MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 53rd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH & GAME

Call to Order: By Senator Bob Pipinich, Chair, on April 6, 1993, at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Bob Pipinich, Chair (D)

Sen. Tom Beck (R)

Sen. Don Bianchi (D)

Sen. John Brenden (R)

Sen. Chris Christiaens (D)

Sen. Bruce Crippen (R)

Sen. Gerry Devlin (R)

Sen. Judy Jacobson (D)

Sen. Terry Klampe (D)

Sen. Kenneth Mesaros (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Gary Forrester, Vice Chair (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Doug Sternberg, Legislative Council

Kathy Collins, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and

discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: HB 463, HB 314, HJR 24

Executive Action: HB 463, HB 314, HJR 24

HEARING ON 463

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Representative William Boharski, House District 4, stated HB 463 was drafted because of the concerns of some of the residents of Flathead Valley that the tax paid on boat licensing in Montana is not enough to cover projects such as building boat ramps. Representative Boharski said page 2, lines 5-8, says 25% of the fees in lieu of tax collected will be allocated to the motorboat account in the state special revenue fund to be distributed by the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (DFWP) specifically for those things set forth in Section 2. Representative Boharski stated the advisory council, which was set up to work on this

project, tried to copy the language currently used in relation to snowmobiles.

Proponents' Testimony:

Ken Hoovestol, representing the Montana Boating Association, rose in support of HB 463. Mr. Hoovestol stated for every dollar spent on state parks, the local economy gets ten dollars in return, adding that this is an important economic aspect for local governments. Mr. Hoovestol distributed a handout and briefly explained its contents (Exhibit #1). He stated there would not be an increase in the boat fees, but a difference in the allocation of the monies from those fees. Mr. Hoovestol urged the Committee's support of HB 463.

Representative Ray Brandewie, House District 49, Bigfork, stated HB 463 is not a "Flathead Lake bill", but a bill which would benefit the whole state. Representative Brandewie said Montana does a good job of encouraging out-of-state visitors to come here to recreate, but there is a problem for these people, as well as residents, in getting their boats to the lakes because of poor boating access. Representative Brandewie stated HB 463 effectively utilizes the money from boat fees for those things needed to make the lakes in Montana more accessible.

Senator Ed Kennedy, Senate District 3, Kalispell, stated he supported HB 463 and that the Flathead County Commissioner supported HB 463 as well.

Dave Seyfert, representing the Montana Boating Association, stated he met with the county commissioners in Flathead, Lake, Missoula, Cascade, and Ravalli counties to explain what would be done with HB 463, and he received total support from those counties. Mr. Seyfert distributed copies of written testimony (Exhibit #2).

Bill Leary, representing the Canyon Ferry Recreation Association, stated he envisioned HB 463 as direct assistance to anyone who boats on Montana's lakes. Mr. Leary stated Canyon Ferry Lake is possibly the heaviest fished lake in Montana, and it is also the most heavily used by boaters. Mr. Leary said HB 463 would be a great benefit for these boaters, especially the handicapped boaters. Mr. Leary said HB 463 would enable DFWP to have a certain amount of money they can utilize in the construction of public docks on various lakes in such a fashion that handicapped individuals could utilize those docks. Mr. Leary stated HB 463 is a good idea, and he urged the Committee's support.

Dave Ross, representing the Montana Audubon Legislative Fund, stated many of the boating accesses in Montana are under par, especially with regard to the handicapped, and he urged the Committee's support of HB 463.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

Senator Klampe asked Representative Boharski who compiled the data with regard to the "\$20 million need." Representative Boharski stated the information came from the Parks Future Study.

Senator Beck, referring to the fiscal note, asked Representative Boharski if the \$2500 annual cost of meetings had been taken out of HB 463. Representative Boharski stated that was correct. Senator Beck asked if the technical notes on the fiscal note had been addressed by the House. Arnie Olsen, DFWP, stated counties would take the raw data and ship it to the DFWP. DFWP would compile the information and determine how much money and how many people designated it for which area, so the counties are not required to give those statistics; they just provide DFWP with the raw data. Mr. Olsen stated HB 463 addresses that issue on page 2.

