

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Chas Vincent, on April 13, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)  
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Pat Connell (R)  
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)  
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)  
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)  
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)  
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)  
Sen. Mike Phillips (D) (arrived after roll call)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. John Brenden (R)  
Sen. Jim Keane (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Julie Emge, 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 496, 4/9/2015; HB 510, 4/9/2015

00:00:57 Chair Vincent  
00:01:01 Brief Recess  
  
00:02:36 Sen. Ripley left the hearing.  
  
00:27:57 Reconvened

### **HEARING ON HB 496**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:28:28 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 496, Establish public lands task force.

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

00:38:36 Jody Loomis, self  
00:42:25 Ashton Loomis, self  
00:42:53 Patrick McCain, self

#### **Opponents' Testimony:**

00:46:00 Clayton Elliott, Montana Wilderness Association  
00:49:43 Dave Chadwick, executive director, Montana Wildlife Federation  
00:52:19 Ben Lamb, National Wildlife Federation  
00:52:36 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

#### **Informational Testimony:**

00:54:19 Shawn Thomas, administrator, Trust Land Management Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)  
00:54:43 Bob Harrington, administrator, Forestry Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

#### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:55:18 Sen. Kaufmann  
00:55:54 Mr. Harrington, DNRC  
00:58:35 Sen. Connell  
00:59:50 Mr. Thomas, DNRC  
01:00:04 Mr. Harrington  
01:03:01 Sen. Connell  
01:04:12 Mr. Harrington  
01:06:07 Sen. Fielder  
01:10:34 Rep. White  
01:11:09 Sen. Fielder  
01:11:33 Sen. Hoven  
01:11:58 Rep. White  
01:14:59 Sen. Hamlett  
01:15:52 Rep. White

01:16:52 Sen. Hamlett  
01:17:45 Mr. Harrington  
01:18:33 Chair Vincent  
01:19:22 Mr. Harrington

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:21:27 Rep. White

**HEARING ON HB 510**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:25:41 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 510, Assist local governments with federal land projects.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:28:09 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association  
01:29:38 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:30:11 Bob Harrington, administrator, Forestry Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:31:49 Chair Vincent  
01:35:43 Mr. Harrington, DNRC  
01:36:35 Sen. Fielder  
01:40:51 Mr. Harrington

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:42:09 Rep. Redfield

**Committee Business:**

01:43:58 Sen. Vincent

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:46 PM

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Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([nas74aad.pdf](#))**