MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH & GAME

Call to Order: By CHAIRMAN FOSTER, on March 2, 1993, at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Foster, Chair (R)

Rep. Chase Hibbard, Vice Chair (R)

Rep. Bob Ream, Minority Vice Chair (D)

Rep. Beverly Barnhart (D)

Rep. Bob Clark (R)

Rep. Fritz Daily (D)

Rep. Jim Elliott (D)

Rep. Duane Grimes (R)

Rep. Marian Hanson (R)

Rep. Dick Knox (R)

Rep. Bea McCarthy (D)

Rep. Brad Molnar (R)

Rep. Scott Orr (R)

Rep. Bill Ryan (D)

Rep. Emily Swanson (D)

Rep. Doug Wagner (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Doug Sternberg, Legislative Council

Mary Riitano, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and

discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: SB 355, SB 375, SJR 2, SJR 3

Executive Action: SB 81, SB 355, SJR 2

HEARING ON SB 355

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. ETHEL HARDING, Senate District 25, Polson, explained SB 355 will make the increase in motorboat fees a permanent change. The money will be allocated to Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department for the maintenance of marine sewage pumpout equipment and other boat facilities.

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. Pat Graham, Director of the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department distributed written testimony (EXHIBIT 1).

Mr. Bill Leary, Canyon Ferry Recreational Association, expressed the organization's support of SB 355. He also declared Mr. Ken Hoovestol's support of the bill.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. DOUG WAGNER stated SB 355 funds would also be used for boat launching ramps and other boating facilities. He spoke of a bill introduced in the House that would divert 25% of the boating registration to improve boating facilities. REP. WAGNER asked Mr. Graham if this was a double-up of funds to be provided for boating facility improvement. Mr. Graham said the bill he spoke of is specific to spending money in the county in which the boat is registered. SB 355 is more flexible in the manner in which money can be spent. REP. WAGNER inquired if there was a need for the additional funding if SB 355 will cover boating facility maintenance. Mr. Graham replied yes. There is a substantial need for maintenance and repair of facilities around the Flathead Lake.

REP. BEA MCCARTHY asked Mr. Graham why the issue of the lake near Billings is not addressed in SB 355. Mr. Graham answered the language of the bill is not specific to a body of water. He addressed the concern of the noise problem around Flathead Lake. The money will help monitor decibel levels and provide adequate pump stations. REP. MCCARTHY asked if the allocation of funds is up to the Department. Mr. Graham stated there is need for the marine dump stations in the Canyon Ferry Reservoir area. Other sites have been identified so that when priority projects have been completed, the money could be made available to improve facilities in any state park. REP. MCCARTHY inquired if the Department will be providing a dump station at Canyon Ferry Reservoir. Mr. Graham said she was correct.

CHAIRMAN MIKE FOSTER said on page 11 it states 20% of the funds must be deposited in the account. He asked Mr. Graham where the remaining 80% was going. Mr. Graham explained the only funds being addressed were the ones being received from the 50 cent increase. The 20% is the 50 cent fee.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. HARDING reiterated that SB 355 only deals with the 50 cents which would be continued for the maintenance of boating

facilities. She encouraged support of the bill and stated REP. RAY BRANDEWIE will carry it.

HEARING ON SJR 2

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. JOHN KENNEDY, Senate District 3, Kalispell, distributed a written opening statement (EXHIBIT 2).

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. Pat Graham, Director of the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department distributed written testimony (EXHIBIT 3).

Ms. Jean Johnson, Executive Director of the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association stated the outfitting and ranching businesses both involve a large gamble. Outfitters appreciate being able to make a living at something they really enjoy doing. The study being advocated in SJR 2 is necessary to address the problem of the outfitting industry's appearance to the outside world. She hoped the study would find a way for the different groups to work together and toward a solution. Ms. Johnson urged support of the bill.

Mr. Steve Meloy, Department of Commerce expressed support of the bill. The Board of Outfitter's share of the money needed for the study will come from their earmarked fee, which is paid by outfitters.

Mr. Jim Richard, Montana Wildlife Federation stated he strongly supported the bill. He hoped that SJR 2 would aid in getting sportsmen and outfitters to work together.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. CHASE HIBBARD asked Ms. Johnson who will be involved in the study and what should be done with the results of it. Ms. Johnson replied the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department would facilitate the study. She desired to see legislation in 1995 that would repair matters for the outfitting industry and provide adequate access for sportsmen.

REP. BRAD MOLNAR asked Mr. Graham if the study would be valid if nonlicensed landowner outfitters are not included. Mr. Graham stated the intent would be to quantify the extent of the areas, both licensed and unlicensed outfitters. REP. MOLNAR asked if the Department knew who the unlicensed outfitters were. Mr. Graham said the information could be obtained a couple of ways. One way is to randomly survey areas and the other is through the

landowner-sponsor outfitter licenses. REP. MOLNAR stated that the sportsmen and outfitters would pay one-half of the study costs. He asked Mr. Graham if there was a way to have unlicensed outfitters pay a portion of the costs. Mr. Graham replied he was unsure if that could be accomplished.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. KENNEDY thanked the committee for the hearing. He felt the study was needed, and the end result is a win/win situation for all those involved. He urged support of the bill.

HEARING ON SJR 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. KENNEDY, Senate District 3, Kalispell, stated SJR 3 is a study of the gray wolf recovery program. He distributed written testimony (EXHIBIT 4).

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. Pat Graham, Director of the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
Department distributed written testimony (EXHIBIT 5). He felt
the amendments added in the Senate regarding multiple-use of big
game population studies were outside the Department's scope. The
Department recommended deleting "multiple-use" on page 2, line
16, and inserting "in cooperation, coordination, and consultation
with multiple-use interests" after the words "big game population
studies" on line 16.

Ms. Lorna Frank, Montana Farm Bureau declared the organization's support of SJR 3.

