MWTP SC
Notes October 11th, 2023

1. Introductions and agenda (5 min)
    a. Topics?
    b. Approve notes 8/29 - **Approved**
    c. Assign Notetaker for today – **Stephanie**

2. Mechanisms to Receive and Channel Private Contributions to Wildlife Accommodation Projects (60 minutes)
    a. Welcome J Mitch King, Executive Director Montana's Outdoor Legacy Foundation (MOLF)
    - **Montana Outdoor Legacy Foundation (MOLF):**
        - **Can hold money as a trust manager, in endowed accounts, or in smaller restricted accounts, and have some fundraising and grant application capabilities**
        - **The needs that have been identified by the SC in terms of collecting and holding resources seem to align with how MOLF has been able to do this with other projects.**
        - **Very flexible with agreements and innovative in assisting to implement priorities**
        - **There are similar processes to look at in FWP, such as Montana WILD rehab center.**
        - **Idaho F&W Foundation that is similar has supported a wildlife structure with the state agencies. Mitch will follow up with Idaho contact.**
        - **MOLF has an overhead rate ranging from 5-10%**
    - **A meeting for further discussion is scheduled for October 27th**

    b. MWTP Project Program – *MOLF? Foundation? Account holding? Mechanism for Specific Projects?*
    - **MDT Mechanism to Receive Funding:**
        - **MDT does not want to hold money until after the feasibility study is complete and a viable project is identified. Would want to draft a MOA between the different partners that outlines the resource commitments and how project will be implemented and maintained. Once the agreement is signed and funds have been transferred to MDT then design would begin and construction would follow**
        - **After completion of the feasibility study seems like the appropriate time to apply for potential federal grants. Ken noted that fundraising for a specific project is better than for a general fund.**
        - **MDT would bill the entity holding the resources. MDT overhead is 10-14%. MDT would provide a cost estimate prior to execution of MOA(s).**
        - **Once the project is finalized, MDT would return any surplus funds to the sponsor within a set period.**
    - **Dwane drafted a funding process for review and discussion. To be further refined at follow up meeting**

    c. MDT Projects (WA Process) – *MOLF? DK to work with Planning and Fiscal (ASO) to outline a more standardized process and produce a "white paper on how to"….*
    - **MDT Projects (WAP) run through very similar process as outlined in the Draft MWTP Funding Process document. But rather than a feasibility study, the funding will be received prior to finalization of the environmental document/Scope of Work.**

3. Communication Plan (DW 5 minutes)
    a. September 19 Application Q&A webinar recording on website – Great Job Team! 😊
    b. Website documents and copy are updated
    c. FWP sent email announcing November cycle coming soon to Contact list last week of September

d. ***Upcoming*** **- Nov 1, 2023 – FWP will send press release – November 2023 application cycle open**

e. **Need to update plan after November cycle? – dates for May cycle**

4. Schedule of deliverables – Tom to keep updated and share as regular agenda item (Tom, 10 min)
    a. November 2023 – May 2024

    o **Deb scheduled several meetings for application milestones and working meetings for the close of the fall cycle and in preparation for the spring cycle between November and April.**

5. Next Meetings: (All 15 minutes)
    a. Schedule Application Review and Scoring meetings, etc. for November cycle
        i. Go/No Go
        ii. Project Consensus Scoring and Classification
        iii. Placeholder/If Needed Meetings
        iv. Other – application review and processing?
        v. Future Working Meetings
        vi. Begin May 2024 cycle prep

6. What does Partnership and Program success look like after the November cycle? (Kylie)
    a. Does the Partnership need to identify and plan for other goals, benefits, needs beyond the Project Program?
    b. There will again be a push to get a fund dedicated to wildlife accommodations in the next legislature.

Table until next meeting