

## ***FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** June 19, 2019

**Agenda Item:** Savage FAS Acquisition (R7)

**Division:** Fisheries

**Action Needed:** Endorsement

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 minutes

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### **Background:**

This proposed project would enhance the department's efforts to increase public recreational access to the Yellowstone River in Region 7. The proposed site is approximately 17-river miles downstream from Intake FAS and 3-river miles upstream from Elk Island FAS/WMA. It would provide an alternative river access point that is easily accessible through the town of Savage. With ever-changing river channels and the challenges of maintaining an operational boat ramp at Elk Island FAS, this site would provide an alternative river access. Although this site does not border Elk Island WMA, the acquisition of this property could aid in future expansion of Elk Island WMA. The cost of the proposed property is currently unknown.

### **Public Involvement Process & Results:**

There has been no public involvement on this proposed action to date. If endorsed by the commission the department will begin its due diligence process that will include conducting an environmental assessment and public scoping.

### **Alternatives and Analysis:**

Potential alternatives will be identified and analyzed during the environmental review process.

### **Agency Recommendation & Rationale:**

FWP recommends that the commission endorse efforts by the Department to pursue a fishing access site on the Yellowstone River at Savage.

**Proposed Motion:** I move that the commission authorize the department to pursue negotiations with the landowner for the acquisition of a Fishing Access Site near Savage.