

**Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program Advisory Council**  
**Draft Agenda**



**UPLAND GAME BIRD  
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**  
MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

October 1-2, 2018  
Pondera Shooting Sports Building  
972 Granite Street, Conrad, MT 59425

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**Objectives**

- 1) Summarize outcome of 2018 field season.
- 2) Receive Council's insight and recommendations on the 2018 field season based on the UGBEP strategic plan.
- 3) Participate in a habitat tour.
- 4) Provide program updates to Council.
- 5) Discuss proposed program options for wildlife friendly practices
- 6) Guest presentations: Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologists
- 7) Receive public comments: The public is welcome to attend the UGBEP CAC meeting and provide comment at this time.

**Agenda**

**Monday, October 1, 2018**

8:30 am Meet at Conrad Super 8. We will have introductions, and Rick will provide an overview of the UGBEP's history plus the role of the CAC. Board vans to tour Region 4's habitat projects. Lunch will be in Shelby.

**The tour itinerary and map are located on pages 3 and 4.**

**Tuesday, October 2, 2018**

8:30 am Gather at Pondera Shooting Sports Building. Meeting to begin with introductions, general housekeeping, meeting highlights, review March 2018 minutes.

8:45 am Public Comment period.

9:15 am Division update (Ken McDonald): PR and Enforcement funding; Dog training rule; Sage-grouse population numbers; MSGOT; review proposed statutory changes regarding pheasant releases and council membership.

9:30 am Program updates (Debbie Hohler): FY 2018 fiscal reporting, including revenue, expenditures, obligations, projections, and actuals (FY 2017). Status on Open

Fields (VPA-HIP), Pheasant Releases, and partnerships' contracts (HF/PF/NWTF). Handouts will include fiscal summaries, harvest statistics.

- 10:30 am Habitat Specialists: Field season reporting (30 minutes each plus discussion). Debbie to provide updates on Region 3.
- 12:30 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Habitat Forever updates (Craig Roberts, Debbie Hohler)
- 1:30 pm Promoting forest health and enhancing wildlife habitats: 2018 field season. Dave Nikonow, NWTF
- 2:00 pm
  1. Review of wildlife friendly practices proposed for the UGBEP.
  2. Looking ahead to Open Fields implementation in 2019. (Jake, Ken, and Justin).
- 3:00 pm PF State Rep Chad Harvey and PF Farm Bill Biologists (Aaron Clausen, Hunter VanDonsel, Erin Fairbank, Heather Brower) updates
- 3:30 pm Open discussion on program topics
- 4:00 pm Wrap up, next council meeting.

### **Helpful Info**

Link to the UGBEP Strategic plan: <http://fwp.mt.gov/fwpDoc.html?id=51736>

**Spring 2019 meeting: Helena, dates TBD**

**Fall 2019 meeting: Miles City, dates TBD**

**Fall 2020: Missoula, dates TBD**

**Habitat Tour Itinerary and Map**  
**October 1, 2018**

Stop 1: The overpass on Midway Road to overlook the Conrad Irrigation District and introductory conversation on upland bird habitat in the Region.

Stop 2: Lindberg and Kellogg Open Fields (the Lindberg Open Fields is one of the largest in the state; discussion on additional access acres).

Stop 3: West Star BMA Habitat Management Lease and discussion on loss of CRP Acres in the Region

Stop 4: DNRC Bullhead Ranch Habitat Management Lease - Working with the DNRC / Eric Eneboe Visit

