

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 51st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By Chairperson Connelly, on January 13,
1989, at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: All

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Claudia Montagne, Secretary; Carroll South,
Staff Researcher, Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office

Announcements/Discussion: None

LONG RANGE BUILDING PROGRAM

Tape 4:A:000

DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS: (4:A:004) Ron Marcoux, Associate Director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), opened the meeting with a slide show, introductions of presenting personnel, and the distribution of a booklet (EXHIBIT 1) entitled Capital Appropriations Proposal. Personnel from the department included Dave Mott, Administrator, Management Services, and Bobbi Balaz, Federal Funding Coordinator.

MR. MARCOUX first presented the slide program (4:A:022), providing an overview of their 21 projects, totalling \$14,500,000. He noted that no general funds were involved; instead all of the monies were from earmarked funds or federal funding sources. \$9,800,000 comes from various state funding sources, and \$4,700,000 comes from federal funds. Five of the projects would be funded by bonds. The funding sources they would be dealing with would be license sales, Wildlife Habitat Fund (HB 526), Waterfowl Habitat Fund, Big Horn Sheep Auction Fund, Real Property Trust Fund, Fishing Access Site Acquisition and Maintenance Fund, Parks Coal Tax Fund, Parks users' fees, and federal funding from the Dingle-Johnson program, relating to fisheries and water conservation programs.

REP. BARDANOUVE (4:A:047) asked if they had an actual report of these funds, with income and expenditures and balances listed. MR. MARCOUX said yes, and that they would provide the committee with this information.

MR. MARCOUX continued (4:A:053), stating that the primary emphasis this biennium would be fisheries, with wildlife and parks programs being the other two priorities. The bonded projects were the Miles City Headquarters, continuation of the Hatchery Renovations Program, covering the Anaconda, Jocko and Big Springs hatcheries, and the repair of the South Sandstone Dam. All of these projects are covered in Exhibit 1, as well as projects funded by the other sources.

REP. BARDANOUVE (4:A:097) asked if water rights were firm in the areas of the hatchery projects. MR. MARCOUX answered yes, and that he would verify.

As MR. MARCOUX spoke of the hatchery problems and renovations, SEN. HIMSL (4:A:146) asked about the money the Legislature had approved several years ago for a well at the Creston Hatchery, mentioning that it cost \$400,000 and that it had produced such a volume of water that it couldn't be capped. He also asked about the Somers Hatchery site, stating that the water source had not been protected from cattle and was not centralized. MR. MARCOUX answered that the water source at Somers had not been developed but that the landowner was willing to work with FWP now, and that the Creston well was not producing enough water, as much as had been expected. MR. MARCOUX reported that they had spent \$200,000 on the well at Creston, but the situation had changed with the total crash of the Kokanee fishery within the past two years. Now, he said, the demand for Kokanee was far greater than they had anticipated.

Regarding South Sandstone Dam and its need for major repairs to comply with the Montana Dam Safety Act, SEN. HIMSL (4:A:214) asked where they would put \$1,600,000 into an earthen dam that was essentially a stockman's reservoir. MR. MARCOUX answered that the concrete spillway would have to be reconstructed as well as the face of the dam and the irrigation ditch.

REP. BARDANOUVE (4:A:231) asked if we had to pay for the irrigation part of this. MR. MARCOUX said that it is FWP's responsibility to repair the irrigation aspect of the project since they own and built the dam. REP. BARDANOUVE asked if they charged for the water, and MR. MARCOUX said that he didn't know. REP. BARDANOUVE (4:A:238) asked why, if the state got no benefit from it, they would be obligated to pay for the irrigation project. MR. MARCOUX answered with a reference to Brown's Lake near Glen, where FWP owns

the dam. When the dam went out, damages were awarded by the courts to the downstream users. He said that he would get more answers for the committee.

REP. THOFT (4:A:265) asked the age of the dam, and MR. MARCOUX answered that it was built in 1975. SEN. HIMSL (4:A:270) asked Mr. Marcoux to check on any silt condition that had developed within the reservoir. MR. MARCOUX said that this had not been a problem, and that the reservoir was used for fishing and recreation.

MR. MARCOUX presented information about the Bearpaw Dam engineering feasibility study for the level of repair needed. REP. THOFT (4:A:310) asked the age of the dam, and MR. MARCOUX said it was built in 1958, and that it is located in Hill County Park, with the county owning the property.

The remaining projects were discussed as presented in EXHIBIT 1. With respect to the Boat Facilities Statewide, MR. MARCOUX indicated that 10% of the Dingell-Johnson funds was now to be spent on motor boat access for fishing. REP. BARDANOUE (4:A:468) asked if the state actually had this need, or if this were being done merely to comply with the law. MR. MARCOUX answered that there was a need this biennium, and that dollars spent from this fund during the past biennium were for road repairs in the Fort Peck area to provide access to the Fort Peck Reservoir.