Mr. Jim Richard, Montana Wildlife Federation noted the sportsmen, outfitters, and landowners support SJR 3. He urged support of the bill on the organization's behalf.

Ms. Jean Johnson, Executive Director of the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association, expressed their support of SJR as amended in the Senate.

Mr. John Bloomquist, Montana Stockgrowers Association, urged support of SJR 3.

REP. BOB REAM declared his support of SJR 3. He asked the record be kept open for questions until next Tuesday.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. MOLNAR asked Mr. Graham if the Department had approached the U.S. Forest Service for their voluntary support in the project. Mr. Graham said it was his understanding that they would not object to the concept. However, financing the project may be a problem. The Department's original concern was having the federal government complete the study.

REP. MARION HANSON asked Mr. Graham if anyone was currently studying the wolves. Mr. Graham explained the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services is monitoring the status of the various packs of wolves. An Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared for the Yellowstone area.

REP. WAGNER stated since the Department felt multiple use studies were outside of their scope, he asked Mr. Graham if the performance of the study was within the federal government agency's scope of duties. Mr. Graham replied it could be. He suggested that the writer of the bill may be able to give a better explanation.

REP. EMILY SWANSON asked Mr. Graham about the type of amendment that may be considered for the Endangered Species Act. Mr. Graham said primarily it would give the state more flexibility in the management of the wolf population. Currently, there is controlled management of predatory animals, including the wolf, that degredate livestock. However, this procedure is technically not allowable under the Endangered Species Act. Montana is one of the three recovery areas for the wolves. Once the population reaches 10 breeding packs within each recovery area, it will be considered for delisting. He said that in the past year the Department lost the ability to control grizzly bears in the Rocky Mountains. Congress needs to provide some flexibility regarding endangered species designations. REP. SWANSON asked the Department about the designations. Mr. Graham replied he was unsure how it would be done. The designations could be broadened for any species. Predatory species provide a unique situation.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. KENNEDY declared SJR 3 was a good resolution. He urged the committee to pass the resolution. He stated at this time he did not have a Representative to carry his first resolution, SJR 2, but he hoped REP. REAM would consider carrying SJR 3.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER stated he would not close the hearing on the resolution due to the request from REP. REAM.

HEARING ON SB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. DON BIANCHI, Senate District 39, Belgrade, explained SB 375

removes the 10-mile restriction for shooting preserves and provides a flat license fee of \$250 per year. An annual inspection must be done of each shooting preserve. The established fee would cover the Department's expenses for conducting the inspection. He spoke with the Department to discover the reason for the 10-mile restriction. The Department informed him they could find no biological reason for the restriction. He felt SB 375 was a private property rights bill. Basically, a shooting preserve is where the landowner either raises or plants game birds and a hunter pays to enter the land and bag a bird. Landowners keep records of all game birds planted and taken. He pointed out that the bill had been amended on page 1, lines 17-22.

Proponents' Testimony:

Mr. John Tubbs, Citizen, read a letter from Mr. Tim Crawford supporting SB 375 (EXHIBIT 6). Letters to Mr. Crawford regarding shooting preserves were attached to his letter. He stated the Department has power to grant licenses. All birds on the preserve have been banded and records are kept by the landowner.

Opponents' Testimony:

Mr. Pat Graham, Director of the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department distributed written testimony (EXHIBIT 7).

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. BOB CLARK asked SEN. BIANCHI if the current law has been challenged in court. SEN. BIANCHI said he did not believe it had. He stated that Mr. Crawford had considered challenging it in court. REP. CLARK asked SEN. BIANCHI if he anticipated court challenges if private land was closed. SEN. BIANCHI replied he did not see the potential there. However, he did present the possibility of court challenges if the Department refused to issue a license based on unreasonable guidelines.

REP. CLARK asked Mr. Graham if the Department anticipated litigation if the current law was updated. Mr. Graham replied he was unsure on what basis a person would challenge it. He suggested two reasons might be environmental or a significant reduction in public hunting.

REP. FRITZ DAILY asked Mr. Graham if shooting preserves were defined in statute. Mr. Graham said yes. REP. DAILY asked if he had the definition with him. Mr. Graham said no.

REP. HIBBARD asked Mr. Graham if the number of wild birds surrounding the shooting preserves was taken into consideration when issuing a license. Mr. Graham said no. REP. HIBBARD asked how a shooting preserve's boundaries were delineated. Mr. Graham

said he was unsure. REP. HIBBARD located the portion of the bill that addressed boundaries. It read, "The exterior boundaries of each shooting preserve must be clearly defined and posted with signs erected around the extremity at intervals of 250 feet or less." REP. HIBBARD asked Mr. Graham if hunters at a shooting game preserve need to comply with Montana fish and game laws. Mr. Graham said a 3-day license was created for shooting preserves. Shooting preserves also have a longer season. starts September 1 and lasts through March 31. REP. HIBBARD asked if the hunter needed a license. Mr. Graham said yes. REP. HIBBARD inquired what the bag limit was. Mr. Graham said there is no limit. REP. HIBBARD asked if there were regulations regarding the type of birds released on a shooting preserve. Graham said if exotic species were being considered, the owner of the shooting preserve would need to consult with the Department for environmental and disease control reasons.

REP. REAM asked Mr. Graham if information was available regarding the number of wild birds harvested. Mr. Graham said he was unable to obtain that information. REP. REAM asked if the Department had denied a request for a shooting preserve permit. Mr. Graham said one had been denied because it did not meet the 10-mile criteria. REP. REAM asked Mr. Graham if the Department had the rulemaking authority to deny granting a permit on any other basis. Mr. Graham said the Department only has authority provided by current statute. The only restriction on shooting preserves is the 10-mile restriction. REP. REAM asked about the fencing requirements. Mr. Graham replied there were not strict fencing requirements.

