

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Fielder, on March 14, 2019 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Jennifer Fielder, Chair (R)  
Sen. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Steve Hinebauch, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Jason W. Ellsworth (R)  
Sen. Pat Flowers (D)  
Sen. Tom Jacobson (D)  
Sen. Mike Lang (R)  
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. David Howard (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch  
Mary Vandebosch, 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:** HB 243, 2/27/2019; HB 265, 2/27/2019

**HEARING ON HB 243****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:15 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 243, Revise laws related to the off-highway vehicle grant program.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:04:50 Russ Ehnes, vice president, Montana Trail Vehicle Riders Association  
15:06:03 Austin James, Citizens for Balanced Use

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:**

15:08:52 Tom Reilly, assistant administrator, Parks Division, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:09:16 Sen. Cohenour  
15:10:03 Rep. White  
15:12:06 Chair Fielder  
15:12:37 Rep. White  
15:13:29 Chair Fielder  
15:13:40 Rep. White  
15:15:48 Mr. Reilly, FWP  
15:16:12 Chair Fielder

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:16:42 Rep. White

**HEARING ON HB 265****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:17:15 Rep. Kerry White (R), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 265, Revise laws related to approval of FWP easements.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:23:34 Bob Haseman

**[EXHIBIT\(fis52a01\)](#)**

15:33:10 Chuck Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana  
15:36:31 Brandon Lynn

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:39:12 Amber Stenson  
15:47:51 Jessica Stenson

15:52:52 Sen. Flowers entered the hearing.

15:53:06 Greg Trude, Ducks Unlimited of Montana  
15:54:14 Glenn Marx, Montana Association of Land Trusts

15:57:20 Sen. Jacobson entered the hearing.

15:57:39 Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF); Montana Sporting Coalition (MSC)

16:00:19 Patrick Johnson

16:00:55 Chris Marchion, Anaconda Sportsmen's Club

16:02:50 Bill Geer

16:04:28 Clayton Elliott, Montana Trout Unlimited

16:05:46 Scott Laird, Montana field representative, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

16:07:02 Jeff Herbert, Montana Sportsmen's Alliance

16:07:44 Justin Schaaf, Montana Bowhunters Association

**EXHIBIT(fis52a02)**

16:10:01 Jerry Davis, Montana Bowhunters Association

16:12:39 Burt Lindler

16:13:23 Art Compton, Executive Committee, Montana Chapter, Sierra Club

16:14:59 Lea Bossler

16:16:48 Amy Seaman, Montana Audubon

**EXHIBIT(fis52a03)**

16:18:28 Sam Milodragovich

16:20:05 Whitney Tawney, program director, Montana Conservation Voters

16:21:04 Martha Williams, director, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**EXHIBIT(fis52a04)**

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

16:22:33 Sen. Cohenour

16:23:04 Ms. Stenson, self

16:27:53 Sen. Flowers

16:28:50 Ms. Williams, FWP

16:29:27 Sen. Flowers

16:29:55 Mr. Haseman, self

16:31:32 Sen. Hinebauch

16:32:21 Ms. Williams

16:33:03 Sen. Hinebauch

16:33:23 Ms. Williams

16:34:05 Sen. Hinebauch

16:34:28 Ms. Williams

16:37:08 Sen. Hinebauch

16:39:09 Mr. Lamb, MWF; MSC

16:40:52 Sen. Hinebauch

16:40:59 Mr. Lamb

16:41:14 Sen. Hinebauch

16:41:20 Mr. Lamb

16:41:26 Sen. Hinebauch

16:41:49 Sen. Cohenour

16:41:50 Sen. Hinebauch  
16:42:18 Mr. Lamb  
16:43:03 Sen. Hinebauch  
16:43:13 Mr. Lamb  
16:43:54 Sen. Cohenour  
16:44:35 Ms. Williams  
16:46:08 Chair Fielder  
16:46:30 Ms. Williams  
16:47:07 Chair Fielder  
16:47:15 Ms. Williams  
16:47:31 Chair Fielder  
16:48:03 Ms. Williams  
16:48:38 Chair Fielder  
16:48:54 Ms. Williams  
  
16:49:01 Sen. Lang entered the hearing.  
  
16:49:41 Chair Fielder  
16:49:50 Ms. Williams  
16:51:49 Sen. McClafferty  
16:52:08 Ms. Williams  
16:52:23 Chair Fielder  
16:52:30 Sen. Cohenour  
16:53:28 Ms. Williams  
16:54:33 Chair Fielder

**Closing by Sponsor:**

16:54:43 Rep. White

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:01 PM

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Mary Vandebosch, Secretary

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**Additional Documents**

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([fis52aad.pdf](#))**