Montana and FWP [dailymontanain.com]**, released in January, shows support for wolf hunting declining from 71% in 2012 to 58%.

Wolf advocates have stressed that hunters and trappers are in the minority and called for the Fish and Wildlife Commission to pay more attention to so-called nonconsumptive users of wildlife, even suggesting a stamp be sold to help pay for wolf management.

In a letter to the commission, **WildEarth Guardians** noted less than 1% of Montanans hunt or trap wolves. “MFWP and the Commission should stop focusing on managing for a tiny portion of the state population and instead consider the interests of the other 99+% of the public who do not engage in wolf hunting or trapping,” the group said.

So far, the commission has not responded to such calls, but was publicly reprimanded after a lawsuit filed by **Wolves of the Rockies [billingsgazette.com]** revealed commission members discussed wolf policy in a quorum outside of public meetings. A settlement of the lawsuit required the commission to take training on conducting public meetings, as well as revealing all email correspondence for a year.

Marc Cooke, president of the Wolves of the Rockies, submitted a letter to the commission once again calling for the end to wolf hunting and trapping.

“In conclusion, protecting wolves from being killed aligns with ecological, ethical, cultural, and economic arguments, supporting a multifaceted approach to wildlife conservation that benefits both the environment and humanity,” he wrote.

The commission meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 16, in the Capitol’s Room 317 in Helena and will also be available online at <https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/commission>.

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 10:48 AM
To: Steve and Amy Greer
Subject: Re: Oppose Proposed Amendment

Amy,

I considered the high use recreation areas in the setback elimination. The setback is only lifted on seasonally closed roads. I understand that setback elimination may increase potential conflicts, but tried to mitigate in popular use areas.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 9:20 AM Steve and Amy Greer <sbalgreer@hotmail.com> wrote:

I am writing to add my concern and advocate for continued protective measures to ensure the well-being of our wildlife and companion animals. Public land use in safety must be a priority.

Do not reduce the protective set-backs of traps. This will certainly lead to increased non-target captures, that causes maiming, unnecessary suffering, and deaths.

Thank you for your time.

Amy Greer
Corvallis, MT

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 11:12 AM
To: Wickman, Erik
Cc: Temple, Dustin; commissionerregion6@mtfwp.org
Subject: Re: Security and Evacuation Plan - October Commission Meeting
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; image005.png

Erik, Dustin, Leslie,

I have complaints from a couple citizens that attended the last meeting. They complained about the unprofessionalism that was allowed with the hooting, howling and cheering from some in attendance. The biggest complaint was that Mr Capra was allowed to pace around the room during the meeting and interrupt, which made other members in the audience uncomfortable. The commission is separated by some distance in the meeting room, but public members were in close proximity and were uncomfortable with his behavior.

Just wanted you all to be aware of the complaints.

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Wed, Sep 25, 2024 at 3:26 PM Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon, commissioners,

Since we're on the First Floor of the Capitol Building this time, and in a new space, I wanted to provide you with the security plan.

Attached is a map that indicates where Room 102 is located. Please see the area highlighted in **YELLOW** for the room location.

The **ORANGE** route is the evacuation route out of the building in case of an emergency.

MHP will have staff at the meeting, as it was in August, and our wardens will also be plain-clothes in the crowd to assist if needed.

In the case of a threat incident, there will be a room down that same evacuation hallway, inside the Legislative Fiscal Division area, where you can sequester.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns.

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)



[\[facebook.com\]](#)



[\[instagram.com\]](#)



[\[youtube.com\]](#)



[\[twitter.com\]](#)

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 9:17 AM
To: Katharine Casey Cassidy
Subject: Re: Setback Amendment 10-24-2025

Ms Cassidy,

Thanks for your comment. The amendment I proposed did exempt popular closed roads to avoid conflict.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 4:41 PM Katharine Casey Cassidy <cassidykcc@gmail.com> wrote:

I STRONGLY Oppose the Setback Amendment: it reduces protective setbacks and may lead to increased non-target captures, particularly domestic dogs.

Sincerely,
Katharine Cassidy
1316 S Rouse Ave,
Bozeman, MT 59715

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 10:51 AM
To: Trap Free Montana
Subject: Re: Setback amendment
Attachments: Outlook-rxzvajo1.jpg

KC,

I cleaned up up my voicemail, and will try to keep my phone on me. I will call or write those back that email or leave a message. I also get text messages on FWP phone.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Tue, Nov 5, 2024 at 1:01 PM Trap Free Montana <info@trapfreemt.org> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Burrows,

We are receiving a number of inquiries regarding your trap setback amendment.