REP. WAGNER asked Mr. Graham if the 10-mile restriction was eliminated, what would the Department consider to be substantially reduced hunting. Mr. Graham stated the 10-mile limit is probably arbitrary and is the only basis upon which the Department may deny permits. He felt the determination of substantially reduced hunting was subjective. REP. WAGNER asked if there were rules governing the use of lead or steel shot. Mr. Graham said he was not aware of any rules.

REP. WAGNER asked SEN. BIANCHI regarding the source of the \$250 permit fee. SEN. BIANCHI replied he had consulted with the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department in Bozeman regarding an estimate of their cost for completing an annual inspection.

REP. BEVERLY BARNHART asked Mr. Graham how the shooting preserve owner permit was applied for. Mr. Graham said prior legislatures did not consider the potential problems. The statute needs to be reviewed to establish updated criteria.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER stated the average annual fee currently paid is \$92. The fee will increase two and one-half times if SB 375 is passed. The increase is supposed to cover the costs of an annual inspection. He asked Mr. Graham if inspections are currently conducted. Mr. Graham said yes. Most of the permits granted do

not cover the Department's administrative costs. CHAIRMAN FOSTER inquired into what account the fee goes. Mr. Graham said the money goes into the licensing account.

REP. WAGNER asked Mr. Graham who pays the difference if the annual \$92 fee is not sufficient to cover the annual inspection costs. Mr. Graham replied the license account picks up the balance. REP. WAGNER asked what the difference was between the average fee and the mean cost per license. Mr. Graham explained he could not address his question.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER asked the Department if they would provide a better breakdown of the proposed increase.

REP. REAM asked if the Department could also provide the distribution and size of a shooting preserve, which determines the fee under current law.

REP. MCCARTHY asked the Department to provide a list of the active and inactive shooting preserves.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. BIANCHI stated the arbitrary 10-mile restriction has caused a lot of confusion. SB 375 attempts to make the situation equitable. The Department currently denies permits only on the basis of the 10-mile restriction. Other factors are not considered. Shooting preserves are strictly for game bird species. The sportsmen who buy hunting and fishing licenses are currently subsidizing the money needed for annual inspections of shooting preserves. He said he would be open for suggestion regarding the fee amount. SEN. BIANCHI urged the committee to pass the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 81

Motion: REP. JIM ELLIOTT MOVED SB 81 DO NOT PASS.

Discussion:

REP. ELLIOTT declared SB 81 would affect his district. The complaints originated in Missoula. He has never heard a complaint from fishermen in his district. He asserted the crayfish harvested are too large for trout to eat.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER said SEN. CRIPPEN did not get a chance to close. The senator viewed this as a serious matter and requested an opportunity to close if there was opposition.

REP. ELLIOTT felt the Senator had already had a chance to close and expressed his objection.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER explained it was not his intent to act unfairly, but he asked for the committee's understanding in allowing the Senator the opportunity to close.

REP. ELLIOTT said he felt it was not right for the legislature to deny someone the right of making a living through the legal harvesting of crayfish.

Substitute Motion/Vote: REP. ELLIOTT MOVED SB 81 BE TABLED. Motion failed 9 to 7 with REPS. BARNHART, DAILY, ELLIOTT, MCCARTHY, MOLNAR, ORR, and WAGNER voting yes.

Discussion:

REP. REAM asked REP. ELLIOTT why there were no opponents at the hearing. REP. ELLIOTT replied a letter from Ms. Jane Cline was read into the record.

REP. DAILY asked the Chairman to rule on whether or not he was going to allow SEN. CRIPPEN to close.

REP. REAM stated he would like to hear from the Senator because he believed in the bill.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER stated he would allow SEN. CRIPPEN the opportunity to close. He suspended further action on SB 81 until Thursday.

REP. MCCARTHY asked if it would be possible to extend an invitation to executive session to the person who makes their living at crayfishing. CHAIRMAN FOSTER replied that anyone is permitted to come to executive session, and the committee has the opportunity to ask questions, without objection from other members. REP. MCCARTHY suggested a Representative from the area could invite the person who makes their living at it. CHAIRMAN FOSTER stated that was the individual's business, and it would also be up to the committee whether or not there was objection. to what could easily become new testimony. REP. MCCARTHY asked if technically the Chairman was reopening the hearing by allowing the Senator to close. CHAIRMAN FOSTER said that he did not believe so because the Senator was entitled to a closing and had not waived his closing. He stated he would work on the situation.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 355

Motion: REP. DAILY MOVED SB 355 DO PASS.

Discussion:

REP. SCOTT ORR questioned whether or not there should be a sunset on the bill.

REP. ELLIOTT said he remembered the original bill from the last session and the proposed increase did have a sunset. Mr. Doug Sternberg explained there were two versions of section 1. The current version begins on page 1 and goes through page 6 and is scheduled to terminate July 1, 1993. It will be allowed to sunset. The second version has an effective date of July 1, 1993. The amendments are directed to the second version.

REP. ELLIOTT supported REP. ORR's proposal of a sunset and asked if four years was acceptable. REP. ORR said it sounded agreeable. His concern was that sewage pumpouts could be placed on every lake in the state if there was no sunset.

Motion: REP. ELLIOTT MOVED TO SUNSET SB 355 ON JULY 1, 1997.

Discussion:

REP. WAGNER declared his support of the motion and said he felt the same concerns as REP. ORR.

REP. REAM spoke against the sunset. He suggested returning to the legislature with a bill to sunset SB 355 rather than placing a sunset on the bill at this point.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER asked Mr. Graham if he had comments to add to the discussion. He clarified that the money will only be used in state parks and will be used as matching money for boating facilities. The matching funds currently come from hunting and fishing licenses. This bill ties the money to the user.