Senator Devlin asked Representative Boharski if there were any county commissioners who would be opposed to HB 463. Representative Boharski stated Gordon Morris, League of Counties, gave mild opposition to HB 463 in the House. Ken Hoovestol said Gordon Morris had stated he no longer opposes HB 463.

Senator Christiaens asked Representative Boharski how the counties used this money previously. Representative Boharski stated the money gets distributed in the same manner as taxes on other property.

Closing by Sponsor:

Representative Boharski stated HB 463 would allow counties to have more money available to them to build and maintain the needed boat accesses in Montana.

HEARING ON HB 314

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Representative Bob Raney, House District 82, stated HB 314 deals with "primitive" parks. Representative Raney distributed copies of a handout detailing the targeted primitive parks in Montana (Exhibit #4), and stated HB 314 would limit development at certain parks. Representative Raney said HB 314 would also give Montanans free access to these primitive parks. Representative

Raney stated with two of the parks, Headwaters and Thompson Falls, the Department will have the option of charging camping fees.

Proponents' Testimony:

George Ochenski, representing the Montana State Parks Foundation Action Fund, stated putting HB 314 together took a lot of work-the past two years being spent on research to come up with a comprehensive parks plan which would meet the needs of Montanans and the needs for maintenance of state parks. Mr. Ochenski stated many Montanans do not want these parks developed further, and the state can save money by merely maintaining those parks, rather than making improvements.

Wayne Hirst, President, Montana State Parks Foundation, stated in 1989 he became involved in this issue and visited all the parks in Montana which were accessible by road. Mr. Hirst stated that while some of the parks were in fairly good condition, most were not. It was determined that some sort of plan needed to be developed that would help these parks in the future, but not cost the state a lot of money. Mr. Hirst said HB 314 would allow for the primitive parks to remain just as they are, to appeal to those Montanans who do not want those parks improved and to spend the limited resources on those parks which have the greatest need. Mr. Hirst stated the parks listed in Exhibit #4 were not high-tourist parks, and it would not hurt the tourism industry to keep these parks as they are. Mr. Hirst urged the Committee's support of HB 314.

Kelly Woodward, representing the Montana Senior Citizens Association, stated she is in support of HB 314 as many senior citizens enjoy using these parks, and many do not want to pay the user fees. Ms. Woodward urged the Committee's support of HB 314.

Pat Graham, Director, DFWP, spoke from prepared testimony in support of HB 314 (Exhibit #5).

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

Matthew Cohn, representing the Montana Department of Commerce, clarified himself as a no-opponent and stated he supported the concept of HB 314, but not the differential fee structure between residents and non-residents.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

Senator Crippen asked Representative Raney to respond to the issue of the fee structure. Representative Raney stated the fee structure is in response to the Montanans who want a few parks in

the state to be free and primitive to the residents of the state. He added that the fee structure is within the law.

Senator Crippen asked Representative Raney what criteria was used in selecting which parks were to be designated as primitive. Representative Raney stated when HB 314 was initially brought forth, the criteria used was that the parks were to be recreational parks which the citizens in the particular area utilized. Another criteria was that the parks were to be low-use parks. Senator Crippen asked if the DFWP was involved in the selection of the parks. Representative Raney stated the Department was not in the beginning, but was involved later.

Senator Crippen asked Wayne Hirst why the park at Lake Mary Ronan was included in the list. Mr. Hirst stated that while there are developments around that particular park, the developments are not visible from the park. Mr. Hirst said, therefore, the park met the criteria to be a primitive park.

Senator Mesaros asked Representative Raney how many state parks currently collect user fees. Representative Raney stated most of the state parks do collect user fees, either through FTE's, volunteers, or collection boxes. Senator Mesaros asked how the non-resident user fee will be administered. Representative Raney said it would be collected as it is now. In the case of the parks utilizing collection boxes, the collection would be based on the honesty of the user to pay the user fee.

Senator Devlin asked Pat Graham if the Department would police the collection of the fees. Mr. Graham stated the Department would police the collection, as it is revenue for the Department. Mr. Graham stated by not collecting the non-resident fees, the Department could stand to lose approximately \$12,000 in revenue.

Senator Devlin asked Representative Raney if there had been any attempt in the House to make these parks open to the public and forget about the fees. Representative Raney stated there was discussion along that line.

Senator Bianchi asked Pat Graham how many of the proposed parks are currently collecting user fees. Mr. Graham distributed copies of a handout (Exhibit #6) which provided that information.

Senator Brenden asked Pat Graham how he felt about paying someone to collect the fees. Mr. Graham stated in most of the parks proposed, fees are collected either through the collection boxes or volunteers. In other areas people who maintain the parks and collect fees have several parks they are responsible for.

Closing by Sponsor:

Representative Raney stated the Department would have no problems collecting the non-resident user fees. He said HB 314 is a good

idea, and many Montanans are in favor of setting certain parks aside to be maintained as they are and to be used, at no cost, by the residents of the state.

- HEARING ON HJR 24

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Representative Chase Hibbard, House District 46, stated HJR 24 is intended to develop a plan whereby outfitters, sportspersons, and landowners can identify problems which need to be addressed, identify what can be done to minimize those problems and still accomplish what needed to be accomplished. Representative Hibbard stated HJR 24 is not intended to be an advocacy document for any one group, and attempts to make it more specific have been rejected. Representative Hibbard said the reason for this is the strong feeling that the groups involved should be encouraged to come up with the solutions to the problems they are facing.

Proponents' Testimony:

Stan Bradshaw, representing the Montana Bowhunters Association, state he supported HJR 24 and applauded Representative Hibbard for the effort he put in. Mr. Bradshaw stated by having HJR 24 loosely structured, the needs of all involved will be better served. Mr. Bradshaw said HJR 24 is the right thing to do, and the risk of failure cannot be any greater than what has already happened in this Session. Mr. Bradshaw stated HJR 24 puts the burden of a solution where it belongs--with the groups most directly involved in the conflicts.

Jim Richard, representing the Montana Wildlife Federation, stated he supported HJR 24. Mr. Richard said HJR 24 is not a study, but rather a means of resolving conflict. HJR 24 sets up a mechanism to address the conflicts, and the strength in this approach is that it encourages a bottom-up, grass roots sort of effort to find solutions. Mr. Richard stated HJR 24 allows for the DFWP to act not as the administrator, but as the provider of information needed to resolve problems. Mr. Richard said one result of HJR 24 will be that in the future, proposals coming before the Legislature will at least have been discussed in a group representative of the groups involved.

Jean Johnson, Executive Director, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association, stated she supported HJR 24. Ms. Johnson stated there has been a lot of negative feelings toward outfitters and guides, and she would like to see something done to better relations among all groups involved. Ms. Johnson submitted copies of amendments she would like to have considered (Exhibit #7).

John Youngberg, representing the Montana Farm Bureau, stated HJR 24 is a resolution whose time has come, giving the people involved the chance to become part of the solution instead of continually contributing to the problem.

John Bloomquist, representing the Montana Stockgrowers Association, stated he supported HJR 24, and there are shared values among the groups that can become the vehicle for solutions to the problems experienced.

Pat Graham, Director, DFWP, spoke from prepared testimony in support of HJR 24 (Exhibit #8).

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

Senator Brenden, referring to page 3, line 11 and 12, asked Representative Hibbard to define "tangible benefits." Representative Hibbard stated that language was put in at the request of Representative Knox to address landowner rewards of some kind for providing access or habitat. Senator Brenden asked if there was any reason the Montana Graingrowers were not included in HJR 24. Representative Hibbard stated there is a catch-all to include those groups not specifically named.

Senator Mesaros asked what the procedures would be for amending HJR 24 at this time. Doug Sternberg stated there is a deadline for amendments to resolutions, and the rules would have to be suspended for any amendments to HJR 24.

Senator Bianchi, referring to the landowner-sportsperson committee appointed by Governor Stephens, asked Pat Graham if that is something that will continue with the Racicot administration or if HJR 24 will replace it. Mr. Graham stated that specific decision has not been made. The committee referred to by Senator Bianchi is a very diverse group, while HJR 24 addresses a more specific group of people. Mr. Graham said the question of maintaining the landowner-sportsperson committee will need to be addressed.

Senator Klampe asked Jim Richard if the sportspersons groups testified when HJR 24 was presented in the House. Mr. Richard stated the groups testifying at that hearing were the same ones present today. Stan Bradshaw said he spoke at the Bowhunters banquet last week about HJR 24. Mr. Bradshaw stated that while

he could not speak for all the sportsperson groups in Montana, there seemed to be overwhelming support from those groups for HJR 24.

Senator Klampe asked Pat Graham what had resulted from the landowner-sportsperson committee Governor Stephens had appointed. Mr. Graham stated that group has only met twice and has been formulating priorities. Mr. Graham said that group was primarily a forum for communication and interchange of information; the committee was not given a specific responsibility to resolve anything. Senator Klampe expressed his doubts about HJR 24 actually accomplishing anything. Mr. Graham stated he did not share Senator Klampe's concerns.

Senator Christiaens asked Representative Hibbard if he felt the House would accept HJR 24 if it was amended in this Committee. Representative Hibbard stated he could not speak for the entire House, but that HJR 24 was perhaps the most talked about piece of legislation on the House floor. Representative Hibbard said that he feels if HJR 24 is amended, it would end up in a conference committee. Senator Christiaens asked Representative Hibbard what the vote was for HJR 24 on the House floor. Representative Hibbard said the vote was 99 to 1.

Closing by Sponsor:

Representative Hibbard stated there is a need for a study such as this that is not highly structured so as to lead to some real solutions to the problems and conflicts among the groups involved. Representative Hibbard said the time has come for something different--a non-traditional approach--in order to put the conflicts in perspective.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 463

Motion/Vote:

Senator Brenden moved HB 463 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 314

Motion:

Senator Klampe moved HB 314 BE CONCURRED IN.

Motion/Vote:

Senator Mesaros made a substitute motion that HB 314 be TABLED. The motion FAILED by Roll Call Vote.

<u>Vote</u>:

The BE CONCURRED IN motion CARRIED by Roll Call Vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJR 24

Motion/Vote:

Senator Mesaros moved HJR 24 BE CONCURRED IN. The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:00 p.m.

SENATOR BOB PIPINICH, Chair

Chy (DCLCV) KATHY COLLINS, Secretary

BP/kc

ROLL CALL

SENATE COMMITTEE Lish & Mame DATE 4-6-93

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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1 April 7, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on Fish and Game having had under consideration House Joint Resolution No. 24 (third reading copy - blue), respectfully report that House Joint Resolution No. 24 be concurred in.

Signed:

Senator Bob Pipinick, Chai

Amd. Coord.
Sec. of Senate

Senator Carrying Bill

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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1 April 7, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on Fish and Game having had under consideration House Bill No. 314 (third reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 314 be concurred in...

Signed:

Senator Bob Pipinich / Ch

Amd. Coord.

Senator Carrying Bill

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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1 April 7, 1993

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on Fish and Game having had under consideration House Bill No. 463 (third reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that House Bill No. 463 be concurred in.

Signed:

Senator Bob Pipinich, Chair

Amd. Coord.

Senator Carrying Bill

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ROLL CALL VOTE

SENATE COMMITTEE FISH & Lame	BILL NO. HB.
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SENATE FISH AND GAME

HB 463

DATE 4-6-93

Senate Fish and Game Committee Ball NO. HB 463

4/6/93

Testimony By Montana Boating Association

State Parks Futures Committee Report concluded that for every dollar spent on state parks, the local economy gets ten dollars in return.