All projects were covered except for the parks program. MR. MARCOUX (4:A:610) then went through the Capital Appropriations Proposal, EXHIBIT 1. REP. BARDANOUE (4:A:717) expressed concern about the large bonding program since those bonds become General Obligation Bonds in the end. REP. THOFT (4:B:004) also expressed concern about the \$5,500,000 from HB 526, providing for the Wildlife Acquisition Fund for habitat, and the sheep program. He asked what property they were intending to buy, what they have bought, and the cost. MR. MARCOUX answered that he would like to discuss this in more detail when the department discusses HB 526.

DAVID MOTT was to discuss the bonding. SEN. HIMSL (4:B:034) asked if the interest on the bonds had to be paid from state funds, and MR. MOTT answered that all license revenues go into debt service. He also said that their outstanding bonds would be paid off in 1990 and 1991, retiring an \$8,000,000 debt this biennium. They would replace that debt with a \$5,000,000 debt this biennium. This would be a general obligation, 5 year, bond at 7% interest, issued by the Department of Administration. Federal funds would apply to the principal on a 75%(Federal)/25%(State) basis, and all

interest would be paid by state sources. There would be \$1,000,000 in interest on this bond issue, and the state funds would come from hunting and fishing license fees. This would continue the bond program started in 1983.

REP. BARDANOUVE (4:B:069) asked about the status of the 1983 bonds, and Mr. Mott answered that these were 8 year bonds and would be paid off in 1991. The 1985 bonds were 5 year bonds, and would be paid off in 1990. MR. MOTT added that they decreased the bond life to decrease the interest.

SEN. MANNING (4:B:087) asked how the state could afford to spend this money when charging users' fees for parks that have been free for years was being considered. This would directly affect low income people, he said. MR. MARCOUX answered that this issue would be addressed, and that the monies came from a grouping of earmarked funding sources, provided by previous legislation. As far as license dollars were concerned, he stated that there were strings attached to these monies, earmarking them for fish and wildlife programs. He said that the dept. could not use these monies for parks, and that this caused them great concern as well.

REP. THOFT (4:B:114) asked for specifics on the various funds and how they were spent. MR. MARCOUX answered that he had prepared a document with a description of these specific funds, with the cites listed (EXHIBIT 1). REP. THOFT (4:B:125) then asked if there were any other funds within FWP that could be spent for parks other than the Coal Tax Trust. MR. MARCOUX said yes, and that Mr. Hyyppa would be going over that in his presentation later.

At this time, MR. MARCOUX discussed each of the projects in detail.

Miles City Headquarters (4:B:132), page 5, Exhibit 1.

Missoula Headquarters Storage (4:B:169), page 6, Exhibit 1.

Washoe Park Hatchery (4:B:179), page 7, Exhibit 1. REP. BARDANOUVE (4:B:208) asked if FWP supplied eggs to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and if they were paid. Mr. Marcoux said they were not paid, as USFWS assists FWP in raising fish in other parts of the state, and that this was a cooperative effort, planting fish in Montana for the benefit of the state of Montana. REP. BARDANOUVE (4:B:255) asked why there were freezing problems with the pipes if there was always running water, and Mr. Marcoux said they had the freezing due to air locks in the pipes which caused the water to slow down. Also the pipes were buried at a shallow depth, and slush ice in the pipes from the creek slowed down the flow.

Jocko Hatchery (4:B:270), page 9, Exhibit 1. REP.

BARDANOUE (4:B:291) asked what had happened to the water that caused the "curtailment of water flow". Mr. Marcoux answered that the pipe was so old that with the low ground water levels this past season, the flow was so low that they would lose the water they were collecting through the pipe and back into the ground water.

Big Springs Hatchery (4:B:307), page 11, Exhibit 1.

Kokanee Salmon Facility, (4:B:325), page 12, Exhibit 1. SENATOR HIMSL (4:B:394) asked if Mr. Marcoux felt that the Creston water supply was not enough. Mr. Marcoux said that they needed more time to do more engineering studies, and that they needed to choose the most cost effective site for the expanded needs for Kokanee. A discussion followed regarding the money spent (\$163,000) last biennium, and why the Creston site was no longer appropriate. Mr. Marcoux stated that there were inadequate facilities for rearing fish at Somers due to deterioration, lack of production capacity, and water supply problems. The upstream land owner was now willing to work with the agency to provide ownership of the water supply. This problem had been exacerbated by the decline in Kokanee Salmon population in Flathead Lake due to angling harvest, Lake trout predation, and the introduction of Mysis shrimp.