<u>Vote</u>: SUNSET SB 355 ON JULY 1, 1997. Motion failed 8 to 7 with REPs. ELLIOTT, GRIMES, KNOX, MCCARTHY, ORR, RYAN, and WAGNER voting yes. REP. DAILY was absent for the vote.

<u>Discussion</u>:

REP. ELLIOTT asked Mr. Graham to clarify whether pumping stations would only be built or maintained in state parks on Montana lakes. Mr. Graham said yes. He stated that would not be the sole use of the funds. REP. ELLIOTT asked how many state parks would be eligible. Mr. Graham replied there were approximately six parks. REP. ELLIOTT stated that the pleasure crafts he has observed in his district did not have self-contained heads. He asked Mr. Graham how many boats in Montana had self-contained heads. Mr. Graham said he did not know.

REP. WAGNER asked Mr. Graham if the primitive parks discussed in HB 314 would be eligible for boating facility improvements. Mr. Graham replied some of the primitive parks would be eligible for maintenance and improvements such as boating ramps. He stated the amendments to the bill allow the money to be used not only for construction, but also operating and maintaining the facilities that are constructed. Mr. Sternberg explained the

primitive parks bill only allowed improvements to existing boat ramps to ensure the public's safety.

REP. ELLIOTT spoke in moderate opposition to SB 355. He doesn't understand the difficulties occurring around the Flathead Lake. He felt the fee would be levied on a disproportionate number of boats without heads.

REP. MOLNAR spoke in favor of the bill. The program is currently subsidized by other fishing and hunting licenses.

REP. WAGNER asked Mr. Sternberg if bodies of water are specified in the bill. Mr. Sternberg said no.

Motion: REP. DAILY MOVED TO SUNSET SB 355 ON JULY 1, 1995.

Discussion:

REP. ORR spoke in support of the amendment. He felt the issue should be evaluated in two years rather than risk non-review.

<u>Vote</u>: SUNSET SB 355 ON JULY 1, 1995. Motion failed 8 to 8 with REPS. HIBBARD, REAM, BARNHART, CLARK, KNOX, MOLNAR, SWANSON, and FOSTER voting no.

Vote: SB 355 DO PASS. Motion carried 13 to 3 with REPS. CLARK, ELLIOTT, and KNOX voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJR 2

Motion: REP. MCCARTHY MOVED SJR 2 DO PASS.

Discussion:

REP. BARNHART asked REP. HIBBARD to comment on SJR 2 in relation to the House Fish and Game Committee resolution being worked on. REP. HIBBARD explained that House resolution will be making a conscious effort toward action and staying away from further study. The intent of SJR 2 may be incorporated in the House resolution. REP. BARNHART stated surveys were needed to come to some conclusions. REP. HIBBARD said they were not needed as far as the resolution was concerned; however, they may be helpful in implementing the resolution.

REP. ELLIOTT asked Mr. Sternberg if SJR 2 was a legislative study resolution. Mr. Sternberg said it was not in the context of a legislative interim study. This would be directed toward the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department and Department of Commerce.

CHAIRMAN FOSTER said half of the funding would be provided by the outfitter fees and the other half by license fees.

REP. MOLNAR asked about a fiscal note. CHAIRMAN FOSTER explained resolutions generally do not have fiscal notes.

REP. REAM felt SJR 2 dealt with issues other than access and landowner/sportsmen relationships.

REP. SWANSON inquired about funding the study. CHAIRMAN FOSTER explained the Department will take half of the cost out of their license fees, and the outfitters would provide the other half through an internal funding mechanism in the industry. Mr. Graham said the Department prepared a draft fiscal note for the Senate. Appropriation would be needed for both halves. REP. SWANSON asked for clarification that half of the funding was from the Department of Commerce Board of Outfitters. Mr. Graham said yes.

REP. MOLNAR asked Mr. Graham what the \$75,000 would be spent on. Mr. Graham explained over the two years a large portion of the money would be spent preparing an inventory of the current status of lands. This would involve contacting landowners and mapping. Information would be acquired about the direction of the outfitting industry.

REP. WAGNER asked if it was known whether the funding from the fishing and hunting licenses was from out-of-state licenses or resident. Mr. Graham replied the money was not differentiated. Currently, approximately 60% of the total license fund money is from out-of-state.

<u>Vote</u>: SJR 2 DO PASS. Motion carried 13 to 3 with REPS. KNOX, CLARK, and MOLNAR voting no.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:10 p.m.

REP. MIKE FOSTER, Chair

MARY RIITANO, Secretary

ML/MR

FISE	٠&	GAME	
			COMM

R	O	T.	Τ.	C	Δ	Τ.	т.
	•	_	_	_	47		-

DATE

3/2/93

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
VICE-CHAIRMAN CHASE HIBBARD	V_{i}		
VICE-CHAIRMAN BOB REAM			
REP. BARNHART	//		
REP. CLARK	/		
REP. DAILY	V		
REP. ELLIOT	V		
REP. GRIMES			
REP. HANSON	· /		
REP. KNOX	\checkmark		
REP. MCCARTHY			
REP. MOLNAR			-
REP. ORR			
REP. RYAN			
REP. SWANSON	V		
REP. WAGNER	- J/		
CHAIRMAN MIKE FOSTER	<i>J</i>		
·			

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 3, 1993 Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Fish and Game report that Senate Bill 355 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in .

Signed: Mike Foster,

Carried by: Rep. Brandewie

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 3, 1993 Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on <u>Fish and Game</u> report that <u>Senate Joint Resolution 2</u> (third reading copy -- blue) <u>be</u> concurred in .

