



## **Conservation Tourism Service**

**2022 MOGA Winter Convention**

**January 13 – 15, 2022**

**Delta Hotel**

**Helena, Montana**

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

## ***Thursday January 13th***

**1:00 – 3:00 pm**

***MOGA Board of Directors Meeting***

***RUSSELL ROOM***

This will be a meeting of the full Board of Directors. New and old Board members will be seated and the MOGA 2022 budget will be reviewed and approved.

Hannah Downey policy director at PERC

Founded in 1980 by a handful of outdoor-oriented economists in Bozeman, Montana, PERC—the Property and Environment Research Center—is a conservation and research institute dedicated to free market environmentalism. Our research examines how markets encourage cooperation instead of conflict over natural resources and how property rights make the environment an asset by giving owners incentives for stewardship. Together, they improve environmental quality.

**3:00 – 5:00 pm**

***MOGA Board and FWP Round Table GOVERNOR ROOM***

MOGA Leadership will meet with top leaders in FWP. We expect Director Hank Worsech, Dustin Temple, Robin Graham, Hope Stockwell and others to attend. This will be a roundtable discussion focusing on relationship building and higher-level policy discussions.

**3:00 – 5:00 pm**

***Registration Desk Open***

***FOYER***

Jen Croner, Kashia and Jessica will be setting up and staffing the Registration desk to assist Convention goers.

**3:00 – 5:00 pm**

***Tradeshow Setup***

***CAPITOL ROOM***

We have 19 Vendors attending this year's trade show. We have several breaks built into the schedule to encourage the interaction with the Outfitter members and vendors. Several vendors have sponsored coffee and happy hour sessions.

**5:30 – 6:30 pm**

***Outfitter Social***

***JUDICIAL ROOM***

Following the first day there will be an Outfitter Social in the Judicial Room. Complementary beer and wine will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 hosted by MOGA. Attendees will be on their own for dinner which can be ordered at the Hotel following the social.

## **Friday January 14<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 – 8:10 am**

***General Membership Meeting***

***EXECUTIVE ROO***

*President's Welcome – Dusty Crary*

Dusty will open the Convention with a welcome and some announcements.

Dusty will introduce Board members and staff

**8:10 – 9:00 am**

***Executive Directors Report***

***EXECUTIVE ROOM***

*Mac Minard, MOGA executive Director*

Mac will provide a report to the Members on the status of MOGA and a review of the past year focused on our successes and the financial status of the organization.

**9:00 – 9:30 am**

***Break/Tradeshow***

***CAPITOL ROOM***

*Sponsored by: Leavitt, CBIZ Sattler, Zenith Maritime*

**9:30 – 11:00 am Successful Outfitter Strategies**

**EXECUTIVE ROOM**

This will be a three-part session addressing some of the most relevant topics to the Outfitting industry.

- *Managing the NEW Preference Point System*

*Rob Arnaud/Karla Smith Emily Cooper (30 min)*

This session will provide the information to make the very most of the NEW preference Point System in maximizing draw success. Led by Ms. Karla Smith and Mr. Rob Arnaud, both recognized as subject matter experts and key members of the committee that designed the new system.

They will be joined by Emily Cooper, FWP Licensing Bureau Chief who will oversee the implementation of the new system and is here to answer questions and receive comments and suggestions.

- *Trends in Employee Recruitment and Retention*

*Pat Tabor, Joe Haas (30 min)*

The workplace is changing and employers must adapt to the changes in the workforce. Pat Tabor and MOGA Board Member Joe Haas will lead an informative discussion on the challenges many are facing in filling needed positions. They will seek members comments and suggestions for how others are successfully navigating this very important aspect of operating an Outfitting business.

- *Federal Wage and Hour Issues*

*Aaron Bannon (30 min)*

Aaron Bannon is the Executive Director of America Outdoors (AO) and operates his office from Lander WY. Bannon served on the AO board of directors for eight years before replacing Julie Kahlfeldt.

