

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:56:49 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:56

First Name:

Peter

Last Name:

Szabelski

Email Address:

pszabell@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193 not in favor

Comment:

I am not in favor of I-193, which allows land owners to disregard state biological work that is used to help manage and maintain healthy wildlife populations. This completely uproots the North American model for wildlife conservation and further takes opportunity from those that do not have the same financial means as land owners to purchase/own land in Montana.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Saturday, December 2, 2023 1:35:34 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 2nd December 2023 13:35

First Name:

Kevin

Last Name:

Erickson

Email Address:

bullsandbucks@yahoo.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I-193 is another step in the march to privatize Montana game animals. Wolves, increased hunting pressure on Public lands by the general public has pushed game animals into more rural areas. These game animals are then in proverbial safety zones where the average taxpayer and license holder will not have an opportunity to hunt. Most of these areas are being leased out to Outfitters or Hunting Clubs. No general rules pertaining to private land will exasperate this issue and make hunting more of a pay to play situation only available to the wealthy.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:11:48 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:11

First Name:

Colton

Last Name:

Pederson

Email Address:

colton452009@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Oppose I-193 .land owners already have better draw odds with landowner preference for tags

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:14:45 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:14

First Name:

Seth

Last Name:

Compton

Email Address:

seth.compton@gmail.com

Subject:

Stopping I-193

Comment:

I-193 is the privatization of a publicly owned resource and when boiled down is basically legalized theft from the public. Landowners are just that LAND owners they should have no special right to the animals that have no concept of their imaginary lines that constitute their borders. It also prevents biologists from properly managing game numbers in MT endangering both their populations and a million dollar industry that revolves around a healthy game population. Please do not allow I-193 to advance.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:19:58 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:19

First Name:

Alex

Last Name:

Vissotzky

Email Address:

goodolboy1776@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193 is not right

Comment:

How is this right for hunter and and for wildlife? letting landowners not need tags is essentially legalized poaching. They need to play by the same rules as everyone else.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:26:01 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:25

First Name:

Rochelle

Last Name:

Gravance

Email Address:

rmg13@hotmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I-193, a proposed ballot initiative that seeks to prohibit hunting regulations that limit a landowner hunting deer, elk, or black bear on the landowner's property during the general hunting season, must not be approved. This initiative goes against the NAMWC and is exactly the reason we established our model of wildlife management here in the US. Please vote AGAINST this Initiative I-193.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:27:44 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:27

First Name:

Tyler

Last Name:

McIntyre

Email Address:

tymac21@hotmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I-193 is yet another move by deep pocket out of state interests to monetize and privatize game in the state. Supporting this will impact our state for generations to come and will continue to provide opportunities to those who do not reside in our state. The pay for play concept has no place in our state beyond where it already is at. Please stand firm against I-193.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

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To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:27:45 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:27

First Name:

Tyler

Last Name:

McIntyre

Email Address:

tymac21@hotmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I-193 is yet another move by deep pocket out of state interests to monetize and privatize game in the state. Supporting this will impact our state for generations to come and will continue to provide opportunities to those who do not reside in our state. The pay for play concept has no place in our state beyond where it already is at. Please stand firm against I-193.

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From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:32:41 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:32

First Name:

Shawn

Last Name:

Tripp

Email Address:

stripp40@gmail.com

Subject:

Prohibiting FG Commission from giving landowners hunting licenses

Comment:

First, stop. Stop giving everyone a deal. Set the price, limitations based on science and landowner tolerance. Landowners are not working regular ranchers and farmers. Our natural resources belong to all of us. Please read and understand the : https://www.hunter-ed.com/national/studyGuide/The-North-American-Model-of-Wildlife-Conservation/201099_93166/ . The idea is thoughtful but will divide the already explosive mindset. Please don't put another barrier between the halves and halves notes. Want to make a difference? Give FWP Wardens the authorities to do their prescribed duties. Provide the agency with equipment. Having pickups with 180 to 200k miles on them is asinine. Wardens are expected to assist other agencies when needed. The paths they take destroy their equipment faster than any other agency or function. SAR related equipment such as sleds that will get into the back county, helicopter and fixed wing needs and flight costs are very important. They need more flight time to prohibit poaching near the tribal boundaries of the Crow reservation and elsewhere. Per diem- the employees don't want to go out of town due to the token per diem. Needs to be made equivalent to feds. Get after invasive and noxious weeds. Up the penalty for failure to stop at a check point/station. The bison hunt is a fraud. Come down to Livingston and jump in. I'll show you how ridiculous things are. How dangerous and discriminating things are. It isn't about treaty rights. It is about safety. Access - who within FWP submitted a letter in support of the East side land exchange within the Crazy mountains. Not cool and not proper. We need access not to be locked out. Board of Outfitters. Fox in the chicken house! Change the law back to require logs. Net hunter client logs are needed for calculation of fees, investigating complaints and simple basic regulation/management of the industry. Thanks for your service. Shawn Tripp 406-930-0515

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:32:54 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:32

First Name:

Mike

Last Name:

Henrich

Email Address:

henrichm23@yahoo.com

Subject:

I-193 is an abomination.

Comment:

I do not support I-193. All wildlife in Montana belongs to all citizens of Montana. Game animals are a public resource, which landowners should not have the right to harvest, outside of the already defined hunting regulations. Just because elk, deer and black bear congregate on private property, it doesn't give the landowner the right to harvest game animals as they see fit. If the landowners want to hunt, they need to purchase tags like the rest of us. It is time to stop the privatization of wildlife in Montana. The animals are here for us all to enjoy and hunt, not for private landowners to use at their discretion.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:40:40 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:40

First Name:

Michael

Last Name:

Grinyer

Email Address:

mrgrinyer@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

As a rural resident landowner, I ask that you reject I-193. Privatizing wildlife will not lead to better management. There are tools in place to accommodate situations that specifically affect landowners. Some need to be refined and perhaps new ones developed. The state abdicating its responsibility to manage wildlife is not a solution. Thank you for taking my input.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:33:25 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:33

First Name:
Griffin

Last Name:
Flannery

Email Address:
gflannery1@gmail.com

Subject:
I-193

Comment:

I believe I-193 erodes FWP's ability to effectively manage the populations of critical game species. These species provide significant funding for conservation in the state via both the sale of hunting licenses and tags, and in tourism (as they are important members of the ecosystems that support other non-game species that tourists come to observe). Furthermore, it would establish precedent to provide preferential access to a common asset held in trust by the state to a select group of people to the detriment of common Montana residents. Landowners have a significant, and earned, advantage in the form of their right to hunt on their land absent the pressure of other hunters. The animals themselves do not belong to landowners. These are not the king's deer. They freely cross borders from private to public lands. FWP is entrusted with the management of the health of these populations as a whole. If they're unable to control the number of tags issued for a specific district, the for would be open for two negative outcomes. The first is the decline in the health of these populations. The second is a system in which the potential exists for wealthy landowners to preclude common hunters from ever having the opportunity to hunt Montana's premier game districts. This would severely limit conservation funding brought in by both resident and non-resident hunters applying for tags, and would damage Montana's reputation as a hunting destination. I-193 undermines the core pillars of the North American Model of Conservation.