Signed:

Mike Foster, Chair

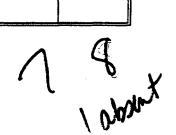
Carried by: Rep. Hibbard

FISH & GAME COMMITTEE

ROL DATE 3/2/93 BILL NO MOTION: Table	o. SB81	NUMBER		
NOTION: Joble				
NAME			AYE	NO ,
VICE-CHAIRMAN HIBBARD				7
VICE-CHAIRMAN REAM				1
REP. BARNHART	111111111111111111111111111111111111111		1	
REP. CLARK				1
REP. DAILY			1	
REP. ELLIOT			1	
REP. GRIMES				
REP. HANSON				1
REP. KNOX				1
REP. MCCARTHY			1	
REP. MOLNAR			1	
REP. ORR			1	
REP. RYAN			-	J
REP. SWANSON				1
REP. WAGNER				
CHAIRMAN FOSTER				1

FISH	æ	GAME	COMMITTE
			COMMITTE

ROLL CALL VOTE	5	2	
ONTE 36/93 BILL NO. <u>SB35</u> HOTION: <u>SURSEY</u> 5B355	NUMBER		
NAME		AYE	NO
VICE-CHAIRMAN HIBBARD			
VICE-CHAIRMAN REAM		,	. 1
REP. BARNHART			1
REP. CLARK			/
REP. DAILY			
REP. ELLIOT		/	
REP. GRIMES			
REP. HANSON			
REP. KNOX		1	
REP. MCCARTHY		1	
REP. MOLNAR	·		1
REP. ORR		1	
REP. RYAN		1	
REP. SWANSON			1
REP. WAGNER		1.	
CHAIRMAN FOSTER			



FISH & GAME	COMMITTEE
-------------	-----------

ROLL CALL VOTE DATE 34193 BILL NO. SB355 NUMBER 3

MOTION: 248Sunset NAME λYΕ VICE-CHAIRMAN HIBBARD VICE-CHAIRMAN REAM REP. BARNHART REP. CLARK REP. DAILY REP. ELLIOT REP. GRIMES REP. HANSON REP. KNOX REP. MCCARTHY REP. MOLNAR REP. ORR REP. RYAN REP. SWANSON REP. WAGNER CHAIRMAN FOSTER

FISH A	ຂົ	GAME	
	•	~	COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL VO DATE 36193 BILL NO. SESS	OTE NUMBER	4
ATE 36193 BILL NO. 5355		
NAME	λΥΕ	NO
VICE-CHAIRMAN HIBBARD	V	
VICE-CHAIRMAN REAM	•	
REP. BARNHART		
REP. CLARK		V
REP. DAILY		
REP. ELLIOT		
REP. GRIMES		
REP. HANSON	V	
REP. KNOX		
REP. MCCARTHY		,
REP. MOLNAR		,
REP. ORR		
REP. RYAN		,
REP. SWANSON		
REP. WAGNER		
CHAIRMAN FOSTER		
		-

DATE 3/2/93

SB 355

SB 355 March 2, 1993

Testimony presented by Pat Graham, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks before the House Fish and Game Committee

The 1991 legislature passed HB 833, raising the motor boat registration fee from \$2 to \$2.50. This increase generated approximately \$36,752 in biennium 92/93 which was used for boat safety education, decibel meters to monitor noise guidelines in the bill and marine dump stations to lessen the impacts of unwanted discharge.

\$21,000 of HB 833 funds were matched with \$81,000 of federal Dingle Johnson funds to provide for three marine dump stations around Flathead Lake, which will be constructed this spring. The 1991 Legislation was specific to the Flathead Lake area.

The funding provisions of House bill 833 sunset at the end of this biennium, although the other provisions continue.

If SB 355 is passed, the existing fee would continue at the same rate and the bill would generate approximately \$40,000 per biennium. These funds would be used STATEWIDE for the operation, maintenance, and construction of state park motorboat facilities including additional marine dump stations. The funds could also be used for boat launching ramps, courtesy docks, and other boating facilities. These funds would also assist the department in meeting its requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Ex 1 3-23-93 58-355

Revenue generated by HB 355 is eligible to be matched on a 3:1 basis with Federal Dingle Johnson motor boating funds, which will help provide additional boating improvement potential. Given the assistance HB 355 would provide in meeting some of the overall funding needs throughout the state park system, the department supports SB 355.

HOME PHONE: 752-8965 OFFICE PHONE: 756-1044



MONTANA STATE SENATE

SENATOR JOHN "ED" KENNEDY, JR. SENATE DISTRICT 3 5567 MONTANA HWY. 35 KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901

COMMITTEES: LOCAL GOVERNMENT—CHAIRMAN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY NATURAL RESOURCES

SJR 2

EXHIBIT_2 DATE_3/2/93 BAR_2

LIMITING OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES: The Montana State Elk Plan says, "The Montana Department of Commerce does not limit the number of outfitters and guides that are licensed to operate in the State. However, the US Forest Service does regulate outfitter numbers and special use permits for individual National Forests. Commercialization of wildlife resources has fueled a number of controversies pertaining to Montana's elk management program." "...increasing competition between outfitters and between guided and non-guided elk hunters for elk hunting opportunity, especially for mature bulls."

So there is an increasing conflict between Montana resident hunters and outfitters. Resident Montana hunters do not like to compete with professionally guided hunters. Many Montana hunters are weekend hunters and are distressed to find their favorite spot occupied season long with a commercial guide. Even the DSL has begun leasing State lands to commercial outfitters. Commercial outfitters are now moving into the roaded portions of National Forests, since the wilderness and roadless areas are saturated with outfitters. Montana has more licensed outfitters than the State of Alaska.

Flathead Wildlife appealed a Kootenai National Forest decision to allow three more outfitters to operated in an area near the Cabinet Mountains. The Forest Service rejected expappeal because they said the State has control of game populations. So it seems that the Forest Service says the State is in control and the State says the Forest Service is in control. In reality, no one is in control!

