



MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: August 20, 2015

Agenda Item: Montana State Parks Lands Policy

Division: Parks

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 minutes

Background (Brief description of the issue, decision to be made, history, etc.):

At the June meeting the proposed draft Board policy titled “Acquisition and/or Transfer of Interests in Lands” was presented and discussed. The draft policy is intended to provide guidance for future considerations of State Park land acquisitions or disposals, including the holding of easements.

Please note that inserting the final definitions and appropriate wording for the references Park ‘significance’, ‘relevance’, and ‘accessible’ will be done once the Parks Classification process is finalized. For the purpose of the Board policy at-hand, the final wording of this section is expected to have not to no impact regarding the spirit of the policy.

Public Involvement Process & Results (Brief description of the type of public involvement and summary of what we heard from the public):

Following Board approval of the tentative draft policy, public comment would be sought. The public comment period was July 10th through July 31st. A total of two comments were received. One comment asked that ATV use in State Parks be considered by the Board. The second comment stated that State Park lands should not be made available for purchase by private or business concerns.

Alternatives and Analysis (Brief description of alternative solutions with analysis of the pros and cons of each):

Alt. #1 – proceed with final approval of the draft “Acquisition and/or Transfer of Interests in Lands” policy.

Alt. #2 – not adopt the draft “Acquisition and/or Transfer of Interests in Lands” policy at this time.

Agency Recommendation and Rationale (Brief description of our recommendation to the Board and the reasons for it):

It is the agency recommendation that the draft policy titled ‘Acquisition and/or Transfer of Interests in Lands’ be approved and adopted by the Board as a final.

Proposed Motion (Draft language the Board could use to adopt the agency recommendation):

I move to approve the draft ‘Acquisition and/or Transfer of Interests in Lands’ policy be adopted by the Board as a final policy.