

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Ted Washburn, on March 17, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 152
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ted Washburn, Chair (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Jeffery W. Welborn, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)
Rep. Pat Connell (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Bill Harris (R)
Rep. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Rep. Dan Kennedy (R)
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)
Rep. Ken Peterson (R)
Rep. Jean Price (D)
Rep. Dan Skattum (R)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)
Rep. Max Yates (R)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: Rep. Cleve J. Loney (R)

Staff Present: Cara Gold, Committee Secretary
Hope Stockwell, 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 576, 3/11/2011; SB 124, 3/11/2011; SB 144, 3/11/2011; SB
174, 3/11/2011

00:00:04 The Chairman welcomed the committee and reviewed the committee rules.

HEARING ON HB 576

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:32 Rep. Bill Harris (R), HD 30, opened the hearing on HB 576, Reclassify mountain lions as predators.

EXHIBIT(fih60a01)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:08:36 Tim Ravndal, Self

00:10:24 Ken McDonald, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT(fih60a02)

00:13:10 Rod Bullis, Self

EXHIBIT(fih60a03)

00:16:48 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

00:17:37 Steve Forrest, World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

EXHIBIT(fih60a04)

00:19:08 Herbert Lay, Self

00:19:36 Vito Quatraro, Headwaters Sportsman Association

00:21:01 Kevin Jackson, Montana Federation of Houndsmen

00:21:59 Roland Deane, Montana State Houndsmen Association

00:23:14 Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

00:23:51 Stan Frasier, Helena Hunters and Anglers

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:25:04 Rep. Phillips

00:25:33 Ken McDonald

00:25:52 Rep. Peterson

00:26:01 Ken McDonald

00:26:39 Rep. Peterson

00:26:48 Ken McDonald

00:28:04 Rep. Yates

00:28:18 Ken McDonald

00:28:39 Rep. Yates

00:29:30 Ken McDonald

00:30:22 Rep. Yates

00:31:05 Ken McDonald

00:32:02 Rep. Yates

00:33:07 Ken McDonald

Closing by Sponsor:

00:34:01 Rep. Harris

HEARING ON SB 124

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:37:55 Sen. Rick Ripley (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 124, Reorganize and recodify fish and game criminal statutes.

00:40:05 Rep. Loney entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:40:31 Joe Maurier, FWP

00:41:10 Pete Howard, Justice of the Peace for Teton County

EXHIBIT(fih60a05)

00:48:17 Larry Epstein, County Attorneys Association

00:49:09 Ben Lamb, MWF

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:49:42 Barbara Harris, Assistant Attorney General

00:50:01 Doug Sternberg, Former Legislative Services Division Staff

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:54:36 Sen. Ripley

HEARING ON SB 144

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:56:09 Sen. John Brenden (R), SD 18, opened the hearing on SB 144, Revise laws governing translocation of bison; prohibit free-roaming bison.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:01:49 Cele Pohle, Powell County Commissioner

EXHIBIT(fih60a06)

01:03:20 John Hollenback, Self

01:05:47 Brian Quigley, Self

01:07:52 Ralph Mannix, Avon County Commissioner

01:09:09 Tim Ravndal, Lewis and Clark Conservative Tea party Group (LCCTP)

01:09:58 Doug Crachy, Self

01:10:49 Dave Skinner, Montana For Multiple Use
 01:11:32 Patrick Trammelle, Self
 01:11:53 Kerry White, Citizens for Balanced Use
 01:12:52 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
 (Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE) asked Ms. Rolf to show their support for SB 144 also.)
 01:14:32 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association, The Montana Public Lands Council
 (Montana CattleWomen asked Mr. Bodner to show their support for SB 144 also.)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:16:36 Joe Maurier, FWP
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a07\)](#)
 01:24:44 Robert Magnan, Fort Peck Tribes Fish and Game Department and Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a08\)](#)
 01:28:02 John Munding, Self
 01:32:23 Steve McEvoy, Self
 01:37:05 Annie Glover, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)
 01:39:25 Ben Lamb, MWF
 (Headwaters Sportsmen Association asked Mr. Lamb to show their opposition to SB 144 also.)
 01:41:06 Kit Fischer, National Wildlife Federation (NWF)
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a09\)](#)
 01:42:39 Jim Posewitz, Helena Hunters and Anglers
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a10\)](#)
 01:43:49 Becky Weed, Thirteen Mile Farm, Belgrade
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a11\)](#)
 01:44:46 Don Woerner, DMV
 01:46:05 Steve Forrest, WWF
 (The Wildlife Conservation Society asked Mr. Forrest to show their opposition to SB 144 also.)
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a12\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a13\)](#)
 01:47:06 Jonathan Proctor, Defenders of Wildlife
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a14\)](#)
 01:48:13 Bill Orsello, Self
 01:49:13 Darrell Geist, Buffalo Field Campaign
 01:49:57 Stan Frasier, Helena Hunters and Anglers

