

THE STATE OF MONTANA

Commissioner of Political Practices  
1205 Eighth Avenue  
Post Office Box 202401  
Helena, MT 59620-2401  
Phone: 406-444-2942  
Fax : 406-444-1643  
www.politicalpractices.mt.gov

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COMMISSIONER OF  
POLITICAL PRACTICES

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Ethics

Complaint Form (10/09)

Type or print in ink all information on this form except for verification signature

Person bringing complaint (Complainant):

Complete Name Trap Free Montana Public Lands  
Complete Mailing Address PO Box 1347  
Hamilton, MT 59840  
Phone Numbers: Work 406-218-1170 Home

Person or organization against whom complaint is brought (Respondent):

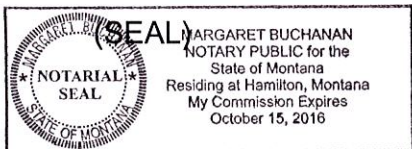
Complete Name Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks  
Complete Mailing Address 1420 East Sixth Ave  
Helena, MT 59620  
Phone Numbers: Work 406-444-4952 Home

**Please complete the second page of this form  
and describe in detail the facts of the alledged violation.**

Verification by oath or affirmation

State of Montana, County of Ravalli

I, KC Yook, being duly sworn, state that the information in this  
Complaint is complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.



KC Yook  
Signature of Complainant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9 day of

July, 2014.  
Margaret Buchanan  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 10-15-2016

## Ethics

### Complaint Form Page 2

#### Statement of facts:

Describe in detail the alleged violation(s), including pertinent dates, and cite the statute or statutes you believe have been violated. Please attach copies of documentary evidence to support the facts alleged in your statement.

If the space provided below is insufficient, you may attach additional pages as necessary.

**This complaint is against the Montana Trappers Association use of what appears to be Montana Fish Wildlife and Park's trailer and equipment in the opposition of Trap Free Montana Public Lands ballot initiative I-169.**

We believe this to be in violation of:

**MCA 2-2-101 Statement of Purpose**

and

**MCA 2-2-121 Rules of Conduct**

Copies of documentary evidence are attached and pictures are numbered.

Date of occurrence: Saturday June 14, 2014

Location: Hamilton Farmer's Market, next to the park, on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Bedford.

Parties Involved: Montana Trapper's Association Vice President West, Jason Maxwell, Angela Gerych, and 2 unidentified males.

Incident: On 6/14/14, a pickup truck with a trailer was seen parked at the Hamilton farmer's market next to the park on South 2<sup>nd</sup> street and across from the Bedford building. **(Picture 1)**

On the trailer was a logo and **"Montana Fish, Wildlife @ Parks      State Furbearer Program"**. **(Picture 2)**

Mr. Maxwell was seen unloading the trailer pulled by the pickup truck. Mr. Maxwell and the others accompanying him proceeded to unload carts. **(Pictures 2-4)**

From the carts, wildlife taxidermy displays were set up in a booth.  
A banner saying "**Vote No on I-169**" was hung in the back of the booth. (Pictures 5-9)

At the farmer's market, Mr Maxwell hand delivered to KC York a signature withdrawal page. (Signature withdrawal post **picture nbr 10**).

The Montana Trappers Association posted on the Facebook page pictures of the FWP trailer and their booth at the Hamilton Farmer's market and that individuals completed paperwork to have their name removed from the I-169 petition. (Pictures 11, 12)

The Montana Trappers Association facebook page post with accompanied picture of the MFWP marked trailer stated "The MTA's furbearer display is packed up after a successful day at the Farmer's Market!" "Visit us at Cabela's tomorrow from 10am to 4 pm". (Picture 12)

Cabela photo from Montana Trappers Association Facebook page (Picture 13)

Additional photos of the truck, trailer and license plate are attached (Pictures 14-16)

Mr. Maxwell responses on the "**Wolves and Writing**" Blog. Comments attached.  
Partial comments i.e:

"Public officer or public employee " neither pertain to the MTA or non state or federal employees. Rather embarrassing you people don't your homework before you create posts."  
(See Comment 6/18/14 4:54 pm)

"We have made magnets to cover the FWP page logo with our logo as to clear up any future misunderstandings when in our possession." (See Comment 6/18/14 6:07pm)

"The opposition has every right to use what belongs to the "public" through the MFWP. Pretty straightforward if you know your laws." (See Comment 6/19/14 9:39 am)

"The taxidermy work was donated specifically for the use of the MTA through the MFWP.  
"Public Property" can be used by the public in a political campaign as long as the public person is not a "public employee or public official." The opposition has the right to use "public property" as they see fit, just as they did when they used the local public schools to run their campaign."  
(See Comment 6/19/14 9:52am)

Attached email response from Ron Aasheim of FWP to Mike Koeppen, 6/26/14.

Attached Cowgirl Blog "**Despicable**" with comments 7/2/14.

Jason Maxwell comments, 7/3/14-7/4/14 highlighted.

Toby Walrath, president of Montana Trappers Association comment nbr 22 on 7/3/14

Attached Cowgirl Blog "**FWP: Trappers did not have permission to use state equipment to oppose ballot initiative**" with Jason Maxwell comments 7/7/14 highlighted.

Complaints must be:

- signed
- notarized
- delivered to the Commissioner in person or by certified mail.





1



2





(3)











5













 **Montana Trappers Assoc**  
8 hrs · \*

Support the Montana Trappers Assoc  
Hamilton Farmers Market today until

Like Comment Share

33 people like this.

2 shares

 **John R. Sprague** Wish I could h  
down there today. If they are goi  
Great Falls would love to help.  
3 hrs · Like

Write a comment...

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Click & Style shave  
any look. Shop now









WITHDRAWAL OF SIGNATURES .....June 20, 2014 Deadline  
Have you realized your mistake by signing the I-169 ballot  
initiative? Well it's not too late to fix it.

Signers of a petition may withdraw their own names up to the  
deadline for submission of petitions to county election  
administrators. A form for withdrawal has been prescribed by  
the Secretary of State, and is available at  
[sos.mt.gov/Elections](http://sos.mt.gov/Elections), and from any county election  
administrator.

Link to the form: [http://sos.mt.gov/elections/ballot\\_issues  
/documents/Request-for-Withdrawal-of-Petition-  
Signature.doc](http://sos.mt.gov/elections/ballot_issues/documents/Request-for-Withdrawal-of-Petition-Signature.doc)



Request for Withdrawal of Petition Signature

463x864

Signatures may be withdrawn from a petition for constitutional amendment, constitutional convention, initiative, or referendum up to the  
time of final submission of petition sheets to the county election office.

REQUEST FILED WITH COUNTY ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR

To the Election Administrator of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Montana:  
I, \_\_\_\_\_, an elector of the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and the State of Montana, having  
signed the petition for \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby request that my name be withdrawn from said petition.  
Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/Other \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

CERTIFICATION OF PETITION SIGNER SIGNATURE WITHDRAWAL - SIGNER MUST SIGN IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR AN OFFICER OF THE OFFICE WHERE THE  
FORM IS FILED

Signature of Petition Signer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NOTARY OR AUTHORIZED OFFICER

State of Montana  
County of \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Signer

Where to file:  
County Election Administrator's Office  
A list of county election officers may  
be found at: [sos.mt.gov/elections](http://sos.mt.gov/elections)

[SEAL/STAMP]

Signature of Notary or Public Official  
(Montana notaries must complete the following if not part of  
stamp at left)

Printed Name of Notary Public \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public for the State of \_\_\_\_\_

Residing at \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

92



12



Montana Trappers Association  
4 hrs

The MTA's furbearer display is packed up after a successful day at the Hamilton Farmers Market! Thank you to all for the support and especially to the individuals who completed the paperwork to have their name removed from supporting ballot initiative 169. Visit us at Cabela's tomorrow from 10 am to 4pm!

Like · Comment · Share  
19 people like this.

1 share

John Rouse Nice job !!  
1 hr · Like

Write a comment...