There is a \$20 million need in the state parks system for improvement of motorboat sites. \$7.5 of this is of an immediate nature for replacing worn or dangerous facilities and providing for disabled access.

State parks and fishing access sites are local attractions used by both residents and tourists. It seems only logical that counties would want to support these areas for the economic benefit to their area.

These moneys are eligible for 3:1 matching federal funds (Dingell-Johnson).

This is not a tax or fee increase.

The moneys will be used statewide as designated by the boater when registering their boats.

In a number of states the entire fee is used for the program.

The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks will be responsible for any additional bookkeeping.

State Parks Summary of Motorboat Facility Needs

3-31-93 STATE PARKS

NEEDS

Region 1

Whitefish Lake Flathead Lake

enhancement/replacement of ramps, docks, slips; parking; disabled access; boat dump sta maint. maintenance/operation of existing ramp; dock improvements; disabled access maintenance/operation of existing ramp and boat facilities; disabled access

Logan

Region 2 Salmon Lake Placid Lake

repair boat ramp; disabled access install boat slips and docks

Region 4

Missouri River Road

disabled access; improve ramps/parking; restrooms; improve access; intepretive signs

renovate exisiting ramps; new boat ramp on s. shore; improve docks and parking

Region 5

Cooney

Region 7

Tongue River Hell Creek

Hauser Lake Region 8

boat ramp improvement; road improvement; enhance access

reinstate operations; boat ramp maintenance and improvement; increase parking; disabled access

complete site renovation; new boat ramp; increased trailer parking; sea wall; mooring facilities

Summary of Motorboat Facility Needs -- Fishing Access Sites

3-31-93

FAS

NEEDS

Region 1

Walstad Memorial Sportsman's Bridge

road improvements; increase and enhance parking; restrooms; docks; fencing boat ramp improvement; road improvement; improve parking; restrooms

Region 2

Dry Creek Forest Grove

road improvement; restroom; signs; improve boat ramp

road improvement; new restroom

road/parking improvement; install barriers; restrooms; improve boat ramp

restrooms; new boat ramps; road/parking improvement

restrooms; disabled access; ramp improvement site development; boat ramp improvement

Region 3

Fairweather

Region 4

Bean Lk. Bynum Reservoir Pishkun Reservoir

Region 5

Grey Bear

road improvements; restrooms; signs

Region 6

Lower Missouri

Region 7

Powder R. Depot Roche Jaune

Region 8

York Bridge

develop new access points in cooperation with Corps of Engineers

road enhancement/parking; signs; boat ramp improvement; restrooms; new RR crossing complete site renovation; ramp repair; improve road

enhance parking; new restrooms; improve boat ramp

ENTE 4-6-93

State parks offering opportunities for motorboat related recreation and associated facility needs and improvements are as follows:

STATE PARKS

PARK

NEEDS

REGION 1

Flathead Lake

enhancement/replacement of ramps, docks, and slips; provide more parking for trailers; operation and maintenance of boat dump stations, provide for disabled access

Whitefish Lake

maintenance/operation of existing ramp and boat facilities; disabled access

Logan

maintenance/operation of existing ramp;
dock improvements; disabled access

REGION 2

Salmon Lake

repair boat ramp; enhance disabled

access

Placid Lake

install boat slips and docks

REGION 4

Missouri River Recreation Rd. provide for disabled access; improve ramp and parking; restrooms; improve

access; interpretive signs

PARKS (continued)

PARK

NEEDS

EXHIBIT / DATE 4-6-93 HB 463

REGION 5

Cooney

renovate existing ramps; new boat ramp on s. shore; improve docks

and parking

REGION 7

Tongue River

boat ramp improvement; road improvement;

improved access

Hell Creek

reinstate operations; boat ramp maintenance and

improvement; increased parking;

disabled access

REGION 8

Hauser Lake

complete site renovation; sea wall; improve boat ramp; increase trailer parking; provide mooring facilities