SEN. HIMSL (4:B:420) asked about the USFWS hatchery in the area, and whether FWP had talked with them. Mr. Marcoux said that the USFWS was raising other species for planting on the reservations. He said that he didn't know about the water at Creston. SEN. MCLANE (4:B:450) asked how short this well was, and what would happen to it if they moved away from the site. Mr. Marcoux answered that water flow was not adequate to produce the numbers of fish that they now need. A discussion ensued on the crash of the Kokanee fishery, its possible causes, and possible solutions. The thought was to raise more fish and to plant them at a larger size so that they are not so vulnerable to the predation by shrimp.

REP. BARDANOUE (4:B:558) asked if they were proposing to renovate or build new, and stated that this money wasn't enough for a new hatchery. Mr. Marcoux said that this money was for an engineering feasibility study for a new site. Again, a discussion followed about the severity of, and possible solutions to, the problem of the Kokanee population crash. REP. BARDANOUE (4:B:730) closed with the statement that this was an example with the old saying: "If man messes up the environment, he'll pay a price for it."

Sandstone Dam, (4:B:744) page 15, Exhibit 1. Tom O'Connell reminded the committee that all dam projects were unusual. In the bill, he said that the committee would see that the monies are appropriated to FWP, but are administered by the Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). DNRC is the designated agency to administer repair work and construction to any dams on a statewide basis. The Long Range Building Program is merely the vehicle to get the authorization for these projects. SEN. HIMSL (5:A:005) asked if this was only an authorization then, and not a funding, and Mr. O'Connell answered that it was funding as well, but that funding would be administered by DNRC for dams only. SEN. HIMSL (5:A:039) asked again why such a large amount was being spent on an earthen dam of such a small size. Ms Balaz answered that there was concrete work needed at the principal spillway to comply with Dam Safety requirements, and that also, on the NE shore, there was an emergency spillway which needed to be enlarged. Mr. Marcoux said that with engineering reviews from the Corps of Engineers and other firms, this was the estimate of cost to meet standards and to eliminate their liabilities.

Bearpaw Dam (5:A:074), page 17, Exhibit 1. REP. THOFT (5:A:082) stated that every dam in the state was considered unsafe by the dam safety people, and wondered if the department was overreacting. Mr. Marcoux answered no, and that it was very expensive to complete these repairs, and that the liability to the state was great if a dam were to go out.

Clearwater Fish Barrier (5:A:102), page 19, Exhibit 1.

Dam Inspection Project (5:A:110), page 21, Exhibit 1.

Waterfowl Stamp Program (5:A:119), page 22, Exhibit 1. REP. BARDANOUE (5:A:135) asked if the department had a report on what they have done in the past with the monies. Mr. Marcoux answered that he would supply a review of completed and current projects. These have included pond development, reservoir enhancement and fencing. He said these projects were often on private ranches, with the department working with willing land owners. The only acquisition had been the purchase of the 157 acres at Lake Helena and 91 acres at Fox Lake in the Glendive-Sidney area. These were primarily development projects and each had a citizen advisory board, he said.

Bighorn Sheep Program (5:A:165), page 24, Exhibit 1.

Wildlife Habitat Acquisition (5:A:185), page 25, Exhibit 1. HB 526 of the previous session provided for monies for acquisition of wildlife habitat. The bill itself was set

for sunset review in 1993, and 80% of the monies were to go into acquisition with the remainder set aside for the maintenance trust account. The review process provided in the legislation was extensive, and the statement of intent was very thorough.

At this time Mr. Marcoux handed out their report, Habitat Protection Interim Report (EXHIBIT 2). Activity in the past biennium included the Robb Creek Ranch purchase, the Brewer Ranch, which was in process (commission review) and would be an easement rather than a purchase, and the initiation of the of the Dreyer Ranch acquisition.

REP. BARDANOUVE (5:A:266) asked if the Dreyer ranch had been purchased or if the process was underway. Mr. Marcoux stated that it had been approved by the Land Board and the Fish and Game Commission. On this land, there was an option agreement which had to be finalized by November 15, 1989. He said they had an option payment that they would like to exercise by the fall of 1989. With regards to FWP purchasing all the land in Montana, Mr. Marcoux stated that the amount of land owned by the department was 226,000 acres owned, 8,000 acres in easements, and 125,000 acres leased.

REP. THOFT (5:A:328) asked if FWP paid fees on State Lands. Mr. Mott said the leases were set by Dept. of State Lands (DSL), and that FWP paid that fee dependent upon the use. REP. BARDANOUVE (5:A:337) stated that he didn't understand the rationale of ranchers who were opposed to this program of FWP, and were at the same time critical of hunters and fishermen trespassing on their land. He stated that these FWP acquisitions would take the hunting and game pressure off their ranches, would be a boon financially for ranchers, and could improve land value of other ranches. It constituted less than 1% of the acreage in the state, and he restated his support for the program.