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Create Ad

Help Endangered Manatees  
securedefenders.org



You can help protect Florida manatees as boaters flock to their waterways each summer!

Favorite a nonprofit on...

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You could win a \$1000 sweepstakes!









Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

# State Furbearer Program







Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

# State Furbearer Program









## Comments on Wolves and Writing by Jason Maxwell

<b>Jason Maxwell</b> <a href="mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com">jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com</a> 72.174.64.166	<p>Submitted on 2014/06/18 at 4:54 pm</p> <p>"Public officer or public employee" neither pertain to the MTA or non state or federal employees. Rather embarrassing you people don't your homework before you create posts.</p> <p>Montana Code Ann. § 2-2-121 prohibits a "public officer or public employee" from using public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue."</p> <p><a href="#">Approve</a>   <a href="#">Reply</a>   <a href="#">Quick Edit</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">History</a>   <a href="#">Spam</a>   <a href="#">Trash</a></p>
<b>Jason Maxwell</b> <a href="mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com">jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com</a> <a href="#">72.174.64.166</a>	<p>Submitted on <a href="#">2014/06/18 at 4:55 pm</a>   In reply to <a href="#">Jerry Black</a>.</p> <p>Jerry learn our laws, it's pretty straight forward.</p> <p>Montana Code Ann. § 2-2-121 prohibits a "public officer or public employee" from using public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue."</p> <p><a href="#">Approve</a>   <a href="#">Reply</a>   <a href="#">Quick Edit</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">History</a>   <a href="#">Spam</a>   <a href="#">Trash</a></p>
<b>Jason Maxwell</b> <a href="mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com">jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com</a> <a href="#">72.174.64.166</a>	<p>Submitted on <a href="#">2014/06/18 at 6:07 pm</a>   In reply to <a href="#">Jason Maxwell</a>.</p> <p>Ms. Elgin,</p> <p>It was Pitman/Robertson funds allocated by the legislature to use in the State wide education program by FWP AND the MTA. It is taken to The Great Rockies Sport Shows, Conservation Days, any place it is needed to show people what furbearers are. The truck belongs to me and the trailer is part of the funds allocated by Pitman/Robertson. We have made magnets to cover the FWP logo with our logo as to clear up any future misunderstandings when in our possession.</p> <p><a href="#">Approve</a>   <a href="#">Reply</a>   <a href="#">Quick Edit</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">History</a>   <a href="#">Spam</a>   <a href="#">Trash</a></p>
<b>Jason Maxwell</b> <a href="mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com">jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com</a> <a href="#">65.117.26.74</a>	<p>Submitted on <a href="#">2014/06/19 at 7:34 am</a></p> <p>The Montana Trappers Association has worked with state and local agencies to find common ground with all outdoor users. By request of the Association we have set aside the Bass Creek area, Blue Mountain, and Pattee Canyon as all trap free areas as well as recommend that nobody place a foothold trap on the entire south end of Lake Como. We are involved in the</p>



states fisher and lynx study with local biologist, helping them with techniques in tracking and trapping these elusive animals. Trapping has been used to bring back low animal populations like the otter, coyote, swift fox, and even the nonexistent grey wolf. We as trappers are continuously working with the USDA in designing traps that inflict the least amount of pain on the target animal. The approved traps by the USDA are the same traps we as trappers use as well as the ones our local biologists use. The wording put into I-169 that only "soft catch" foothold traps will be allowed is misleading. The USDA approved the use of an offset jaw, which is in the works to be a mandatory trap. These jaws do not close all the way allowing blood to circulate through the foot. A "soft catch" as I-169 would require has rubber placed on the jaws. The intention is to provide a dampening surface as the jaws close. Studies have proven that the rubber on these jaws act as a tourniquet around the animals leg causing irreversible damage. We are continuously working to improve our equipment and work with the public to make our public lands enjoyable for all to use.

[Approve](#) | [Reply](#) | [Quick Edit](#) | [Edit](#) | [History](#) | [Spam](#) | [Trash](#)

**Jason Maxwell**

[jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com)

[65.117.26.74](#)

Submitted on [2014/06/19 at 9:39 am](#)

Scott you said it yourself "public property", but a "public employee or public officer" can not use it in a political campaign. The opposition has every right to use what belongs to the "public" through the MFWP. Pretty straight forward if you know your laws.

[Approve](#) | [Reply](#) | [Quick Edit](#) | [Edit](#) | [History](#) | [Spam](#) | [Trash](#)

**Jason Maxwell**

[jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com)

[65.117.26.74](#)

Submitted on [2014/06/19 at 9:52 am](#) | In reply to [Jason Maxwell](#).

I suppose my response to Scott should have been replied here. You said it yourself "public property" which that trailer and display is. The taxidermy work was donated specifically for the use of the MTA through the MFWP. "Public Property" can be used by the public in a political campaign as long as the public person is not a "public employee or public official." The opposition has the right to use "public property" as they see fit, just as they did when they used the local public schools to run their campaign. The reason you did not see our side blow up about a "public facility" being used as stated in the Montana anno. code 2-2-121 is because we know the laws and the opponents are not "public employees or public officials." Keeping to the facts makes both sides more civil.

[Approve](#) | [Reply](#) | [Quick Edit](#) | [Edit](#) | [History](#) | [Spam](#) | [Trash](#)



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Aasheim, Ron" <[raasheim@mt.gov](mailto:raasheim@mt.gov)>  
**Date:** June 26, 2014 at 2:35:17 PM MDT  
**To:** "mikekoeppen@icloud.com" <[mikekoeppen@icloud.com](mailto:mikekoeppen@icloud.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: MTA and FWP equipment to oppose I-169

Mike,

Julie asked that I respond to your concerns regarding the Montana Trappers Association's use of FWP's furbearer display at recent events.

We did not authorize the use of the trailer in conjunction with MTA efforts associated with I 169. We understand and respect the state statute that prohibits a public officer or employee from taking a position on a ballot issue.

In the way of background the educational furbearer displays were purchased with federal dollars that were matched by in kind contributions from the Montana Trappers Association in the mid 1990s. Since then we have made the displays and associated trailer available for a number of events over the years including, in many cases, educational events of the Montana Trappers Association.

We were not aware that the MTA was using the displays in conjunction with their efforts associated with I 169. When we learned of the use we immediately called their, President Toby Walrath, and asked that they not display the trailer in a way that made it appear FWP was a part of their efforts regarding I 169 which we were not. Toby immediately agreed to our request and gave his membership that direction.

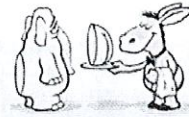
If you have other questions please give me a call. Ron Aasheim, 444-4038.





# COWGIRL BLOG

MONTANA'S #1 POLITICAL WEBSITE



Political Gossip, Satire, and Analysis from MT's Capital City "...an uncanny knack for sharp insider information..."--AP "...amazingly accurate inside info..."--Politico.com "...a viral sensation..."--Markos Moulitsas, Daily Kos "Among the best state-based political blogs in the nation."--Washington Post

Posted: July 2, 2014 at 7:47 am

## Despicable

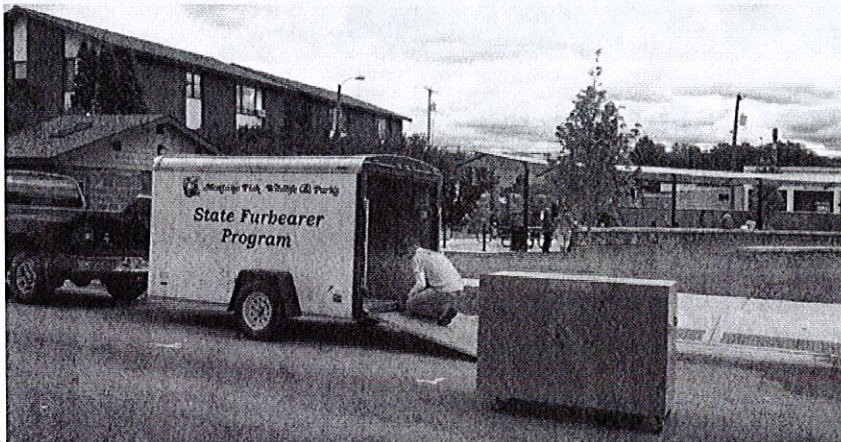
It's difficult to believe that the needless maiming and suffering inflicted on animals through the practice of trapping is still legal.