FISHING ACCESS SITES

Fishing Access Sites offering opportunities for motorboat related recreation and associated facility needs and improvements are as follows:

SITE

NEEDS

REGION 1

Walstad Memorial

road improvements; increase

and enhance parking;

restrooms; docks; fencing

Sportsman's Bridge

boat ramp improvement, road improvement; improve parking;

restrooms

FISHING ACCESS SITES (continued)

SITE

NEEDS

REGION 2

Dry Creek

improve roads, restrooms, signs, and boat ramp

Forest Grove

improve roads; new restroom

REGION 3

Fairweather

road/parking improvement; install barriers; restrooms;

improve boat ramp

REGION 4

Bean Lake

restrooms; new boat ramps; road/parking improvement

Bynum Res.

restrooms; disabled access;

ramp improvement

Pishkun Res.

site development; improve

boat ramp

REGION 5

Grey Bear

road improvement; restrooms;

signs ·

REGION 6

Lower Missouri -Ft. Peck to State Line

develop new access points in cooperation with Corps of Engineers

EXHIBI:	···
DATE 4-6-93	
1 HB 463	

FISHING ACCESS SITES (continued)

SITE

NEEDS

REGION 7

Powder River Depot

signs; boat ramp improvement;
restrooms; new rail-road
crossing

Roche Jaune

complete site renovation;
ramp repair; improve road

road enhancement/parking;

REGION 8

York Bridge

enhance parking; new
restrooms; improve boat ramp

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GENERIC SITE IMPROVEMENT COSTS

Handicap Accessible Latrine\$6,0	00.00	
Cattleguard (6'x20')\$2,8	75.00	
Steel Gate (4'x12')\$ 2	80.00	•
Barrier Posts (each)\$	15.00	•
18" Diameter (per foot)\$ Fencing Jack Leg (per 16'span)\$	15.00 20.00 24.00 17.00	
Boat Ramp Solid concrete pad (per sq.ft)\$ RAMY ONLY 100×40'= \$15,000	3.81	
	25.50	* ***
Signs Single Post\$ Double Post\$ 1		
Road Work Gravel, crushed (per cubic yard)\$ New Construction (per square foot)\$	8.25	(\$42000/M
Handicap Asphalt Trail (usually 5' wide, per sq. yard).\$	26.00	
Handicap Asphalt Unloading Pad (20'x20')\$1,2	00.00	
Handicap Fishing Platform (each)\$5,3	00.00	

