

04/21/2013

To: Legislative Audit Committee and Tori Hunthausen CPA, Legislative Auditor

Request for Performance Audit on the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

The purpose of the performance audit would be to verify if FWP policies and administrative rules since 2006 are in compliance with MCA 87-1-323 thru 325.

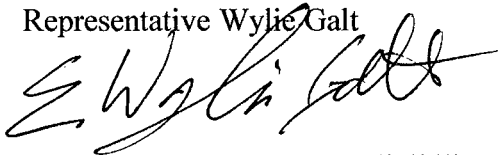
A mission of FWP per the MCA is to reduce populations of elk, deer and antelope based on habitat acreage as necessary. FWP shall consider the specific concerns of private landowners when determining sustainable numbers of elk, deer and antelope.

1. FWP has adopted administrative rule 12.9.801 -12.9.805 Damage hunts which ignores landowner concerns. If the landowner chooses to outfit their land and charge hunters to hunt since 2006 FWP will not authorize a hunt on the landowner's property and FWP has adopted an unwritten policy to generally not allow hunting of antlerless deer, elk or antelope outside of the general 5 week rifle season. There are a limited number of roster hunts that FWP does authorize.
2. FWP has an unwritten policy since 2006 that generally denies requests of landowners to have hunts on their property for antlerless animals outside of the general 5 week hunting season whether the landowner outfits their land or not.
3. It is not clear to landowners whether or not they should receive a copy of the "Landowner Eligibility Worksheet" that is completed by FWP as documentation for the decision by the FWP Regional Supervisor who makes the final decision as to whether or not the land owner is eligible for game damage assistance. The landowner may not agree with the documentation completed by FWP on this form if he had the opportunity to see it.

The attached signatures are from legislators who request that the Legislative Audit Committee direct the Legislative Auditor to complete a performance audit on FWP policies written and administrative rules as well as unwritten policies. The purpose of the audit is to determine if the FWP policies since 2006 are in compliance with the requirements of MCA 87-1-323 thru 325 which includes the requirement to reduce the populations of deer, elk and/or antelope when they exceed the FWP management objective in a manner that takes the concerns of landowners into consideration.

Sincerely,

Representative Wylie Galt



Attachment - Landowner Eligibility Worksheet.
3 pages of legislator signatures

04/05/2013

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The following legislators request that the Legislative Audit Committee direct the Legislative Auditor to complete a performance Audit on FWP policies written and unwritten and administrative rules to carry out the requirements of MCA 87-1-323 to reduce the populations of deer, elk and/or antelope

Print Legislator name	Signature of Legislator	Date Signed	Print Legislator name	Signature of Legislator	Date Signed
Lee Randall	[Signature]	4-6-13	NICK SCHWADERER	[Signature]	4/8/13
Lee Randall	[Signature]	4-6-13	Nancy Ballance	[Signature]	4/8/13
E. Wylie Galt	[Signature]	4/6/13	Doug Kary	[Signature]	4/08/13
MARK Blasdel	[Signature]	4-6-13	Mike Miller	[Signature]	4/8/13
Gordon Vance	[Signature]	4/8/13	Ted Washburn	[Signature]	4/8/13
Mark D. Kary	[Signature]	4/8/13	Ray Jean	[Signature]	4/8/13
[Signature]	[Signature]	4/8/13	Jerry Bennett	[Signature]	4/8/13
Kelly Flynn	[Signature]	4/8/13	[Signature]	[Signature]	4/8/13
Tim Wynn	[Signature]	4/8/13	Chris Clark	[Signature]	4/8/13
Vendell Jackson	[Signature]	4/8/13	[Signature]	[Signature]	4/8/13

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Tom Woods	<i>Tom Woods</i>	4-8-13	Doug Coffin	<i>Doug Coffin</i>	4/10/13
David Halvorson	<i>David Halvorson</i>	4-10-13	<i>David Halvorson</i>	<i>David Halvorson</i>	4/10/13
Dennis Lenz	<i>Dennis Lenz</i>	4-8-13	Bill Harris	<i>Bill Harris</i>	4-10-13
ALAN REEDFIELD	<i>Alan Reedfield</i>	4-8-13	<i>Alan Reedfield</i>	<i>Alan Reedfield</i>	4-10-13
ALAN DOANE HD# 38	<i>Alan Doane</i>	4-8-13			
STEVE LANIN	<i>Steve Lanin</i>	4-8-13			
<i>Jeff</i>	<i>Jeff</i>	HD# 72			
<i>Ryan</i>	<i>Ryan</i>	4-8-13			
<i>Randy</i>	<i>Randy</i>	4-8-13			
RANDY BRODEN	<i>Randy Broden</i>	4-10-13			

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Print Legislator name	Signature of Legislator	Date Signed	Print Legislator name	Signature of Legislator	Date Signed
Boulangier		4/12/13	Brendan		4/12/2013
Arthur		4-12-13	Lewis		4/12/2013
Bathory		4-12-13	Thomas, F.		4/12/13
JANNA TAYLOR		4-12-13	Frederick D. Moore		4/12/13
Matthew M. Rosendale		4-	Olson Alan		4-12-13
		4-12-13	James Peterson		4-12-13
		4-12-13	Verdel Jackson		4/12/13
Scott SALES		4-12-13	Terry Murphy		4-12-13
Taylor Brown		4/12/13			4-12-13
Liz Ines		4/12/13			4/12/13