The American Veterinary Medical Association, the American Animal Hospital Association, the National Animal Control Association, and the World Veterinary Organization all have declared leghold traps to be inhumane. Animals, including pets, that get caught in leg hold traps can suffer for days. They have also been known to chew their legs off to try to get free from the trap after suffering, alive, in the trap for days.

But the Montana Trappers Association and their sidekick, the Orwellianly-named "Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management," aren't just promoting the cruel and completely unnecessary practice of trapping animals—they also appear to be using some pretty despicable tactics to keep trapping legal.

In fact, the two pro-trapping organizations are now under investigation for alleged multiple violations of campaign finance and financial reporting. According to a complaint filed with the Montana Commissioner of Political Practices, the trappers held a big auction to raise money they said would be used to oppose the trapping ban. Yet a review of the organizations' filings with OPP shows that they never reported the \$25,000 in profits they claimed to have earned from the auction—in any of their PAC or incidental committee reports.

Then there are these photos, which appear to show MT Trappers Association Vice President Jason Maxwell using a FWP trailer and booth to display its materials and banner—their banner opposing the trapping ban initiative I-169. If this turns out to be the case, allowing the use of state resources in this manner this may be a violation of state ethics and political activity laws, because state agencies and public resources are not allowed to campaign to support or oppose ballot initiatives.

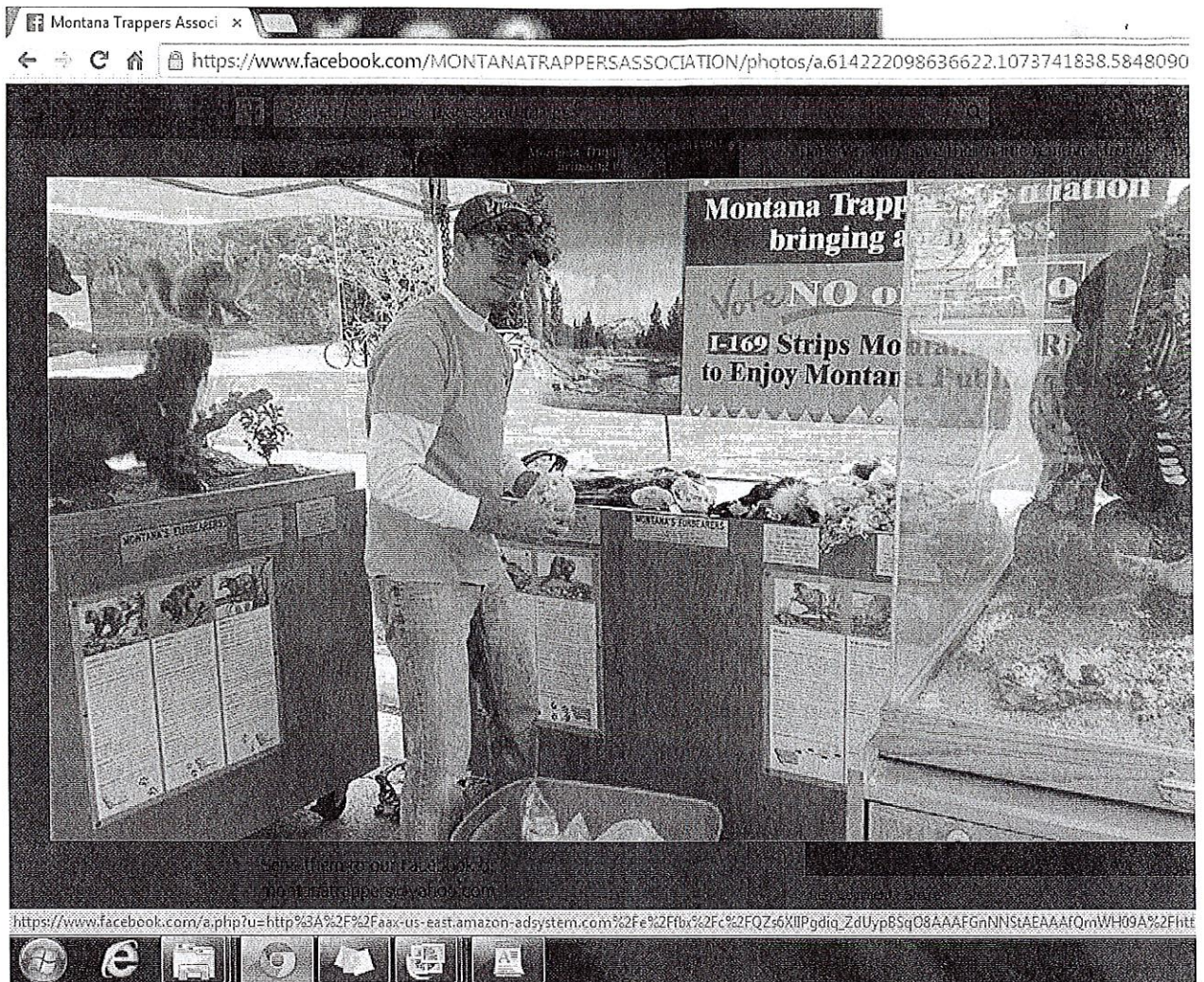


This June 14, 2014 photo appears to show MT Trappers Association Vice President Maxwell (orange t-shirt) unloading his equipment from the FWP trailer prior to the Hamilton Farmer's Market.



Here's another shot that appears to show Maxwell unloading his booth equipment from the FWP trailer.





And this photo appears to show Jason Maxwell in the finished booth, which boldly displays the "Vote NO on I-169" message state agencies are prohibited from at the Farmer's Market.

~~Mr. Maxwell did not respond to a request for comment.~~ Mr. Maxwell has responded in the comments, [you can read his statement on this matter here](#). Perhaps someone from the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks will weigh in here on whether he had their permission to use state resources to campaign against I-169, which seems doubtful.

The Montana Trappers' Association's Political Action Committee and the Montanans for Efficient Wildlife Management has also claimed that the Missoula Food Bank is a supporter of their effort to keep a ban on trapping off the ballot—without the food bank's knowledge or permission.

In fact, a spokesperson for the Missoula Food Bank has asked that any reference to the food bank be immediately removed from any of the trappers' materials. In a letter to the Montana Trappers Association's leadership (pasted below the fold), the MT Food Bank Network stated that the organization was listed without its knowledge and is not a supporter the campaign against I-169—indeed the Food Bank states that as a 501 c-3 and not a political action committee or incidental ballot committee they cannot oppose the trapping ban. You can see the Missoula Foodbank clearly listed as a supporter on this flyer: [Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management – SUPPORTERS](#).

One wonders if the other organizations listed year, including several other 501c-3s, are aware that their organizations are being used in this manner. Again, because 501 c-3s are not permitted to oppose or support ballot initiatives, it's not likely that they've actually joined the trappers in opposing I-169. Cowgirl tipsters also report that Big Sky Brewery's co-owner Neal Leathers reportedly had no idea about this and had never even heard of this bunch.

You can read the Missoula Food Bank's letter asking that they be removed from the list of supporters below.

**From:** Jessica Allred  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 01, 2014 10:26 AM  
**To:** 'VPWest@montanatrappers.org'; 'PastPresident@montanatrappers.org'; 'President@montanatrappers.org'; 'info@montanatrappers.org'  
**Cc:** Cynthia Lotty  
**Subject:** Missoula Food Bank listed on website  
**Importance:** High

To Whom it May Concern:

It has come to our attention that Missoula Food Bank has been listed as a supporter of voting "No on I-169".

