

**Chris Taggart**

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**From:** Montana FWP <montanafwp@announcements.mt.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 6, 2022 1:10 PM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FWP seeks public comment on Eurasian watermilfoil eradication project in Nilan Reservoir



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

## FWP seeks public comment on Eurasian watermilfoil eradication project in Nilan Reservoir

HELENA – Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is seeking public comment on a proposed project to use an herbicide treatment to eradicate Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) on 1.15 acres in Nilan Reservoir, west of Augusta. EWM was discovered in the area in 2021 and subsequently treated with an herbicide last fall. The treatment injured the plants and slowed their growth, but further sampling shows well established plants throughout the bay.

EWM has the potential to outcompete native aquatic plant species. It can also negatively impact recreation access and opportunities and have negative economic impacts on irrigation and agriculture activities.

Application of the herbicide would occur in the small bay between the two FWP boat ramps. The reservoir is at historic low levels so the amount of water that will need to be treated is very limited.

A draft environmental assessment is available on the [FWP website](#).

Comments can be emailed to [FWPfishcomments@mt.gov](mailto:FWPfishcomments@mt.gov) or mailed to Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Attn: Craig McLane, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701.

The deadline for public comment is July 29.

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