

Montana State Legislature

2013 Session

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- **Business Report**
- **Roll Call - Attendance**
- **Standing Committee Reports**
- **Tabled Bills**
- **Fiscal Reports etc.**
- **Roll Call Votes**
- **Informational Items**
- **Witness Statements**
- **Any Documents; such as;**
 - * **Petitions if any.**
 - * **Any and all material handed end after the meeting ends.**

**The original is on file at the
Montana Historical Society
and may be viewed there.**

**Montana Historical Society
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BUSINESS REPORT
MONTANA SENATE
63rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
SENATE FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013
Place: Capitol

Time: 3:00 PM
Room: 422

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

SR 28 - Confirm Governor's appointee as director of DFWP - Sen. John Brenden

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

SR 28 - Be Adopted

Comments:



SEN. John Brenden, Chair

MONTANA STATE SENATE
 Roll Call
 FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE

DATE: 3-21-13

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>PRESENT</u> | <u>ABSENT/ EXCUSED</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| SENATOR JOHN BRENDEN, CHAIRMAN | ✓ | |
| SENATOR RICK RIPLEY, VICE CHAIRMAN | ✓ | |
| SENATOR DEBBY BARRETT | ✓ | |
| SENATOR TOM FACEY | ✓ | |
| SENATOR JENNIFER FIELDER | ✓ | |
| SENATOR BRAD HAMLETT | ✓ | |
| SENATOR LARRY JENT | ✓ | |
| SENATOR JIM PETERSON | ✓ | |
| SENATOR FRED THOMAS | | Exc. |
| SENATOR KENDALL VAN DYK | ✓ | |
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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

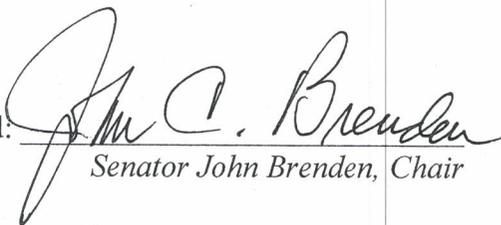
March 21, 2013

Page 1 of 1

Mr. President:

We, your committee on **Fish and Game** recommend that **Senate Resolution 28** (first reading copy -- white) **be adopted**.

Signed:


Senator John Brenden, Chair

- END -

Committee Vote:

Yes 10, No 0

Fiscal Note Required

SR0028001SC.swr

ADDITIONAL
LOCATIONS

Stan Meyer

3417 14th Avenue South – Great Falls, MT 59405
406-453-0144 – j-smeyer@bresnan.net

March 14, 2013

Senate Fish and Game Committee
Montana State Senate
P. O. Box 200500
Helena, Mt 59620

RE: SR 21 – SUPPORT FOR CONFIRMATION OF JEFF HAGENER

Dear Senators,

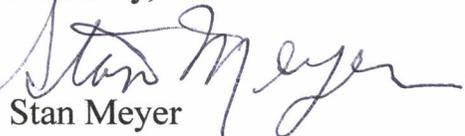
Your confirmation of Jeff Hagener as Director would return a trusted and steady hand to Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Thousands of us hold Montana's fish and wildlife resource in our hearts. We have been dismayed by some of the events of the past four years. We need a predictable and trusted leader in the FWP hot-seat, one who builds bridges to landowners and to legislators, one who values the Department's rich history and rewards employees for their skill and dedication.

Jeff has these traits, developed as a State Lands administrator and as FWP Director during the Martz and first-term Schwinden administrations.

Thank you for considering my comments and for your work in the Montana Senate.

Sincerely,



Stan Meyer
Member and Chair, Montana FWP Commission,
1993-2001, the Marc Racicot administratio.



Wildlife Management Institute

5450 Tumbleweed Drive • Helena, MT 59602

**ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS**

STEVEN A. WILLIAMS
President

SCOT J. WILLIAMSON
Vice President

March 15, 2013

Senate Fish and Game Committee
Montana Senate
P. O. Box 200500
Helena, MT 59620-0500

Chairman Brendon and members of the Senate Fish and Game Committee:

I regret that work-related travel will preclude my appearing at your hearing on March 21, 2013 to testify in support of SR 28, the resolution to confirm Mr. Jeff Hagener as Director of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. I would have enjoyed the opportunity to see you again and share my perspectives in person. Please consider this letter as my testimony.

As many on the committee will recall, I served as Jeff Hagener's Deputy Director at FWP throughout his previous tenure as Director under Governor Martz from 2000 to 2004 and Governor Schweitzer from 2004 to 2008. It was an honor and privilege to work for Jeff and I cannot express how pleased I was when Governor Bullock selected Jeff to serve as Director again.

Through my career, which now spans nearly 40 years, I have had the opportunity to work with and for many different fish and wildlife agency directors. I can truly say that Jeff Hagener is one of the best I have ever known. His commitment to the people of Montana and the resources entrusted to FWP is unparalleled. Jeff is a consummate professional. His integrity is beyond reproach. He encourages collaborative solutions and constructive problem solving. He sets a high personal standard and demands the same from all his staff.

During the previous 8 years that Jeff served as Director, FWP dealt with many controversial issues such as assuming responsibility for wolf management. Montana's highly successful wolf plan and program were developed and implemented under Jeff's direction. The agency operated under a conservative fiscal philosophy that balanced the need to expand some program areas with the agency's long-term financial resources. Jeff's personal knowledge of landowners and the importance of the relationships between FWP and this key constituency was critical to the agency's effectiveness during his tenure.

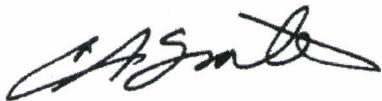
FWP is at a critical point in its history. The agency must regain the trust and support of Montana's landowners and re-evaluate its lands program to develop a long-term strategy for financing the management of wildlife management areas, fishing access sites and state parks. I can think of no one better than Jeff Hagener to meet these challenges. Jeff is a known and trusted entity among Montana's landowners. Jeff's tenure with DNRC as the head of state lands, along with his 8 years with FWP provide the knowledge and experience necessary to assess FWP's lands program.

Whether or not you agree with Jeff on any given piece of legislation or specific policy measure, you will always be able to discuss the matter with Jeff and know that he will listen to and consider your views. Even more importantly, Jeff is a man of his word and when he tells you what he thinks, you can trust him unquestionably.

The people of Montana and the staff at FWP need and deserve a director that is competent, honest and professional. No three words better describe Jeff Hagener.

I respectfully ask for a "Do Pass" vote on SR 28.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christian A. Smith
Western Field Representative
Wildlife Management Institute
5450 Tumbleweed Dr.
Helena, MT 59602

Cc Gov. Steve Bullock
Dir. Jeff Hagener