



# Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Wildlife Division  
PO Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701  
May 26, 2015

Dear Interested Person:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) is requesting public review and comment on the following items. Supporting information on these items can be found on our website under "Opportunity for Public Comment" at [fwp.mt.gov/hunting/](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/) and [fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/](http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/).

## **NONGAME CHECK-OFF WORKPLAN**

This lays out the work plan for the nongame wildlife program's use of monies accrued through Montana's nongame tax check-off.

## **2015 HB 454 HUNTING ACCESS AGREEMENTS**

An annual renewal of a long-standing agreement with the Swanz family that in return for allowing access to elk hunters, Mr. Swanz, or a family member, would receive one 411-21 either-sex elk permit. In turn, FWP would issue four additional 411-21 permits from the already randomized list of unsuccessful applicants for that permit. Successful applicants could only hunt on the Swanz deeded property.

## **2015 FALL UPLAND GAME BIRD QUOTAS AND LIMITS**

Increase the annual bag limit for wild turkeys for the spring and fall seasons combined to 3, but no more than 2 could be taken during either the spring or fall. For anyone taking 3 turkeys during the year, at least one has to be taken in Region 1. Any hunter taking a second turkey in the fall and hunting in Region 1 must take a hen turkey.

- Increase fall wild turkey permits in HD 395 (Beaverhead, Silver Bow, and Jefferson counties, and Madison County west of the Madison River) from 20 general and 2 youth-only to 50 general and 10 youth-only.

## **2015 FURBEARER HARVEST QUOTAS**

- A reduction in bobcat quotas in Regions 4, 5, and 6.
- A proposal that people harvesting bobcats be required to turn in the lower jaw for aging.
- A proposal that the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt the regulation changes outlined in the lynx lawsuit settlement

## **2015 WOLF REGULATIONS & LANDOWNER TAKE QUOTA**

FWP proposes no change to the 2014-2015 Wolf Regulations and Landowner Take quota.

## **COMMENT PERIOD DEADLINE AND FINAL ADOPTION MEETINGS**

The public comment period on all proposed items will extend through 5 p.m., Monday, June 29. Final adoption for all items will occur at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Fish & Wildlife Commission meeting.

### **TO MAKE A COMMENT**

For further clarification, you may call the Wildlife Division office at 406-444-2612. To submit comments electronically, please visit our website's Hunting home page at [fwp.mt.gov/hunting/](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/) and the Fish & Wildlife homepage at [fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/](http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/) under "Opportunity for Public Comment". Written comments can be sent to: FWP – Wildlife Division, Attn: Public Comment, POB 200701, Helena MT 59620-0701.

- ✓ Nongame Check-Off Workplan  
[fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/publicComments/2015/nongameCheckoffWorkplan.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/publicComments/2015/nongameCheckoffWorkplan.html)
- ✓ HB 454 Hunting Access Agreements  
[fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015HB454HuntingAccessAgreements.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015HB454HuntingAccessAgreements.html)
- ✓ 2015 Fall Upland Game Bird Quotas And Limits:  
[fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015fallUgbQuotasLimits.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015fallUgbQuotasLimits.html)
- ✓ 2015 Furbearer Harvest Quotas:  
[fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015furbearerRegs.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015furbearerRegs.html)
- ✓ 2015 Wolf Regulations & Landowner Take Quota:  
[fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015-2016wolfRegsAndLandownerTake.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/publicComments/2015/2015-2016wolfRegsAndLandownerTake.html)