Even the long term professional outfitter has concerns with unlimited numbers of outfitters since the number of non-resident big game tags are limited. There are not enough big game tags for all outfitters to operate in the black while offering and providing a quality experience. So we are doing a dis-service to non-resident sportsmen who hire the inexperienced, under equipped and under experienced outfitter. That's bad for everybody.

The FW&P is not involved in regulating outfitting. So they are trying to manage a finite big game resource and meeting the needs of over 100,000 resident elk and deer hunters, while the Dept. of Commerce is offering unlimited outfitting licenses.

A study is needed to bring some sense to the current mess.

John "Ed" Kennedy, Jr. Senate District 3

EXHI	віт 3	
DATI	312193	
Gr.	2	

SJR 2 March 2, 1993

Testimony presented by Pat Graham, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks before the House Fish and Game Committee

The Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission support a study of issues related to the outfitting industry in Montana. The Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission discussed the need for such a cooperative study at its November meeting.

Subsequent to the introduction of Senate Joint Resolution, we scheduled a meeting on January 19 in the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission room and asked representatives of the outfitting industry and sportsperson's groups, the Department of Commerce, and others to sit down and discuss problems associated with the outfitting industry as viewed by outfitters and sportspersons. We identified a range of problems, developed study goals and discussed the information needs for an interim study of the hunting outfitting industry in Montana.

Senate Joint Resolution 2, as amended, reflects the study needs identified by participants at our January 19 meeting. We believe that the proposed study is prerequisite to effectively addressing both the real, and the perceived resource conflicts associated with the outfitting industry.



MONTANA STATE SENATE

SENATOR JOHN "ED" KENNEDY, JR. SENATE DISTRICT 3 5567 MONTANA HWY. 35 KALISPELL. MONTANA 59901

COMMITTEES:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT—CHAIRMAN
BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT 4

DATE 3/2/93

Wolves: The Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan developed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1987, set 10 breeding pairs of wolves as the recovery goal for the NW Mt. recovery area. Ten breeding pairs means 10 packs. Packs in our area means 5-8 animals on average. A wolf researcher in the North Fork estimates that a 6 animal pack kills a deer every 1 1/2 days or about 240 per year. With 10 packs, this equals to 2400 deer per year. Besides the 10 packs, there will be some single wolves that kill big game. Ten packs is the minimum, so when recovery is reached, there could be 10-20 actual packs. Adding in the big game animals for the non-pack wolves, we are talking about 3,000 plus deer at the minimum. There is also another recovery area around Yellowstone and another in Central Idaho that will get into game animals in the Bitterroot. Overall, a lot of big game will be taken.

Quotes from the Mt. Elk Mgt. Plan, for the Bob Marshall Elk Management Unit:

If wolf recovery goals are reached, DFWP anticipates that a minimum of 50 wolves will occupy this unit. Numbers of elk currently harvested is estimated to be equivalent to the average annual surplus produced. DFWP therefore assumes that elk killed by wolves will compound current hunter mortality. (this means reduce elk available for hunters)

Quotes from the Mt. Elk Mgt. Plan for the North Fork Flathead Elk Mgt. Unit:

Work with the USFWS to develop a cooperative program to address elk mortality attributed to wolves and the associated loss of hunting opportunity. The program would include enhancing seasonal elk habitat to support additional elk.

It seems that I recall a figure that a recovered wolf population on the Rocky Mountain Front would kill enough elk to equal one-half the current hunter harvest.

John "Ed" Kennedy Jr. Senate District 3

CAUSE SPECIFIC MORTALITY STUDIES OF ADULT FEMALE UNGULATES IN THE NORTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER DRAINAGE

SPECIES	MORTALITIES	CAUSE	TOTAL
DEER (1989-36) (1993- <u>04</u>) 40			
	3 4 2 3 2 1 1 1	MT LION WOLF BEAR COYOTE HUMAN UNKNOWN PREDATUNKNOWN OLD AGE	OR 17
ELK (1989-33) (1993- <u>05</u>)			
38	9 2 2 3	MT LION WOLF GRIZZLY BEAR <u>HUMAN</u>	16
MOOSE (35)	3 1 1 1	GRIZZLY BEAR WOLF UNKNOWN (NOT PR <u>HUMAN</u>	EDATOR) 06

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA'S UNGULATE MORTALITY STUDIES BEGAN IN 1989.
MONITORED DEER, ELK, AND MOOSE LIVE IN THE SAME AREA WHERE 4 WOLF PACKS
(30-40 WOLVES) ARE BEING MONITORED. ADDITIONAL UNGULATES WERE RADIOCOLLARED IN 1993. TWO MOOSE DIED DURING CAPTURE.

REVISED 1/16/93

Exhibit 4 3-2-93 SBR3

R. Ream January 21, 1993

Senate Fish and Game Committee

- 1870-1900 Bison exterminated and all other big game populations reduced to extremely low numbers. Predators increase.
- 1880-1910 Livestock numbers increase dramatically wolves in direct conflict. Territorial legislature passes bounty.
- 1936 Last wolf taken by a government trapper.
- 1950-1970 Occasional wolf killed in MT, probably dispersers from Canada.
- 1974 Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf (supspecies of Gray Wolf) listed by USF&WS as endangered in northern Rockies. Recovery team appointed by Director of USF&WS.
- 1978 Gray wolf listed as endangered in lower 48 states and downlisted as threatened in Minnesota. First recovery plan completed by recovery team.
- 1987 Recovery plan completed and approved by Director USF&WS.
- 1987 First wolf depredation on livestock near Browning. Two other depredation situations at Marion and Dixon since. All situations wolves removed from area by federal ADC.
- Wolf research and monitoring through UM.
- 1973-79 Survey work to determine presence or absence of wolves in Montana. Reports due to dispersers from Canada.
- 1979 First wolf captured 5 miles north of GNP (Glacier National Park. Was lone adult female. Tracked for 18 months.
- 1981-1982- Black male wolf appears autumn 1981, apparently joins female and litter of 7 born in 1982, 4 miles north of GNP.
- 1985 Magic Pack of 6 wolves has litter of 7 pups just north of GNP but pack moves into GNP in November after 1 shot.
- 1986 First litter of pups born in GNP and first documented anywher in west in over 50 years.
- 1985-1993 Wolf population in North Fork (Canada & U.S.) increases to 4 packs of 40-42 wolves.
- 1985-1991 229 wolf kills examined are 60% white-tailed deer, 30% elk, 7% moose, and 3% mule deer.
- 1990-1992 30 adult female: white-tailed deer, elk, and moose radio-collared to help establish populations and to determine causes of mortality. Mountain lion major predator, wolves and bears equal but lesser. PRELIMINARY!