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From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:47:24 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 10:47

First Name:

Amy

Last Name:

Groen

Email Address:

amy.groen@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

It's disheartening to continue to see bills such as this one even being considered. Let's stick to the North American model of hunting, treating wildlife as part of the public trust, and eliminate these giveaways to those "privileged" enough to own what most Montanans can only dream of affording. This is a bad idea, and it's a slippery slope to other bad ideas. Please ensure that this doesn't find its way to the next legislative session.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Sunday, December 3, 2023 4:43:57 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 3rd December 2023 16:43

First Name:
MICHAEL

Last Name:
Getman

Email Address:
mhg4556@gmail.com

Subject:
Initiative I-193

Comment:

I oppose adding I-193 to the 2024 ballot for a vote. I object to this initiative for the following reasons -
- it privatizes wildlife - it usurps FWP's ability to manage wildlife
- it violates many principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation
-it may be a violation of the Montana Constitution

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:00:25 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:00

First Name:
Stephanie

Last Name:
Fitte

Email Address:
slfitte@yahoo.com

Subject:
Do not support I-193

Comment:

This completely undermines the North American Wildlife model and unfairly tips the scales to get permits in trophy units coveted by Montana sportsmen to benefit wealthy landowners, many of whom are non-residents. Imagine how fast unit 270 would decline for trophy mule deer if everyone could just hunt/outfit/lease without a permit on private land? or 380 for elk? Or any of the other units we as Montana residents, taxpayers and voters put in for drawings every year hoping to draw. If landowners want general tags, buy land in general units. This proposal needs to end here. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:04:01 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:03

First Name:

Matt

Last Name:

Stevens

Email Address:

lostelkhunter@yahoo.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Bill I-193 is a direct threat to the north American wildlife model of successful wildlife management. The north American wildlife model rejects the privatization of wildlife, rather holding it in public trust, which has shown dramatically to protect wildlife populations. On our reservations, where the wildlife licenses have been subject to being sold for extremely high costs, it has shut out the general public, where wealth is reserved for a select few controlling operatives, and haven't necessarily benefitted total whole communal tribal needs. That is a topic, in and of itself, however outside of these lands, and lands within the state must be managed by the state. The state already has functions in place to provide landowner tags through drawing, and montana resident landowners can buy tags over the counter. It is mainly an issue for wealthy out of state landowners, to try and beat the effective management system, and privatize wildlife. I live out of state and will buy land in Montana one day, being a montana native, but I expect to adhere to the current wildlife model as it is fair to landowners and the general public at large. We already have massive issues in Utah where they privatize approx 300 tags a year. We must manage wildlife for the public as a whole and not a few. It has always shown to protect wildlife from extortion and overcharges. Matt Stevens B.S. CONSERVATION BIOLOGY, FISH AND WILDLIFE EMPH. BYU 1998

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:05:29 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:05

First Name:

Randall

Last Name:

Knowles

Email Address:

KnowlesMontana@Juno.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

The Montana Constitution specifically makes ALL wildlife in montana the property of the public, and it should remain so. Public Access to Public Land [nearly 1/3 or MT] goes hand in hand with our fore fathers decision to make all wildlife public property. THEREFORE do NOT add 1-193 to the 2024 ballot.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:06:25 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:06

First Name:

Steven

Last Name:

Rea

Email Address:

steven_rea@hotmail.com

Subject:

Draft I-193 : Shouldn't even be in realm of consideration

Comment:

Dear Committee Members, Thank you for your service to our Montana community and representing us. Considering your service as our representatives, it is very hard for me to believe that draft I193 would even be considered to go on a ballot as an initiative. This should be dead in the water from the beginning as there is zero benefit for Montanans other than the vast minority of extremely wealthy large landowners. In addition, it is so vaguely written that it would seem to open up the State to countless lawsuits and legal wrangling that could go on for years. It sure sounds like it's set up with the intent to give unlimited hunting opportunities to ultra wealthy large landowners and their billionaire buddies, which seems in direct opposition to what's good for Montanans. Unless I'm reading this wrong, it seems like it would essentially transfer ownership of the wildlife from the State to uber wealthy individuals. I'm sorry if I'm preaching to the choir as I expect you already know this, but this really is a non-starter from the beginning. So if you could kindly please save us all the wasted time and expense of using any more of our government resources on this, it would be most appreciated. Thank you, Steve Rea

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:06:26 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:06

First Name:

Jacob

Last Name:

Dillon

Email Address:

jdillon.jmnds@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193 Petition

Comment:

I strongly urge the counsel not to support the proposed I-193. Our conservation system is predicated upon a tradition of equal opportunity. All men and women, regardless of means or status, are afforded equal opportunities to obtain licenses and hunt wild game. In this respect, there is no such thing as the "king's deer," everyone has the equal right to the benefit and enjoyment of Montana's wildgame. This tradition is not unlimited, however, these privileges have always been subject to reasonable regulation and (most importantly) limits on take needed to conserve this valuable resource. The proposed I-193 would subvert these principles. First, it would elevate a class of citizens, landowners, above the general populace - effectively granting them de facto ownership, and entitling them to the exclusive use and enjoyment, of a finite public resource. Second, in immunizing landowners from regulations designed to limit take, I-193 would undermine responsible management. Clearly, the proposed I-193 is inconsistent with our traditions of equal opportunity and sensible management. For these reasons, I strongly urge EQC to not support the proposed I-193.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:13:13 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:13

First Name:

Bret

Last Name:

Lian

Email Address:

bret.lian@gmail.com

Subject:

Opposed to I-193

Comment:

I am opposed to I-193, and urge the EQC to take into consideration what a massive reversal this idea could pose to over a century of wildlife management and the Public Trust. It would basically erase the hunting of most Montanans, giving favor to a few, ignoring the salient biological fact that wildlife are unaware of cadastral boundaries, and turn Montana into a twisted version of Europe. No thank you. I urge you to oppose. Thank you for the opportunity to comment, Bret Lian 122 Wild Rose Rd Jefferson City, MT 59638

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:14:35 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:14

First Name:

D.D.

