

MINUTES

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

Call to Order: Vice Chair Rick Ripley, on February 11, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

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

Members Excused: Sen. Chas Vincent, Chair (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Taylor Fridrich, 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: SB 261, 2/5/2015

HEARING ON SB 261

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:19 Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 261, Montana sage grouse stewardship act.

00:02:05 Sen. Brenden entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:10 Tim Baker, policy advisor for natural resources, Governor's Office
[EXHIBIT\(nas31a01\)](#)

00:16:31 Sen. Kaufmann entered the hearing.

00:20:16 Sen. Pat Connell, SD 43
[EXHIBIT\(nas31a02\)](#)

00:23:59 Rep. Ray Shaw, HD 71
00:25:11 Errol Rice, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)
00:27:43 Diane Ahlgren, farmer, supervisor, Petroleum County Conservation District
00:30:14 Leo Berry, attorney, Great Northern Properties (GNP)
00:33:46 Dave Galt, executive director, Montana Petroleum Association (MPA)
00:35:06 Todd Devlin, vice president, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
00:36:07 Glenn Marx, Montana Association of Land Trusts (MALT)
00:39:31 Jeff Wivholm, farmer, president, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD)
00:41:07 Mary Hollow, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
00:42:57 Gary Forrester, MDU Resources Group Inc. (MDU)
00:44:55 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:47:11 Bob Sivertsen, rancher, Havre
00:50:47 Mark Baker, Denbury Resources
00:51:38 Jake Troyer, Montana Audubon (MA)
00:53:19 Mark Lambrecht, Treasure State Resource Industry Association (TSRIA)
00:54:42 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)
00:55:41 Jack Kirkley, biology professor/ornithologist, Dillon

[EXHIBIT\(nas31a03\)](#)

00:57:45 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)
00:58:12 Amanda Jahshan, Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC)
00:59:36 Matt Flikkema, Montana Grain Growers Association (MGGA)
01:00:11 Steve Wade, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)
01:00:36 Lesley Robinson, Phillips County Commissioner
01:01:06 Shane Morigeau, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

[EXHIBIT\(nas31a04\)](#)

01:02:02 Rachael Frost, Missouri River Conservation District Council (MRCDC)
01:02:46 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperative Association

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01:03:13 Shawn Thomas, administrator, Trust Lands Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
01:04:04 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)
01:04:19 John Metropoulos, Montana Association of Oil Gas and Coal Counties
01:04:39 Robert E. Lee, Rosebud County Commissioner
01:04:59 Chris King, rancher
01:05:35 Glenn Oppell, Montana Chamber of Commerce
01:05:53 Amy Fisher, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)
01:06:10 Shelbi Dantic, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)
01:06:22 John Prinkki, Carbon County Commissioner
01:07:05 Tucker Hughes, rancher, Judith Basin County Commissioner
01:07:29 Bud Clinch, Montana Coal Council
01:07:42 Jeff Hagener, director, Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:08:17 Sen. Brenden
01:08:57 Mr. Baker, Governor's office
01:09:29 Sen. Brenden
01:10:32 Mr. Baker
01:11:27 Sen. Brenden
01:11:44 Sen. Baker
01:12:16 Sen. Brenden
01:12:56 Mr. Forrester, MDU
01:13:37 Sen. Brenden
01:14:11 Mr. Marx, MALT
01:15:22 Sen. Brenden
01:15:53 Mr. Galt, MPA
01:16:20 Sen. Brenden
01:16:30 Mr. Galt
01:16:35 Sen. Phillips
01:17:08 Mr. Baker
01:17:59 Sen. Phillips
01:18:42 Mr. Baker
01:19:39 Sen. Phillips
01:20:24 Mr. Baker
01:20:55 Sen. Phillips
01:21:35 Mr. Baker
01:21:46 Sen. Phillips

01:22:09 Sen Ankney entered the hearing.

01:22:32 Mr. Berry, GNP
01:23:05 Sen. Phillips
01:23:11 Mr. Berry
01:23:28 Sen. Hoven

01:24:37 Mr. Sivertsen, self
01:26:23 Sen. Hoven
01:26:42 Mr. Sivertsen
01:28:02 Sen. Hoven
01:28:23 Mr. Kirkley, self
01:29:04 Sen. Hoven
01:29:13 Mr. Kirkley
01:29:53 Sen. Hoven
01:30:17 Sen. Hamlett
01:31:04 Sen. Larsen
01:32:36 Mr. Hagener, FWP
01:33:59 Sen. Fielder
01:34:18 Mr. Hagener
01:34:49 Sen. Fielder
01:35:28 Mr. Hagener
01:35:47 Sen. Fielder
01:36:11 Mr. Baker
01:36:39 Sen. Fielder
01:37:18 Mr. Baker
01:37:47 Sen. Fielder
01:38:08 Mr. Baker
01:39:00 Sen. Fielder
01:39:09 Mr. Baker
01:39:27 Sen. Fielder
01:39:45 Mr. Baker
01:40:01 Sen. Fielder
01:40:12 Mr. Baker
01:40:39 Sen. Fielder
01:40:54 Mr. Baker
01:41:43 Sen. Hoven
01:42:14 Mr. Baker
01:43:16 Sen. Hoven
01:43:42 Mr. Baker
01:44:43 Sen. Hoven
01:44:59 Mr. Baker
01:46:01 Vice Chair Ripley

Closing by Sponsor:

01:46:35 Sen Hamlett

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:58 P.M.

Taylor Fridrich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas31aad.pdf](#))