Informational Testimony: None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:50:23 Rep. Kennedy
 01:50:36 Joe Maurier
 01:50:47 Rep. Peterson

01:51:37 Jonathan Proctor
01:51:44 Rep. Peterson
01:51:47 Jonathan Proctor
01:51:52 Rep. Peterson
01:52:18 Jonathan Proctor
01:53:21 Rep. Price
01:53:43 Kit Fischer
01:54:59 Rep. Skattum
01:55:52 Kit Fischer
01:55:59 Rep. Skattum
01:56:20 Kit Fischer
01:56:50 Rep. Kennedy
01:57:18 Kit Fischer
01:57:25 Rep. Yates
01:57:52 Joe Maurier
01:58:23 Rep. Yates
01:58:38 Joe Maurier
01:59:05 Rep. Knudsen
01:59:32 Robert Magnan
02:00:08 Rep. Knudsen
02:00:46 Robert Magnan
02:02:36 Rep. Flynn
02:02:55 Robert Magnan
02:03:58 Rep. Flynn
02:04:22 Robert Magnan
02:04:35 Rep. Flynn
02:04:59 Jay Bodner
02:05:37 Rep. Harris
02:06:18 Robert Magnan
02:06:33 Rep. Harris
02:06:50 Robert Magnan
02:06:58 Rep. Harris
02:07:30 Robert Magnan
02:08:09 Rep. Phillips
02:08:48 Jay Bodner
02:09:21 Rep. Phillips
02:10:18 Joe Maurier
02:10:22 Rep. Phillips
02:10:52 Joe Maurier
02:11:40 Rep. Phillips
02:11:49 Joe Maurier
02:12:00 Rep. Wilmer
02:12:32 Jay Bodner
02:12:56 Rep. Wilmer
02:12:59 Jay Bodner
02:13:15 Rep. Wilmer
02:13:21 Jay Bodner
02:13:48 Rep. Miller
02:14:02 Joe Maurier
02:14:39 Rep. Miller

02:14:46 Joe Maurier
02:15:00 Rep. Connell
02:15:30 Robert Magnan
02:15:40 Rep. Connell
02:15:52 Robert Magnan
02:16:16 Rep. Connell
02:17:04 Jay Bodner
02:17:48 Rep. Loney
02:18:15 Joe Maurier

Closing by Sponsor:

02:18:38 Sen. Brenden

02:26:46 Rep. Wilmer

02:38:00 Rep. Peterson left the hearing.

HEARING ON SB 174

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:38:50 Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 174, Prohibit state funds for movement or relocation of bison to Spotted Dog WMA.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:43:52 Cele Pohle, Powell County Commissioner
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a15\)](#)
02:45:47 Dave Skinner, Self
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a16\)](#)
02:47:09 Rep. Phillips
02:47:35 Brian Quigley, Self
02:48:10 John Hollenback, Self
02:48:43 Ralph Mannix, Self
02:49:20 Doris Crachy, Self
02:50:23 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association, The Montana Public Lands Council
(Montana CattleWomen asked Mr. Bodner to show their support for SB 174 also.)
02:51:19 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

Opponents' Testimony:

02:52:03 Joe Maurier, FWP
[EXHIBIT\(fih60a17\)](#)
02:53:43 Bill Orsello, Self

02:53:55 Rep. Harris and Rep. O'Hara left the hearing.

02:55:19 Stan Frasier, Helena Hunters and Anglers
02:56:54 Ben Lamb, MWF
02:59:57 Kit Fischer, NWF
03:01:53 Darrell Geist, Buffalo Field Campaign

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:04:34 Rep. Miller
03:05:04 Joe Maurier
03:06:10 Rep. Kennedy
03:06:37 Jay Bodner
03:06:54 Rep. Wilmer
03:07:28 Joe Maurier
03:08:41 Rep. Wilmer
03:09:28 Sen. Vuckovich
03:09:31 Rep. Wilmer
03:09:48 Sen. Vuckovich
03:10:20 Rep. Wilmer
03:10:42 Joe Maurier

03:10:46 Rep. O'Hara returned to the hearing.

03:11:53 Rep. Connell
03:12:55 Dave Risley, FWP
03:13:04 Rep. Connell
03:13:26 Dave Risley

Closing by Sponsor:

03:14:04 Sen. Vuckovich
03:16:45 Rep. Washburn

ADJOURNMENT

03:18:25 Adjournment

Cara Gold, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

[EXHIBIT\(fih60a18\)](#)

Additional Documents:

[EXHIBIT\(fih60aad.pdf\)](#)