



MONTANA **FWP**

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

Meeting Date: December 19, 2018
Agenda Item: Smith River State Park Biennial Fee Rule Extension
Action Needed: Final
Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 Minutes

Background: The Smith River Management Act, 23-2-401 through 23-2-410, MCA, authorizes the Board to provide for the administration of the Smith River waterway and adopt rules for this purpose. The Smith River State Park and River Corridor Biennial Rule establishes fees and administrative rules for private, commercial, and landowner float trips in Smith River State Park. The current rule was last adopted by the Board in February 2017 and is scheduled to expire in December 2018. Upon approval by the Board, the fee rule will be in effect for the next biennium, until December 2020.

The proposed changes from the existing Biennial Fee Rule are:

- Remove Big Sky Expeditions from the table on page 13 of the Biennial Rule.
- Change the number of allocated float trip launches from 4 to 11 for Montana Angler Fly Fishing on page 13 of the Biennial Rule.

The proposed change to remove is because Big Sky Expeditions (Garry Stocker) sold his commercial outfitting business to Montana Angler Fly Fishing (Brian McGeehan). Once the business transaction was completed, seven allocated launches from Big Sky Expeditions were transferred to Montana Angler Fly Fishing.

Public Involvement Process & Results: The public had the opportunity to comment at the October 16, 2018 Board meeting. Public comment was also solicited between October 16, 2018 and November 30, 2018.

A total of five comments were received during that period; One in support of extending the current rule. Four neither in support of or opposition to extending the rule, but suggesting future considerations related to bear-resistant food storage and investigating a point system for the permitting process.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale: Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks recommends the Parks and Recreation Board approve this fee rule to maintain the authority to continue to charge fees and implement use rules on the Smith River for the next biennium, until December 2020.

Proposed Motion: I move the Parks and Recreation Board approve the extension of the 2017 Smith River Biennial Fee Rule as proposed.