Your voicemail, however, is full, so that is not an option for contacting you.

Thank you,
KC

KC York
President/Founder
Trap Free Montana



PO Box 335
Hamilton, Montana 59840
406-218-1170

www.trapfreemt.org [[trapfreemt.org](mailto:info@trapfreemt.org)]

Trap Free Montana is a boots on the ground, 501(c)(3), connecting hearts and minds through science, truths in trapping, & compassion for wildlife, biodiversity, coexistence, & responsible stewardship. Our affiliate, Trap Free Montana Public Lands, (TFMPL), a 501(c)(4), focus is on trapping reform, trap free public lands, and related legislative actions.

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Re: Shared Drive Additions
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; image005.png

Erik,

Do I need to send anything for expenses for the last FWP meeting? Just an FYI the Doubletree seems to still be confused about payment, they wanted a card from me for the hotel room.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Fri, Aug 23, 2024 at 7:06 AM Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Good morning, commissioners,

We had some additional documents come in late in the day yesterday for Parks.

Please see the Google Drive for the added topic of Public Use Rules Deviations.

I have also uploaded the Minutes from the August 16th meeting for your review.

Respectfully,

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*

Headquarters | Director's Office

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)



[\[facebook.com\]](#)



[\[instagram.com\]](#)



[\[youtube.com\]](#)



[\[twitter.com\]](#)

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 9:18 AM
To: McKlosky, Kendra
Cc: Bradley, Liz
Subject: Re: Supplemental GD Hunt | HD284

Thanks Kendra, had to look up where 284 was, so it is right around Lincoln. How many tags are you issuing?

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

On Oct 18, 2024, at 2:31 PM, McKlosky, Kendra <KMcklosky@mt.gov> wrote:

Jeff,

I wanted to let you know that we are planning a Supplemental Game Damage Hunt in hunting district 284 for antlerless elk.

Supplemental Game Damage Hunt Information:

- Hunting District 284
- Antlerless elk
- Crop Damage

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Have a great weekend,
Kendra

Kendra McKlosky | *Regional Supervisor*
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region 2
Cell: (406)529-2008

<Outlook-A picture .png>

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 12:43 PM
To: Wickman, Erik
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Nov 12 meeting

Erik,

Has public comment closed on the amendment? I don't see public comment on the setback amendment.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
Ph: (406) 438-1148
commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

On Nov 4, 2024, at 7:13 AM, Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov> wrote:

Sounds good, sir. I will get your hotel reservation today.

The amendment was going to be offered by whomever was there, so having you there will be great!

~E

Erik Wickman | *Executive Office Manager* | *Assistant to the Director*
Headquarters | Director's Office
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Office: (406) 444-7826 | Cell: (406) 594-8921

<image001.png>

[Montana FWP](#) | [Montana Outdoors Magazine](#)

<image002.png>

[facebook.com](#)

<image003.png>

[instagram.com](#)

<image004.png>

[youtube.com](#)

<image005.png>

[twitter.com](#)

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 7:10 AM
To: Wickman, Erik <Erik.Wickman@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Nov 12 meeting

Erik,

I will be at the commission meeting on the 12th. If it is not too late, I would be interested in the setback amendment in Nov.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2024 4:02 PM
To: Miller, Kyle
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Enforcement Meeting
Attachments: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; image005.png

Kyle,

I cannot make it, hopefully we can set a time to meet. Happy to meet with wardens on a more localized level too. Would like to start with a meeting with the bitterroot wardens if possible. Thanks.

Jedd

On Tue, Aug 20, 2024, 9:11 AM Miller, Kyle <KMMiller@mt.gov> wrote:

Hi Jeff,

I just wanted to check in with you and see if you thought you will be able to attend our Fall Enforcement Meeting in Missoula on August 28th? I know you mentioned the Ravalli County Fair will be starting that day, so I understand if it will not work for your schedule. If the 28th does not fit into your schedule, I will be sure to let you know when our next meeting will be. Hope you are doing well.

