

Private Land/Public Wildlife Council
Meeting Summary
June 8, 2009
Jorgenson's Inn & Suites, Helena, MT

Council Members Participating: Land Tawney, Chair; Dick Iversen; Kathy Hadley; Brett Todd; John Ward; Gordon Haugen; Donna McDonald; Mike Penfold; Max McDonald; Doug Schott; Jamie Byrne; **Absent:** Dan Vermillion; Rick Miller; Lane Larson;

Other Attendees: Paul Sihler, FWP Field Services Division Administrator; Ken McDonald, FWP Wildlife Division Administrator; Alan Charles, FWP Coordinator of Landowner/Sportsman Relations;

Monday, June 8, 1 pm – 5 p.m.

I. Harboring Issue Discussion: Members reviewed the Harboring Committee Notes, dated April 16, 2009, which offered draft suggestions for consideration by the council members appointed for the next appointment cycle. Council members adopted changes which are reflected in Attachment #1, titled "Wildlife Harboring: Issues and a Potential Process for Dealing with Issues."

II. Variable Priced License Discussion: Members reviewed the Variable-Priced License Committee Notes, dated April 16, 2009, which offered draft suggestions for consideration by the council members appointed for the next appointment cycle. Council members adopted changes which are reflected in Attachment #2, titled "Outfitter-Sponsored Licenses: Issues and Information."

III. Information Updates: Alan Charles offered Council members the following information:

- a) Legislation – HB 137 implemented, and Block Management Cooperators will be offered the new license benefits for the 2009 hunting season; HB2, FWP budget bill, approved the FWP request for increased spending authority in the Block Management Program, so Cooperators will be offered payments based on \$11 per hunter day for the 2009 hunting season, resulting in a projected increase in payments of approximately \$560,000. This represents an average increase per landowner of about 9%; new revenue from the Coming Home to Hunt license proposal will not be available until FY11, so FWP will work during the next year to develop a process and guidelines for accomplishing new public land access projects with the new funds;
- b) Council Recommendations – FWP is working to develop Phase I of a Hunter/Landowner Relations Project, with a timeline for implementation by September 1, 2009;
- c) Access Program Status – FWP staff is currently negotiating contracts for the 2009 Block Management Program; development of new contract forms and informational materials, uncertainties associated with legislative action on FWP budget bill, and implementation of a new application of the Block Management Program database have resulted in shortened timelines, but prospects for the 2009 program look good.

III. Meeting adjourned.