EXHIBIT 5

DATE 3/2/93

OBL 3

SJR 3 March 2, 1993

Testimony presented by Pat Graham, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks before the House Fish and Game Committee

We supported the intent of SJR 3 in testimony before the Senate Fish and Game Committee. We suggested that the resolution should more appropriately urge federal agencies to fund the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to study big game populations and habitat. We also indicated our belief that more local support, or at least less opposition, would occur if the state had more authority and flexibility to manage the wolf under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).

As amended by the Senate, SJR 3 includes language which addresses most of our concerns, and we would recommend this committee's approval with one change. The amended resolution (Page 2, item 1, line 16) urges the state to complete <u>multiple use</u> and big game population studies. This is outside the scope of our role.

We would recommend deleting "multiple use" on line 16 and inserting the wording, "in cooperation, coordination, and consultation with multiple-use interests" after the words "big game population studies" on line 16.

In closing, we believe it is imperative that Congress be aware of the concerns of Montana regarding wolf recovery. The changes Congress makes during reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act during this session will determine what management authority and flexibility the state will have for endangered and threatened species for the next five years.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SJR 3 THIRD (BLUE) READING

Page 2, line 16. 1.

line 15 Following:

Strike: "MULTIPLE-USE AND"

"studies" Following:

Insert:

"in cooperation, coordination, and consultation with other multiple-use

interests"

EXHIBIT 6

DATE 3/2/93

96 375

February 25 1993

Chairman Foster and Members of the House Fish & Game Committee,

I am writing in support of S.B. 375. I feel that a ten mile restriction between shooting preserves is an infringement on free enterprise based on neither biological nor social criteria. I am prevented from operating a shooting preserve on my ranch in the Gallatin Valley because another license is held by an individual about six miles away from me. Although this license is generally inactive and there is a good demand for an active preserve as shown by the accompanying letters, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is unable to issue me a license because of this arbitrary regulation.

This bill (SB 375) in no way infringes upon the ability of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to determine who shall receive licenses for operating shooting preserves based upon sound biological and social data. The size of shooting preserves and their impact on public hunting are specifically addressed in subsection one of Section One (Section 87-4-502, MCA) in this bill (SB 375).

In closing, may I point out that there are 582 licensed outfitters operating for the most part on public land and water in Montana, while there are only 26 licensed shooting preserves, all of which are on private property. These figures seem inconsistent to me as, if you will permit me an imperfect analogy, dairy ranches were not permitted within ten miles of each other while open range grazing of beef cattle was not so restricted. A shooting preserve may be viewed as a poultry ranch with non-traditional methods of marketing and harvest.

Thank you for your time,

Tim Crawford

1300 Dry Creek School Rd.

Belgrade, MT 59714



February 16, 1993

Mr. Tim Crawford 1 West Main Street Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Tim:

I first want to thank you very much for allowing me to hunt on your property this past season. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and my dog Callie never had such a great work out. I hope that we can do it again next year.

In my outdoor business I get a tremendous number of requests for Upland Bird Hunting as part of a Fall fly fishing package. Unfortunately, there isn't anything to speak of in and around the Bozeman area. If you were to ever operate on a commercial basis, I know that I could book my clients with you immediately.

I would like to expand my operation to include Upland Bird Hunting if you decide to go in that direction. I will welcome any opportunity to help your efforts toward a shooting preserve. Please call me any time at the shop if I can be of assistance.

Regards, The River's Edge

Dave Corcoran



Bill & Pam Bryan's

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

PERSONAL ITINERARY PLANNING FOR THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST

109 EAST MAIN STREET BOZEMAN MONTANA 59715

406.586.1311 FAX 406.587.4147

February 16, 1993

Tim Crawford 15 South Tracy, #8 Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Tim,

During past conversations, we have discussed the growing need for more quality upland bird shooting opportunities in Montana. OFF THE BEATEN PATH has been getting an increasing number of requests for such an experience during the past few years. But, it is my opinion that there are not many first class experiences where there is excellent bird hunting, good guiding services and quality accommodations and food. We feel that people will pay anywhere from \$275 to \$400 a person per day for this type of experience and service.

We particularly feel that a good quality upland bird hunting operation located near a major airport would be able to book many hunting parties in the future. At the moment we are reluctant to market this type of trip because we feel the resulting demand would be larger than the limited opportunities available here in this region at this time.

I hope we will be able to help you further your plans to establish a first class upland bird shooting preserve.

Sincerely,

William L. Bryan, Jr.

President



LONE MOUNTAIN RANCH

P.O. Box 160069 • Big Sky, MT 59716 Phone (406) 995-4644 • FAX (406) 995-4670

February 22, 1993

Mr. Tim Crawford 15 So Tracy, #8 Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Tim,

As you and I have discussed, we are searching for quality ways of extending our Fall season. Many of our guests have expressed an interest in combining a Fall fly fishing vacation with some bird hunting. A facility such as yours with upland bird hunting would enable us to significantly extend our fall season, keep more of our staff employed for a longer period of time and add to our net profits.