Bannon has a long history in the outdoor advocacy space. He came to AO from the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), where he worked for 13 years and most recently served as the environmental stewardship and sustainability director. Prior to that, Bannon spent 10 years in various conservation advocacy roles including as a media officer in Washington, DC, a wilderness advocate in Sheridan, Wyo., and a conservation consultant in San Francisco, Calif.

Aaron will do a deep dive on one of the most important and impactful changes facing the Outfitting Industry. Wage and Hour Executive Orders seem to change with every administration. The industry is now operating under as many as three highly divergent orders. Obama era, Trump era and now the Biden era orders. These orders and their impact on the industry is largely misunderstood. Aaron will provide a highly informative session and will be available for questions.

**11:00 – 12:00 pm Break/Tradeshow**

**CAPITOL ROOM**

*Sponsored by: Leavitt, CBIZ Sattler, Zenith Maritime*

**12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch and Guest Speakers**

**NATATORIUM**

*Jeremy Sage - Trends in Montana Tourism*

Dr Sage now leads the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research at the U of M. As such, he is uniquely qualified to inform Convention attendees on the trends in Montana tourism, with an emphasis on outfitted tourism, that his staff of dedicated researchers are discovering. This will be a highly informative and useful discussion.

*Governor Greg Gianforte (12:45pm)*

Greg Gianforte is an American businessman, politician, software engineer, and writer and is now serving as the 25th governor of Montana. He will provide remarks to the Convention attendees focusing on the past year and a look ahead to the next.

**1:30 – 2:30 pm FWP Licensing Platform Update**

**EXECUTIVE ROOM**

*Emily Cooper, Jessica Plunktt, Joe Haas*

FWP is engaged in a significant reprogramming of the outdated licensing platform being currently used+. During this session we will hear from the leaders and decision makers about the new platform, the timeline, and features. MOGA Director Joe Haas is a member of the advisory team working with the department and will help guide member discussion and questions.

**2:30 – 3:15 pm Board of Outfitters Updates/FAQ**

**EXECUTIVE ROOM**

*John Way- MBO Chair; Wagner Harmon - MBO Vice Chair and Mac Minard - MOGA Ex Dir*

This hard-hitting panel will lead the membership through the extensive legislative changes that took place within SB 275 and the massive rule changes that were passed recently to comply with statutory change. This panel will focus on what these changes are and exactly what they mean to the industry. Members will be invited to make comments and ask questions of the Board of Outfitters leadership.

**3:15 – 3:45 pm Break/Tradeshow- Coffee and Cookies**

**CAPITOL ROOM**

*Sponsored by: Leavitt, CBIZ Sattler, Zenith Maritime*

**3:45 – 4:30 pm FW Commission Process and Effective Involvement**

**EXECUTIVE ROOM**

*Quinten Kujala, Pat Tabor*

FWP regulations and the process by which they are introduced, debated, and commented on before ultimate action by the Commission can be confusing and intimidating. Based on many conversations with frustrated and at time bewildered members, we designed this session to inform MOGA members on the process and most effective ways to provide meaningful input in a manner that will influence the decisions affecting every outfitter and guide in Montana.

Pat Tabor serves as the vice-chair of the FWP Commission and is closing in on his first year of service. He has a keen insight into the complex nature of the rule making process and is leading on several key conservation and management issues facing the commission.

Quinten Kujala serves in leadership as the FWP Chief of Staff. Quinten is very experienced in both the commission and legislative arena and will provide a road map to effective participation within the FWP Commission process.

**4:30 – 5:30 pm**      **MOGA President - Two Year Vison**      **EXECUTIVE ROOM**  
*Dusty Crary and Mark Taylor*

Dusty Crary is the 26<sup>th</sup> President of MOGA. As he moves into his role of leading one of the most effective outfitter associations in North America, he will share his vision for the next two years. Come listen about his top priorities for the Association and his thoughts on where we have been and where we need to go to ensure MOGA remains a best of class organization.