Kyle

Kyle Miller | Game Warden Captain

Law Enforcement Division

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Cell: (406) 240-3140



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:25 AM
To: charles malek
Subject: Re: game check stations

Thanks Charles.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Thu, Aug 22, 2024 at 7:16 PM charles malek <charles.malek0@gmail.com> wrote:

You are absolutely correct. If game harvest is to properly reflect game populations then the check stations need to be open more than 2 days per week. Years ago we would hunt on weekends and not experience overcrowding. That is not the case now. Thursday and Friday hunts are more popular as are Saturday thru Tuesday hunts. As a 50 year hunter I can attest to the factual nature of my comments.

Thank you
Charles Malek

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 10:45 AM
To: Gail Brewer
Subject: Re: wolf management

Gail,

I appreciate hearing from you. Glad you had a good stay in MT.

Thanks for acknowledging that we may disagree, but I do listen. While there may not be specific representation for the "group" you are referring to, that group's comments are being considered. There are a number of examples that support this. What I meant by a holistic approach is a balance between ungulates/predators, trappers/non-consumptive, etc. I think classifying this commission's wolf management strategy as "how many we can kill" is unfair. I talked with folks much smarter than I am in regards to wolves around Yellowstone and I think we agree that biologically we can harvest more wolves in 313/316 and keep a sustainable wolf population, so that is what I am referring to when I say it is a social issue.

I understand you are upset, but i think judging sportsmen and women that hunt wolves through the lens that they are bloodlust, haters that are out to kill every wolf is unfair and think it is unfair to assume the quota overage was intentional. On the other side of the coin, there are sportsmen/women that are equally outraged when a wolf pack takes down a mature bull elk and eats the hinds off while it is still breathing.

There is a balanced solution around the park that allows for the non-consumptive community to enjoy wolves and wolf management through harvest. To answer your question I honestly do not believe the wolf harvest in 313 will be biologically detrimental.

Thanks Gail,

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Tue, Nov 5, 2024 at 8:28 PM Gail Brewer <brewerg@peak.org> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Burrows,

I appreciate being able to correspond with you about wolf management, and I have been thinking about the last e-mail reply you sent to me in August. We have just returned from a 3+ week stay in Montana, most of the time spent south of Emigrant in a cabin we have been renting for the last several years. As former Wyoming residents, it feels like home.

Today's email from MFWP about a wolf found in WMU 313, the 5th killed in an area with a quota of 3, prompted me to write now. But first I want to address the issues you brought up in August. It is true that you do listen to the non-

consumptive community. However, there is no one on the commission that represents that group and so there is no voice for decision making about any kind of wildlife. Nor are there any scientists. I am not sure what you meant when you spoke of a holistic approach to management, when the only form of management for wolves is how many can we kill and not any mention of how to coexist. I would like to see what science and biology you are using to determine how wolves are managed. Randomly killing animals and setting quotas for animals that live in packs and ignoring that fact and the fact that they are social animals leaves science out altogether. You also mentioned social reasons. I can think of much more constructive and less damaging ways to engage socially with others. If it is cultural, it is definitely something out of the 1800's that is not socially acceptable by most civilized humans today. Also if it is because some consider the wolf to be socially unacceptable and the only way they know how to deal with them is to kill them, I beg to differ on that thought. I taught school for my career, and I had several socially unacceptable students, some of which were difficult to like, but making the effort to work with them in many ways led to understanding and acceptance.

When I first heard that the quota was over by one in WMU 313 on the same day, I was upset. How did that happen in such a small area? My suspicions tell me that it was either one hunter or several working together. One was collared and now this new wolf that was found was also collared. Since the harvest data no longer gives the time of the killings like last year we will never know for sure. Again the wolves in this area are not harming anything and are being killed for no other reason but to kill wolves. This in my opinion is hate and a need to kill something they do not like and being done by a few people who do it because they are greedy and power hungry. It is not like there are no other areas to kill wolves in Montana. These wolves are easy to kill, not afraid of humans, stepping out of the park only temporarily or perhaps even baited. Yellowstone wolves are being targeted and now more than likely a Yellowstone pack is either gone or broken apart because of hate and a lust to destroy. Sorry if I am coming across a little stronger than in the past, but this find and the knowledge that no one will be held accountable for this and demonstrates that the quota system is a joke and transparency keeps slipping away all for greed, blood lust and hate. Management this is not. There is no compassion for Yellowstone wolves and how the majority of people feel about them. I am not against having wolves delisted if they are managed in a scientifically sound manner.

This may be only a small matter in what in the state of affairs, but in my opinion it is an example of what is going on in the world and our country at large. I will not stoop to hate and threats, but we need to do all we can do to stop the hate and misunderstanding. I don't know how the commission can morally and in good conscience justify this behavior, do nothing to stop it, and have no consequences to those who go over the boundaries. I would greatly appreciate an answer or explanation from you. And also one more time, why are Yellowstone wolves being targeted by allowing hunting so close to the park?

Thank you for listening to my opinion.

Gail Brewer

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 3:53 PM
To: cameronRjewell
Subject: Re: Wolf Quotas and Trapping

Cameron,

I understand that there are many people that do not support trapping and also understand that MT has a strong heritage of hunting, fishing and trapping. Trapping can be used as a beneficial management tool. Thanks again for your emails.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Sun, Aug 18, 2024 at 11:24 PM cameronRjewell <cameronrjewell@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you for responding Jeff. I speak for many when I say that trapping and killing wild animals that belong to all Americans is awful. These animals are much more valuable alive than dead and mounted on a wall or turned into an awful rug. I hope that the commission comes to realize the value of live animals over dead.

Thank you for listening and having the courtesy to respond.

Cameron

On Tue, Jul 16, 2024 at 1:58 PM FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org> wrote:

Thanks for you comment Cameron.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Sun, Jul 14, 2024 at 10:47 AM cameronRjewell <cameronrjewell@gmail.com> wrote:

To whom it may concern:

As a homeowner in Montana, please know that I do not support the large number of wolves being killed in the current proposal. I support no quota and no killing of wolves period. I also vehemently oppose the trapping and killing of any animal.

I find the policies of FWP more in alignment with those of 1850 instead of 2024. These policies must change.

Cameron Jewell
19373 MT HWY 35
Bigfork, MT 59911
cell 305 797-0239

--

Cameron Jewell
cell 305 797-0239

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 9:16 AM
To: john wilson
Subject: Re: Wolf regulations

Mr Wilson,

Thank you for your comment.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 7:39 AM john wilson <trapperjohnwilson@gmail.com> wrote:

I am not for this Supplemental license, and signing an affidavit of trapping on private lands for coyotes.

FWP has no jurisdiction over coyotes, they can be hunted, and trapped year round. I feel this is infringement on my rights as a Montana citizen and outdoors man.

On the same subject, if using a 5.5 inch jaw spread keeps from catching a grizzly bear , why not open wolf season early with this trap size?

I would like to know where this data came from for this trap size.

The coyotes need to be under fwp jurisdiction and regulations before statutes can be made I would think. Thanks
Wilson

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 3:54 PM
To: Steve Slocomb
Subject: Re: wolves
Attachments: Logo wagon.tif

Mr Slocomb,

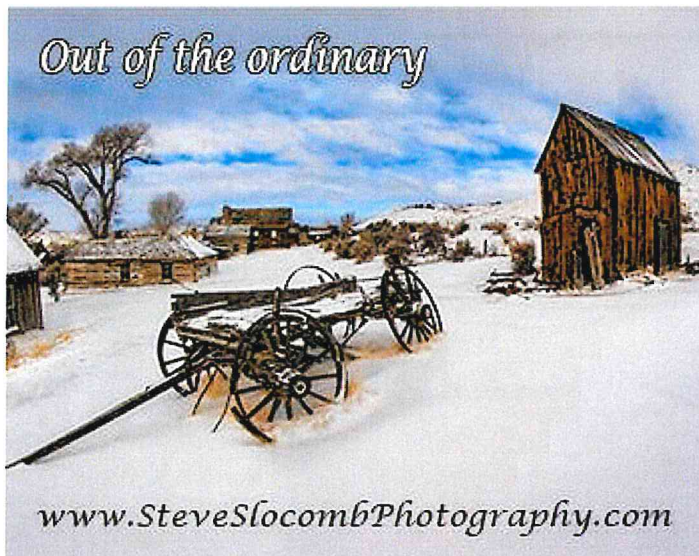
Thank you for your comment, I would not support limiting wolf harvest to only wolves involved in livestock loss.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Sun, Aug 18, 2024 at 10:50 AM Steve Slocomb <steveslocomb@gmail.com> wrote:
We need to stop killing so many wolves. Limit it to ones involved in livestock predation.