PARKING LOT FOR TRAILERS 50'X100' = \$2000-5000



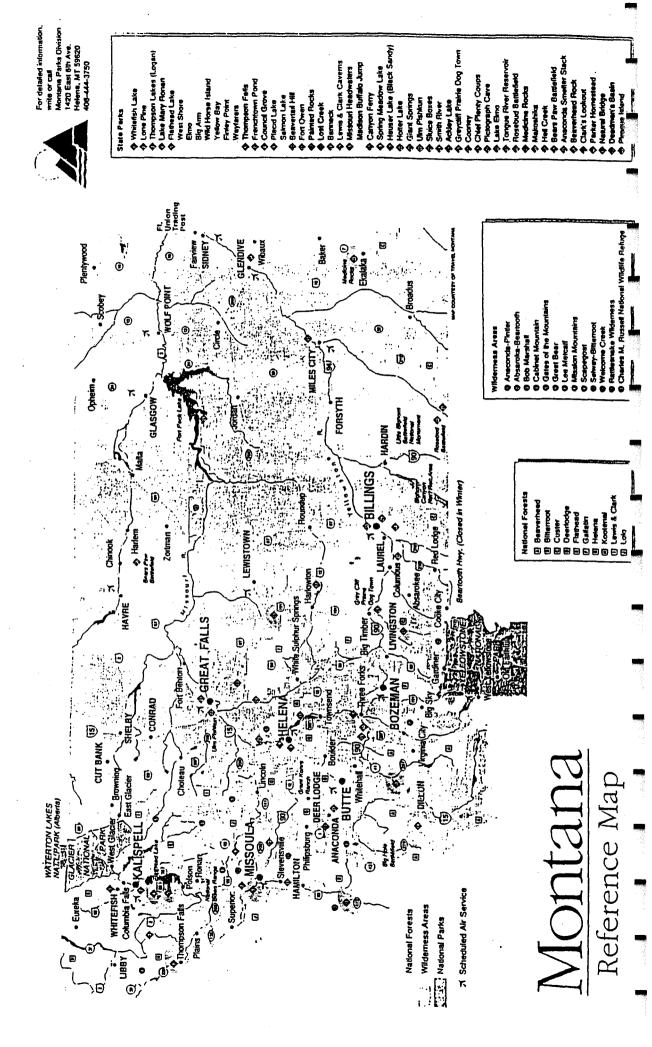
The Montana Boating Association is behind HB 463 because of the condition of our State Parks as a whole for boating facilities in Montana. We do have a few of them that are new and in good condition, I repeat a few. Montana has been promoting tourism for several years with the bed tax money and it is working. But the condition of the parks leave something to be desired. The Department doesn't have funds for proper maintenance and for improvements. Another problem, when they do upgrade a park, we seem to lose some of the facilities such as camping sites, restrooms, and roads to meet the new environmental standards and the natural surrounding standards.

The counties have been receiving the fees from boat registration in Montana and haven't used any of this money for boating facilities. We would like a small portion of this to go to the State which can be matched by Federal funds and then used in the area in which the boat is being used. Also, as boaters we would like to work with the Department on the management and use of boating facilities in Montana. Boat registrations have increased in Montana by 2,000 in 1992 and should increase again this year.

We would like your support of this bill to improve the Parks in Montana.

Thank you for your time.

Montana State Parks & Wilderness Areas A Natural Heritage





BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 200 W BROADWAY ST MISSOULA MT 59802-4292

(406) 721-5700

BCC-93-240 April 6, 1993

SENATE FIGHT AND GAME

ELLIPIT TO 3

DATE 4 6 93

MIL NO. 118 463

Senator Bob Pipinich State Capitol Helena, MT 59620

Dear Bob,

We are writing to your committee today in regard to HB 463, which would allocate a percentage of the boat fee in lieu of tax to the motorboat account in the state special revenue fund enabling the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to use the funds for boating facilities.

After having our fiscal officer look at the bill, we found that the amount of revenue that would be lost to Missoula County would not impact us significantly, and those funds could best be used by enhancing boat areas in the Seeley-Swan drainage.

For those reasons, we find this bill to be acceptable to Missoula County and have no reason to oppose it.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ann Mary Dussault Chair

Barbara Evans, Commissioner

Fern Hart, Commissioner

BCC/SS:ss

cc:

Missoula County Legislative Delegation

Gordon Morris, MACo

SENATE FISH AND GAME

ENHANT NO. 4-6-93

BALL NO. HB 314

MONTANA STATE PARKS SYSTEM

Proposed "Primitive" •Parks - a brief description of each:

Note that all of these Parks were visited in 1989, and that some improvements may have been made to them since that time, but would have been minor.

The noted Parks are grouped by the Regions they are located in.

Region #1, Kalispell:

Thompson Falls State Park:

A wooded area along the Clark Fork River, west of Thompson Falls, with 33 designated campsites, and two picnic sites. It is rocky along the river, and there was no boat ramp there in 1989.

FY 93 budget - 16,053

CY 92 Fee income - 7,694

Lambeth State Park (Lake Mary Ronan):

This is a "fisherman's" park located on Lake Mary Ronan, 7 miles west of Flathead Lake. The road is paved to within 1.5 miles of the Park, and there are 27 designated campsites there, and alot of private land surrounding it, with cabins and "resorts". The entire area is wooded, and the boat ramp was in fair shape, although it ended 6 feet into the lake (with a warning sign). There was a small dock, and the roads within the park were a little rough.