Mark Taylor, Taylor Luther Group and MOGA lobbyist will join Dusty and provide a view of legislative priorities and review of some of the more critical races that outfitters and guides need to remain focused on.

**5:30 – 6:30 pm**      **Happy Hour in Tradeshow Venue**      **CAPITOL ROOM**  
*Sponsored by CBIZ Sattler, Outfitter Gear List and MT Canvas*

**6:30 – 8:00 pm**      **MOGA Awards Dinner**      **NATATORIUM**  
*Chris Francis to MC*

Recognizing the achievement of others and sharing with peers is an important part of the MOGA family experience. This year MOGA will recognize the leading members of the outfitting and guiding industry. Awards will be presented for Outfitter of the year, Montana Guide of the year, and Legislator of the Year as well as many others. Join us for an evening of celebration, laughs and thanks.

## **Saturday January 15th**

**7:00 - 8:00 am**      **Prayer Breakfast**      **HELENA ROOM**  
*Jim Weber*

Jim Weber will lead a session of fellowship and thanksgiving.

**8:30 – 12:00 MOGA Mule Deer Learning Session**      **EXECUTIVE ROOM**  
*Moderated by Rob Arnaud and joined by  
Randy Larson a BYU wildlife professor  
Lindsey Parsons, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks  
Will Schultz, Wyoming Game and Fish*

### ***Lindsey Parsons, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks***

Deer/Elk Coordinator for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Lindsey was born and raised in Boulder, Montana and received a B.S. in Ecology from Montana State University in 2010 followed by a M.S. in Secondary Education from Black Hills State University in 2015 and a Ph.D. in Wildlife Science from South Dakota State University in 2019. Last summer Lindsey and her fiancé welcomed a baby boy named Maverick into the world. In her free time, Lindsey enjoys bird hunting with her two springer spaniels as well as big game hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping.

MOGA has assembled some of the leading experts in the field of Mule Deer management in the American west. These experts will share perspectives and the most current science as they compare and contrast management strategies for this iconic species. Join us for this highly informative session that will be a balance of technical presentation and discussion as we try to develop policy recommendations affecting Mule deer management now and in the future.

**12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch**

**NATATORIUM**

*US Representative Matt Rosendale*

Congressman Matt Rosendale has supported the outfitting industry since his time in the Montana State Legislature. Now as Montana's lone Representative (until the second seat is elected in November 2022) Congressman Rosendale works diligently on the committees of Veterans affairs and natural resources and on behalf of Montana. Congressman Rosendale will share his thoughts on the current situation in Washington and brief us on what this industry needs to know and follow.

**1:15 – 2:30 FWP Tentative – MOGA Positions**

**GOVERNOR ROOM**

*Moderator to be Appointed*

The Fish and Wildlife Commission approved 2022/2023 hunting regulations proposals for public comment at its meeting on Dec. 14. We will examine key FW Commission proposals in advance of the January 21 comment deadline.

**2:30 – 4:00 pm Membership Meeting**

**GOVERNOR ROOM**

During this session we will host a series of Breakout sessions designed to cover a wide range of topics of interest to the Outfitting industry. The format will be multiple sessions running concurrently and Convention attendees can self-select the ones they wish to attend. Each session lasts about 30 to 40 minutes.

Breakout Topics:

- Safe and effective trails clearing – *Kibb Mills and Ian Bardwell*
- Trophy Handling – *John Cargill*
- Garmin In Reach – *Cody Carr and Outfitter Gear List*
- Fishing Outfitter Ethics – Spotlight on the industry – *Scott Vollmer*
- Other Issues Important to Association Members – *Dusty Crary*

**4:15 pm Convention Close – President Dusty Crary**

**GOVERNOR ROOM**

**4:30 - 6:00 pm Big Hearts under the Big Sky**

**CAPITOL/STATE ROOM**

Meet and Greet, Check In, Silent Auction, Happy Hour

**6:00 – 10:00 pm Big Hearts under the Big Sky Banquet and Auction**

**BALLROOM**

*Lt Governor Kristen Juris, MC*

