

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Call to Order:** Chair Jeffrey W. Welborn, on January 14, 2019 at 3:02 P.M., in Room 303 Capitol

#### SENATE ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn, Chair (R)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Tom Richmond, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Sen. John Esp (R)  
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)  
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)  
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Dick Barrett (D)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. Scott Sales (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch  
Mary Vandenbosch, Committee Secretary

**HOUSE ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Kerry White (R), Chair  
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R), Vice Chair  
Rep. Willis Curdy (D), Vice Chair  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen (D)  
Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R)  
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Zach Brown (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch  
Jacie Vonada, Committee Secretary

**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:** Informational Meeting: Aquatic Invasive Species

15:04:16 Chairman Welborn  
 15:04:18 Rep. Zach Brown entered the meeting.

**OVERVIEW OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

15:05:12 Shaun McGrath, director, Department of Environmental Quality  
 15:10:05 Chairman Welborn

**INTRODUCTION OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) ISSUES**

15:10:46 Chairman Welborn  
 15:11:15 Martha Williams, director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)  
 15:16:09 Kerry Davant, deputy director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

**SUMMARY OF AIS INTERIM WORK BY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL**

15:17:41 Chairman Welborn  
 15:17:53 Hope Stockwell, research analyst, Legislative Environmental Policy Office

[EXHIBIT\(nas06a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nas06a02\)](#)

**OVERVIEW BY PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION**

15:23:46 Chairman Welborn  
 15:24:44 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1  
 15:26:01 Larry Doke, member, Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan; president, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER)

[EXHIBIT\(nas06a03\)](#)

15:29:17 Matt Morrison, executive director, PNWER  
 15:42:55 Chairman Welborn

**AIS PROGRAM REVIEW**

15:43:15 Thomas Woolf, AIS bureau chief, FWP

[EXHIBIT\(nas06a04\)](#)

15:56:22 Recess  
 16:04:09 Reconvene

**PANELISTS AND PRESENTERS**

**Montana Invasive Species Council**

16:04:45 Bryce Christiaens, Missoula County Weed District coordinator; Chair, Montana Invasive Species Council

**Upper Columbia Conservation Commission**

16:08:07 Chairman White  
 16:08:07 Lori Curtis, chair, Upper Columbia Conservation Commission

**Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes**

16:12:03 Chairman White  
 16:12:14 Tom McDonald, director, Fisheries, Wildlife, and Recreation Department, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)  
 16:18:05 Chairman White

**Central and Eastern Montana Invasive Species Team**

16:18:10 Rachel Frost, coordinator, Missouri River Conservation Districts Council (MRCDC)

**EXHIBIT(nas06a05)**

16:21:50 Steve Tyrrel, supervisor, Lower Musselshell Conservation District (LMCD)

16:25:48 Chairman White

16:25:54 Steve Wanderaas, vice chair, Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC); chair, MRCDC

16:27:38 Laura Nowlin, coordinator, Musselshell Watershed Coalition

**EXHIBIT(nas06a06)**

**Garfield Conservation District**

16:31:06 Dusty Olson, district administrator, Garfield Conservation District

**Yellowstone River Conservation District Council**

16:32:32 Dan Rostad, coordinator, Yellowstone River Conservation District Council

16:34:34 Chairman White

**QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

16:35:32 Chairman White

16:35:59 Rep. Noland

16:36:53 Mr. Woolf, FWP

16:38:55 Rep. Gunderson

16:39:34 Mr. Woolf

16:40:03 Sen. Cohenour

16:41:01 Chairman Welborn

16:41:41 Chairman White

16:43:47 Chairman Welborn

16:44:22 Mr. McDonald, CSKT

16:44:27 Chairman Welborn

16:45:05 Ms. Williams, FWP

16:45:51 Rep. Zach Brown

16:46:31 Mr. Tyrrell, LMCD

16:47:42 Mr. McDonald

16:48:18 Mr. Wanderaas, MISC, MRCDC

16:48:41 Sen. Hoven

16:49:46 Mr. Woolf

16:52:49 Sen. Ankny

16:54:59 Sen. Welborn

16:55:07 Chairman White

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

16:56:07 Mr. Morrison, PNWER

16:56:46 Chairman White

16:57:19 Ms. Williams

16:57:40 Mr. Woolf

16:57:53 Ms. Davant, DNRC

16:58:03 Chairman White

16:58:19 Mr. Woolf  
16:58:34 Chairman White  
16:58:44 Bob Gilbert  
17:02:37 Chairman White  
17:02:43 Dean Rogge, chairman, Garfield County Conservation District  
17:03:59 Chairman White

**CLOSING**

17:04:29 Chairman Welborn  
17:05:25 Chairman White

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:06 PM

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Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nas06aad.pdf](#))