As a nonpartisan, 501 (c)3, we do not affiliate with any political campaigns, ballot initiatives or other politically-charged issues without



deliberate action and vote by our board of directors. The issue of I-169 is outside of our mission, and would not be an issue that Missoula Food Bank's board would consider supporting or opposing.

We are asking that we be removed immediately from any information, online postings, print materials and other information you are producing, asking you to understand the risk at which it puts our organization that is serving 1 in 7 Missoulians. We rely on and appreciate the support of many diverse organizations and groups. So thank you for your support, but kindly, please remove us as a listed "supporting" organization – as this was done without our knowledge or authorization.

**Jessica Allred**  
**Community Relations Director**  
**Missoula Food Bank – We Nourish Community**  
 219 South Third Street West, Missoula, MT 59801  
 Office (406) 549-0543 cell: (406) 529-7111

[www.missoulafoodbank.org](http://www.missoulafoodbank.org) / [www.facebook.com/missoulafoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/missoulafoodbank)

Missoula Food Bank provides emergency food assistance to people and strives to reduce hunger. Last year, we provided assistance to 1 in 7 people in Missoula County. The support of our community makes this work possible, with more than 58% of our annual revenue coming from caring individuals and with more than 17,000 hours of donated time from 925 different volunteers each year. Learn more at [www.missoulafoodbank.org](http://www.missoulafoodbank.org)

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Log In

Written by [Cowgirl](#) Posted in [2014 Elections](#) Tagged with [I-169](#), [animal cruelty](#), [animal trapping](#), [Ballot initiatives](#), [Commissioner of Political Practices complaint](#), [Hamilton Farmers Market](#), [Jason Maxwell](#), [Missoula Food Bank](#), [Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks property](#), [Montana Trappers Association](#), [Montanans for Effective Wildlife Management](#), [torture](#), [trapping](#), [trapping ban](#)

## 115 comments

### 1. [July 2, 2014 - 8:50 am Randy](#)

Regarding your issues with trapping...It's legal and a choice thing. Some people choose to trap animals and some choose to kill their unborn babies. I thought that you were all about personal choice and individual rights? Why go after something that is completely legal even if you personally disagree with it. Protecting the poor innocent animals...ahhhh...doesn't even compare to the inhumane way unborn babies are taken. Think about it before you react.

#### [Reply](#)

##### ◦ [July 2, 2014 - 9:32 am Greg Strandberg](#)

Great point.

#### [Reply](#)

##### ▪ [July 2, 2014 - 3:21 pm Rob Kailey](#)

No it isn't. It's a rather egregious example of the false equivalence fallacy.

#### [Reply](#)

##### ◦ [July 2, 2014 - 4:23 pm Zig Pope](#)

Nice try Sparky. Stay on topic-psychopaths who hurt animals for fun.

#### [Reply](#)

##### ▪ [July 3, 2014 - 9:12 pm Jan Thomas](#)

Poor animal. This is immoral.





Reply

▪ July 4, 2014 - 12:47 pm Kristi

I wonder how long it was left there since the recommended, not required, check time is 48 hours. There was a quote by a MT trapper...trapping is like Christmas. You'll never know what you'll get. One more reason to ban trapping on PUBLIC lands.

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 4:37 pm Dr. Raven

Comparing the trapping of wildlife and wolves to the abortion issue is comparing apples to oranges...The fact is, if you love and honor the Creator and all creation and life, you do not torture other living beings...

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 8:02 pm william huard

I love the extremist pro- life comments.....Like the extremist gun rights people, and the extremist anti wildlife predator haters. They all blab about freedom, and how they are more "American" than the rest of us.....The extremist pro-lifers will execute abortion doctors in their church foyer just to prove how pro-life they are...Read Jason Maxwell's comments about killing collared Yellowstone Wolves.....He is part of a very small extremist fringe of fake sportsmen- who, for whatever reason, are always forcing their distorted version of what morality is down our throats.....Yellowstone Wolves are a national treasure- and these people think it is a big joke to kill them. The only thing more pathetic than that is the unwillingness of State FG agencies to put the politics aside and protect wildlife for all the citizens of this great country. Predators included.....They are INCAPABLE. This is easy to figure out. Trappers are a dying breed. They know their tradition of trapping is under assault. Meanwhile, FG agencies continue to allow endangered lynx and wolverine to these fake hunters for "hunter and trapper opportunity....." Things will change. A wolf was poached in the Bitterroot last month.....I bet you a mortgage payment that Jason Maxwell was directly involved.....He can't help it

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 11:16 pm The WiZaRd

We're not in the 19th Century anymore!!  
Trapping is barbaric, outdated, and it has no place  
in our modern world nor anytime in the future!!  
To blazes with your so-called "tradition"!!!  
Wolves and other wildlife have been on this  
Earth before man even existed and I'm not gonna conform  
to the status quo of animal cruelty from the Dark Ages!!!  
And this old felgercarb about abortion is old news from  
the 1970's that should've been left back in the past  
and as far I'm concerned, it's a non-issue and  
it has nothing to do with the REAL issues of the 21st Century!!



Earth is overpopulated as it is with more than 7 billion people crowded on this insane dystopian planet!! and so until we have the means of traveling to other star systems, don't you think we should take better care of our Earth before we all get choked off by all the pollution that's making people sick?

Or is it the same old dull-and-boring status quo and your own ruthless bloated, wild-west ego the only thing you care about????

Be forewarned that if our animal kingdom becomes extinct, the human race will also suffer the same fate because of man's arrogance, selfishness, and greed, along with the apathetic and stuck-up attitudes in our society!!

The Montana Trappers Association and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and other ruthless anti-wolf infidels can fall off the face of the Earth into the Abyss of Fire & Brimstone as far as I'm concerned!!

I don't care if every stupid redneck trophy hunter puts a gun to my head and shoots me down in cold blood!!

I'd rather sacrifice my life and become a martyred spirit, haunting all of you stupid wolf-haters to the ends of the Earth, than see a bunch of you wild-west wackos murdering our wolves and other wildlife for their own cheap thrills!!

~May A Queasy Camel Leave A Dung On Your Next Steak Dinner~

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 3:04 pm Kelly Schueman

There are people born without any empathy, and are blind to anything but money. If you do a background check on most trappers you'll find a history of violence. These are legal serial killers.

Reply

- July 4, 2014 - 12:27 pm CaptBob

Comparing the removal of a parasitic cluster of rapidly multiplying cells that in less than 1/4 of the time transforms eventually into a new human to trapping is not a good analogy. Trapping not only harms the targeted animals, but harms unintended victims. If abortion was performed with a machine gun, you might have a valid argument here. My beef isn't with trapping, it's with irresponsible trapping. I hate having to carry a leash in the backcountry and when hunting having to worry about my dogs stepping into traps meant for coyotes, wolves, beavers etc. Further, I get extremely annoyed by political trappers and their disregard for other people, both in political discourse and out in the world. I get that trapping should be a right, but with rights come responsibilities, obligations, and courtesies. Over the past 10 years, I've seen the trapping community frequently deal with the rights issue, but not the corresponding responsibilities, obligations, and courtesies. Trappers should be able to continue trapping on private land that's closed to the public, where they can be as oblivious and rude as they want, just not on land that's shared with other members of the public.

Reply

2. July 2, 2014 - 9:11 am Jan Thomas

It used to be legal to have organized fights between dogs and bears in the streets—same with cockfighting and dog fighting. It used to be legal to rape and beat your wife, and it used to be legal to force children to work 15 hour days in factories. Until somebody stood up and did the right thing. Trapping is wrong, it's unnecessary, and it's inhumane. Period. If you want to kill an animal you can shoot it and put it out of its misery.

Reply

3. July 2, 2014 - 9:31 am Greg Strandberg

I think posts like this are narrow-minded and hypocritical. How about our industrial poultry industry. How are those animals treated?

Boy, I think the Missoula Animal Shelter is overrun, and it's not even the 4th yet. Looks like a lot of animals will be put down next week.

Sure, animals that are trapped are hurt, much like a lot of others in society, but these ones have become political. We wouldn't care about them otherwise.

