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JUN 0 2 1993 OF MONTANA

Executive Order No. 6-93

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE GOVERNOR'S PRIVATE LAND/PUBLIC WILDLIFE ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the 53rd session of the Montana Legislature adopted HJR 24, a joint resolution requesting that the Governor's office coordinate an effort among landowners, outfitters, the sporting community and the public to address common goals that will mutually benefit the interests of all parties as well as the interests of Montana wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, HJR 24 acknowledged that landowner/outfitter/
sportsperson relations have become increasingly strained over
the past several years; landowners feel victimized, helpless
to control increasing game populations and that their
contributions to wildlife habitat are overlooked;
sportspersons are concerned about diminishing access to
private and public land for hunting opportunities and view
this as a threat to the long-term viability of wildlife
management and our hunting heritage; and, outfitters are
interested in stabilizing their industry and improving their

image; and,

WHEREAS, HJR 24 urged landowners, outfitters, the sporting community, and the public to work together to address these issues in a sustained, cooperative, and positive manner and to mitigate the tension arising from polarization by:

- (1) recognizing the contributions of:
 - (a) private landowners, who provide wildlife habitat and hunting opportunities;
 - (b) the sporting community, which provides financial and political support for sound wildlife management; and
 - (c) the outfitting industry, which provides a valid service and is an important industry in Montana; and

WHEREAS, HJR 24 requested that the Office of the Governor, through the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, coordinate a sustained, ongoing, cooperative effort to address these issues by establishing statewide, regional, and local groups to develop mutually satisfactory solutions that will preserve Montana's hunting and wildlife heritage; and

WHEREAS, HJR 24 encouraged the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks to provide administrative assistance as necessary to enhance the cooperative effort; and,

WHEREAS, HJR 24 requested that solutions be reported to future legislatures and that legislation introduced by any of these groups reflect the mutual interests of landowners,

outfitters, and the sporting community,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Montana, specifically Sec. 2-15-122, MCA, do hereby appoint the Governor's Private Land/Public Wildlife Advisory Council.

I. PURPOSE:

- (A) The Private Land/Public Wildlife Advisory Council, working with representative local advisory groups, shall define common goals, including but not limited to:
 - 1) achieving optimum hunter access,
 - 2) protecting wildlife habitat,
 - minimizing impacts on and inconvenience to landowners,
 - 4) encouraging the continuance of a viable outfitting industry, and
 - 5) providing additional tangible benefits to landowners who allow hunter access.
- (B) Further, the council, working with representative local advisory groups, shall advise the director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission on measures to address the above goals.
- (C) In its advisory role, the council shall seek the advice and participation of affected interests, including:
 - 1) private citizens,

- 2) groups representing agricultural interests,
- 3) groups representing the outfitting industry,
- groups representing the sporting community,
- 5) groups representing conservation interests,
- 6) groups representing other businesses, and
- 7) affected government agencies.
- (D) In seeking the advice and participation of all affected interests, the advisory council:
 - 1) Shall create and seek advice from representative local groups which include delegates from affected interests. These sponsor groups shall take initiative to address problems at the local level and advise the council on the nature of local wildlife conservation issues and the recommended solutions. The local groups may receive direction from the council.
 - 2) May sponsor and facilitate "open houses" and other appropriate public involvement methods to provide informal opportunities for the public to review and comment on possible recommendations to the director, commission and Governor's Office.

II. COMPOSITION:

The council shall consist of up to 15 members, appointed by the Governor, and representing a variety of interests. The names and addresses of members who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor are submitted by separate letter to the

Secretary of State and the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

III. COMPENSATION:

Council members' expenses eligible for compensation under Sec. 2-15-122(5), MCA, shall be paid by the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks at a rate up to \$25 for each day actually and necessarily engaged in the performance of council duties that are approved by the department. All members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses pursuant to 2-15-122(5), MCA.

IV. DURATION:

This council shall exist for a period of two years from the effective date of this Order unless otherwise ordered by subsequent Executive Order. This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 18th day of in the year of our LORD, One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ninety-Three.

Marc Racicot, Governor

ATTEST: