

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

**Call to Order:** Chair Ross H. Fitzgerald, on January 21, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald, Chair (R)  
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)  
Rep. Tom France (D)  
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)  
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Sara Novak (D)  
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)  
Rep. Brian Putnam (R)  
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)  
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Seth Berglee (R)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Joanne Kauzlarich, Committee Secretary  
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Branch  
Jesse Tack, Remote Meeting Coordinator

**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 138, 1/12/2021  
Executive Action: HB 163

**HEARING ON HB 138****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:59 Rep. Paul Fielder (R), opened the hearing on HB 138, Revising trap and snare tagging requirement laws.

15:03:33 Rep. Loge left the meeting

15:03:54 Rep. Berglee joined the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:06:15 Jim Buell, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:07:32 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana

15:10:45 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

**EXHIBIT(fih14a01)**

15:13:42 Dr. Shelley Coldiron, self

15:16:12 Margareta Marro, self

15:17:15 Rep. R. Knudsen joined the meeting.

15:18:10 Beki Brandborg, self

15:20:10 Chair Fitzgerald

15:20:19 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

15:20:33 Beki Brandborg, self

15:21:39 Dr. Allyson Dallmann, self

15:25:03 Karin Mahuna, self

15:27:43 Chair Fitzgerald

15:27:50 Karin Mahuna, self

15:28:19 KC York, Trap Free Montana

**Informational Testimony:**

15:31:33 Ron Howell, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:32:04 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:32:57 Rep. Fielder

**EXHIBIT(fih14a02)**

15:34:41 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:35:08 Rep. Fielder

**EXHIBIT(fih14a03)**

15:36:28 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:37:11 Rep. Fielder

15:38:05 Vice Chair Farris-Olsen

15:38:40 Ron Howell, FWP

15:39:22 Rep. Phalen

15:41:08 Rep. Fielder  
15:41:43 Rep. Phalen  
15:42:22 Chair Fitzgerald  
15:42:36 Rep. Marler  
15:43:36 Chair Fitzgerald  
15:43:44 Rep. Fielder  
15:45:23 Rep. Marler  
15:45:40 Hope Stockwell, LSD  
15:46:33 Rep. Putnam  
15:46:55 Ron Howell, FWP  
15:47:15 Rep. Fielder  
15:47:52 Hope Stockwell, LSD  
15:48:22 Rep. Putnam  
15:48:45 Rep. Fielder  
15:51:09 Chair Fitzgerald  
15:54:36 Rep. Fielder  
15:55:08 Chair Fitzgerald  
15:55:33 Ron Howell, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:55:53 Rep. Fielder

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 163**

15:57:44 **Motion:** Rep. Putnam moved that **HB 163 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

15:58:17 Rep. Fielder  
15:59:06 Rep. J. Hinkle  
16:00:06 Rep. France  
16:02:08 Vice Chair Farris-Olsen  
16:02:37 Rep. Fielder  
16:03:39 Hope Stockwell, LSD  
16:04:37 Rep. Running Wolf  
16:06:25 Rep. Fielder  
16:07:17 Hope Stockwell, LSD  
16:07:42 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:08:01 Hope Stockwell, LSD  
16:08:06 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:08:10 Hope Stockwell, LSD

[EXHIBIT\(fih14a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fih14a05\)](#)

16:09:00 Chair Fitzgerald

16:09:25 **Motion:** Rep. Phalen moved that **HB 163 BE CONCEPTUALLY AMENDED MAKING THE BILL EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

16:09:37 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:10:15 Rep. Phalen  
16:10:18 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:10:43 Hope Stockwell, LSD

16:11:38 Without Objection, Rep. Phalen withdrew his motion that **HB 163 BE CONCEPTUALLY AMENDED.**

16:11:52 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:12:09 Rep. Berglee  
16:12:18 Chair Fitzgerald

16:12:26 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Duram, Rep. Loge, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Reksten and Rep. Weatherwax voted by proxy.

**Committee Business:**

16:13:40 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:13:59 Hope Stockwell, LSD  
16:14:05 Chair Fitzgerald  
16:14:25 Rep. J. Hinkle  
16:14:45 Rep. France  
16:15:14 Chair Fitzgerald

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:15:38

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Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([fih14aad.pdf](#))