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 3:25 pm Rob Kailey

Let's see if I understand you correctly. Because this points out that trapping is distasteful without pointing out that commercial poultry farming is also distasteful, these organizations should be allowed to illegally manipulate the political system? Or did you miss the point of the post completely, Greg?

Reply

4. July 2, 2014 - 3:07 pm Expose The Trappers

Is this the same Jason Maxwell who has been posting all over the internet that he will pay anybody to kill protected collared wolves?

Is this the same Jason Maxwell who claims to be for conservation yet, makes public pronouncements that he want's all wolves and predator animals killed?



Is this the same Jason Maxwell who, after MTA President advised trappers to not put traps in public areas in Lake Como, he knowingly placed traps on public trails and camping areas and then bragged about it in the Missoulian?

If the Montana Trappers Association has got this lunatic speaking for them then that shows the dangerous and illegal agenda behind the MTA.



Michael Guest - ★ Top Commenter - Carmel, Indiana

Enough is enough. This has got to stop. I want the wolves to stay protected. Get this message clearly.

Reply · Like · 7 · October 25, 2013 at 7:18am



Jason L. Maxwell - ★ Top Commenter

Good for you. I want to kill off the last living wolf

Reply · Like · October 26, 2013 at 10:31am



Pete Braun - ★ Top Commenter - Oakland Community College

Jason L. Maxwell, it is YOU and your kind that should be killed off.

Reply · Like · November 12, 2013 at 10:47pm



Steve Steves - ★ Top Commenter

Jason L. Maxwell WELL YOU ARENT GOING TO!!!!!! A federal judge is going to restore full protections to the wolves, just like EVERY SINGLE OTHER JUDGE HAS DONE SINCE 1995. Then you WILL NEVER be able to touch them even if they are eating your money up in crops and cows.

Reply · Like · December 17, 2013 at 11:03pm

Reply

◦ July 3, 2014 - 5:25 pm *RockyMissouri*

WHY would he state that "he wants to kill the last living wolf".....?? That is something a pervert would say.

Reply

▪ July 3, 2014 - 5:34 pm *Larry Kralj, Environmental Rangers*

'Cause they're manly men, Rocky. Just like these inbreds. Sumthin' wrong with folks who take pleasure in killing and torturing animals. They are genetic mutants. You will never be able to understand them because you are not a genetic mutant.

<http://ringoffireradio.com/2014/06/tea-party-rednecks-are-turning-their-diesel-trucks-into-polluting-smoke-stacks/>

Reply

5. July 2, 2014 - 4:00 pm *Jason Maxwell*

To address a few of your statements:

"Toby Walrath, president of the Montana Trappers Association, said the complaint is bogus.

"KC York apparently does not understand how the organizational structure of the MTA and the ballot committee works," he said. "The committee raises money on its own. That was not a fundraising activity conducted for the committee, and the gun sweepstakes is more than a decade old."

Walrath said the complaint is based partly on York's ignorance and an attempt to smear Montana's trappers. "She's throwing everything out there to see what sticks and she should be embarrassed," he said.

Walrath said York represents the same group of activists who failed to qualify a similar anti-trapping ballot initiative in 2010. Earlier this year that group was found to have violated campaign finance laws when it did not report in-kind contributions. The ballot committee's attorney at the time was Jonathan Motl, the current commissioner of political practices."

The trailer and furbearer displays was donated to the FWP and MTA in the 90's. Although the trailer has the FWP logo on it, it is equally owned by both organizations through a donation not by the tax payers money. A quick break down of the law:

2-2-121. Rules of conduct for public officers and public employees. (1) Proof of commission of any act enumerated in subsection (2) is proof that the actor has breached a public duty.

(3)(b), a public officer or public employee may not use public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue unless the use is:

(i) authorized by law; or

(ii) properly incidental to another activity required or authorized by law, such as the function of an elected public officer, the officer's staff, or the legislative staff in the normal course of duties.

(b) As used in this subsection (3), "properly incidental to another activity required or authorized by law" does not include any activities related to solicitation of support for or opposition to the nomination or election of a person to public office or political committees organized to support or oppose a candidate or candidates for public office.

I am neither a "public officer" nor a "public employee", Montana Code Annotated 2-2-121 does not apply to me, but you already know that right, being into the "political gossip" correct?

As far as the Missoula Food Bank, I have an email that I forwarded yesterday to Ms. Allred about this allegation of not having "knowledge or authorization" which gives their "knowledge and authorization." It is up to their organization on whether or not that employee had the authority to do so.

And finally, if there was an attempt for a comment I would have been more than happy to respond, it would have saved you the embarrassment of this misdirected blog.

Reply



- [July 2, 2014 - 4:23 pm Expose The Trappers](#)

Well, golly and jeepers-creepers it is the same Jason Maxwell!! He's still spouting nonsense, pretending to know what he's talking about. This guy is hilarious because every time he say's something to try and defend his crimes and lack of ethics he just digs himself in deeper.

Jason Maxwell is fast to put blame on others and then feign innocence. He's quick to say he isn't this or isn't that when obviously he isn't an attorney either because while looking through his lie-speckled glasses he seriously see's himself as being a good person. What a hoot!

He incriminates himself and FWP by posting that he is aware of the law stating that "public officer or public employee may not use public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to solicit support for or opposition to any political committee, the nomination or election of any person to public office, or the passage of a ballot issue unless the use is:

(i) authorized by law; or

(ii) properly incidental to another activity required or authorized by law, such as the function of an elected public officer, the officer's staff, or the legislative staff in the normal course of duties."

Nobody has accused Jason Maxwell of being an official or otherwise with any state organization. Jason Maxwell is the one who accepted the "donation" of state owned equipment for use in trying to stop a ballot issue. Others have asked officials at FWP about this incident and they have denied any knowledge of Jason Maxwell using one of their vehicles for illegal purposes. So, either Jason Maxwell is lying or the FWP is lying and either way here are public pictures showing Jason Maxwell with a state vehicle. My money is on both of them lying. It will all come out in court.

Keep it coming, Jason. Your actions are doing more to stop trapping on public land than the supporters of I-169 can ever do. If MTA and Toby Walrath had any brains at all they would cut you loose and distance their little crime syndicate far from you.

Just going to grab some popcorn and watch this train wreck happen to these trappers. I hope it hurts them really bad.

 Social Comments (26)

 Digital Journal Comments (2)

1 subscriber

Subscribe To Thread ?



[Tim Sandle](#)

Oct 26, 2013

quote

#1

Shame these deaths couldn't be avoided.



[Jason Maxwell](#)

Oct 26, 2013

quote

#2

5 isn't enough, should be the entire pack. With any luck I'll kill Yellowstone wolves from the Montana side.

Add a Comment

#### Reply

- [July 2, 2014 - 4:58 pm Anonymous](#)

Thanks for posting those screen shots ETT. Just proves that the anti-trapping/anti-hunting/anti-fishing movement is so far distanced from reality that they think its alright to threaten the lives of someone that has different beliefs than theirs. If all you have is screen shots, we can all post the ones of your comments on the Trap Free web page that directly states that people who trap are pedophiles, murders, psychopaths, child molesters and arsonists. Its also interesting to note that out-of-staters feel the need to spew their rhetoric and non-scientific beliefs to elicit an emotional response from those that are uneducated, but just think they are helping a cute, cuddly animal. As proven by their second attempt, their inability to gather the needed signatures to stuff I-169 down hard working Montanan's throats, their is a large segment of Montana that enjoys hunting, fishing, and trapping and understand that rhetoric, lies and degrading insults don't sway our beliefs. So ETT, keep posting, your ignorance is on front street here and we all would like to see more. Its just too bad MT Cowgirl didn't do more research before weighing in.

#### Reply

- [July 2, 2014 - 6:25 pm Expose The Trappers](#)

???

#### Reply

- [July 3, 2014 - 5:28 pm RockyMissouri](#)

What a lowlife.

