

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Kelly Gebhardt, on March 4, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 422 Capitol

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Kelly Gebhardt, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Debby Barrett, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss (R)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Jim Keane (D)  
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)  
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)  
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Lindsey Hern, Committee Secretary  
Sonja Nowakowski, 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 44, 3/24/2009; HB 139,  
3/24/2009; HB 140, 3/24/2009

Executive Action: HB 44; HB 140

**HEARING ON HB 44**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:11 Rep. Chas Vincent (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 44, Revise DNRC participation in federal forest management planning.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:15 Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association (MLA)  
00:03:18 Sen. Kaufmann and Sen. Peterson came to the committee.  
00:04:14 Robert Johnson, Montana State AFL-CIO  
00:04:52 Danny Iverson, Self, Blackfoot Water Shed  
00:05:51 Mike McGinley, Montana Association of Counties (MACo; Beaverhead Commissioner  
00:06:21 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**EXHIBIT (nas48a01)**

00:08:07 Ellen Simpson, Montana Wood Products Association (MWPA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

None

**Informational Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:09:01 Sen. Peterson  
00:09:18 Rep. Vincent  
00:09:49 Chairman Gebhardt  
00:10:00 Sen. Peterson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:10:14 Rep. Vincent  
00:11:04 Sen. Barrett  
00:11:14 Chairman Gebhardt

**HEARING ON HB 139****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:11:25 Rep. Chas Vincent (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 139, DNRC intervention authority in federal forest management projects.

**EXHIBIT (nas48a02)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:16:11 Mr. Todhunter, MLA  
00:18:54 Ms. Simpson, MWPA  
00:20:06 Mr. McGinley, MACo; Beaverhead Commissioner  
00:20:26 Ms. Sexton, DNRC  
00:23:30 Cory Swanson, Citizens for Balanced Use  
00:28:29 Mr. Johnson, AFL-CIO

**Opponents' Testimony:**

None

**Informational Testimony:**

None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:30:35 Sen. Keane  
00:30:45 Rep. Vincent  
00:30:55 Sen. Kaufmann  
00:31:22 Ms. Sexton, DNRC  
00:31:47 Sen. Kaufmann  
00:32:23 Ms. Sexton, DNRC  
00:32:37 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:32:59 Ms. Sexton, DNRC  
00:33:52 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:34:09 Ms. Sexton, DNRC  
00:34:20 Sen. Wanzenried  
00:34:30 Ms. Sexton, DNRC

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:34:45 Rep. Vincent  
00:34:52 Chairman Gebhardt  
00:35:05 Rep. Vincent  
  
00:41:09 Sen. Peterson left the committee.

**HEARING ON HB 140****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:41:19 Rep. Chas Vincent (R), HD 2, opened the hearing on HB 140, Increase excess sustained yield authority for forest health.

**EXHIBIT (nas48a03)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:45:02 Mr. Todhunter, MLA  
00:46:47 Mr. Swanson, Citizens for Balanced Use  
00:47:08 Doug Hall, Self; Hall Wood Processing  
00:47:58 Ms. Simpson, MWPA  
00:48:30 Mr. Johnson, AFL-CIO

**EXHIBIT (nas48a04)**

00:50:56 Jerome Anderson, Anderson Forest Products, Great Falls

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:53:08 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

**Informational Testimony:**

00:54:30 Tom Schultz, Administrator Land Management Division, DNRC

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:55:28 Sen. Barrett  
00:55:46 Mr. Schultz, DNRC  
00:56:16 Sen. Tropila  
00:56:41 Mr. Schultz, DNRC  
00:57:04 Sen. Tropila  
00:57:40 Rep. Vincent  
01:00:20 Sen. Barrett  
01:00:34 Rep. Vincent  
01:02:16 Sen. Barrett  
01:02:46 Mr. Schultz, DNRC  
01:03:59 Sen. Keane  
01:04:11 Mr. Schultz, DNRC  
01:04:28 Sen. Keane  
01:04:41 Mr. Schultz, DNRC  
01:04:57 Sen. Keane  
01:05:05 Mr. Schultz, DNRC  
01:05:30 Sen. Curtiss  
01:06:08 Chairman Gebhardt

01:06:11 Sen. Wanzenried

01:06:15 Rep. Vincent

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:08:21 Rep. Vincent

01:09:42 Chairman Gebhardt

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 44**

01:11:01 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Curtiss moved that **HB 44 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Members present and voting. Sen. Curtiss will carry the bill in the Senate.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 140**

01:11:37 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Barrett moved that **SB 140 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 7-2 by voice vote with Sen. Kaufmann and Sen. Wanzenried voting no. Members present and voting. Chairman Gebhardt will carry the bill in the Senate.

01:12:31 Chairman Gebhardt

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:17 P.M.

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Lindsey Hern, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([nas48aad.pdf](#))**