Steve Slocomb Photography
406-360-1226



Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 1:13 PM
To: McKlosky, Kendra
Subject: Region 2 Waterbody Recreation Discussion

Kendra,

Would like to sit down with you and staff and discussion long term, big picture ideas for recreational use. Some of the specifics are Bitterroot, Blackfoot fishing/recreation, Clarkfork motorize use, etc.

No hurry, maybe after fire season settles down.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2024 9:18 AM
To: Gray Thornton
Subject: Re: Thank you!

You are welcome, good luck.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner
Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
Ph: (406) 438-1148
commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

On Sep 5, 2024, at 7:20 AM, Gray Thornton <gthornton@wildsheepfoundation.org> wrote:

Thank you Commissioner Burrows for all you do for Montana and our wildlife!

Gray N. Thornton, President & CEO
Wild Sheep Foundation
412 Pronghorn Trail
Bozeman, MT 59718
406-404-8750

Marco Polo Society Member
Summit Life Member
Chadwick Ram Society Member
Legacy Society Member

<image001.png>

<2024-09-05 THKU_Commissioner Burrows.pdf>

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2024 8:35 AM
To: Kris Williams
Cc: Hollon Fred & Karen
Subject: Re: The Lower Clark Fork River

Received, thank you.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Region 2 Commissioner

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission

P.O. Box 200701

Helena, MT 59620-0701

Ph: (406) 438-1148

commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org

On Sep 18, 2024, at 10:07 PM, Kris Williams <kris.williams66@gmail.com> wrote:

Good Evening Mr. Burrows,

Per your conversation with Fred Hollon, Please review the attached letter. We look forward to hearing from you. The original was sent to your office on 7/3 but I can only imagine the amount of mail you must receive :)

Thank you and have a great rest of the week!

--

Kris Holland
(916)764-5977
<River.docx>

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 9:20 AM
To: helena@largecarnivorefund.org
Subject: Re: Trapping season comments please read

Helena,

Thanks for your comment. I did exempt popular recreational closed roads to avoid conflict. As you are probably aware the setback elimination proposal only applies to roads that are closed during the trapping season. Happy to discuss further if you are interested.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Wed, Nov 6, 2024 at 2:04 PM <helena@largecarnivorefund.org> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your work and the opportunity to comment. Please see our comments on the proposed Fall 2024-Winter 2025 Wolf and Other Species Trapping Regulations. The proposals lack effective language and enforceable penalties and violations to do anything. You're allowing trappers to do whatever they want with regard to grizzlies and not doing anything to protect them. We see grizzlies as early as March 1.

Sincerely,

--

Helena Edelson
President and CEO
[Large Carnivore Fund \[largecarnivorefund.org\]](http://LargeCarnivoreFund.org)
Gardiner, MT

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 12:15 PM
To: Denise Boggs
Subject: Re: Viewpoint: Bad carnivore policies should preclude griz deslisting

Ms. Boggs,

Wildlife management decisions are not and should not be popularity contests. Public comment whether minority or majority are considered in the decision process.

Thanks,
Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Mon, Sep 9, 2024 at 2:47 PM Denise Boggs <deniseboggs@hushmail.com> wrote:

Quote from op-ed written by the Board of the MT Wildlife Federation

These politicians continue to serve only the small minority of people who want to eliminate most wolves. They refuse to listen to most Montanans who value wolves as a native animal. At Fish and Wildlife Commission meetings when wolf seasons and killing methods are on the agenda, the vast majority of oral and written comments are opposed to these extreme wolf killing policies, yet the Commission ignores these comments.

My comment: Since wildlife are a public resource, shouldn't you be listening to the majority of the public, instead of a tiny minority? Aren't you being entirely biased by ignoring public input?

<https://missoulacurrent.com/carnivore-policies-grizzly/> [missoulacurrent.com]

[missoulacurrent.com]

[missoulacurrent.com]Denise Boggs [missoulacurrent.com]

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 3:57 PM
To: Neal Cote
Subject: Re: Wake surfing Boat laws and restrictions in other states

Neal,

Thanks for the info, happy to discuss this issue with you further.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Wed, Aug 14, 2024 at 8:24 PM Neal Cote <mrpikemt1@yahoo.com> wrote:

This message is to inform you the commission members that you need to act in regard to Wake surfing boats here in Montana.

I have recreated in Montana for most of my adult life, and have seen nothing as damaging as these craft. The video at the bottom of this email is one of hundreds of that I have recorded over just the past several years. I hope that you will not wait until someone is injured or killed.

