



VISION ZERO

zero deaths · zero serious injuries

MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION

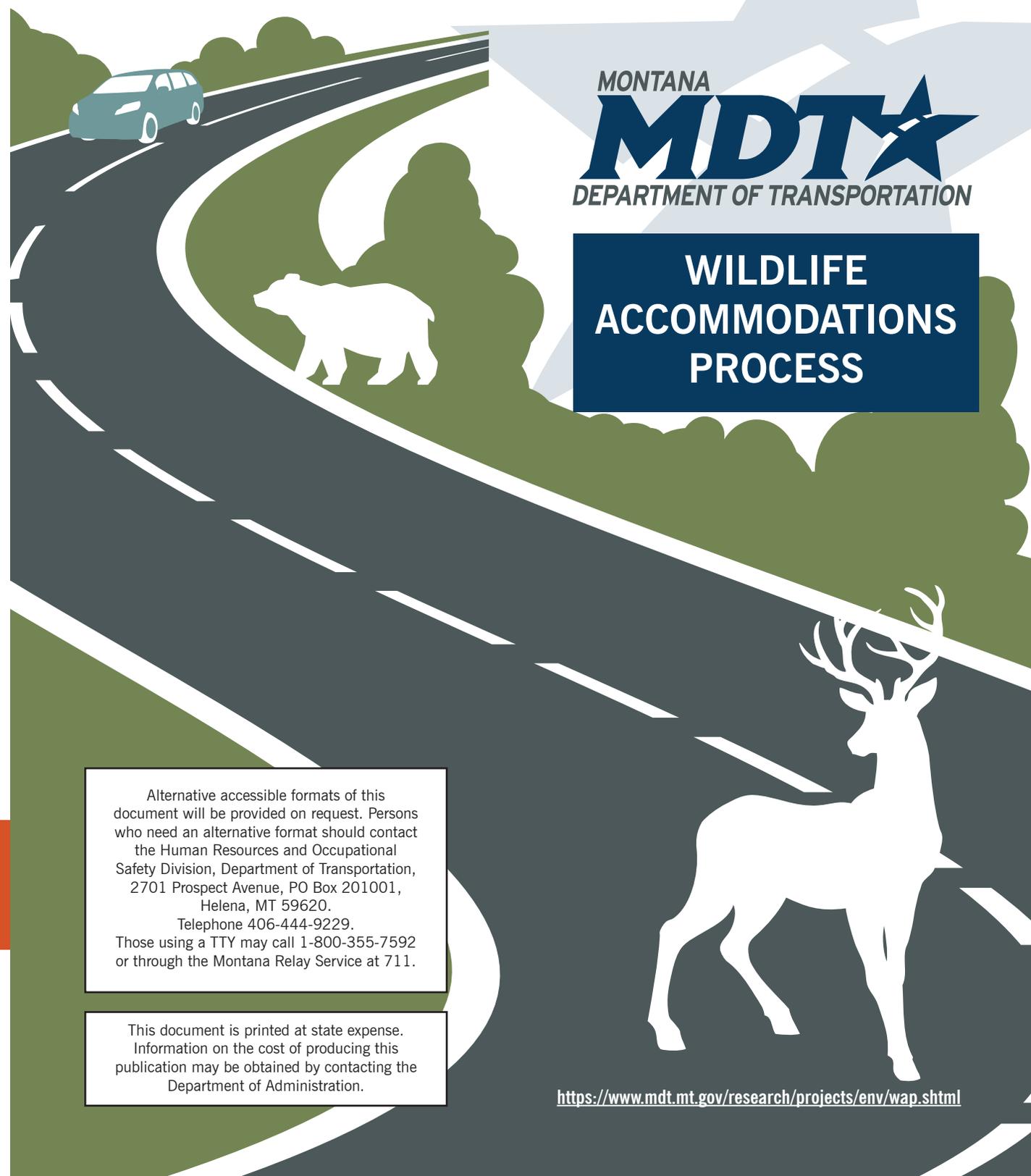
Who is Involved in the Wildlife Accommodations Process (WAP)?

The wildlife accommodations process is intended to bring all functional areas within MDT together during project development to assess the need and feasibility of wildlife accommodations. Input from the Design Team is critical to the process:

- District
- Planning
- Preconstruction
- Construction
- Maintenance

Please contact the Environmental Services Bureau Chief in Helena for questions about the WAP.

MDT's Mission: Serve the public by providing a transportation system and service that emphasize quality, safety, cost effectiveness, economic vitality & sensitivity to the environment.



MONTANA
MDT ★
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WILDLIFE ACCOMMODATIONS PROCESS

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Human Resources and Occupational Safety Division, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620.

Telephone 406-444-9229.

Those using a TTY may call 1-800-355-7592 or through the Montana Relay Service at 711.