Last Name:

Funderburk

Email Address:

ddfmail@bresnan.net

Subject:

citizen's initiative (I-193)

Comment:

I object to this initiative for the following reasons - - it privatizes wildlife - it usurps FWP's ability to manage wildlife - it violates many principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation -it may be a violation of the Montana Constitution

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-ecq/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:40:47 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:40

First Name:

Bob

Last Name:

Farrell

Email Address:

mtgreenheads@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Greetings- I am opposed to I-193. This appears to be an attempt to further privatize our wildlife resources. I don't believe wealthy out of staters should be able to purchase elk, deer and bears.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:17:07 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:16

First Name:

D.D.

Last Name:

Funderburk

Email Address:

ddfmail@bresnan.net

Subject:

NO to initiative (I-193)

Comment:

I object to this initiative for the following reasons - - it privatizes wildlife - it usurps FWP's ability to manage wildlife - it violates many principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation -it may be a violation of the Montana Constitution

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From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:30:15 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:29

First Name:

MATT

Last Name:

BRYN

Email Address:

matt@grizzlyhackle.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I absolutely OPPOSE you supporting I-193. Wildlife belongs to the public!

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:32:26 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:32

First Name:

Trevor

Last Name:

Smith

Email Address:

backcountryhnter@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I am in strong opposition to bill initiative I-193 which would allow landowners to hunt on their land without acquiring a tag. Just because an animal is on private land doesn't make it their deer nor give them the inherent right to harvest them. Wildlife is held in a public trust for a reason and landowners need to jump through the same hoops as everyone else to get tags. The majority of the people who want this are out of state landowners, this bill would increase the number of tags allocated, increase hunting pressure and likely increasing harvest on sensitive populations

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To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Sunday, December 3, 2023 6:13:03 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 3rd December 2023 18:12

First Name:

Gael

Last Name:

Bissell

Email Address:

gbissell535@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Wildlife are not a private commodity like wheat or barley but belong to all the people of Montana and are held and managed in Trust by the State and, in some cases, native tribes. Private landowners should not be given any special hunting privileges for public wildlife that are on their land. Let Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks continue to manage this invaluable resource for all of us. I-193 is another step on a very slippery slope to continue to privatize wildlife.

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From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:36:13 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:36

First Name:

Christopher

Last Name:

Christopher Dios

Email Address:

christopher.dios@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I I am writing you to object to the passage of Bill I – 193, allowing private landowners to circumvent game management rules. The millionaire hunters and outfitting lobby in the state already have enough advantages. This would undermine our game management efforts and further sell out Montana blue-collar hunters. I say no to this bill. - Chris Dios, Roundup MT

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

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To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:39:34 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:38

First Name:

Parker

Last Name:

Davis

Email Address:

parkerdavis84@icloud.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

This initiative completely undermines the public wildlife management system in Montana. Especially with all of the other private land owner incentives this state already offers.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

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To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:39:39 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:38

First Name:

Parker

Last Name:

Davis

Email Address:

parkerdavis84@icloud.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

This initiative completely undermines the public wildlife management system in Montana. Especially with all of the other private land owner incentives this state already offers.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

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To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:39:40 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:39

First Name:

Tony

Last Name:

Reinhardt

Email Address:

speyrod@msn.com

Subject:

I 193

Comment:

Please do not support I 193. Montana is the best example of wildlife management in the country. There is no need to jeopardize that because a handful of individuals did not do their due diligence before buying land inside a tribal reservation.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:43:55 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:43

First Name:

J.T.

Last Name:

McIntyre

Email Address:

johntmac5@gmail.com

Subject:

I DO NOT SUPPORT I-193

Comment:

Thank you for evaluating my comment as a 4th generation Montanan. I oppose initiative I-193 and find it unfair for landowners to stake claim to game outside of the regulation of the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks. Game animals such as Elk, Deer, and Black bear are not owned by a private party and they don't become property of private land owners once they cross from public land to private land. Montana is not a pay-to-play state and I oppose what this initiative is trying to establish as law.

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To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:44:54 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:44

First Name:

Donald

Last Name:

Lanham

Email Address:

lanham409@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I do NOT support I-193 and I urge EQC to NOT support this proposed ballot initiative. I-193 will weaken Montana's system of managing wildlife and fish as a public trust resource on private lands. I-193 tries to enact a wall around common sense wildlife management and keep everything secret on private lands. As an avid hunter and fly fisherman I see this as another way to get around the cap on out of state tags. Please DO NOT support I-193.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:40:48 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:40

First Name:

Bob

Last Name:

Farrell

Email Address:

mtgreenheads@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Greetings- I am opposed to I-193. This appears to be an attempt to further privatize our wildlife resources. I don't believe wealthy out of staters should be able to purchase elk, deer and bears.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:49:16 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:49

First Name:

Macayla

Last Name:

Greider

Email Address:

mgreider97@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193 bill

Comment:

This bill is problematic in numerous ways. Not only does it undermine the authority and mission of Montana fish wildlife and parks, it classisly denies access to resources. This is in direct violation of the tenants of wildlife management and is a slap in the face to hunters and wildlife managers.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 11:49:18 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 11:49

First Name:

Macayla

Last Name:

Greider

Email Address:

mgreider97@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193 bill

Comment:

This bill is problematic in numerous ways. Not only does it undermine the authority and mission of Montana fish wildlife and parks, it classisly denies access to resources. This is in direct violation of the tenants of wildlife management and is a slap in the face to hunters and wildlife managers.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:02:35 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:01

First Name:

Rich

Last Name:

