PL/PW FINAL LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS
June 3, 2016

The Private Land/Public Wildlife Council adopted the following three FINAL LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS at the June 2-3, 2016 meeting in Helena.

FINAL RECOMMENDATION #1: Propose Modifications to MCA 87-2-513 Landowner Either-sex or antlerless elk permit for landowner who offers free public elk hunting.

- New Name for program – possibly Enhanced Big Game Hunting Access Program *(no legislative action required)*

- Allow FWP to provide elk license and permit to landowner who enters into contractual agreement *(legislative action required)*

- Have FWP select public hunters from pool of successful permit applicants who applied for permits in that hunting district
    - Ratio of no less than 1:4 landowner to public permits
    - Random draw by FWP for public hunters

  (legislative action required to modify current language to enable this process to occur)

- Offer landowners the option to require selected hunters to complete Hunter-Landowner Stewardship Project as a prerequisite to hunt on contracted land *(no legislative action required)*

- Consider using current Fish & Wildlife Commission authority to implement something similar for deer or antelope situations, if the need is identified. *(no legislative action required)*

- Strike provision that makes landowner ineligible for permit if he/she has received payment under Block Management. *(legislative action required)*

FINAL RECOMMENDATION #2. Propose increasing the cap on landowner payment for cooperators in Block Management, contained in MCA 87-1-267.

- Increase cap from $12,000 to $15,000. *(legislative action required)*

FINAL RECOMMENDATION #3. Propose combining elements of the Come Home to Hunt License (MCA 87-2-526) and the Native Montana Nonresident License (MCA 87-2-514) into a single license type for issuing B10 and B11 deer and elk combination licenses.

- Cap of 500 for B10 Big Game Combination licenses (Deer, Elk, Upland Game Bird, Fishing, Conservation licenses) *(no legislative action required – already in MCA 87-2-526)*
- Cap of 500 for B11 Deer Combination licenses (Deer, Upland Game Bird, Fishing, Conservation licenses) *(no legislative action required – already in MCA 87-2-526)*
- Modify language for sponsor eligibility – must be nonresident's natural or adoptive mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, spouse, grandparent, or grandchild *(legislative action required)*
- Strike the requirement for license recipient to have completed Montana hunter education course *(legislative action required)*
- Direct funding to Hunting Access Program account – in the same amount and to the same account as earmarked funding from other current combination licenses *(legislative action required)*