I have witnessed many times where families in smaller fishing boats, kayaks, and paddle boards have been put in extremely dangerous situations that luckily have only amounted to damage of equipment. I have also seen docks, moored boats and swimmers endangered as well. What I have not seen is any enforcement presence. I spend hundreds of hours fishing and over the last 3 years have not seen any enforcement of 200 foot rules, nor any other boating laws. Two hours after I took the aforementioned video, a wake surfing boat was still operating after dark without navigation lights and blasting music after 10 pm right outside the boat launch area at Holter Dam. This is a common occurrence pretty much anywhere in region 1,2,and 3.

If you take a quick trip to any lake early in the morning on a weekend, look at the water clarity, it's clear without any sediment. Now wait until 2pm and that same locations water clarity is barely 2 feet. The damage that is happening to our lakes ecosystems is real and happening much faster than it was just 5 years ago. Please take the time to research the impact that this small group of users is having.

Thanks in Advance, Neal Cote

[fox6now.com]

[fox6now.com]Wakesurfing boats on WI lakes;
calls to restrict 'monster trucks' of water
[fox6now.com]
fox6now.com [fox6now.com]

[penbaypilot.com]

[penbaypilot.com]New wake boat laws in Maine
take effect Aug. 9 [penbaypilot.com]
penbaypilot.com [penbaypilot.com]

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 3:56 PM
To: Gail Brewer
Subject: Re: wolf amendments

Gail,

You are welcome and thank you.

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Fri, Aug 16, 2024 at 4:00 PM Gail Brewer <brewerg@peak.org> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Burrows,

Thank you for voting for the two amendments to the wolf hunting season near Yellowstone that were proposed by Commissioner Brooke. I greatly appreciate the fact that you and the commissioners were willing to listen to those who are concerned about the welfare of the Yellowstone wolves and their pack dynamics. I believe that this is a good start to more open and transparent conversations about a very emotional and volatile issue. By listening to both sides and applying the facts and data from science we can begin to find some common ground and move towards a future in which all wildlife is prized and appreciated for its role on the landscape and leave a lasting positive legacy for the future.

Once again, thank you for your willingness to correspond with me and take my thoughts into consideration.

Sincerely,

Gail Brewer

Wickman, Erik

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 <commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:38 AM
To: Gail Brewer
Subject: Re: wolf hunting and trapping season 2024/2025

Gail,

I can assure you the non-consumptive folks are not being left out. I had much more meeting and conversation time with the non-consumptive folks before our august meeting than other groups.

Management and harvest of wolves is not just about livestock depredation or ungulate numbers. As you know it is a much more holistic approach that involves complex factors. These factors are scientific and biologically driven and in some cases, as expressed in the last meeting they are social.

Appreciate your comments.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows
Fish and Wildlife Commissioner
Region 2

On Wed, Aug 14, 2024 at 8:24 PM Gail Brewer <brewerg@peak.org> wrote:

Jeff,

Touching base before the meeting this week. I have been thinking a lot about what you said in your last reply. I still believe that a non-consumptive person needs to be chosen for membership. No matter what you do in almost anything you are not going to get the perfect person that meets everyone's needs, however you have to start somewhere and if it doesn't work out go to plan B or whatever. Not letting a non-consumptive member in because someone might be upset again leaves this faction out of the picture all together. Someone is always going to be upset. Not all hunters feel the same way about all the rules and regulations, and not all non-consumptive folks agree on everything. This is not a reason to leave us out.

Also still asking why wolves that come and go in and out of Yellowstone have to be hunted. It is way too easy to target them. They are not harming wildlife, and they are not decimating elk herds, so why is it so necessary to appease a few people who want to hunt them when there are wolves in other places to hunt? Moreover these wolves alive bring in way more money to Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho alive than dead, and more people want to see them alive than dead.

Finally please do not make hunting wolves the only tool to manage them.

Thanks again for your time and willingness to correspond with me.

Sincerely,

Gail Brewer

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 [mailto:commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 8:23 AM
To: Gail Brewer
Subject: Re: wolf hunting and trapping season 2024/2025

Gail,

I personally am not completely opposed to a wolf council. The concern I have is if the membership selected did not satisfy the "non-consumptive" community we would hear the same concerns, or if the council made a recommendation that was not adopted by the commission folks would be upset.

