



May 12, 2016

Chris Hammond
Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area Proposed Viewing Stations Project
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
490 North Meridian Road
Kalispell, MT 59901

Dear Mr. Hammond:

The Flathead Audubon Society is a local, active group of people interested in sound stewardship and management of natural resources. Many of our members are regular users of Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area and quite familiar with the area.

We have reviewed the Environmental Assessment for Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area Proposed Wildlife Viewing Stations posted on the FWP website and submit the following comments.

We support the selection and implementation of Alternative B-Proposed Action. We agree that the environmental effects would be minor and overall the project would result in improved wildlife viewing opportunities.

We commend you for responding to the public comments, including ours, calling for increased wildlife viewing opportunities on the WMA and for designing and planning for the project to be accomplished in a timely manner.

We note that the funding for the Viewing Stations Project is a combination of Nongame Tax Check-off money and WMA Capital Projects and feel this project is a good use of those funds.

We suggest considering adding a screening fence or similar structure at the corner of the dike at Site 3 as most birds near the site will be flushed by users that walk toward the dike without such screening.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Kay Mitchell, President
Flathead Audubon Society