Janssen Jr

Email Address:

rich.janssen@cslt.org

Subject:

Initiative referendum 193

Comment:

I am against this initiative referendum 193. It is clear the Hellgate Treaty of 1855 supersedes the state of Montana which was formed in 1889. The Hellgate treaty explicitly states in ARTICLE 3. The exclusive right of taking fish in all the streams running through or bordering said reservation is further secured to said Indians; as also the right of taking fish at all usual and accustomed places, in common with citizens of the Territory, and of erecting temporary buildings for curing; together with the privilege of hunting, gathering roots and berries, and pasturing their horses and cattle upon open and unclaimed land. The big game subsistence hunting within the exterior boundaries of the Flathead Indian Reservation belongs to the people of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Regardless of what the author stated via property rights in the 1950's this is another attempt by Mr. Schoening to capitalize on a resource that doesn't belong to him. Mr. Schoening and individuals with similar opinions have a choice to either live within the exterior boundaries of the Flathead Indian Reservation or not. The law is clear on this issue. This is a waste of tax payer dollars to continually put forth such frivolous issues to erode Indian sovereignty the year of 2023.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:14:58 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:14

First Name:

ALEX

Last Name:

SAAD

Email Address:

ALEXANDRIA_SAAD@YAHOO.COM

Subject:

An Initiative that does not put Montanan's first.

Comment:

This recently introduced initiative fails to uphold the values and moral of Montana. With vague descriptions, confusing sentence structure and lack of clear distinction on what rules and regulations would apply to the landowner's - FWP should have the authority to set the rules in which landowners are or are not allowed to harvest on their land. Landowners should be permitted to follow the same process as non-land owning hunters. Purchase a valid license, purchase valid tags, and follow the regulations per hunting District. Not only does this initiative undermine the hard work of FWP but also the residents of Montana as well as the North American model for Wildlife Conversation. This should be highly reconsidered, reworded and open to Public comment and action for more than 24 hours before the meeting. Absolutely disrespectful to the people of Montana! Wildlife is not to be privatized and sold off to the highest bidder. Do your job to act in the best interest of the people of Montana!

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Monday, December 4, 2023 5:03:39 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 4th December 2023 05:03

First Name:

Glenn

Last Name:

Elison

Email Address:

glennelison@gmail.com

Subject:

Initiative 193

Comment:

I strongly object to and urge you not to advance I-193. This initiative would: - privatize wildlife - usurp FWP's ability to manage wildlife - violate many principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, and - may violate the Montana Constitution The initiative would turn Montana into a hunting culture similar to Europe and Texas. That's bad for Montanans but just fine for wealthy, out of state landowners. Kill this initiative! Glenn Elison

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:29:15 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:28

First Name:

Russell

Last Name:

Fruits

Email Address:

rfruits@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

The North American model of game management has historically been the key to managing a diverse and sustainable game population. The push for certain landowners to bypass a key tenant of game management is no appropriate for Montana. As a landowner I expect to follow all hunting laws and bag limits. Giving landowners the opportunity to bypass this will lead to undesired impacts on hunting traditions in our state.... Russell Fruits - Helena

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:30:08 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:30

First Name:

Sheamus

Last Name:

Vaughan

Email Address:

vaughan.sheamus@gmail.com

Subject:

In opposition of I-193

Comment:

Ballot Initiative I-193 fails to offer adequate compensation for the increased permissiveness in take of a common public good (wildlife). Furthermore it inhibits FWP from effectively managing our natural resources by opening cracks through which landowners may choose to ignore necessarily implemented special drawing and permitting. Finally the loss of revenue due to hunting by nonresident landowners is caustically timed, given the influx of new property ownership in the state. This Initiative would do nothing in the service of Montanan's.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:30:10 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:30

First Name:

Jason

Last Name:

Koehler

Email Address:

jasonkoehler2009@gmail.com

Subject:

Ballot initiative allowing landowners to hunt with no tags

Comment:

This is a blatant slap in the face to the sportsman who have dreamed of hunting an area for a lifetime - applied for years and years of points in an area (contributing \$\$\$ to the health and well being of trophy animals) and hope to some day draw. The largest effect of this bill is a major transfer of public wealth (publicly managed wild animals) to land owners that largely increases the value of their property and allows monetizing of a public good. Ridiculous, shameful, and pathetic.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:35:50 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:35

First Name:
GRANT

Last Name:
PETERSEN

Email Address:
rngrfromthemtns@gmail.com

Subject:
No ballot initiative 193

Comment:
193 give wealthy landowners and their friends an out from following rules set by the department as well as bypasses the North American Model of wildlife management. It will lead to the privatization of public resources.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:51:49 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:51

First Name:

Tim

Last Name:

Peterson

Email Address:

peterson.timothy.s@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193 is a terrible idea

Comment:

This is completely against Montana values and is terrible for wildlife management.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:45:05 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:44

First Name:

Alex

Last Name:

Charbonneau

Email Address:

alex@charbonneau.id

Subject:

Opposing I-193

Comment:

Hello, I am writing to express my opposition to the inclusion of initiative I-193 as a ballot initiative. This initiative runs counter to the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. It would grant landowners a privileged and exclusionary status above that of every other citizen of Montana without any justification. It sets our progress in wildlife conservation and social equality back over 150 years when game animals were hunted to near extinction. This initiative would start Montana down the slippery slope to a system that emulates the King's deer of feudal Europe - and it is obvious that that will be the eventual goal of many supporters of this initiative. Aside from the detrimental effects this initiative will have on the future of hunting in Montana, we need to remember that game animals are managed BY THE PUBLIC. Regardless of the exact location of a game animal - be it on private or public land - its status as a publicly managed resource is unchanged. Game animals belong to the public, and should remain that way. Proponents of this initiative and the many similar attempts we've seen to achieve similar goals have failed to justify their intentions. Game animal populations are not managed on a piecemeal system of individual plots of land, they are managed at a statewide and district level. Borders between private and public land are irrelevant in this game management because management does not occur on the level of individual animals that reside in finite locations. I wholeheartedly oppose initiative I-193. Alex Charbonneau

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:51:51 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:51

First Name:

Chris

Last Name:

Pillatzke

Email Address:

cpillatzke@gmail.com

Subject:

No permit for landowners

Comment:

I oppose Initiative Would Allow Montana Landowners to Hunt Big Game Without Permits

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 12:52:05 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 12:51

First Name:

Chris

Last Name:

Pillatzke

Email Address:

cpillatzke@gmail.com

Subject:

No permit for landowners

Comment:

I oppose Initiative Would Allow Montana Landowners to Hunt Big Game Without Permits

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:15:44 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:15

First Name:

Nina

Last Name:

Hance

Email Address:

nina.hance@gmail.com

Subject:

Please OPPOSE I-193

Comment:

Please OPPOSE ballot initiative I-193. This initiative does NOT support wildlife or Montanans and is exclusive to private landowners. This would privatize elk and deer and destroy Montana's system (FWP) for managing wild game. The impact of this bill will extend beyond private land boundaries. The health and population of wild game in Montana will be negatively impacted. Please OPPOSE this bill and allow FWP to continue to successfully manage our elk and deer populations. Thank you.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:23:33 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:23

First Name:

Justin

Last Name:

Anest

Email Address:

justinanest2010@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

This is a ridiculous proposal and another way to privatize montanas wildlife and turn it into a game of how much money can be made off of it. The populations are already in decline because of the large amounts of out of state tags given out. Making every unit a general tag for landowners will only compound this problem

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:23:54 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:23

First Name:

Noah

Last Name:

Puskar

Email Address:

npuskar88@gmail.com

Subject:

I 193

Comment:

I do not support the ideas presented in I-193. I believe wildlife should continue to be owned and managed for the public. I do not support the idea of private land owners having different regulations or additional access to a public resource. Please do not let this progress any further. I am an avid public land hunter from Clinton Montana. Thank you

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Monday, December 4, 2023 6:18:02 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 4th December 2023 18:17

First Name:

bryan

Last Name:

thies

Email Address:

montbryan@yahoo.com

Subject:

I-193 proposal

Comment:

Please know that i am apposed to I-193 as a hunter, trapper, outdoorsman, ranch land owner and a member of the FWP Region 4 Citizens Advisory council. Bryan Thies, Cascade MT 59421

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:28:17 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:28

First Name:

Ian

Last Name:

Wargo

Email Address:

iwargo@rpa-kal.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I am writing to express my opposition to I-193. I-193 is a blatant attack on our wildlife resource being held in the "public trust" and a large step toward privatization of our wildlife. Speaking directly to my fellow Republicans on the EQC, before you vote on this issue, I hope you think long and hard about who your base truly is. It is hard-working blue-collar folks like myself, it is not the white collar landowners that are behind this proposal. If you want to pander for votes from your donors go ahead and vote for I-193, but I can assure you it will be political suicide. There are a lot more of me than there are of them and folks like myself will view a vote in favor of I-193 as a big screw you message to your dedicated base. A vote for I-193 is a vote for the privatization of wildlife and a sure way to alienate your base. Please feel free to reach out to me if you would like to discuss 406-253-9879. Thank you for your time.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:31:27 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:31

First Name:

John

Last Name:

Sprague

Email Address:

grizzsprague@gmail.com

Subject:

BI 193

Comment:

Do not allow this to pass. Period

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:31:30 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:31

First Name:

John

Last Name:

Sprague

Email Address:

grizzsprague@gmail.com

Subject:

BI 193

Comment:

Do not allow this to pass. Period

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:33:11 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:33

First Name:

Jim

Last Name:

Nave

Email Address:

jamesnave48@gmail.com

Subject:

Proposed Ballot Initiative 193

Comment:

Please register this comment as opposed to proposed ballot initiative 193. This bill is bad for big game management and creates a separate tier of individuals who have more rights to hunt our public wildlife than the rest of the populace. Anyone who purchases land within the boundaries of an Indian Reservation, or in a hunting district that requires elk permits to harvest a bull elk should have to follow the same laws as everyone else. If you are purchasing land in one of these areas it is your responsibility to do the due diligence regarding the hunting regulations for the area/district where the land is located. It should come as no surprise if you buy property within an Indian Reservation that you cannot hunt big game on the property you purchase. It's pretty easy to gain an understanding of the regulations before you spend a million or more on a piece of property. This bill just further privatizes wildlife for the wealthy 1 percent who can afford to buy a ranch in Montana. If you want to hunt elk and deer in Montana you should have to follow the same set of rules as everyone else. If you want to hunt on your property every season, buy property in a hunting district that doesn't require an elk permit via drawing, and become a citizen of the State of Montana so you can buy an elk license every year. This is a blatant grab of State resources by the wealthy. I'd love to elk hunt in District 622 and that is why I enter the drawing every year in hopes of drawing a tag.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:49:24 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:49

First Name:

Bruce

Last Name:

Sterling

Email Address:

bsterling56@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

This is a poorly written, very ambiguous and a terrible idea. Please vote no on endorsing I-193! Thank you.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:38:16 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:37

First Name:

Kelly

Last Name:

Parks

Email Address:

kellycparks@yahoo.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I oppose this initiative as it jeopardizes the public's interests in wildlife management and has great potential to further erode public trust in the departments entrusted to do so. No persons, resident or non resident, private landowner or not, should be allowed unregulated and unrestricted access to wildlife resources that are declared to be equally held in public trust by the state constitution. The risk of misuse and uncontrolled capitalization of these valuable resources is far too great. History has proven this to be true far too many times.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:41:15 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:41

First Name:

Micah

Last Name:

McFeely

Email Address:

micah.mcfely@gmail.com

Subject:

Strong Opposition to I-193: Preserve Montana's Wildlife Legacy

Comment:

Dear Environmental Quality Council, I strongly oppose I-193, the proposed initiative threatening Montana's wildlife management. As a Montana-born and female hunter from the Flathead and Gallatin Counties, I'm deeply concerned about its potential to grant unfair privileges to landowners, eroding our state's tradition of equitable access to public lands and responsible wildlife management. I echo Montana BHA's vice chair, Thomas Baumeister, in cautioning against a return to exclusive landowner rights reminiscent of feudal Europe. Wildlife should remain a public trust resource. I urge you to reject I-193, safeguarding Montana's wildlife legacy and ensuring the continued shared benefit for all residents. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Micah McFeely

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 1:44:55 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 13:44

First Name:

Nick

Last Name:

Posselt

Email Address:

nickposselt@hotmail.com

Subject:

Initiative 193

Comment:

Hi all, I am writing you today to express not only my opposition to Initiative 193 but how tired I am with these sneaky last minute initiative being snuck in every year to try and give land owners special privileges. This initiative is complete garbage and a slap many Montanans faces, especially our tribal communities. Please show the voice of the Montana public and vote Initiative 193 down. Thanks, Nick P.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 2:11:59 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 14:11

First Name:

Erik

Last Name:

Alvarado

Email Address:

erikluisalvarado@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Thus bill is absurd

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 2:20:52 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 14:20

First Name:

Adam

Last Name:

Shaw

Email Address:

a.michaelshaw@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I write to adamantly oppose I-193. This is at a minimum, the third attempt by Rich Schoening to seek big game hunting opportunity for non-triabl members on land within the CSKT reservation. His previous attempts have always been soundly rejected by our legislature. There is overwhelming public opposition to this attempt as evidenced by the extensive comments and testimony presented previously. This current attempt jeopardizes the non-reservation residents' hunting, fishing, and recreation opportunities on CSKT because of the implications this initiative may have on the Cool decision and subsequent agreement between the State of Montana and CSKT - an agreement which has worked for over 30 years that should not be undermined so that a few non-native landowners within the CSKT boundary can hunt or outfit for big game.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 2:26:31 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 14:26

First Name:

Eddie

Last Name:

Scheidler

Email Address:

escheidler86@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I strongly oppose this bill as it threatens to weaken the state of Montana's ability to regulate game populations as a public trust resource. This bill gives landowners exclusive rights and privileges that undermines the whole point of Montana's fish, wildlife and parks commission from making sure game animals in the state of Montana are properly regulated. This bill needs to be thrown out.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 8:56:25 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 08:55

First Name:

Cole

Last Name:

Auckland

Email Address:

coleauckland360@gmail.com

Subject:

EQC on I-193

Comment:

This proposed movement not only threatens the well-being and management of the wildlife populations in the state of Montana but goes against the North American model of wildlife conservation as a whole, I do not support this proposal because of these concerns -Cole Auckland

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 2:56:58 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 14:56

First Name:

Brayden

Last Name:

Byrne

Email Address:

byrne18@up.edu

Subject:

Say "No" to Ballot Initiative I-193

Comment:

I strongly disagree with this ballot initiative and believe that it goes against the North American Conservation Model. Additionally, wildlife is a resource that is held in a public trust and belongs equally to everyone and managed and entrusted to government wildlife officials. Opening hunting only to private landowners despite the rules and regulations created by our FWP creates a disparity in that public trust resource. Granting private landowners privilege's to public resources violates the public resource trust and creates an unfair advantage to resources that are supposed to be owned equally by all. I strongly encourage you to block this ballot initiative. Privatizing our public resources has no place in Montana and simply owning land should not grant anyone privilege's that are unavailable to others. Please continue to help protect our public resources so that future generations can enjoy them as we do currently and so that we can continue to call this state "the last best place." Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:02:06 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 15:01

First Name:

Matthew

Last Name:

Newsted

Email Address:

newstedmatthew@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Please DO NOT pass this initiative. This will wreck public land hunting. Privatized hunting isn't true hunting and wildlife are no longer wild. This initiative is a disaster.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:17:38 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 15:17

First Name:

Elle Weaver

Last Name:

Behring

Email Address:

missoulalaw@gmail.com

Subject:

Against Council Support for I-193

Comment:

Hello, my name is Elizabeth Behring, mom, Montanan and business owner. I am speaking out today to encourage the committee not to support initiative I-193. As a Montana citizen, I have with my fellow Montanans, entrusted your committee with the sacred responsibility to act as a check against private exploitation of our public wildlife. Gone are the days of kings. We have fought hard in Montana to make sure that our shared resources and its wildlife are owned by all of us. Sponsoring this initiative is the chicken option. Kicking management to the grass would reduce a complex question to popular opinion and a catchy idea, forsaking your responsibility to make thoughtful decisions. I am a busy mom and a small business owner who works seven days a week to make sure that my employees have a job on Monday. I have to count on FWP with its resources, access to expertise, time, and experience to make responsible decisions for the public good. If you support this initiative you will be handing over wildlife management decision-making to private landowners which comprise of 65% of Montana land. It will be both a dereliction of duty and a violation of the public trust. It is grossly negligent, in truth reckless, to give the top 10 private land owners in this state, that much power over my children's wildlife. Last time I checked being married to a Walmart heiress or owning a sports team does not make you a wildlife expert. Moreover, I don't want to empower Ted Turner, Plum Creek or some Texan billionaire to make decisions about our trophy elk populations. Finally, this committee knows this is going to result in extensive expensive litigation. It would be negligent for your committee to support I-193 and waste our resources in court. I count on my government to make complicated and difficult decisions so that I can go back to doing my job all the while trusting that agencies will do theirs.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:51:28 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:51

First Name:

Kevin

Last Name:

Farron

Email Address:

montana@backcountryhunters.org

Subject:

Please do NOT support I-193

Comment:

While it appears this ballot initiative is aimed at hunting privileges on fee patented lands within the boundaries of a reservation, it's so broadly worded that the impacts will be felt statewide, and it's incredibly problematic. As drafted, the initiative would prohibit FWP from regulating the hunting of elk and deer in limited entry units across the state - with no minimum acreage requirement! This will turn wildlife management on its head, and could drastically limit the opportunities available for Montana's hunters, further privatizing a public resource. Additionally, the language suggests that bear harvests would be allowed with no recognition of existing and important quotas. Bag limits are entirely different than quotas. This initiative is unnecessary and poorly written. Even if cleaned up to narrowly address fee patented lands within the boundaries of a reservation, the outcomes would be challenged by tribal nations with repercussions likely. In other words, non-tribal members would likely lose our privileged opportunities to fish and hunt upland birds on tribal lands. Please think this through and do not support I-193.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:31:53 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 15:31

First Name:

Morgan

Last Name:

Marks

Email Address:

gemaymarks@gmail.com

Subject:

Oppose I-193

Comment:

As a woman who is an hunter, angler, and conservationist, I strongly oppose adding I-193 to the 2024 ballot. As a Montanan, I object to this initiative for the following reasons - - it privatizes wildlife, which is unacceptable - it usurps FWP's ability to manage wildlife, which is also unacceptable as FWP is the state agency responsible for managing wildlife - it violates many principles of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation which have dictated Montana's hunting heritage and traditional practices -it may be a violation of the Montana Constitution Thank you, Morgan Marks Great Falls

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:20:55 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:20

First Name:

Jacob

Last Name:

Foster

Email Address:

jacob.foster1848@gmail.com

Subject:

Vote "NO" on I-193

Comment:

Please vote "no" on I-193. Wildlife is a public good and as such no individual is entitled to harvest certain species, regardless of how much land they own. Everyone should follow the same hunting regulations. Regulations are important for wildlife population management that have different needs place-to-place and year-to-year. Giving a person extra access because they're a landowner, threatens the vitality of Montana's wildlife and the integrity of our ability to manage it. It also threatens to privatize Montana's wildlife for those who can afford it. This is a step in the direction creating pay-to-play wildlife management in MT. An initiative like this is great for the rich, but bad for Montanans. Please vote "No."

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:22:24 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:22

First Name:

Janice

Last Name:

Grinyer

Email Address:

janice.grinyer@gmail.com

Subject:

Vote NO on I-193

Comment:

Respectfully to those who are considering I-193; Montana's wildlife belongs to ALL Montanans, no matter where the wildlife chooses to go. To establish a bill such as I-193 is to deny ALL Montanans the ability to properly manage wildlife with their tax dollars through the FWP. Proper management is always science based, not profit based. Releasing wildlife management protocol via the proposed I-193 so that a limited number of unqualified profit-based landowners will benefit only off of hunting of Montana Public's wildlife insures that there will be little to NO wildlife in Montana's future. Respectfully signed as a Montana Landowner in Region 7, Janice L. Grinyer

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Saturday, December 2, 2023 6:37:38 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 2nd December 2023 06:37

First Name:

Rick

Last Name:

Schoening

Email Address:

rickschoening112@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193!

Comment:

Greetings Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Rick Schoening. I currently make my home in Lake County and own land here. I am a retired Montana Game Warden. I served in this capacity for 28 years; the last 21 years was in the Polson Warden District. I also served 7 years as the Detective for the city of Polson Police Department. During these 35 years behind the badge, I have always followed the rule of law and expected everyone else to do the same, including the State of Montana. I served the citizens of Montana, just as you all are doing. I am not affiliated with any organization but am representing myself and the private landowners of over 3.3 million acres. I am here today as a proponent of I-193. Unjustly, landowners living within the exterior boundaries of the seven Indian reservations, do NOT have the same rights as landowners living outside of these political boundaries. This is wrong!! We are citizens and taxpayers just like the rest of the people. As the game warden in Polson I witnessed this inequity firsthand. I was the guy drinking coffee with and listening to many of these landowners. Landowner relations was a big part of my job. I was also the guy issuing tickets to some of them or their family members, for shooting deer or elk on their own lands. I never felt it was right, but it was my job to enforce the Fish Wildlife and Parks Commission's regulation. I made it a point that someday I would fix this wrong. This is the reason that I am here today. I recently spoke with a tribal elder from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes about this initiative. Here is what he had to say, "This rule is obviously a white man rule. No Indian would ever ask to have this done. Our people have always hunted together and shared the bounty of the hunt with our families and neighbors. The wild elk and deer belong to everyone., No doubt a white man rule". He supports the initiative as do many other tribal members, especially those who have children and grandchildren that cannot be enrolled due to blood quantum. They wish to someday be able to include all of their family on the hunt. Can the State of Montana Fish,

Wildlife and Parks Commission legally close private lands to hunting? Yes but, only when they follow Montana law MCA 87-1-305. This requires the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission to obtain landowner permission before creating a refuge on private land. This has never been done. No documentation exists. This law has been in effect since before 1947. It makes sense, what landowner would allow the state to close their lands to hunting without their permission? The fish, wildlife and parks commission has been violating this law all of these years. FWP is also neglecting their statutory obligation to assist and mitigate game damage experienced by these landowners. Telling them to call the tribes is not a proper response. The tribes have no obligation to help these landowners. Economic losses are very large. It is very clear that FWP does not care about these Montana citizens. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks has a big game management policy. It is their guide on how to manage deer, elk and other big game species. There are two main components. The health and viability of the game population and the tolerance of landowners. Nowhere in their policy, do political boundaries dictate their management. But yet it is a political boundary, that prevents these owners of 3.3 million acres the opportunity to harvest a deer on their own land. Section 7 of Article 9 of the Montana Constitution guarantees the Preservation of Harvest Heritage. It says, "The opportunity to harvest wild fish and wild game animals is a heritage that shall forever be preserved to the individual citizens of the state. Thousands of Montana citizens are having this constitutional right infringed on by the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission, on their OWN property! I wish to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to submit comments to this committee. This is a very, very important initiative. It is about treating landowners fairly across the state. The people of Montana will speak loudly at the ballot box. I urge you to do the right thing by us Montanans and endorse I-193! I will be available to answer any questions you may have. I have been working on this for a long time.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-ecq/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:54:36 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:54

First Name:

Tyler

Last Name:

Brothers

Email Address:

Tbro241975@gmail.com

Subject:

I193

Comment:

Please do not let private landowners own wildlife, it goes against all wildlife management principles. Vote no thanks

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:54:00 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:53

First Name:

Ross

Last Name:

Rickard

Email Address:

dirtydiego41@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Privatization of public resources is not only unethical, but it goes against many conservation, and management principles. I really hope the state of Montana does not adopt this bill, both wildlife, and the people of the state are not supported by its contents. Thank you.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:42:45 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:42

First Name:

Curtis

Last Name:

Droogsma

Email Address:

cddroogsma@icloud.com

Subject:

Ballot Initiative 193

Comment:

I disagree with this ballot initiative. It is simply another attempt at privatization of a public resource and should not be allowed out of committee. Wildlife is not private property and people who own the land have no more right to it than the general public does.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-ecq/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:35:36 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:35

First Name:

Adam

Last Name:

Hunt

Email Address:

booneandcrockettbirddogs@gmail.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

Please do not vote for I-193 to allow landowners the ability to hunt big game without permits. This exacerbates the recent move to privatize hunting and montanas big game animals. This is an absolutely idiotic bill and anyone who supports it is a complete moron.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:35:30 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:35

First Name:

Steve

Last Name:

Nicholson

Email Address:

snicholson567@yahoo.com

Subject:

The king's game

Comment:

I'll keep it short. I-193, about giving landowners the keys to the kingdom involving rights to wildlife on their own property is a direct threat to the North American model of conservation. Wildlife management belongs to the states, and as such FWP has the right to manage the resource as they see fit based on the herd health and science-based objectives. Wealthy land owners don't deserve to be outside of this regulation.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:14:30 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:14

First Name:

Lance

Last Name:

Fourstar

Email Address:

lancefourstar2017@gmail.com

Subject:

Ballot initiative

Comment:

I am opposition to this ballot initiative which underlines tribal sovereignty.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:53:37 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:53

First Name:

Sara

Last Name:

Camiscioni

Email Address:

sarac@eralambros.com

Subject:

No on this bill!