I hope you will be successful in your attempt to change legislation so you will be able to operate an upland bird shooting preserve. The current law seems to unfairly restrict competition which benefits only the few who got there first. Good luck in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Bob Schaap, President



Exhibit 6 3-2-93 5B-375

MEMBER



North American

Gamebird Association, Inc.

JOHN M. MULLIN
Editor & Publisher
Wildlife Harvest Publications
R#1, Box 28
Goose Lake, lowa 52750
Ph. 319 / 242-3046

Feb. 19, 1993

Tim Crawford 15 So. Tracy Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Mr. Crawford:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the legal proximity of one hunting ranch to another. When the "enabling legislation" was being proposed and passed, there were broad restrictions written in the attempt "to please everyone."

Many states wrote in that we could only harvest 80 birds for evry 100 we stocked. Some states wrote that there could be no more than two licensed preserves in a county. Almost all states wrote minimum and maximum acreage. There was SOME concern that a wealthy sportsman might tie up an entire county into one large preserve.

Now, those early "worries" have changed. In the more heavily populated areas they now allow licensed preserves to operate on as small as 100 acres of land. Around cities like Chicago, it's impossible to put together large acres.

Our hunting preserve association still recommends that each preserve have a "buffer zone" from so-called "open hunting". But we no longer think of another preserve as "competition"---just so long as they have a good operation. Some preserves are now working in harmony located contiguous to each other. This is very workable just as long as one preserves doesn't make high-volume releases and the other operates adjoining without making sufficient releases of their own.

To specifically answer your question, our organization of hunting resorts has no objection to hunting preserves being located closely to each other. This is discussed often, with the comparison of two Supper Clubs being located near each other. The "competition" seems to help the business of BOTH, as long as they're good operations. I often look at the "fast-food" operations. They almost fight to get located in the same two blocks.

Sincerely,

John M. Mullin, Information Officer North American Gamebird Ass'n

EXHIB	IT_7	
DATE	3/2/93	
AB	315	

SB 375 March 2, 1993

Testimony presented by Pat Graham, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks before the House Fish and Game Committee

This legislation revises the law governing shooting preserves by removing the 10-mile restriction on their location, and establishes a flat \$250 fee for shooting preserve licenses or permits.

The department opposes this legislation based upon the following information:

- 1. Thirty-nine shooting preserves are currently licensed in Montana, a 50% increase since 1991. This increased interest occurred within existing limitations, and is consistent with a growing interest in other private game operations in Montana. Removal of the 10-mile restriction may further increase shooting preserves.
- 2. The 10-mile restriction was implemented to prevent large blocks of choice pheasant habitat from going into shooting preserves. Under such circumstances, substantial numbers of wild birds would be included in preserves. This may result in lost public recreational opportunity. Under current rules, people using shooting preserves can lawfully shoot both planted and native birds from September 1 through March 31.
- 3. The current fee structure for shooting preserve licenses is \$50 per year for the first 160 acres plus \$20 per year for

each additional 160 acres or parts thereof (Section 87-4-503, MCA). The cost of shooting preserve licenses currently ranges from a minimum of \$50 to a maximum of \$190. The mean cost per license currently is \$130.

- 4. Increasing the license cost to a flat fee of \$250 would result in \$9,750 in annual revenue, approximately a \$4500 increase from the amount currently generated.
- 5. In the past, the department has denied licenses for shooting preserves only on the basis of the 10-mile restriction. The department has not controlled their numbers or location based on other factors. The issuance of these licenses would qualify as a "ministerial action" by the department and as such, no environmental review is required or provided for in the process of reviewing the applications.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VISITOR REGISTER

FISHD GAME DATE 312193 SPONSOR	committee (8)	BILL NO. <u>58355</u>		
PLEASE PRINT	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	·	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Bill Leary	CAUD-JORAGE	a for	V	
Ken Hoovers	CAMP JERNA MT. Bookes	Ascu	V	
·				

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VISITOR REGISTER

FISH & GAME DATE 3/2/93 SPONSO	or(s) COMMITTEE	BILL NO. <u>SB375</u>		
PLEASE PRINT PLEASE PRINT		PLEASE PRINT		
NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT OPPOSE		
JOHU Tuber 119 EProins	CRAWER (MM)/SI	f X		
	Y			
		<u>.</u>		

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VISITOR REGISTER

TSHIGAME COMMITTEE BILL NO. 005 DATE 3-2-93 SPONSOR(S) KENNEDY				
PLEASE PRINT	PLEASE PRINT	PLEASE PRINT		
NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	
Jan R relions	MWF	5 >		
Trisha Nielsen				
Luke Kloker				
Wes Rovvile				
Jlace V. Jolevson	MT Out sites 6 and	2es +	ACH.	
Lorna Drank	M. Farm Bureau	/ X		
Enlas Feel	Mt Doportment of Sty	?	·	
idm Blamanist	Mt. Strangen A.	1 1		
	1	1 1	1	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VISITOR'S REGISTER

	COMMITTEE	BILL NO	. 37	5
PLEASE PRINT P		PLEASE PRINT		
NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING		SUPPORT	OPPOSE
JOHN T. TUBBS 119 E Main Bordman, Mt	TIM Crowtood LLa Sporer of bili /	uloums) Self	X	
		``		
			·	
		. 1	. [

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VISITOR REGISTER

FISH & GAME DATE 3.2-93 SPONS	committee sor(s) Kennedy	BILL NO. 512
PLEASE PRINT	PLEASE PRINT J	PLEASE PRINT

NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Jai Rechard	MWF	-	
Trisha Nielsen			
Luke Kliker			
Wes Rorvik			
STEVE	Commence	1	
Balsh Fack	1		
Slave Wolinson	MT Olet Seite, O Green	~	
ORcely Flym	moya		