#### Reply

- [July 4, 2014 - 12:52 pm Kristi](#)



Jason also said he'd leave a dead wolf on someone's doorstep (a friend of mine) to show him what REAL Montanans think of wolves. I think that says more about Jason than it does about "real" Montanans.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 8:30 am adamr rainey

Very good explanation of the facts behind the MTA. Now if these folks would just look at the facts behind the science of furbearer management maybe we could all just get along. They seem to be very intolerant most of the time.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 10:28 am Jason Maxwell

adamr rainey,

Thank you ..... The opposition does not want to accept they were defeated again this year, so their next step is to post emotional rants hoping nobody reads or sees the truth behind it.

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 10:12 am Kristi

Please explain the science of furbearer management, Adam.

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 11:06 am adam rainey

Kristi, although I think you're raising a rhetorical question for the sake of being contentious, the science of furbearer management in a nutshell is the managing of furbearer/wildlife populations for the sake of attaining a specified goal. This can be done through habitat management, population control i.e. harvesting, harvest methods among other things. This has typically been delegated to state wildlife management agencies by statute, which I'm sure you're aware of. If you are truly interested in learning more about the management of furbearers just google up "the science of furbearer management concepts" and that should give you a place to start. Hope this helps!

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 12:03 pm Kristi

It wasn't meant to be a rhetorical question...I asked you for the science used in management through trapping which is loosely regulated and managed through "recommendations" rather than requirements. Where is the science to avoid incidental trappings? Just saying what management is doesn't explain the science used in trapping as a management tool. If the goal is to kill, maim, wound, wildlife and domestic animals then trapping is not very scientific, is it?

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 10:27 pm adam rainey

Kristi, the goal is to harvest the animals. I haven't seen animals maimed or wounded, nor domestic animals. But I'm sure those things have happened. That still doesn't mean that furbearer/wildlife management isn't done according to the best scientific data available. BTW, did you google up the thread I turned you on to and did that help you understand the "science" thing? Bye.

Reply

- 6. July 2, 2014 - 4:06 pm Oliver Starr (@OWStarr)

I'm amazed no one has mentioned the other horrible consequence of trapping — the capture, injury and sometimes death of our domestic dogs. In just a single drainage near Gardiner last year more than 50 dogs were caught in traps.

This is simply outrageous. Traps are merely mechanical land-mines waiting for the next unsuspecting victim. "Sport trapping" should have no place in modern civilization most particularly on public lands.

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 5:01 pm Anonymous

I'll just come right out and call you a liar, because this is no where near true. I will happily retract my statement and apologize when you show proof of this claim.

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 5:04 pm Cowgirl

Dear Kim,

welcome to the Cowgirl Blog and thanks for your comment. I invite you to click the first link in this post. Read the High Country News article which tells of just such an incident. Here's the link for you:

<https://www.hcn.org/issues/152/4917>

Cowgirl

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 5:09 pm Anonymous



Dear Cowgirl

TL;DR

No where does that article state where 50 dogs were trapped in one drainage near Gardiner. Nice try.

Reply

▪ July 3, 2014 - 8:25 am Kristi

You missed the point. The point is that dogs get caught in traps. And let's keep in mind, not every trap is legally set. Not every trap gets pulled at the end of a particular season. Not every trap is marked with the trapper's ID. Traps don't care what steps in them....horses, dogs, elk calves, moose calves, many other unintended targeted animals. .

Reply

▪ July 3, 2014 - 8:38 am Kristi

So what happened to the "Kim" that was posting last night? The one who was using my friend's name as her (his??) own? Interesting...

Anyway, MT Cowgirl...keep up the great work and thank you!!

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 7:11 pm Cowgirl

Hi Oliver, You're right- one blog post can't do justice to this topic. More posts will be needed- thanks for your comments and hope you'll be back!

Reply

▪ July 3, 2014 - 8:39 am Kristi

I think that is a great idea, thank you!

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 11:29 pm Jason Maxwell

Well Huard you owe me a mortgage payment.

Reply

▪ July 3, 2014 - 5:09 am William Huard

Jason- Your comments tell a different story. You are part of an anti- wildlife fringe element that is destructive. Your actions have led to the deaths of Yellowstone Wolves....I remember confronting you on issues relating to "wildlife management" last year when you were trying to appear "rational" on the subject. After 10 minutes or so you realized that your hollow talking points would not fly so you left the conversation. We are on to you Jason....

Reply

▪ July 3, 2014 - 10:36 am Jason Maxwell

William it wasn't that I had "hollow talking point" I just get tired of your emotional rants, your mentality of ballot box biology. I hear it everyday from people like you.

Reply

▪ July 4, 2014 - 9:39 am william huard

Jason- Who do you think you are fooling? I've been around ethical hunters my whole life. You are anything but ethical- you are a poacher Jason. Admit it. What's ballot box biology Jason? Emotional rants? Make no mistake Jason- we are coming for your heritage. Tick Tock Tick Tock

Reply

7. July 2, 2014 - 4:57 pm d keeney

My family has vacationed in montana for 20 plus years. We haven't been back after the collared wolves were shot right outside the park. Ecco tourism is where the moneys at. People don't visit empty forests folks. Vote the bloodthirsty bastards out of office before they destroy everything your state stands for.





Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 6:41 pm Dave Skinner

Bye.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 5:42 pm RockyMissouri

Look at those ignorant dullards wearing clown faces...

Reply

8. July 2, 2014 - 5:09 pm Nancy

Trapping is an industry, on what happens to be mostly public lands, ALL OF OUR LAND. Yet trappers are able to sell what they kill, and even what is incidentally killed. That trapping causes great suffering to an animal whether targeted or incidental, and then can be sold for personal profit, holds a ton of ethical and humane question. Trapping had it's place at one time, but I believe our world has gotten past that. And that trappers need to wear hoods, and masks, and make fun of death, in and of itself is a problem. So I guess there are a lot of issues with this issue. Ethics, societal, monetary, and humane treatment of all living beings.

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 5:16 pm Anonymous

The above picture is not a picture of trappers. FYI.

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 10:24 pm Kristi

Kim, or I mean Angela "Montana", why not use your real name? Pretty obvious how you are trying to make a dig at someone. Why not be a grown up and try to defend your boyfriend without insults or digs?

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 11:32 pm Jason Maxwell

Kristi shows your mentality, she has been with me and has yet to comment on this pathetic site. If we are trying to make a "dig" at York we will call her out

Reply

- July 2, 2014 - 11:49 pm Angela Montana

Are you kidding me? I have to hear about this through people on your site? Let's have a meeting and discuss the topic of



trapping. I would have no reason to hide anything about my identity. THIS is Angela Montana, and I have no problem meeting you and talking to you, posting or however you want to hide. Let's get the news. I know for a fact Jason Maxwell would give anything to talk to you.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 9:00 am Kristi

Even that isn't your real name, Angela "Montana" by way of Michigan. Funny, Jason and others criticize "out of staters" and that people not born in MT yet have lived there for 15+ years are not "real" Montanans. Ah, the hypocrisy never ends. Carry on.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 10:39 am Jason Maxwell

Kristi

There is a difference between the out of state individuals who move here to live the Montana way of life and the ones that move here to make it like the state they so desperately left. If you don't like it, move. There are plenty of other states that will accept your way of living.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 10:51 am Craig Moore

I believe Kristi is actually Kristi Lloyd of Michigan. She has worked with the group Keep Michigan Wolves Protected and is now a special adviser to the Wolves of the Rockies.

Reply

- July 4, 2014 - 1:01 pm Kristi

And your point would be????

Reply

- July 4, 2014 - 1:00 pm Kristi

The Montana way of life, according to whom? You and others like you? In case you haven't noticed, MT is full of people who enjoy what MT has to offer other than killing its wildlife. Isn't your friend Derek who spoke at the rally in Yellowstone last weekend from TX? I think that's what he said. So since he moved to MT for the mountains and to hunt he's an acceptable Montanan because he falls in line with your opinion of MT's way of life? Your girlfriend is from MI, but again, she's acceptable to you because she falls in line with your opinion. You are a hypocrite, MT is made up of many "out-of-staters" and not everyone in MT lives there to kill, maim, torture its valuable wildlife.