A conversation followed with REP. THOFT, who stated that FWP acquisitions affected the tax base in Ravalli County, since none of these governmental entities who owned property paid personal property tax. Mr. Marcoux said that the department was providing grazing and haying opportunities for adjacent landowners for lease, and taxes would be paid on this. He said that if we were to increase wildlife populations, ultimately, this increase would have beneficial impacts on the economy.

REP. BARDANOUVE (5:A:441) registered a concern about Montana ranches becoming private hunting preserves, and that there would not be hunting for the public. He said that this was an important part of Montana's image, and that we were losing the concept that there is free, unsupervised game and

that there is public hunting land available to hunt on. REP. THOFT (5:A:474) replied that perhaps the representative from Harlem did not appreciate the magnitude of USFS ownership in Montana and its impact.

Boat Facilities, (5:A:506), page 27, Exhibit 1. REP. BARDANOUVE (5:A:553) asked what projects FWP had developed under this program, and Mr. Marcoux answered that they had constructed boat ramps at Laurel, Lockwood, Somers (boat access), and Canyon Ferry, but that most of the monies had gone to improve roads to the various access sites into Fort Peck. REP. BARDANOUVE (5:A:578) asked if these were county roads, and Mr. Marcoux answered that they were and that it was a cooperative effort. He said that the dept. had participated with the county to aid the boating public.

Fishing Access Site Maintenance and Development (5:A:608), page 28, Exhibit 1. Mr. Marcoux mentioned that they had talked earlier of providing dollars from the boating facilities fund to the Model Parks Program and to communities or federal agency sites. If matching dollars were to be made available, other than to match the federal dollars, he requested approval to use freed up license dollars to go into this program.

Fishing Access Site Acquisition (5:A:650), page 29, Exhibit 1. REP. BARDANOUVE asked the average size and cost of one of these sites. Mr. Marcoux answered that the size was 5-10 acres, and that the cost depended upon the area, with the Big Hole property going for \$5,000/acre, and others for \$1,000/acre.

Property Development Locations Statewide (5:A:709), page 30, Exhibit 1. REP. BARDANOUVE (5:B:001) asked about the amounts in the trust account now. Mr. Mott replied that \$2,100,000 was in there now, which would increase to \$4,300,000 by 1991. The sources were grazing fees, timber sale fees, as well as funds from HB 526 (the 20%), the Schye Bill.

MR. MARCOUX stated that they were withdrawing the Yellowstone Road Improvements Project, which accessed a primary spawning area for Walleye in the Billings area. This request was for \$15,862. He said that the dept. was looking at adjacent sites that are on department lands where they are planning a diversion site.

PARKS PROGRAM. MR. DON HYYPPA, Administrator of the Parks Division, overviewed the Parks Program. (5:B:050). He stated that because there were a number of things that the department could not let slide in the parks program, and because there was difficulty with finances at this time, the

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division had had to make some choices. Some of these were meeting with public resistance; namely, turning back federal sites so that the department could focus on local sites. Some of these other choices, such as cutting back on maintenance, were creating unsafe and unhealthy conditions. He presented the Parks Division's 9 point self-help program in a handout, (EXHIBIT 3), and in an 11 minute slide program, Montana State Parks at the Crossroads.

MR. HYYPPA highlighted the impact that this program would have on Montana's economy. He said that they did a user survey of the Montana State Parks, prepared by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research, the results of which are contained in a brochure (EXHIBIT 4). They found that visits brought \$94,000,000 of out of state money into the state. Results of the survey also indicated what people wanted, and that was services at the parks. On the basis of this information, the division modified its proposal as originally presented in the Capital Construction Program.

The new proposal included \$1,500,000 from a new fee system (EXHIBIT 5). Public meetings have been held, he said, and the Fish and Game Commission would be meeting on this at the end of January in time for the Legislature to determine the outcome of this proposal. Individual descriptions on each of its parks proposals were then distributed (EXHIBIT 6).

Due to time limitations, it was decided that Mr. Hyypa would appear for 30 minutes on Monday, 1/16/89, to complete the proposal of the Parks Division of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 11:05



REP. CONNELLY, Chairperson

MEC/cm

1125.MIN

DAILY ROLL CALL

Long Range Planning

SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE _____

1-13-88

Fish killed life Park

[illegible]

