

April 14, 2017

Ms. Martha Williams
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
1420 E. 6th Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Ms. Williams,

In keeping with the Madison River Foundation's mission to *preserve, protect, and enhance* the Madison River and its fishery, we recently surveyed our membership to discover how well the Foundation is representing our constituency.

By an overwhelming majority, when asked if our members supported the regulation changes made by FWP for the Madison River, our membership did not support the changes that were made. They do support the reinstatement of a seasonal closure.

We feel that opening the main stem and its tributaries during the time when rainbows spawn adds a significant and completely avoidable risk to the population stability of that species in both the Madison River and in Hebgen reservoir. We would like for FWP to reconsider this regulation change and reinstate seasonal closures.

We would appreciate and welcome the opportunity to discuss this and any other future management decisions under consideration for the Madison River. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jackie Mathews
President



Liz Davis
Executive Director