

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA**, on March 13, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila, Chairman (D)
Sen. Keith Bales (R)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (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: None.

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 440, 3/9/2007; HB 364, 3/9/2007
Executive Action: HB 193, HB 171

00:00:00 Chairman Tropila

HEARING ON HB 440

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:16 **REP. DEBBY BARRETT (R), HD 72**, opened the hearing on **HB 440**, Direct FWP to revise and update state's wolf management plan.

EXHIBIT(fis53a01)

Proponents:

00:08:09 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

00:09:30 Pat Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)

00:10:07 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrower's Association

00:12:05 Elaine Alsted, Former Sweetgrass County Commission

00:12:50 Sheryl Wood, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MAC)

00:13:23 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides

00:13:40 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmers Union

Opponents:

00:14:05 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

00:17:14 Ken Swain, Self

Informational Testimony:

00:23:00 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT(fis53a02)

00:29:05 Vice Chair Sen. Gallus

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:29:19 Sen. Barkus to Chris Smith, FWP

00:32:33 Sen. Hansen to Rep. Barrett

00:33:57 Sen. Hansen to Chris Smith, FWP

00:35:14 Sen. Larson to Chris Smith, FWP

00:36:58 Sen. Larson to Rep. Barrett

Closing by Sponsor:

00:38:53 Rep. Barrett

EXHIBIT(fis53a03)

HEARING ON HB 364

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:47:02 Break

00:50:16 **REP. BRUCE MALCOLM (R), HD 61**, opened the hearing on **HB 364**, Establish board and fund to compensate livestock owners for wolf predation.

Proponents:

00:55:51 Nelson Wert, Veterinarian, Governor's Wolf Advisory Council

EXHIBIT(fis53a04)

01:01:15 Nelson Wert testified in behalf of the Montana Angus and Montana Herford Associations

01:01:26 Sen. Esp

01:02:55 Elaine Allestad, Rancher from Sweetgrass County

01:04:04 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau

01:04:57 Pat Torgerson, WIFE

01:05:26 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrower's Association

01:06:54 Hal Harper, Governor's Office

EXHIBIT(fis53a05)

01:09:50 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

01:10:01 Jean Johnson testified in behalf of Janet Ellis for the Montana Audubon

01:11:54 Sheryl Wood, Association Director, Montana Association of Counties

01:12:17 Ken Swain, Self

01:12:52 Katie Kassmier, Montana Farmer's Union

Opponents: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:13:35 Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, FWP

EXHIBIT(fis53a06)

01:14:55 George Harris, Executive Officer, Board of Livestock

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:16:32 Sen. Tash to Sen. Esp

01:18:04 Sen. Balyeat to Chris Smith, FWP

01:20:05 Sen. Balyeat to George Harris, Board of Livestock

01:20:26 Sen. Balyeat to Sen. Esp

Closing by Sponsor:

01:21:45 Rep. Malcolm

01:23:28 Sen. Bales to Rep. Malcolm

01:24:32 Sen. Balyeat to Hal Harper, Governor's Office

01:26:37 Rep. Malcolm

01:27:48 Chairman Tropila

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 193

01:28:04 **Motion:** SEN. GALLUS moved that HB 193 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

01:28:18 **Motion:** SEN. GALLUS moved that AMENDMENT SB019301.AJK
BE ADOPTED.

EXHIBIT(fis53a07)

Discussion:

01:29:58 Sen. Tash

01:30:47 Sen. Gallus

01:31:37 Joe Kolman, LSD

01:32:31 Sen. Balyeat

01:33:32 **Vote:** Motion that AMENDMENT BE ADOPTED carried
unanimously by voice vote.

01:33:43 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. GALLUS moved that HB 193 BE
CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by
voice vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 171

01:34:28 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. BARKUS moved that HB 171 BE TABLED.
Motion carried 8-1 by voice vote with SEN. BALYEAT
voting no.

01:35:13 Chairman Tropila

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:35 P.M.

SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA, Chairman

CLAUDIA JOHNSON, Secretary

JT/cj

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([fis53aad.pdf](#))