Thrift

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 1-13-89
HB LRBP

CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS PROPOSAL

1989
MONTANA LEGISLATURE

December 1988



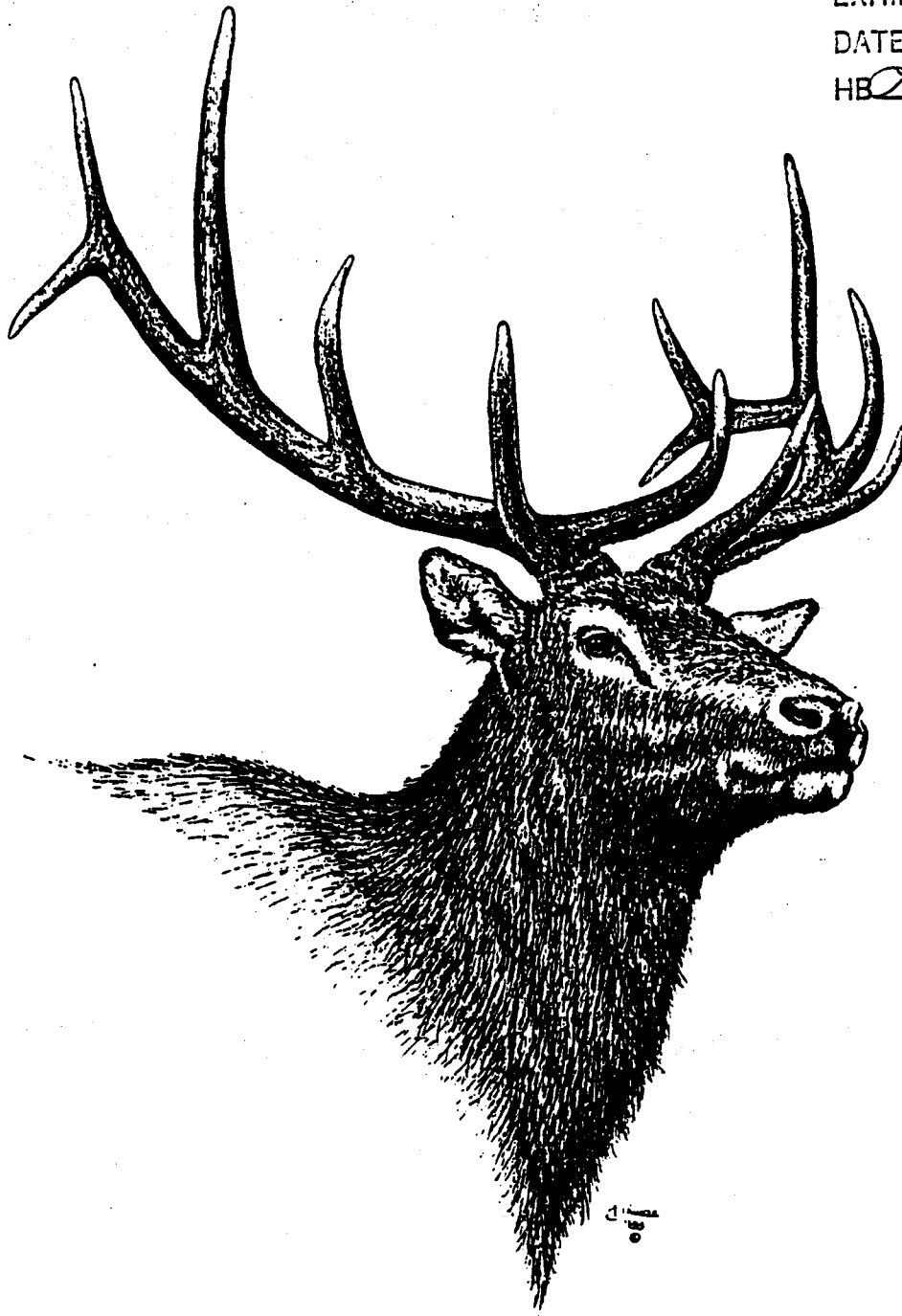
*Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks*

WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION AN INTERIM REPORT

EXHIBIT 2

DATE 1-13-89

HB R B Bohannon



Prepared by:

**Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks**

Prepared for:

**House and Senate
Fish and Game Committees
1989 Montana State Legislature**



MONTANA STATE PARKS AT THE CROSSROADS
Fact Sheet

HISTORY

- 1929 State Land Board authorized to set aside state lands for parks.
- 1936 Lewis and Clark Caverns donated as first state park.
- 1939 First comprehensive legislation establishes state park system and a separate State Park Commission.
- 1947 State parks receive first legislative appropriation.
- 1953 State parks transferred to Highway Commission with \$45,000 annual budget.
- 1963 Fish and Game Department appropriation includes legislative intent to allocate funds for development of fishing and boating facilities in state parks.
- Motorboat fuel tax separated from gas tax for state boat park creation, improvement, and maintenance (now 0.9%).
- 1964 Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) established to provide up to \$900 million annually for park development nationally.
- 1965 State parks and LWCF program given to Fish and Game Commission.
- Montana Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee established (eliminated by 1971 Executive Reorganization Act).
- 1975 Coal tax park acquisition trust fund established at 2.5% of coal tax receipts.
- 1982 LWCF funding for state and local park development projects in Montana reduced to \$0 from a maximum of \$3.4 million in 1979, now at \$157,000.
- 1986 All coal tax park tax earnings earmarked for parks trust diverted to General Fund until June 30, 1989; parks trust interest earnings diverted solely to park maintenance.
- 1987 All General Fund support of state park system eliminated.
- Net loss of \$1 million per year since 1985 from Coal Tax and General Fund in state park repairs and improvements.
- 1989 Montana Centennial Celebration
State Park System Golden Anniversary

