



## MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

**Meeting Date:** August 16, 2017

**Agenda Item:** Travelers' Rest State Park Acquisition Update

**Division:** Parks

**Action Needed:** Proposed

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 15 min.

---

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

Travelers' Rest SP is a 51-acre site located in Lolo, Montana. In Fall 2015 the family that owns the 20.54 ac. parcel adjacent to the park approached State Parks with the desire to sell the parcel to incorporate it into the existing park. An Option agreement was entered into in early September 2016, which expires September 2, 2017.

At the February 24, 2016 meeting the Board approved proceeding with the current Option agreement.

A second Option agreement valid for up to another year would not be an obligation to purchase the property, but would be continuation of the family's desire to provide the State the first opportunity to purchase the parcel. The location of the parcel is such that it is a highly visible and significant acreage adjacent to Travelers' Rest State Park.

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

No public involvement has occurred to-date. If approved by the Board, and upon completion of all due-diligence steps, an Environmental Assessment (EA) would be completed and distributed for public comment prior to seeking final approval of the project from the Board.

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

Alt. #1 – Do not pursue an extension of the Option agreement with the private landowners of the 20.54-acre parcel adjacent to Travelers' Rest State Park.

Alt. #2 – Enter into a second Option agreement on the 20.54-acre parcel for up to one-year.

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

The recommendation is the Board approve proceeding with a second Option agreement on the 20.54-acre parcel.

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

I move that a second Option agreement be entered into for up to one-year on the 20-acre parcel adjacent to Travelers' Rest State Park.