

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Call to Order: Chair Ross H. Fitzgerald, on February 2, 2021 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald, Chair (R)
Rep. Neil Duram, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Robert Farris-Olsen, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Seth Berglee (R)
Rep. Tom France (D)
Rep. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)
Rep. Sara Novak (D)
Rep. Bob Phalen (R)
Rep. Brian Putnam (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Tyson T. Running Wolf (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Paul Fielder (R)

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 242, 1/29/2021; HB 224, 1/29/2021; HB 260, 1/29/2021

HEARING ON HB 242**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:02:44 Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R), opened the hearing on HB 242, Establishing a muzzleloader heritage hunt season.

EXHIBIT(fih22a01)**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:04:50 Garrett Bacon, self

15:05:49 Matt Leow, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (MTBHA)

15:08:26 Rep. Neil Duram

Opponents' Testimony:

15:10:18 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

15:12:45 Dale Tribby, Montana Sportsman's Alliance (MSA)

15:13:50 Rep. Mitchell left the meeting.

15:14:16 Carmen Borchelt, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony:

15:16:36 Dave Loewen, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:17:07 Rep. Loge

15:18:45 Rep. C. Hinkle

15:19:00 Rep. France

15:20:29 Rep. C. Hinkle

15:20:41 Rep. France

15:20:59 Dave Loewen, FWP

15:21:23 Rep. Marler

15:22:59 Dave Loewen, FWP

15:23:53 Rep. Marler

15:24:16 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:27:04 Rep. C. Hinkle

15:27:37 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:27:51 Rep. Loge

15:28:26 Garrett Bacon, self

15:30:03 Vice Chair Farris-Olsen

15:31:08 Dave Loewen, FWP

15:31:23 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:32:22 Dave Loewen, FWP

15:32:37 Rep. J. Hinkle

15:33:08 Rep. C. Hinkle

Closing by Sponsor:

15:33:21 Rep. C. Hinkle

HEARING ON HB 260

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

15:34:50 Rep. Seth Berglee (R), HD 58, opened the hearing on HB 260, Revise non-resident fishing license fees.

Proponents' Testimony:

15:36:02 Chris Francis, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

15:39:17 Scott Vollmer, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA); Scott Vollmer Outfitting

EXHIBIT(fih22a02)

15:42:43 Pam Gosink, Montana Dude Ranchers' Association

15:45:37 Colin Cooney, Trout Unlimited (TU)

15:46:55 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

15:48:45 Emily Cooper, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

15:49:14 Rep. France

15:49:50 Rep. Berglee

15:50:14 Vice Chair Farris-Olsen

15:50:37 Rep. Berglee

15:51:07 Rep. Marler

15:51:46 Rep. Berglee

15:51:50 Emily Cooper, FWP

Closing by Sponsor:

15:52:22 Rep. Berglee

15:52:50 Hope Stockwell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

15:53:28 Rep. Fielder joined the meeting.

15:53:48 Recessed

16:02:18 Reconvened with Rep. Mitchell present.

16:02:25 Chair Fitzgerald

HEARING ON HB 224**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

16:03:50 Rep. Paul Fielder (R), , opened the hearing on HB 224, Allow for the snaring of wolves in Montana by licensed trappers.

[EXHIBIT\(fih22a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:12:20 Garrett Bacon, self

16:14:21 Ron Devlin, Montana Woolgrowers Association (MWA)

16:15:27 Mike Colpo, Montana Ourfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

16:15:57 Matt Lumley, National Trappers Association (NTA); Montana Trappers Association (MTA); Outdoor Heritage Coalition (OHC)

16:17:29 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

16:18:15 Jim Buell, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

16:19:34 Tom Barnes, self

Opponents' Testimony:

16:21:05 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana

[EXHIBIT\(fih22a04\)](#)

16:24:41 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

[EXHIBIT\(fih22a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fih22a06\)](#)

16:27:55 Norman Bishop, self

16:30:40 Hope Stockwell, LSD

16:31:04 Marcus Strange, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

16:33:12 Jennifer Sherry, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

16:35:14 Derek Goldman, Endangered Species Coalition (ESC)

16:37:16 Erin Edge, Defenders of Wildlife

16:38:30 Dave Pauli, Montana Animal Care Association (MACA)

16:43:13 Fred de Lepper, self

16:44:56 Zack Strong, Animal Welfare Institute

16:46:32 Margareta Marro, self

16:48:57 Clinton Nagel, Gallatin Wildlife Association

16:52:53 Dr. Shelley Coldiron, self

16:56:37 Mica Costerrousse, self

16:58:21 Michele Long, self

16:59:34 Bonnie Rice, Sierra Club

Informational Testimony:

17:02:13 Ken McDonald, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

17:02:35 Hope Stockwell, LSD

Opponents:

17:03:06 KC York, Trap Free Montana (TFM)
 17:03:36 Rod Bullis, self
 17:04:36 Sue Kronenberger, self
 17:05:24 Sue Ann Stephenson-Love, self
 17:05:55 Sharona Gilbert, self
 17:06:15 Colton Dunlap, self
 17:06:42 Debra Taylor, self
 17:07:15 Allyson Dallmann, self
 17:07:52 Carter Niemeyer, self
 17:08:27 Jennifer Hickman, self
 17:09:17 Winston Vickers, self
 17:10:00 Michele Dieterich, self

EXHIBIT(fih22a07)

17:10:38 Carman Borchelt, Montana Audubon
 17:11:06 Stephanie Farac, self
 17:11:30 Chair Fitzgerald
 17:11:51 Karin Mahuna, self
 17:12:13 Peg Brownlee, self

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

17:13:11 Rep. Running Wolf
 17:14:00 Dr. Shelley Coldiron, self
 17:14:33 Rep. Running Wolf
 17:15:17 Colton Dunlap, self
 17:15:35 Rep. Running Wolf
 17:15:46 Colton Dunlap, self
 17:16:44 Rep. Loge
 17:17:40 Ken McDonald, FWP
 17:17:58 Rep. Loge
 17:18:20 Bonnie Rice, Sierra Club
 17:18:34 Rep. Loge
 17:18:44 Bonnie Rice, Sierra Club
 17:18:58 Rep. J. Hinkle
 17:22:00 Matt Lumley, MTA, NTA, OHC
 17:23:23 Rep. J. Hinkle
 17:23:50 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana
 17:24:31 Rep. R. Knudsen
 17:24:56 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana
 17:25:20 Rep. R. Knudsen
 17:25:29 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana
 17:25:39 Vice Chair Duram
 17:27:11 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana
 17:27:39 Vice Chair Duram
 17:27:44 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana
 17:28:09 Vice Chair Duram
 17:28:18 Carter Niemeyer, self
 17:28:27 Rep. Berglee

17:29:18 Stephen Capra, Footloose Montana
17:29:36 Rep. Berglee
17:30:01 Vice Chair Duram
17:30:39 Rep. Fielder
17:30:58 Vice Chair Farris-Olsen
17:31:23 Dr. Winston Vickers, self
17:32:49 Rep. France
17:33:35 Colton Dunlap, self
17:34:28 Rod Bullis, self
17:35:23 Rep. France
17:35:47 Ken McDonald, FWP
17:37:00 Rep. France
17:37:07 Ken McDonald, FWP
17:37:21 Vice Chair Farris-Olsen
17:37:55 Carter Niemeyer, self

Closing by Sponsor:

17:40:08 Rep. Fielder

Committee Business:

17:43:22 Chair Fitzgerald
17:43:43 Duram

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:43:55

Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fih22aad.pdf](#))