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 7:07 am adam rainey

Kristi, why did you move here then if not because of the attraction of the values, characteristics and heritage that Montana has?? Why do people move here from out-of-state only to try and change the laws to parallel the place that they moved from?? You will turn Montana into a California or Colorado...just look at Colorado or Oregon, which used to be cool but got flooded with Californian's and now those states are, well, not like they were. We don't torture or maim wildlife, puhhhlease!

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 10:16 am Kristi

Adam, I suggest you look at photos and videos of trapping, on this page and the other blog post about trapping. That's not torture or maiming, as in missing paws? I didn't say Montanans in general do this to MT's wildlife, but it's what trappers do.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 12:16 am Angela Montana

If this is how you operate, then I get it. Please feel free to call me at 406.214.8740 anytime. You can email me at [trapperangela@gmail.com](mailto:trapperangela@gmail.com), too. Anybody on this site is more than welcome to contact me with any questions. I am not a fan of being accused of things I have nothing to do with...I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Reply

9. July 2, 2014 - 5:33 pm Craig Moore

There are many despicable things like cowards that attack others by name while those cowards hide behind aliases.

Cowgirl, did Footloose Montana write any part of this post? If so, why the pretense that it is yours?

As a non-profit, does Footloose Montana receive any taxpayer funds, no matter how many hands they pass through, like other Montana non-profits?

As the charges of using state property for political purposes, doesn't the history of the trailer require a clarification, retraction and an apology?



Reply

10. July 2, 2014 - 5:36 pm Jason Maxwell

MT Cowgirl when you are done lying about "trying to contact" me about a comment feel free to contact me so we can eliminate one of your lies.

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 7:20 pm Cowgirl

Dear Mr. Maxwell, Thanks for your comments. You are welcome to respond to my email at [mntnacowgirl@gmail.com](mailto:mntnacowgirl@gmail.com) on the record or to continue post your views here in the comments as you have done above, whichever you prefer.

Reply

▪ July 2, 2014 - 7:54 pm Jason Maxwell

You say you have tried to contact me, tell your readers where we'd all like to here this. As for "on the record" interview me about your suppose claims. I can back mine up with actual facts unlike the opposition that continues to spout lies. I'm waiting....., I would assume you have my contact info since you have tried before?

Reply

▪ July 2, 2014 - 9:22 pm Cowgirl

Your email was posted on your organizations website- again you are welcome to respond to the post now here in the comments too, as you have done. I'm sure readers would all be interested. If your organization has listed your email incorrectly on its website, you are welcome to email me your correct address at my email, which i've provided above and will do so again here [mntnacowgirl \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:mntnacowgirl(at)gmail.com)

Reply

▪ July 2, 2014 - 11:44 pm Jason Maxwell

[jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonleemaxwell@yahoo.com)

406.370.5792

Hit me up with questions, let's see if what you post is what I actually say.

Reply

▪ July 2, 2014 - 11:46 pm Jason Maxwell

Or comment on my previous post and prove me wrong..... I'll be waiting. Poor journalism on your part.

Reply

11. July 2, 2014 - 5:50 pm Carol

Trappers are simply knuckle draggers who haven't realized the rest of the world has left their caves. There is no way to convince them of the harm and pain they cause and they certainly aren't worth the effort. They can yell all they want but I don't hear them. We are going to get this done!

Reply

12. July 2, 2014 - 6:24 pm Dave Skinner

Oh right, Trap Free Public Lands filed the complaint. No agenda there at all.

As for trapping, just wait until some beavers mow down all your pretty aspens or a skunk is under your porch or in your organic chicken coop. Then you'll understand that trapping has a societal value.

Or, be freezing your can on the DEW or some icy radar site somewhere, that fur hood is nice. Or even a nice fur collar on a jacket, or fur lined mittens. I've got a pair of bunny fur mittens I made myself. They are wonderful.

Or, if you like, a beautiful fur jacket nicely done. Not my thing, but nonetheless beautiful and functional.

Sorry, but I'm okay with trapping, AND hunting, AND fishing for food AND fun. AND I like rodeo, too. And circuses. And big juicy steaks.

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 7:17 pm Rob Kailey

You actually think you're being offensively clever, don't you, idiot?

Reply

◦ July 2, 2014 - 9:26 pm Gumbo

if you have a nuisance animal such as a skunk under your porch, why cant you can trap it humanely and release it somewhere?

Reply

▪ July 2, 2014 - 9:46 pm Hungrymoose

This is what I did. I released it under my neighbors porch. He's an asshole. LOL

Reply



- [July 2, 2014 - 11:39 pm Dave Skinner](#)

So it's under someone ELSE's porch? Oh, Moose beat me to it.

[Reply](#)

13. [July 2, 2014 - 6:47 pm Joseph Allen](#)

It is the duty of all who oppose trapping to dismantle and disrupt any trap you find, especially on public lands.....there is a huge difference between justice and the law.

[Reply](#)

- [July 2, 2014 - 7:17 pm Rob Kailey](#)

Agreed.

[Reply](#)

- [July 2, 2014 - 11:38 pm Dave Skinner](#)

Dismantle one of mine, Rob.

[Reply](#)

- [July 3, 2014 - 2:37 pm Pubicus](#)

T.T.T.

Trip, Take, Trash.

[Reply](#)

- [July 3, 2014 - 7:51 pm Rob Kailey](#)

How do you know I haven't?

[Reply](#)

- [July 3, 2014 - 8:07 pm Sharona Gilbert](#)

Not really, the law is the law period. I disagree with the tampering of traps just as much as I disagree with poaching. Both are wrong.

[Reply](#)

14. [July 2, 2014 - 10:24 pm Cowgirl](#)

I'd like to refer everyone to the blog's comment policy. Impersonation and posting under numerous aliases (one person pretending to be many) is not allowed.

<http://mtcowgirl.com/comment-policy/>

[Reply](#)

15. [July 2, 2014 - 10:41 pm Harold Johnson](#)

Grasping at straws.

Once this is all sorted out, you should apologize to Mr. Maxwell.

Even your supposed "sources" are not good.

[Reply](#)

- [July 2, 2014 - 11:52 pm Jason Maxwell](#)

Harold, I have offered my info to the writer of this blog to contact me, as she says she asked yet I gave no response. She is free to contact me OR comment on the above comment destroying the lies she posts.

[Reply](#)

16. [July 2, 2014 - 11:09 pm Greg Strandberg](#)

This is what happens when the MT blogosphere goes a week without one of its major sites. Frustration and bile build up, and now we're getting a week's worth on the first contentious issue that comes along. Can't wait to see what goes up tomorrow!

[Reply](#)

17. [July 2, 2014 - 11:22 pm W.H.](#)

I'm surprised [Tim Ravndal](#) hasn't been here to comment. I've seen him driving his truck, plastered with his anti-Obama bumper stickers, around Helena with a bed full of traps. Not that it will be a surprise to anyone that torturing animals is recreation for that guy.

[Reply](#)

18. [July 3, 2014 - 12:05 am Jason Maxwell](#)

So a giant "IF" it was illegal for me to use our trailer for political purposes under 2-2-121 which also states a public facility, wouldn't Trap Free be under the same violation for setting up at public schools? Please learn the laws before spouting ignorance. "Public employees and public officers" it's common sense.



Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 1:46 pm Mike Koeppen

Jason,

I'm not going to get into a long discourse with you about your use of the trailer, but FWP has a totally different interpretation of 2-2-121 than you do, and their opinion is the one that counts. According to FWP, your interpretation is wrong.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 1:57 pm Jason Maxwell

Its not an interpretation its a fact. Just as Trap Free set up at a public facility (schools).... It does not apply to them or us.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 4:43 pm Mike Koeppen

Jason,

I suggest you contact Ron Aasheim at the Helena FWP office and see what he has to say regarding this issue.

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 7:38 pm Sharona Gilbert

I got the same response from Ron that you did Mike, literally. Original query and all.