Comment:

No on this bill allowing any land owner to hunt any game on their property regardless of units and game management numbers! This is NOT conservation!

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:14:21 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:13

First Name:

Emily

Last Name:

Clewis

Email Address:

emilyireneclewis@gmail.com

Subject:

Oppose I-193

Comment:

I oppose this ballot initiative. It is another attempt to privatize wildlife.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:02:23 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:02

First Name:

Brandon

Last Name:

Gould

Email Address:

brandon.gould429@gmail.com

Subject:

Ballot Initiative 193

Comment:

Dear Council, I would like it to be known that I am strongly against considering I-193 as a legitimate initiative on our upcoming ballot. As a landowner myself, of a working family ranch in Cascade County where we also hunt, I do not think that gives me the right to supercede science, the principles of the North American Model of game management or fair chase. Land ownership does not mean wildlife ownership, they are held in trust by the state for the benefit of all Americans, not just those that own land. Decades of wildlife management could be unraveled by this initiative, as well as generations of relationship-building with our neighboring reservations to collaborate in wild game management. To say nothing of devaluing the years of preference points many of us have accrued putting in for trophy units. Please let democracy shine through and not allow this initiative to even be considered any more than it is now. Respectfully, Brandon R.M. Gould SRM Certified Professional of Rangeland Management

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:55:30 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 15:55

First Name:

Brian

Last Name:

Dunaetz

Email Address:

bdunaetz@yahoo.com

Subject:

Ballot initiative 193

Comment:

This is absolutely ludicrous! The landowner KNOWINGLY purchased land on the Rez and now because he has political pull and money he wants to change the laws to benefit himself? Absolutely not! This is no different than someone buying land in a “once in a lifetime unit” and then lobbying to change the laws because they are rich enough to own land and don’t want to follow the current rules. He KNEW going in what the rules/regulations were on the reservation and there’s no valid reason to change them!

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 3:53:06 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 15:52

First Name:

James

Last Name:

Behring

Email Address:

jamesbehring@gmail.com

Subject:

Do not support I-193

Comment:

Do not support the privatization of our public resources. The practical implications of this initiative would be devastating to the management of our wildlife in Montana. It would essentially turnover management to private landowners and betrayal of all the people who call themselves, Montanans cherish our resources. By simply owning land does not make a person or corporation qualified to manage migratory species, which are well settled to be owned by all Montanans.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:53:38 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:53

First Name:

Sara

Last Name:

Camiscioni

Email Address:

sarac@eralambros.com

Subject:

No on this bill!

Comment:

No on this bill allowing any land owner to hunt any game on their property regardless of units and game management numbers! This is NOT conservation!

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Saturday, December 2, 2023 9:58:08 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 2nd December 2023 09:58

First Name:

Don

Last Name:

Thomas

Email Address:

thomasdon@me.com

Subject:

I-193

Comment:

I object to this proposal in the strongest possible terms. Montana resident hunters are already losing an intolerable amount of hunting opportunity to wealthy non-resident landowners who do little or nothing to benefit the state. If passed, this proposal would represent an important first step in the total commercialization and ownership of public wildlife that would be totally unacceptable to most Montanans.

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 4:57:00 PM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 16:56

First Name:

Gale

Last Name:

Eversole

Email Address:

Galeeversole@gmail.com

Subject:

Ballot initiative 193

Comment:

I am writing as a registered citizen of Montana to urge you to reject upcoming surprise initiative 193 opening trophy hunting to land owners on native land. Schoening quotes the rights of landowners. Our first citizens are by law the owners of reservation lands and that is sovereign. Please I urge you to not support this :pop: surprise initiatives. Thank you

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/

From: donotreply@legmt.gov
To: [LEG Cmte-EQCcomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for EQC
Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:36:59 AM

Public Comments for the Environmental Quality Council

Date: 5th December 2023 09:36

First Name:

Eli

Last Name:

Favro

Email Address:

emfavron@gmail.com

Subject:

Opposition to I-193

Comment:

I moved to the state of Montana explicitly for the hunting, fishing, and trapping this state offers. I also came to revel in and participate in the conservation ethic embodied here. I have been an ardent supporter of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation from the first introduction. I won't belittle you in detailing it here, rather I will trust you understand its tenants. The words of those tenants, '...held in public trust,' are the very heart of wildlife conservation here in this county, and in this state. The ballot initiative laid out by I-193 flies in the face of science-based conservation, of ethical management, and of the governments duty to the people of Montana. If the Committee supports this initiative and allows it to move forward, the Committee, and each assenting member, will be in abdication of their duty to the people of Montana. Allowing landowners to be exempt from regulations around harvest objectives is abhorrent. Cutting the ability of Fish, Wildlife & Parks to properly manage the wildlife in this state off at the knees, this initiative actively damages the well-being of wildlife and people in Montana. It is disheartening and repulsive to think this idea could be considered. This initiative does nothing to help the everyday Montanan. Rather, it caters to the already advantaged landowner (landowners already hold privileges in regards to tag allowances), and causes harm to those who wish to hunt on public land. That should not, cannot, be the goal of any component of this state's government. In the clearest and strongest possible terms, I urge you to oppose I-193. It is bad for the people and it is bad for the wildlife. Thank you for your time. I look forward to reading the meeting minutes, and learning of your decision. Sincerely, Eli Favro

Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/eqc/public-comments-eqc/