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DATE 2/7/05  
HB 170

House Bill 170  
February 7, 2005  
Presented by Doug Monger  
House Appropriations Committee

Madam Chair and committee members, for the record I am Doug Monger, Administrator of the Parks Division of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP).

The 2003 Legislature passed HB 559 which created permanent registration for boats, snowmobiles, off highway vehicles and other vehicles such as trailers. In creating HB 559 the legislature created a mechanism for fund transfers for FY 06 and beyond, however, HB 559 did not create a way for the Department of Revenue to transfer vehicle registration fees generated on boats, snowmobiles or off highway vehicles fees generated in FY 04 and FY 05 to FWP. The 2003 Legislature did however appropriate spending authority to FWP to expend these funds, showing clear legislative intent that the funds were to be transferred.

House Bill 170 corrects this problem and allows a pathway for these earmarked funds to get from Department of Revenue to their intended on the ground use via FWP. FWP urges your support of HB 170.