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Parks -- 60 parks, 8 affiliated lands.
Visitation -- 2.9 million estimated in 1986.
Total park acreage -- 21,928 deeded; 8,800 leased.

Parks are classified under a variety of designations which are currently grouped as follows:

Natural Parks

5 - State Parks
10 - State Natural Parks

Cultural Parks

4 - State Historic Parks
11 - State Historic Sites

Recreation Parks

8 - State Recreation Areas
22 - State Recreation Sites

Affiliated Lands

8 - various designations

Largest state park -- Makoshika, 8,834 acres; smallest -- Granite, one building.

Most self-supporting park -- Lewis and Clark Caverns, \$152,230 (100%).

Most visited park -- Canyon Ferry, 623,600 visits in 1986.

Most popular activities -- camping, picnicking, fishing, hiking, swimming, boating, nature study.

Most needed facilities according to visitors -- campground improvements, boating and swimming facilities, comfort stations, drinking water, park roads.

Reasons given by former visitors for avoiding state parks -- too crowded, poorly designed or maintained.

Number of units operated by State Parks Division -- second in the nation, Minnesota is first.

Entrance fees -- unlimited free access to all but four of 60 parks (Lake Elmo--maximum \$1/person; Spring Meadow Lake--\$0.50/person; Wayfarers and Whitefish--\$2/car).

Camping fees -- charged at 25 parks, \$3 or \$5 per night, resident maximum of \$35 per year; only state in the nation which allows unlimited free camping for senior citizens, disabled persons, and their guests, an annual value of \$92,000.

FINANCING

Total operating budget of State Parks Division -- 48th in the nation, only Wyoming and North Dakota rank lower.

Operating costs per visitor -- Montana \$0.49; North Dakota \$1.67; National Park Service \$1.52.

Average park budget -- Montana \$25,000; North Dakota \$66,000; Colorado \$145,000.

	<u>Helena</u>	<u>Field</u>
Full time employees in 1988	6	34
Seasonal employees in 1988	0	140

State park buying power in constant 1977 dollars (total 1.858 inflation factor, 1977 through 1987):

<u>1977 (FY78)</u>	<u>1987 (FY88)</u>	in 1977 dollars
\$1,412,400	\$983,891	maintenance
\$ 799,946	0	repair and improvement
\$ 50,770	0	new parks and inholdings

State park funding in 1987 (FY88):

<u>DEPT TOTAL</u>	<u>OTHER DIV.</u>	<u>PARKS DIV.</u>	
\$1,321,446	\$399,622	\$921,824	coal tax
825,181	189,096	636,085	motorboat fuel tax
492,547	116,360	376,187	fees and charges
-0-	-0-	-0-	General Fund -
(\$640,618 in 1985)			
<u>2,639,174 (100%)</u>	<u>705,078 (27%)</u>	<u>1,934,096 (73%)</u>	

Deferred repair and improvement needs are extensive due to heavy, continual public use and previous growth of the system without accompanying financing to manage:

\$60 million -- 1988 cost estimate
 17 parks have never been developed for public use
 19 other parks have critical renovation needs

Deferred repair and improvement projects:

Campgrounds -- campsites, tables, grills, etc.
 68 projects - \$1,851,395

Grounds improvements -- picnic sites, water, utilities, fencing, misc.
 86 projects - \$2,760,961

Buildings -- comfort stations, vault toilets, maintenance buildings, visitor centers.
 52 projects - \$8,692,650

Boating and swimming facilities -- boat ramps, docks, beaches.
 41 projects - \$1,846,000

Park roads and trails -- parking lots, roads, trails, signs
92 projects - \$30,375,520

Park inholdings -- acquisitions, conservation easements, etc.
22 projects - \$15,008,301

MANAGEMENT, PARTNERSHIP AND FINANCIAL INITIATIVES

1. We will focus our attention on state-owned lands. Therefore, we have proposed returning five state-operated parks on federal lands back to federal management.
2. We will continue to rely on the coal tax. The original concept is sound: through the use of one natural resource (coal), our heritage resources (state parks) are protected and made available for public enjoyment.
3. We will work with other state agencies to develop a proposal for a Montana Conservation Corps to work on park improvements while reducing unemployment and providing vital job training to economically disadvantaged Montanans.
4. We will redirect the state park program to provide more of what visitors want -- quality facilities, service and information programs funded by user fees and savings from the transfer of parks on federal lands.
5. We will work to create a state parks foundation for fund raising from private sources.
6. A non-profit association will sell interpretive items such as books and tapes to raise money for state parks.
7. We will accelerate and formalize cooperative programs with user groups, non-profit civic organizations, tourism councils, chambers of commerce, private business, other agencies and local historical societies.
8. We will explore ways of strengthening our alliance with the Montana tourism industry to make state parks major drawing cards.
9. A parks entrance fee system, through which users will be charged equitable fees, will be developed.