No disrespect taken, I appreciate your comments and am happy to discuss this important issue anytime.

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Fish and Wildlife Commissioner

Region 2

On Thu, Jul 18, 2024 at 11:28 AM Gail Brewer <brewerg@peak.org> wrote:

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for replying to my email. I appreciate that you are kind enough to acknowledge my comments. I am grateful for the opportunity to comment, however a concern I have is that the non-consumptive group can only do just that. Despite efforts to help pay for the conservation of animals that have been turned down, the lack of a wolf advisory board of any kind, and no representation from the non-consumptive community on the commission, there is no opportunity to have a say in the actual management of wolves. The non-consumptive group far outnumber hunters and trappers.

Also to be repetitive, no one has ever answered my question as to why wolves on the border of the park who are not causing damage must be killed. It seems like hunters have many other places to hunt wolves and insist on killing these wolves as well. A wolf with a collar in this area is part of a scientific study for someone, thus ending research for the wolf. Why would someone deliberately harm someone else's occupation?

Again thank you for the opportunity to be involved in this issue.

Sincerely,

Gail

From: FWP Commissioner Region 2 [<mailto:commissionerregion2@mtfwp.org>]
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 8:40 AM
To: Gail Brewer
Subject: Re: wolf hunting and trapping season 2024/2025

Gail,

I thank you for your comments. I can assure you that the non-consumptive community has a voice and I consider your/their comments with the same weight as any other comments.

Thanks again,

Jeff

Jeff Burrows

Fish and Wildlife Commissioner

Region 2

On Sun, Jul 14, 2024 at 8:27 PM Gail Brewer <brewerg@peak.org> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Burrows,

Thank you for providing the opportunity to provide feedback for the upcoming wolf hunting and trapping season. The Northern Rockies are a very special place and hopefully with the right management and mindset shall remain so. Since much of the area where these wolves roam is public lands, their fate belongs in all our hands.

I continue to have concerns about the number of wolves in Montana and how they are counted using the ipom method that is not scientifically sound. Montana doesn't seem to want to do a physical on the ground count and therefore the count cannot be accurate. Moreover, depredations by wolves are down and elk numbers are above the desired objective, with hunters having greater success. Your commission also has no other means for managing wolves than to kill/hunt them. Nonlethal methods work and many ranches make use of them, while MFWP ignores the use of them. I realize that problem wolves should be dealt with accordingly, however there seems to be no desire on the part of MFWP to coexist with wolves or other predators.

Also again this year there is no voice given to the non-consumptive community. I am not anti-hunting, but believe that trying to kill wolves so there will be more elk to kill by hunters isn't justified especially with the amount of hunter success. It is true that hunters help pay for conservation of wild life, however every attempt by the non-consumptive community to develop ways to help pay whether by wolf stamps or some other means has been turned down. These wolves belong to all not just the hunting and trapping community which is a minority and so the majority should be able to participate in the process of management.

Trappers need to check their traps more frequently, at least every 24 hours, as any animal caught in a trap or snare suffers until the trapper arrives and kills it.

Last year the manner in which areas are closed permitted an additional wolf if not more to be taken over the quota. Please develop a same day closure, especially in WMU 313.

Speaking of WMU 313, I believe that Yellowstone wolves are being targeted in this very small area that borders the park, and as such the quota should be reduced to at least 4 wolves or less. Again these wolves belong to all Americans and just because they put a paw out of the park they are killed. These animals bring joy to many all over the world, not to mention the dollars they bring to the surrounding areas. Moreover, Region 3 also borders the park and some Yellowstone wolves have been killed in this area as well so more Yellowstone wolves are killed than it appears since many people just hear about WMU 313 as the area bordering the park. Over the last few years I continue to ask this question: Why are these particular wolves being targeted and killed as they are not damaging local elk herds or cattle operations? It appears that you are unwilling to give up killing these wolves just to please a few people who love to hunt them just because they can. I believe that there are individuals that want to kill them because they never wanted them in the first place so by doing so they hurt those who enjoy having wolves on the landscape.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration. I do not want to appear to be disrespectful to the commission, but please listen to those of us who don't want wolves killed just because they are wolves. Seeing wolves in the wild is an amazing experience and one I will never forget. By killing wolves somehow the wild becomes less so and is this what we want in the long run or do we want to preserve these lands for generations to come?

Sincerely,

Gail Brewer