**Lunch around noon at Alibi Pizza Restaurant in Shelby, MT**

Stop 5: Marias River WMA Food Plots and Crested Wheatgrass Conversion

Stop 6: Pheasant Release in Toole County on an Open Fields Site

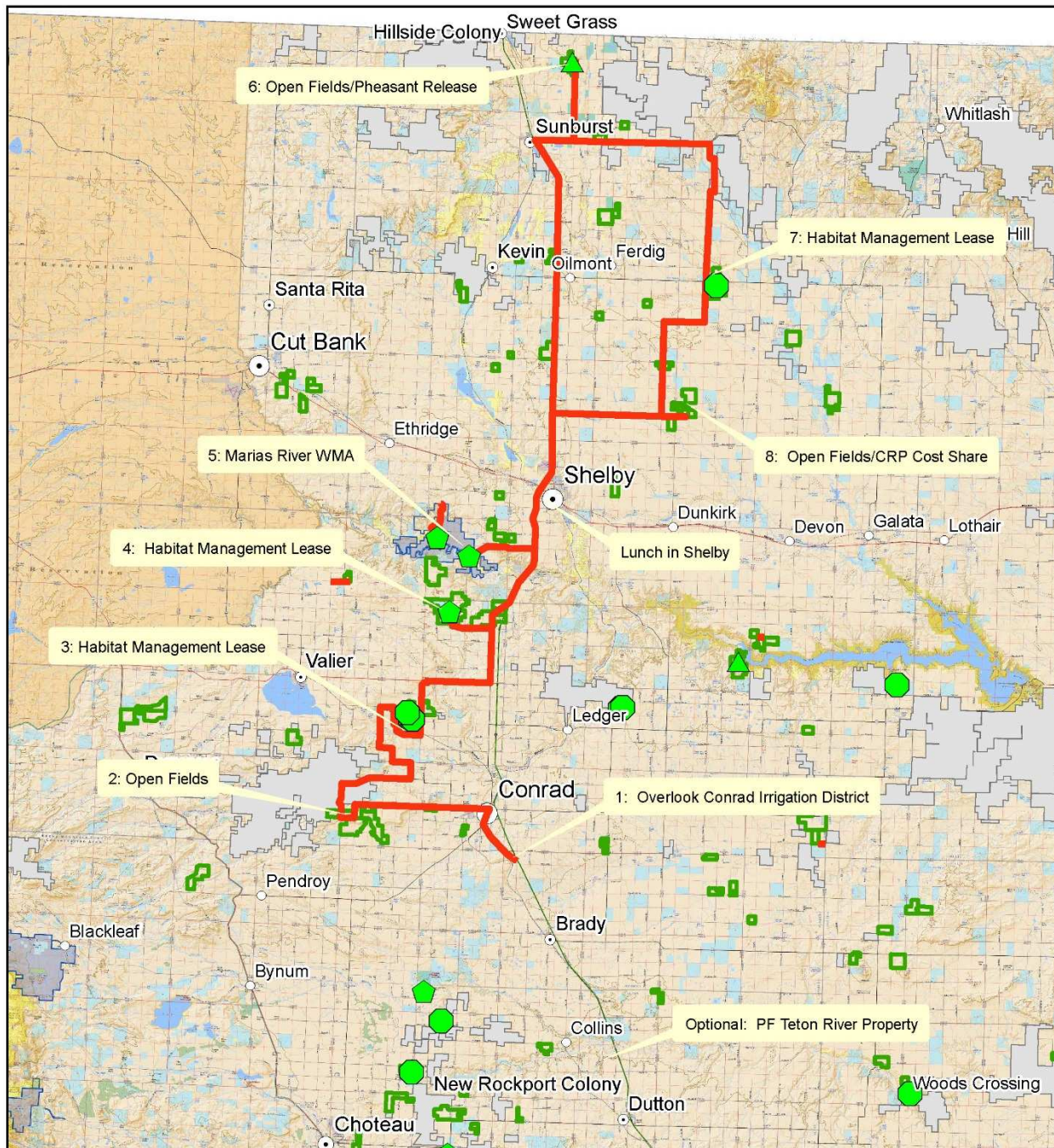
Stop 7: DNRC Tomayer/Willow Ridge Ranch Habitat Management Lease on expired UGBEP Project Area/Landlocked State Lands and Block Management







Stop 8: Open Fields and CRP Seed Cost share 'cluster' and Wildlife Friendly CRP and Conversations on Selecting Properties for UGBEP versus Block Management

***Dinner at Joe's Steakhouse in Conrad at 6:30pm (private reservations)***

# 2018 CAC Meeting Region 4 Field Trip

October 1st, 2018



-  Block Management Project
-  Pheasant Release Site
-  Public Land Project
-  Tour Route
-  Project Area
-  Block Management