For more information see:

Great Escapes, Montana State Parks by Rick Newby, Falcon Press, 1988

Address inquiries to: Parks Division
Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59601 (406/444-3750)

Montana State Parks System Visitor Study

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 1-13-89
HB LRBP

**Prepared for
Parks Division
Montana Department of Fish,
Wildlife, and Parks**

**by
The Bureau of Business
and Economic Research
School of Business Administration
University of Montana
1989**



■ The money would be used to enhance Montana's state park system and visitor services and to rehabilitate park facilities such as roads, campgrounds and boat ramps.

- Unlike Fishing Access Sites and Wildlife Management Areas, State Parks do not receive funding from sportsmen license fees for operation or maintenance.
- The State Park System reflects not only how we play, but also who we are and what we revere. We need to reassure Montanans and visitors that the state's special places and outstanding recreational opportunities will be preserved and available for future generations to enjoy.

**Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks**

HB 1-13-89
DATE 1-13-89
HB 1-13-89

MONTANA STATE PARKS
what? · when? · why?

EXHIBIT 5
DATE 1-13-89
HB Long Range Planning Board

PROPOSAL # 14

STATE PARK SYSTEM MAINTENANCE
AND DEVELOPMENT

LOCATION

LOCATIONS STATEWIDE

FUNDING REQUEST

\$ 106,000	Coal Tax	02408
<u>90,000</u>	Earned Revenue	02411
\$ 196,000	Total	

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Repair and improve state park system sites statewide.

BACKGROUND

- DFWP owns or controls over 60 state park system sites statewide.
- All of the sites have been identified by DFWP park managers and engineers during 1988 as needing maintenance and improvement.
- An accounting entity analysis is attached.
- Interest earnings from the coal tax trust funds are available for expenditure; 2/3 of the funding goes to DFWP and 1/3 goes to the Historical Society for cultural and aesthetic projects.
- The 1987 Legislature capped the trust fund, which resulted in interest earnings available for expenditure remaining steady unless interest rates increase or decrease.
- The coal tax trust funds are an uncertain source of funds, although sufficient funds will be available to cover this requested appropriation.
- Earned revenue is expected from the establishment of a new fee system for parks. Estimates have been very conservative.

NEED FOR PROJECT

- Basic improvement and heavy maintenance at sites is necessary to protect facilities and resources from deterioration.
- Improvements are often required for visitor safety.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

- Repair and improve state park system sites.
- Examples of work to be done are replacing comfort stations and latrines, stabilization of historic structures, improving roads, trails, sewer and water systems, expanding irrigation systems, and adding facilities to improve visitor service and enhance revenue collection.
- Sites will be selected by DFWP on a priority basis considering the following criteria: emergencies on existing facilities, protection of health and safety, protection of existing investment, enhancement of revenue production, and reduction of operation and maintenance costs.

PROPOSAL # 17
LOCATION

EAST GALLATIN SRA
BOZEMAN: GLEN LAKE

FUNDING REQUEST

\$ 0

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Obtain approval to accept privately funded development of facilities and improvement of park resources.

BACKGROUND

- altogether, the East Gallatin State Recreation Area encompasses 84 acres located at Glen Lake and along the East Gallatin River two miles north of Bozeman
- 20 acres is lake area and there is 1600 ft. of river frontage
- the 1983 legislature authorized DFWP to acquire the Glen Lake area
- DFWP purchased 31 acres for \$420,000 in 1984 using coal tax park funds; 47 additional acres are leased from the City at \$1 per year; and 6 more acres were donated to DFWP by the County from its subdivision parklands
- a community task force has coordinated the site development and generated donations of funds and labor
- a master plan (see attached site plan) has been developed
- initial development in accordance with the plan has been completed and includes: some landscaping, shoreline contouring and reseeding, beach sand, road, parking area, latrine, some picnic tables, underground electricity, irrigation system, some fencing around the lake, signing and garbage cans
- initial work was done through a \$90,000 appropriation from the 1985 legislature (HB 928: \$45,000 in coal tax funds and \$45,000 in Land and Water Conservation Funds)
- additional improvements are needed to complete the development