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 6:44 am adam rainey

Jason, keep on using the trailer for educational purposes, you're doing a great job and hopefully some of the anti-furbearer management folks on this site will drop by one day for an open-minded discussion on the merits of trapping as one tool used in furbearer management and harvest.

Reply

- July 5, 2014 - 7:28 am Jeff Thomas

Adam, Are you an FWP employee? If not how is it you are able to authorize use of state resources? Also "furbearer management" is a ridiculous phrase.

Reply

19. July 3, 2014 - 11:53 am Turner

I don't intend to post under a number of different handles like some people here. But if I did, how would I go about it? Would I have to use several different devices or can anyone do this sitting at one computer?

Reply

20. July 3, 2014 - 1:18 pm Jan Thomas

I apologize to those who are sensitive to these kinds of images, but people need to know the truth about trapping



Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 5:50 pm RockyMissouri

It's images EXACTLY LIKE THIS that speak more clearly than ANY WORDS.

Reply

- July 4, 2014 - 1:06 pm Kristi

I wonder why MTA doesn't post pics of what trapping really is about? No photos of animals caught, bashing them in the head or elsewhere, gutting, skinning....don't they want the public to see what they do? Couldn't they defend themselves better if they showed what they actually do? Or...would the public be (more) against them and their intimidation tactics, childish manners if MTA really showed what they do? Hmmm....

Reply

21. July 3, 2014 - 1:19 pm Jan Thomas

I wonder how many days this living creature suffered like this....





Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 5:54 pm RockyMissouri

What a beautiful creature.. What harm did it cause in the world, to deserve this...? IMO man is the worst creature on earth.. It certainly isn't the animals.

Reply

22. July 3, 2014 - 2:01 pm Toby L Walrath

On behalf of the Montana Trappers Association I would like to state that the information provided by this blog post is filled with erroneous information and shows a complete lack of fact checking. There was a false complaint filed by KC York, however in 2010 KC York's organization was found guilty of violating political practices- not the MTA. As for the supporters list, that was a list of organizations who contributed in some way to an event held by the MTA. Mtcowgirls post is demonstrative of groundless, fictional and libelous charges. What is the difference between the words I have written here and the words written in this post? I can prove mine, mt cowgirl can not .  
Toby Walrath, President Montana Trappers Association

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 4:24 pm KC York

Dear Mr. Walrath,  
As Chairman for Trap Free Montana Public Lands, in reference to your proof of your words:  
Please share the findings from the CPP financial investigation regarding MTA and MEWM that found it was false ?  
Please provide the findings the Montana Trappers Association and use of FWP equipment to oppose I-169 claim was false, legal and who authorized the use?  
Please provide the proof of what organization you say I was responsible for in 2010?  
Please provide the violation this said organization was found guilty of and proof of my role in this?  
After all, we are talking the facts, correct?  
Thank you

Reply

- July 3, 2014 - 5:48 pm Montana Trapper

York enjoying your Facebook timeouts? There is another one waiting for your Fridays log in. Link the pictures to the original source, pretty easy to figure out. 2 down 10 to go.

Reply

- July 4, 2014 - 7:18 am Kristi

How very grown up and mature of you, Jason. Not surprised though.

Reply

- July 4, 2014 - 10:09 am Jan Thomas

Is this individual actually publicly bragging about harassing people online by making false claims to facebook to block access to another's facebook page? That's not very smart, nor is it a great way to represent your trappers organization.

Reply

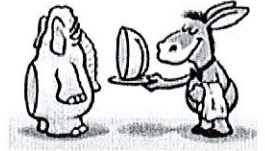
- July 4, 2014 - 1:38 pm Harold Johnson





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 state-based political blogs in the nation."--Washington Post

Posted: July 7, 2014 at 8:42 am

## FWP: Trappers did not have permission to use state equipment to oppose ballot initiative

This morning a spokesperson for the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks clarified that, as I had suspected in an earlier post, the trappers did not have permission to use state equipment to oppose I-169, a ballot initiative to ban the inhumane and unnecessary practice of trapping.

Here's the email from the FWP clarifying their position:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Aasheim, Ron <raasheim@mt.gov>

Date: Monday, July 7, 2014

Subject: Seeking clarification on FWP position on trappers using FWP trailer to campaign against a ballot measure

To: "mntnacowgirl@gmail.com" <mntnacowgirl@gmail.com>

Cc: "Toby Walrath (wildpride13@yahoo.com)" <wildpride13@yahoo.com>

Received your note requesting clarification on the MTA using the FWP furbearer display in their campaign against I 169.

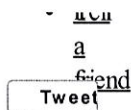
We did not authorize the use of the trailer in conjunction with MTA efforts associated with I 169. We understand and respect the state statute that prohibits a public officer or employee from taking a position on a ballot issue.

In the way of background the educational furbearer displays were purchased with federal dollars that were matched by in kind contributions from the Montana Trappers Association in the mid 1990s. Since then we have made the displays and associated trailer available for a number of events over the years including, in many cases, educational events of the Montana Trappers Association.

We were not aware that the MTA was using the displays in conjunction with their efforts associated with I 169 nor were any FWP staff involved in any way. When we learned of the use we immediately called MTA President, Toby Walrath, and asked that they not display the trailer in a way that made it appear FWP was a part of their efforts regarding I 169 which we were not. Toby immediately agreed to our request and gave his membership that direction.

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Written by [Cowgirl](#) Posted in [ballet initiatives](#) Tagged with [animal cruelty](#), [Montana Trappers Association](#), [Toby Walrath](#), [trapping](#)

## 9 comments

### 1. [July 7, 2014 - 10:48 am](#) *Craig Moore*

Really? From the email: "...asked that they not display the trailer in a way that made it appear FWP was a part of their efforts regarding I 169 which we were not." Nowhere is permission an issue as a prerequisite to using the trailer by MTA, except to presumably mask FWP markings.

[Reply](#)

### 2. [July 7, 2014 - 12:46 pm](#) *Jason Maxwell*

Hmm imagine that, my truck and trailer were parked out of sight after unloading the display. Amazing how the uneducated opposition tries to stir an empty pot.

[Reply](#)

#### ◦ [July 7, 2014 - 12:53 pm](#) *Stewart*

Um... You hung the "Oppose i-169" banner from the FWP booth, which is not permitted, and they did not permit you to do so.

[Reply](#)

#### ▪ [July 7, 2014 - 6:18 pm](#) *Jason Maxwell*

Not to smart are you, it was an MTA booth, the only thing that said FWP was the trailer and after unloading, it was parked a block away from the event.

[Reply](#)

#### ▪ [July 7, 2014 - 8:28 pm](#) *Jeff McGrath*

Reading is fundamental. The FWP email above says otherwise.

[Reply](#)

#### ▪ [July 7, 2014 - 9:31 pm](#) *Jason Maxwell*

Yes fundamentals Jeff, "the educational furbearer displays were purchased with federal dollars that were matched by in kind contributions from the Montana Trappers Association in the mid 1990s. "..... "and asked that they not display the trailer in a way that made it appear FWP was a part of their efforts regarding I 169"

[Reply](#)

#### ▪ [July 7, 2014 - 9:47 pm](#) *Jeff McGrath*

You appear to have selectively left out parts of the email. ~Facepalm~ I'm done responding to you. I can see why others say they don't want to get into it. You seem unable to grasp basic principles. I'm only going to say that when it comes to leadership of an opposing cause, people like you actually help, because they so clearly highlight the true values and intellects of the movements they represent. Good day.

[Reply](#)



- [July 7, 2014 - 9:44 pm Jeff McGrath](#)

Right – so that you can then say that the trappers were right to use state resources for their ballot work? Sure. Got it. ~snark~

[Reply](#)

- [July 7, 2014 - 11:00 pm Kristi](#)

I think you mean not too smart there, Jason. Why not just admit what you did was wrong instead of trying to twist things to try to make yourself right. Keep digging yourself into that hole, making trappers look good. Fail.

[Reply](#)

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