

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA**, on March 15, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila, Chairman (D)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. Keith Bales (R)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Larry Jent (D)
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)
Sen. Bill Tash (R)

Members Excused:

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Claudia Johnson, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 759, 3/9/2007; HB 717, 3/9/2007;
HB 613, 3/9/2007
Executive Action: None.

00:14:28 Chairman Tropila

HEARING ON HB 759

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:11 **REP. GORDON HENDRICK (R), HD 14**, opened the hearing on
HB 759, Revise fee system funding search & rescue.

EXHIBIT(fis55a01)

Proponents:

00:19:54 Mike Byrnes, Mineral County Search and Rescue

00:23:33 Michael Bedick, Chair for Sanders County Search and
Rescue

00:24:25 Terry Posio, Sanders County Search and Rescue

00:24:43 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director for Montana
Association of Counties

00:25:23 Rep. Jim Elliott

Opponents:

00:26:02 Jim Smith, Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officer's
Association

Informational Testimony:

00:31:23 Dan McGowan, Administrator, Montana Disaster and
Emergency Services, Department of Military Affairs
(DMA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:37 Sen. Tash to Dan McGowan, DMA

00:36:20 Sen. Tash to Mike Byrnes, Mineral County Search and
Rescue

00:37:35 Sen. Bales to Dan McGowan, DMA

00:40:06 Sen. Barkus to Dan McGowan, DMA

- 00:42:31 Sen. Barkus to Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
- 00:44:03 Sen. Bales to Mike Byrnes, Sanders County Search and Rescue
- 00:45:53 Sen. Hansen to Mike Byrnes, Sanders County Search and Rescue
- 00:49:13 Sen. Tropila to Dan McGowan, DMA
- 00:50:07 Sen. Bales to Jim Smith, Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officer's Association

Closing by Sponsor:

- 00:51:59 Rep. Hendrick

HEARING ON HB 717

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

- 01:00:05 **REP. WAYNE STAHL (R), HD 35**, opened the hearing on **HB 717**, Ratify Bowdoin wildlife refuge water compact.

Proponents:

- 01:01:45 Chris Tweeten, Chairman, Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission

EXHIBIT (fis55a02)

- 01:05:24 Jay Weiner, Staff Attorney, Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission
- 01:11:17 Carmen Luna, Manager, Bowdoin Wildlife Refuge

EXHIBIT (fis55a03)

- 01:19:37 Candace West, Attorney General's Office, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Opponents: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:22:00 Sen. Tropila to Rep. Stahl
01:22:25 Sen. Barkus to Rep. Stahl
01:23:16 Sen. Barkus to Jay Weiner, Montana Reserved Water
Rights Compact Commission

Closing by Sponsor:

01:25:00 Rep. Stahl

HEARING ON HB 613

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:25:22 **REP. BOB BERGREN (D), HD 33**, opened the hearing on **HB 613**, Reduce legal age for hunting/limited license privileges for youths age 9 to 11.

[EXHIBIT \(fis55a04\)](#)

Proponents:

01:29:03 Rep. Carol Lambert
01:30:31 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, FWP

[EXHIBIT \(fis55a05\)](#)

01:34:54 Larry Sickerson, Hunter Education Teacher
01:36:39 Fred Easy, Self

[EXHIBIT \(fis55a06\)](#)

01:27:69 Anthony Bodner, Self
01:38:54 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

Opponents:

01:39:46 Roger Lloyd, Hunter Education Teacher
01:42:33 Bill Tiddy, Hunter Education Teacher

01:45:34 Robert Throssell, Montana Wildlife Federation

01:46:29 Betty Tiddy, Self

EXHIBIT(fis55a07)

01:47:32 Bill Covey, Hunter Education Teacher

01:51:15 Arthur Habel, Hunter Education Teacher

01:53:15 Michael Sherrard, Hunter Education Teacher

EXHIBIT(fis55a08)

01:58:35 Roger Chevalier, Self

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:59:24 Sen. Jent to Chris Smith, FWP

02:01:40 Sen. Balyeat to Chris Smith, FWP

02:05:14 Sen. Balyeat to Rep. Bergren

02:05:29 Sen. Balyeat to Bill Tiddy, Hunter Education Teacher

02:10:07 Sen. Barkus to Rep. Bergren

02:13:40 Sen. Barkus to Chris Smith, FWP

02:15:47 Sen. Balyeat to Fred Easy

02:16:49 Sen. Tropila

Closing by Sponsor:

02:17:14 Rep. Bergren

EXHIBIT(fis55a09)

02:21:34 Chairman Tropila

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:10 P.M.

SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA, Chairman

CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

JT/cj

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([fis55aad.pdf](#))