



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

**Earl Sherron, Chairman
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Foundation
P O Box 16047
Missoula MT 59808**

Dear Earl:

At the turn of the last century a handful of citizens led an effort to create a means to conserve and restore Montana's fish and wildlife. That effort was based on the simple notion that those who benefited by using the resource would pay. The Department of Fish and Game was created and hunters and anglers paid license fees to fund the agency.

Today, the issues are more complex and a much broader array of citizens benefit. The recovery of endangered species, the decline of migratory song birds, the loss of open space, the need for environmental education, the opportunity for more diverse recreation, preserving imperiled historic and cultural resources, cannot and should not be paid for by hunters and anglers alone. Montana's Fish, Wildlife & Parks Foundation can make a significant difference as once again we look to citizens to help provide financial assistance.

A unique strength of Montana's Fish, Wildlife & Parks Foundation is being able to leverage the expertise and resources of one of the nation's leading fish, wildlife and parks agencies. Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has expertise in land acquisition, habitat and historic restoration, scientific research, and communication. The Foundation undoubtedly can be a part of one of the most promising partnerships in this Department's storied history. Gifts to the Foundation could ensure a grizzly bear will roam free, provide shelter for an injured fawn and conserve the Lewis and Clark trail.

I would encourage everyone that has an interest in Montana's heritage and her future to give now to the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Foundation. Montana -- it's a way of life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick J. Graham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Sincerely,
Patrick J. Graham, Director**