

## MINUTES

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

#### COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

**Call to Order:** Chair Ross H. Fitzgerald, on March 9, 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. Paul Fielder (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:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Joanne Kauzlarich, Committee Secretary  
Katherine Anderson, Remote Meeting Coordinator  
Hope Stockwell, 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: HB 505, 3/1/2021; SB 105, 3/1/2021; SB 60, 3/1/2021

**HEARING ON SB 60**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:03:08 Sen. Pat Flowers (D), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 60, Requiring trapper education for certain resident trappers.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:06:24 Fran Buell, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

**EXHIBIT(fih47a01)**

15:09:45 Ed Hebbe IV, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

**EXHIBIT(fih47a02)**

**EXHIBIT(fih47a03)**

15:14:38 Tim McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

15:15:35 Marijka Louwersheimer, self

15:15:54 Rep. Berglee left the meeting.

15:17:48 Michael McKenrick, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

15:18:27 Tom Fieber, Montana Fur Harvesters

15:20:01 Larry Rattray, self

15:21:13 Bert Wustner, Montana Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (MTSFW); Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

15:24:19 John Sullivan, Montana Backcounty Hunters and Anglers (Montana BHA)

15:25:23 Jim Buell, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)

15:26:00 Quentin Kujula, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**EXHIBIT(fih47a04)**

15:27:20 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

15:29:06 KC York, Trap Free Montana

15:32:14 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:33:55 Rep. France

15:34:26 Fran Buell, MTA

15:36:01 Chair Fitzgerald left the meeting.

15:36:04 Vice Chair Duram assumed the gavel.

15:36:19 Rep. Reksten

15:37:01 Quentin Kujula, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:37:33 Sen. Flowers

**HEARING ON SB 105**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:39:20 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 105, Revise penalties for criminal trespass while collecting antlers/sheds/horns.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

15:41:43 Joe Cohenour, self  
15:45:19 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)  
15:46:50 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)  
15:48:13 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

15:49:19 Dave Loewen, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

15:49:43 Rep. J. Hinkle  
15:50:16 Dave Loewen, FWP  
15:50:41 Rep. J. Hinkle  
15:50:59 Dave Loewen, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

15:51:38 Sen. Cohenour  
  
15:52:56 Recessed  
15:59:37 Reconvened

**HEARING ON HB 505**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

15:59:46 Rep. Wylie Galt (R), HD 30, opened the hearing on HB 505, Revising laws re: issuance of elk licenses used on private lands.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

16:00:06 Director Hank Worsech, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)  
16:04:21 Quentin Kujala, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

**EXHIBIT(fih47a05)**

16:10:30 Chair Duram  
16:10:58 Mac Minard, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)  
16:14:27 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA)  
16:16:55 Rachel Cone, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)  
16:18:46 Hannah Downey, Property and Environmental Research Center (PERC)  
16:21:08 Chuck Rein, self

**Opponents' Testimony:**

16:23:13 Chuck Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)

**EXHIBIT(fih47a06)**

16:27:16 Chair Fitzgerald joined the meeting.

16:31:42 Randy Newberg, self

16:34:23 Gayle Joslin, Helena Hunters and Anglers Association (HHAA)

**EXHIBIT(fih47a07)**

16:36:47 Ryan Busse, self

16:39:02 Andrew Posewitz, self

16:41:14 Rod Bullis, self

16:42:29 Justin Schaaf, self

16:44:41 John Sullivan, Montana Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers  
(Montana BHA)

16:48:16 Luke Conlon, self

16:49:21 Stan Frasier, self

16:50:24 Steve Platt, self

16:51:40 Josh Chilton, self

16:52:46 Mason Goeman, self

16:54:14 Greg Von Eschen, self

16:56:39 Paul Kemper, self

16:58:06 Bret Lian, self

17:00:32 Paul Dinkins, self

17:01:39 Greg Scheeler, self

17:03:26 Gerald Martin, self

**EXHIBIT(fih47a08)**

17:10:42 Katherine Anderson, Remote Meeting Coordinator (RMC)

17:11:12 Harold Johns, Skyline Sportsmen's Association

17:12:29 Rep. Seekins-Crowe left the meeting.

17:13:08 Rep. Phalen

17:13:43 Bradley Wolcott, self

17:14:20 Thomas Healy, self

17:15:34 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

17:17:26 Jeffrey Crouch, self

17:19:46 Isaac Jorth, self

17:20:31 Jake Schwaller, self

17:21:51 Ray Gross, Montana Sportman Alliance (MSA-PAC)

17:24:18 Walker Conyngham, Hellgate Hunters and Anglers (HHA)

17:26:56 Steve Schindler, Traditional Bowhunters of Montana (TBM)

17:27:18 Mike Mershon, self

17:28:27 Thomas Baumeister, Orion: The Hunter's Institute

**Informational Testimony: None**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

17:31:29 Rep. Running Wolf  
17:32:22 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:33:15 Rep. Running Wolf  
17:33:40 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:35:34 Rep. Loge  
17:36:00 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:38:00 Rep. Loge  
17:38:15 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:39:14 Rep. Marler  
17:40:05 Randy Newberg, self  
17:41:57 Rep. Phalen  
17:42:20 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:43:10 Rep. Putnam  
17:43:31 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:44:43 Rep. Mitchell  
17:44:59 Quentin Kujala, FWP  
17:45:13 Rep. Fielder  
17:45:39 Paul Kemper, self  
17:46:21 Rep. Fielder  
17:46:57 Paul Kemper, self  
17:47:53 Rep. France  
17:48:28 Director Hank Worsech, FWP  
17:49:45 Rep. France  
17:49:52 Hank Worsech, FWP  
17:50:04 Rep. France  
17:50:14 Director Hank Worsech, FWP  
17:50:41 Rep. Marler  
17:51:07 Director Hank Worsech, FWP  
17:52:11 Rep. Marler  
17:52:24 Director Hank Worsech, FWP

**Closing by Sponsor:**

17:52:53 Rep. Galt

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 17:54:31

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Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([fih47aad.pdf](#))**