NEED FOR PROJECT

- state law (Section 18-2-102, MCA) requires legislative approval to accept donations or do work in excess of \$25,000 at state-owned properties
- community participation in the project has been tremendous and additional improvements at East Gallatin are necessary to serve the public, protect the area and achieve a fully-developed park
- site receives high use; 40,000 visitors during summer 1988
- additional improvements needed at the site include: rehabilitation of old landfill site with topsoil, grading, vegetation and landscaping; river stabilization; additional parking and road improvements; group use shelter, individual shelters and additional picnic facilities; beach expansion; trail system across river, including interpretive signing; irrigation system expansion; and tree and shrub planting, particularly on the perimeter for screening

- Gallatin Conservation District submitted an application to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation for \$100,000 to rehabilitate the landfill area. DNRC has ranked this request as the top proposal in its Renewable Resource Development Program, which will be submitted to the 1989 legislature for approval. This would be used in addition to donated funds and labor requested through this DFWP proposal.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

- authority is needed from the legislature to accept a privately funded completed project that will furnish up to \$100,000 of work on this state-owned area. No spending authority is needed.

December 22, 1988

PROPOSAL # 18

LEWIS AND CLARK CAVERNS

LOCATION

EAST OF CARDWELL, JEFFERSON COUNTY

FUNDING REQUEST

\$ 80,000 Coal Tax 02408

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Renovate the concession building and add restroom facilities to it.

BACKGROUND

- DFWP received the Caverns site, including over 2,700 acres during 1937-1940 from the Northern Pacific Railroad, the U. S. Bureau of Land Management, and Jefferson County; an additional six acres has been leased since 1947 from a private individual.
- Area was developed and concession building was built by the original concessionaires, the Link brothers, in 1947; additions have been made periodically.
- Concessionaires enter into agreement with DFWP to provide services to public.
- A new concessionaire (James and Sheila Nave) was contracted with in 1987.
- New concessionaire spent nearly \$25,000 in remodeling and bringing it up to code during summer 1988; DFWP is forgiving their royalty payments until that amount is reached.

NEED FOR PROJECT

- Additional work is needed because concession building does not provide handicapped accessible restrooms, and because exterior needs renovation to improve aesthetics, make it weatherproof, and functional.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

- Complete building renovation started by the concessionaire, add restrooms, and complete minor utility work.

PROPOSAL # 19

MODEL PARKS

LOCATION

FLATHEAD LAKE - MAKOSHIKA

FUNDING REQUEST

\$ 500,000	Earned Revenue	02409
100,000	Land Trust	02410
250,000	Wallop-Breaux	03097
162,000	Coal Tax	02408
320,000	LWCF	03406
<u>168,000</u>	Gas Tax Road Fund	?
\$1,500,000	TOTAL	

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Renovate selected parks to maximize revenue to establish desirable tourism destinations for residents and nonresidents.

BACKGROUND

- DFWP owns or controls over 60 state park system sites statewide.
- Sites have been prioritized as to need for development.
- Sites have been selected for their importance to visitors and to the park system.
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) monies are received from the National Park Service and matched with state or local funds on a 50/50 basis.
- Earned revenue is expected from the establishment of a new fee system for parks. Estimates have been very conservative.
- Wallop-Breaux funding is derived from motorboat fuel tax on a national basis. The funding is administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Fund match is 25/75.
- Coal tax account money is derived from the coal tax trust account.
- Gas tax road fund money is derived from highway gas tax and is usable as provided in 23-1-104.

NEED FOR PROJECT

- The department proposes to make selected parks more desirable destination sites for resident and nonresident tourism. This requires development to a higher standard than utilized previously.
- Visitors have indicated higher quality services and facilities are necessary for user safety and enjoyment.
- Development would increase earning potential on developed sites.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

- Makoshika and Flathead Lake Sites - Develop two sites chosen for visitor destination potential, earning potential, and geographical distribution.
- Examples of work include new paved roads, modern comfort stations with showers, utilities, visitor contact and information centers, water recreation facilities, picnic

PROPOSAL # 19 (continued)

facilities, camping facilities, and other related amenities.

-Sites will be selected on a priority basis and will also consider how much of an impact can be made at a selected site for a given dollar amount.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

Long Range Planning

SUBCOMMITTEE

AGENCY(S) _____

DATE 1-13-89

DEPARTMENT _____

NAME	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
DAVE Mott	FWP		
Bobbi Balaz	FWP		
Ron Marcoux	FWP		
Tom Cornell	AGE	✓	
JIM WHALEY	AGE	✓	
RON MARCOUX	FWP		
Lyle Nagel Lyle Nagel			
DON HYYPDA	FWP	✓	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT.
IF YOU HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS, PLEASE GIVE A COPY TO THE SECRETARY.