

1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bozeman, MT 59718

January 24, 2006

To: Governor's Office, Mike Volesky, State Capitol, Room 204, P.O. Box 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801  
Environmental Quality Council, State Capitol, Room 106, P.O. Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620-1704  
Dept. of Environmental Quality, Metcalf Building, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901  
Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation, P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620-1601  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks:  
    Director's Office      Parks Division      Lands Section      FWP Commissioners  
    Fisheries Division      Legal Unit      Wildlife Division      Design & Construction  
MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, P.O. Box 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202  
MT State Parks Association, P.O. Box 699, Billings, MT 59103  
MT State Library, 1515 E. Sixth Ave., P.O. Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620  
James Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, P.O. Box 1184, Helena, MT 59624  
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624  
George Ochenski, P.O. Box 689, Helena, MT 59624  
Jerry DiMarco, P.O. Box 1571, Bozeman, MT 59771  
Montana Wildlife Federation, P.O. Box 1175, Helena, MT 59624  
Wayne Hurst, P.O. Box 728, Libby, MT 59923

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The enclosed Decision Notice has been prepared by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) for the proposed installation of utilities to the Volunteer Campground Host Site located at Vigilante Campground within Bannack State Park, near Dillon, Montana. One public comment was received during the 30-day comment period ending January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

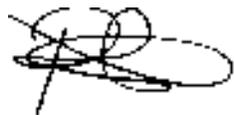
It is my decision to proceed with the preferred alternative by upgrading the Volunteer Campground Host Site. The preferred alternative would involve installing electrical hookups, telephone service, a pressurized water line, a 1500-gallon sewage holding tank, and an ADA accessible concrete volunteer campground host pad with no changes to the Environmental Assessment (EA).

Questions regarding this Decision Notice should be mailed to:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
c/o Bannack Volunteer Campground Host Site EA Comments  
1400 S. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Bozeman, MT 59718

Or e-mailed to: [gwalker@mt.gov](mailto:gwalker@mt.gov).

Sincerely,



Patrick J. Flowers  
Region Three Supervisor

Attachment

BANNACK STATE PARK  
VOLUNTEER CAMPGROUND HOST SITE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
DECISION NOTICE

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
1400 S. 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bozeman, MT 59718

January 24, 2006

Description of the Proposed Action:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to improve the volunteer campground host site located in the Vigilante Campground within Bannack State Park. Improvements will include installing electrical hookups, telephone service, a pressurized water line, a 1500-gallon sewage-holding tank, and a concrete pad.

Public Comment:

Public notification of the availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluating this proposed action was published in the Helena Independent Record, the Butte Montana Standard and the Dillon Tribune newspapers and on the FWP website. In addition, neighbors to Bannack State Park and other known interested individuals, agencies and organizations were sent copies of the EA.

One public comment was received concerning this draft EA during a comment period running from December 12 through January 17, 2006.

The comment was supportive of the proposed action. The commenter felt that the volunteer campground host site improvements are needed to attract and keep volunteer campground hosts and hopes that the money invested will eventually pay off. Also, the commenter thought we should consider adding additional hookups for the general public.

**FWP response to supportive comment on the proposed action:** In order to maintain the Bannack experience, current and future camping at Bannack will remain basic, without electrical or water hookups as specified in the Bannack Management Plan.

Decision:

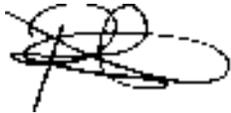
Based on analyses in the Draft EA, and comments on the proposed action, my decision is to adopt the preferred alternative. That alternative calls for an upgrade of the Volunteer Campground Host Site by installing electrical hookups, phone service, a pressurized waterline, a 1500 gallon sewage holding tank, and an ADA accessible concrete host pad. I have evaluated the draft document and applicable laws, regulations, and policies, and have determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the human or natural environment. The completed environmental assessment is an appropriate level of analysis to

identify and address all significant issues associated with this project. For this reason, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

There are no modifications to the Draft Environmental Assessment. The Draft Environmental Assessment, together with the Decision Notice, will serve as the final document for this proposal.

The Final EA and the Decision Notice for this project is available from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region Three Headquarters, 1400 S. 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Bozeman, MT 59718, or online at: <http://www.fwp.mt.gov/publicnotices>.

Please direct all inquiries to FWP Region Three Headquarters c/o Bannack State Park Volunteer Campground Host Site Improvement Project EA, at the address provided above.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick J. Flowers', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patrick J. Flowers  
Region Three Supervisor