

Chris Taggart

From: Montana FWP <montanafwp@announcements.mt.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Newsletter: seeking comment on Musselshell Rehab, AIS pass for hunters, donate a hunting license to disabled veterans



FWP NEWSLETTER



FWP seeks public comment on Montana Forest Legacy Program updates

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is seeking public comment on updates to the Montana Forest Legacy Program's Assessment of Need document.

The Forest Legacy Program, which is administered by the U.S. Forest Service and managed by FWP, provides funding for conserving high-value working forests. Montana forest values conserved by the program include wildlife habitat, sawmill timber and other forest products, public access for recreation, watersheds for municipalities and irrigation, cultural and aesthetic values, and other social and ecological benefits.

[Read more](#)

Donate a hunting license to disabled veterans armed forces members

Montana law allows residents and nonresidents to donate their hunting license and or special permit to a disabled military veteran or disabled active duty service member. This year, there is a higher interest among veterans to take advantage of this program, and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is asking for more hunters to donate licenses.



[Read more >](#)

Hunters can help prevent spread of AIS

Hunters who use boats to access waterfowl or big game hunting areas can help prevent aquatic invasive species from infesting Montana's wetlands, rivers and lakes.



[Read more >](#)

AIS Pass required for nonresident hunters with boats

FWP reminds nonresidents hunters planning to bring their watercraft into Montana that they must purchase a **Vessel AIS Prevention Pass (AISPP)** before launching on state waters. The Vessel AISPP was initiated by the 2019 Montana Legislature to help fund the fight against aquatic invasive species. Nonresidents can purchase the pass at any FWP office or online at fwp.mt.gov and click on the **License: Buy/Apply** tab. Boat owners must carry a paper or digital receipt as proof of purchase. The pass expires on Dec. 31 each year and is not transferable between vessels.



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FWP seeking comment on proposed Musselshell River rehabilitation work

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is asking for public comment on a proposal to reconnect a channel of the Musselshell River southwest of Melstone that was cut off by flooding.



Flood waters broke through the riverbank in 2018 and cut off the 1.5-mile loop in the river, leaving irrigation systems and homes without water and drying up wildlife habitat. The proposed work would add rock and vegetation to the breeched riverbank to divert water back into the channel, lengthening the river by more than a mile and decreasing the speed and slope of the water.

[Read more >](#)

More Headlines Around the State

- [Mussel boat #29 and #30 intercepted at watercraft inspection stations](#)

Important dates coming up:

Sept 30: Sage grouse season closes

Oct 15-16: youth-only deer hunt

Sept 30: Deadline to purchase bonus points and NR preference points

Oct 18: Archery deer, elk, mountain lion closes

Oct 3: Duck & goose season opens-both flyways

Oct 9: Antelope archery season closes

Oct 24: General deer, elk, fall mountain lion opens

Oct 10: Pacific Flyway swan, antelope general & pheasant season opens

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