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Flathead

Consolidation and Analysis of Fisheries Information from the Bob
Marshall Wilderness Complex with Emphasis on the South Fork of the
Flathead River.

Study Proposal prepared by:

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P.O. Box 67
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SUMMARY PROPOSAL

Information on the fishery in the Wilderness Complex has been collected by many different individuals and agencies/organizations. This information is contained in a potpourri of documentation. The data have been collected from different areas and/or sections of stream and are difficult to interpret. At a resource meeting on the South Fork drainage held in February, 1985 (which included representatives from the MDFWP permanent staff, special research projects, USFS, and University of Montana) all agreed that a single document was needed to consolidate the fisheries information that has been collected to date.

We propose to research and organize all the available fisheries information collected in the Wilderness Complex. We will analyze the data and standardize it for comparative purposes. We will interview long term guides/outfitters and fishermen for trend information on the fishery. Based on this information, we will objectively evaluate the present quality of the fishery and recommend representative areas for long-term monitoring from those presently being sampled. Most importantly, we will include all of the above information in a single document for easy reference.

This proposal is timely since decisions will have to be made on the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) for the Wilderness Complex in the near future. Today, many people are questioning the "quality" of the South Fork fishery. This drainage is one of the last strongholds of the westslope cutthroat trout which is classified as a species of Special Concern in Montana. A single

document will provide resource managers with a reference source for sound management decisions. Standardized long-term monitoring areas need to be established to determine the effects of these management decisions. Personnel from the MDFWP Special Projects Staff have been collecting fisheries data in the Wilderness Complex since 1979. Most of the individuals who have been working in the complex are still available for consultation. The project biologist will be completing the BPA-funded South Fork Mitigation Study, and would be available to begin this project in February, 1987.

METHODS

There are two possible alternatives: Alternative I would concentrate only on the South Fork and its tributaries above Hungry Horse Reservoir. This would require research of MDFWP Region 1 files, Special Projects files, Fisheries Division files, Flathead Forest files, previous University of Montana research and interviews with long-time fishermen, outfitters and guides. Once all the documentation and interviews have been collected, the data would be standardized as much as possible and analyzed. This document would include an historical perspective, attempt to qualify and quantify the fishery, recommend long term monitoring areas and management strategies to ensure wise use of the fishery resource. This project would take approximately four months.

Alternative II would include the fishery in the entire wilderness complex, and would require all the methods outlined in Alternative I. In addition, research of other MDFWP Region 1 and

Special Projects files, MDFWP Region 2 and 4 files, Lolo and Lewis and Clark National Forest files, and other interviews with long-time fishermen, guides and outfitters from those areas would be required. This project would take approximately six months.

Collection and analysis of data would be performed by the project biologist. Office space, equipment and supplies, operations, travel and salaries would be routed through MDFWP Special Projects. If funding was secured, the project would begin February, 1987.

BUDGET ESTIMATE
Alternative I
Project _____, Bob Marshall Complex
February 1, 1987 - May 31, 1987

A. SALARIES

| Title | Grade/ Step | Man Months | Salaries and Benefits | Total |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Project Manager-John Fraley | 15/9 | - | | |
| Fisheries Biologist | 13/6 | 4 | | 8,958.00 |
| Word Processor II | 8/3 | .27 | | 515.00 |
| TOTAL SALARIES | | | | 9,473.00 |

B. CONTRACTED SERVICES 00.00

C. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

Data processing supplies 100.00
 (paper - fanfold and regular, ribbons, print
 fonts, floppy disks, manuals, storage boxes,
 mailers, static mats, chairs, etc.)

Office supplies (pens, pencils, erasers, paper,
 whiteout, paperclips, rubber bands, adding
 machine tape, legal pads, envelopes, binders,
 filefolders, copy paper, post-it notes, message
 pads, cleaning equipment, typewriter ribbons, etc) 200.00

TOTAL SUPPLIES 300.00

D. COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone
 Postage
TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS 300.00

E. TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION

1 compact 3,100 mi @ .18/mile 558.00

Per Diem
 1 person - 10 days @ \$14.50/day 145.00

In-State lodging
 3 nights @ \$24.00 72.00

TOTAL TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION 775.00

SUBTOTAL 10,848.00

Overhead (15.5%) 1,681.00

TOTAL CONTRACT **\$12,529.00**

BUDGET ESTIMATE
Alternative II
Project _____, Bob Marshall Complex
February 1, 1987 - July 31, 1987

A. SALARIES

| Title | Grade/ Step | Man Months | Salaries and Benefits | Alt. F Total |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Project Manager-John Fraley | 15/9 | - | | |
| Fisheries Biologist | 13/6 | 6 | | 13,178.00 |
| Word Processor II | 8/3 | .27 | | 515.00 |
| TOTAL SALARIES | | | | 13,693.00 |

B. CONTRACTED SERVICES 00.00

C. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS

Data processing supplies 150.00
 (paper - fanfold and regular, ribbons, print
 fonts, floppy disks, manuals, storage boxes,
 mailers, static mats, chairs, etc.)

Office supplies (pens, pencils, erasers, paper,
 whiteout, paperclips, rubber bands, adding
 machine tape, legal pads, envelopes, binders,
 filefolders, copy paper, post-it notes, message
 pads, cleaning equipment, typewriter ribbons, etc) 250.00

TOTAL SUPPLIES 400.00

D. COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone
 Postage

TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS 500.00

E. TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION

1 compact 5,000 mi @ .18/mile 900.00

Per Diem

1 person - 14 days @ \$14.50/day 203.00

In-State lodging

5 nights @ \$24.00 120.00

TOTAL TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION 1,223.00

SUBTOTAL 15,816.00

Overhead (15.5%) 2,451.00

TOTAL CONTRACT \$18,267.00

ACTIVITY MATRIX

Alternative II
Project schedule

1987

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Collect available data

Interview fishermen,
 guides, outfitters

Analyze data

Write final report