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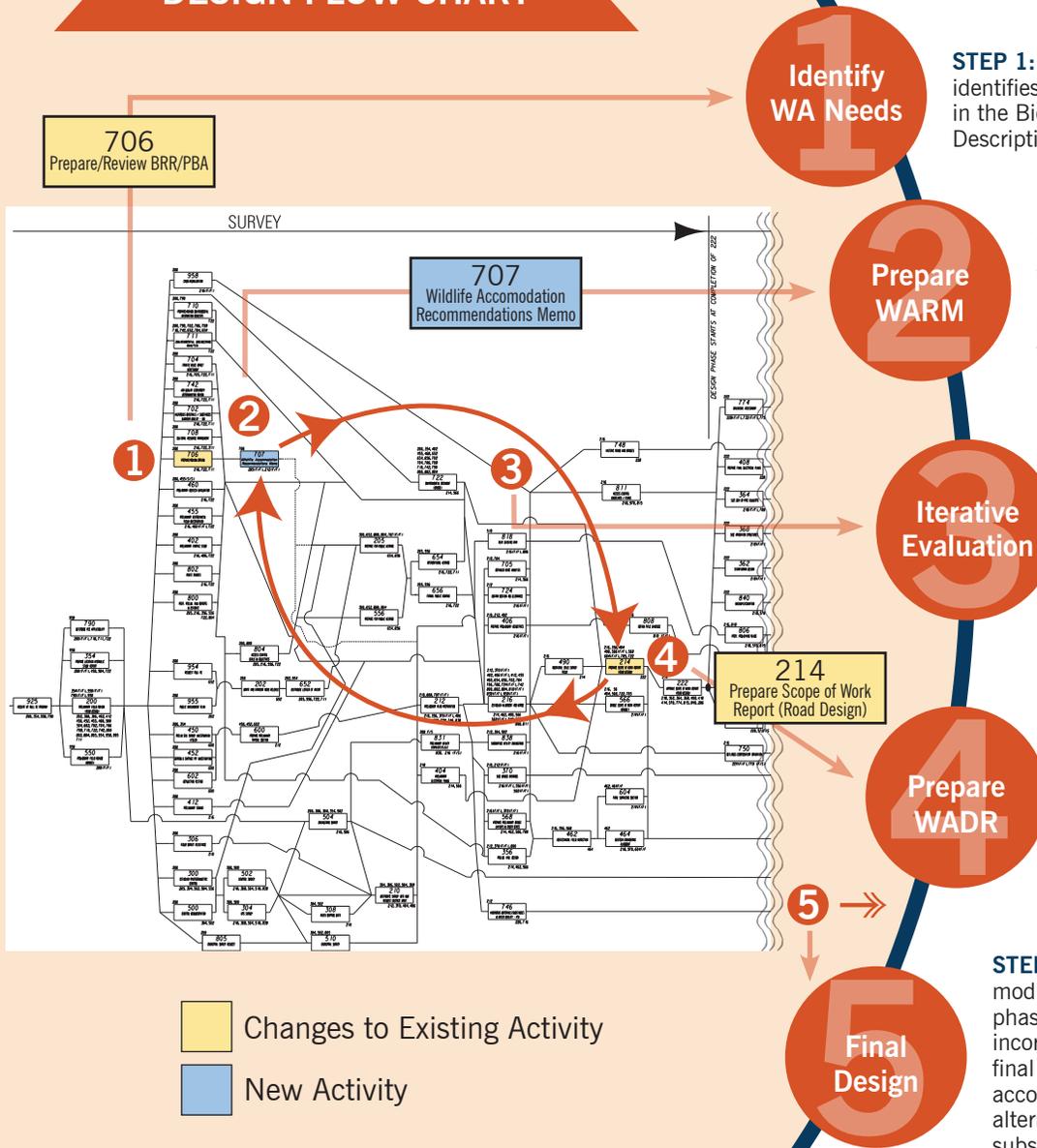


<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/projects/env/wap.shtml>

Wildlife Accommodations are features designed and implemented into a transportation facility to moderate the effects of the infrastructure on wildlife and their habitat. The objective of these features is to minimize or eliminate barriers to wildlife movement, protect important habitat components within the landscape, and reduce or eliminate the potential for wildlife-vehicle collisions.

The wildlife accommodations process is a series of steps that have been integrated into MDT's existing project development process:

DESIGN FLOW CHART



1
Identify
WA Needs

STEP 1: Identify wildlife needs. Following the Preliminary Field Review, the District Biologist identifies and presents wildlife needs and general wildlife accommodation recommendations in the Biological Resources Report/Preliminary Biological Assessment (BRR/PBA) (See Activity Descriptions for Activity 706/182).

2
Prepare
WARM

STEP 2: Prepare Wildlife Accommodation Recommendations Memo (WARM). The District Biologist presents detailed recommendations for wildlife accommodations in the WARM, based on the wildlife needs analysis and general recommendations from the BRR/PBA. (See Activity Descriptions for new Activity 707/109). The WARM is signed by MDT Environmental Services Bureau Chief and distributed to the Design Team for feasibility analysis during the iterative design process preceding Scope of Work.

3
Iterative
Evaluation

STEP 3: Iterative evaluation process. The Design Team works closely, cooperatively, and iteratively to further evaluate the wildlife accommodation recommendations between the WARM distribution and the Wildlife Accommodation Decision Report (WADR). The feasibility of the WARM recommendations is explored through iterative evaluation. Recommendations are accepted, modified, or rejected for further development based on this evaluation. Alternate recommendations, not previously included in the WARM, may emerge during the iterative evaluation. The Design Team's findings are documented in the WADR.

4
Prepare
WADR

STEP 4: Prepare Wildlife Accommodations Decision Report (WADR). The Project Design Manager prepares a decision memo (WADR) under the Prepare Scope of Work Report activity documenting the Design Team's decisions resulting from the iterative design process in Step 3. The WADR documents wildlife accommodations that will advance to final design, those that will not advance, and full justification as to why each accommodation was accepted, modified, rejected, or proposed as an alternate by the Design Team. The WADR is signed by the appropriate Bureau Chief for the project. The results of the WADR should be summarized in the Environmental Considerations section of the Scope of Work Report.

5
Final
Design

STEP 5: Design phase. Following approval of the Scope of Work Report, the accepted, modified, and alternate wildlife accommodations are advanced into the project design phase. All plans, details, and special provisions for wildlife accommodations are incorporated into project development by the Design Team. Issues that arise during final project development that have an impact on the implementation of wildlife accommodation(s) must be discussed with the Design Team to determine if a feasible alternative can be identified. Changes to the WADR decisions should be documented in subsequent milestone reports.