

June 11, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

Flathead Audubon Society, with over 400 local members in Flathead Valley, supports your proposal to build a modest 16'x16' Wildlife Viewing site next to the pole barn located on the North Shore Wildlife Management Area. We believe this public viewing site would provide the least impact to migrating waterfowl and other birds or wildlife that use this area, particularly during spring migration, while also allowing public enjoyment and educational opportunities. Appropriate fencing or low vegetative screening along the road and path and in front of the site should help reduce bird flushing and wildlife disturbance by people both parking and accessing the site.

Flathead Audubon would be potentially willing to assist FWP in selecting and planting appropriate native vegetation or monitoring the effects of wildlife viewing on wildlife use of the area. We anticipate incorporating this site into many of our future public field trips.

Thank you for continuing to improve habitat and public access viewing on the North Shore WMA.

Sincerely,

Gael Bissell, President
Flathead Audubon Society
gbissell535@gmail.com