

# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Montana State Office  
5001 Southgate Drive  
Billings, Montana 59101-4669  
www.blm.gov/mt

In Reply Refer To:  
6500 (MT931) P

November 10, 2015

EMAIL TRANSMISSION – 11/12/2015  
Instruction Memorandum No. MT-2016-007  
Expires: 9/30/2019

**To:** Montana Dakotas Leadership

**From:** State Director

**Subject:** Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)  
Request for Proposals. **DD: 11/20/2015**

**Program Area:** Wildlife

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Instruction Memorandum (IM) is to solicit project proposals to be considered for funding from the RMEF and MDF.

### **Background:**

The RMEF has announced their annual request for proposals to be considered at their Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting in Missoula, Montana, on January 20, 2016. This request for proposals applies primarily to wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement projects, elk research, and wildlife management projects. PAC funding may also be available to assist with land protection projects, such as acquisitions, conservation easements or access projects.

The RMEF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and the hunting heritage. Through dynamic partnerships with state, federal, and provincial wildlife agencies, the RMEF and its members have helped protect and/or enhance more than 6.1 million acres of elk, and other wildlife, habitat in North America.

The MDF has announced their annual request for proposals to be considered for funding in late-January 2015. The MDF annually funds mule deer habitat management, research, and public outreach projects. The MDF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the conservation of mule deer, black-tailed deer, and their habitat. As mule deer are the only North American big-game species on the decline, additional funding to help support mule deer habitat improvement and protection projects is very important at this time. Each MDF Volunteer Chapter gets to keep a portion of the funds they raise to spend on local projects, so working closely with local MDF volunteers can enhance BLM's ability to implement effective wildlife habitat projects.

**Policy/Action:** Provide project proposals to the Montana/Dakotas State Office for submission to the RMEF and MDF. Project proposals must be completed on the RMEF (Attachment 2) and MDF (Attachment 4) official proposal forms. Projects should be submitted through Field Managers to Jake Chaffin, Montana/Dakotas Fish and Wildlife Program Lead.

**Timeframe:** RMEF and MDF project proposals are due to Jake Chaffin by close of business November 20, 2015.

**Budget Impact:** No impact.

**Manual/Handbook Sections Affected:** None

**Coordination:** This IM was coordinated by the Branch of Biological Resources and Science (MT931).

**Contacts:** If you have questions or need further guidance, please contact Jake Chaffin, Wildlife Biologist, at (406) 896-5034 or Linda Cardenas RMEF Liaison at (406)-523-4580.

Signed by:  
Jamie E. Connell  
State Director

Authenticated by:  
Janie Fox  
Staff Assistant (MT930)

4 Attachments

1-RMEF Instruction Form (4 pp)

2-RMEF Project Proposal-Computer Form (4 pp in its entirety)

3-MDF Project Proposal Guidelines (3 pp)

4-MDF Project Proposal Template Form (3 pp)