FY 93 budget - 15,744

CY 92 Fee income - 9,399

Wild Horse Island:

This is a large island in Flathead Lake, accessable only by boat, and was not visited. It is largely natural, with some private cabins on the island, and had no overnite camping facilities.

Region #2, Missoula:

Council Grove State Park:

The site where the historical Hellgate Treaty was signed west of Missoula, along the Clark Fork River. This is a very nice area of Ponderosa Pines, and grass, along the river. There are historical interpretive signs, as well as some picnic areas, with no camping available. Overall, an important historical park, in a beautiful setting along the Clark Fork River.

Lost Creek State Park:

This is a nice park located in a canyon near Anaconda, with a paved road to within a couple miles. There are 24 designated campsites, which are not very well used (on an August saturday night, only one other party was camped there). There is a waterfall right above the park, which is accessable by wheelchair on a short paved trail. The water available here is by hand pump only.

FY 93 budget - 10,572

CY 92 Fee income - 5,787

Painted Rocks State Park:

Located on the Painted Rocks Reservoir (a DNRC irrigation reservoir) about 43 miles south of Hamilton, near the Idaho border. There are 30 designated campsites, and 3 identified campsites, and it is not very well used. The reservoir is subject to severe drawdowns, leaving this area high and dry later in the summer. It is a wooded area, with private cabins around, two picnic shelters, and a good boat ramp. (many campsites were not "completed").

FY93 budget - 9,485

CY92 Fee income - 1,621

EXHIBIT 4 DATE 4-6-93 THB 314

Region #3, Bozeman:

Beaverhead Rock State Park:

A large "rock" låndmark, northeast of Dillon along the river, which was identified by Sacagawea for the Lewis & Clark Expedition, where she said that the Shoshonis would be camped not far beyond. This area is undeveloped, with difficult accessability, and mainly viewed from the highway across the river, with an interpretive sign south of the "rock" on Hwy. #41.

Madison Buffalo Jump State Park:

This is an old buffalo jump located south of I-90, west of Bozeman, along the edge of the Madison River valley. It is an excellent example of an old buffalo jump, with interpretive signs, and hiking trails, with old teepee rings still there on the hill to the northeast. There is a shelter with the interpretive signs, and a picnic area, and a hand water pump, which was "broken" when visited. This is a dry area on the hills bordering the Madison River valley (with a ranch house located across the road), but is a nice historical/cultural area, with good history and beautiful views of the valley. No camping area.

Headwaters State Park:

This is a beautiful area at Three Forks, the starting point of the Missouri River and rich in history. It is off I-90 and the highway goes through it to the Trident cement plant located about 1 mile downstream. There is a campground with 17 designated sites that can be overrun with mosquitoes, a picnic and display area. The display area has historical interpretive signs, flush toilets and drinking The picnic area is perhaps the nicest one in the fountain. State, with a beautiful lawn under large cottonwood trees next to the Gallatin River (there was some "winter kill" of these cottonwoods, and the spot has not been visited since the "winter kill" by this author). The boat access area has a few camping spots there (with less mosquitoes), and the boat ramp is in fair shape.

There is excellent hiking on "Fort Rock", with excellent views, the remains of the old Gallatin City Hotel are here, along with some pictographs, and some old "pioneer" graves.

FY 93 budget - 32,954

CY 92 Fee Income - 21,404

Region #4, Great Falls:

Sluice Boxes State Park: 400

Located south of Belt heading towards Kings Hill, this park is undeveloped, and consists of a parking area to go hiking up the river, where the canyon gets narrow. There is an old railroad grade going up the canyon, but the trail is not developed, and the creek must be forded furthur up. There was no information on this trail, or the history of the area when visited. Overall, undeveloped, and a beautiful hike.

FY 93 budget - 6,389

No fee income

Ackley Lake State Park:

A small, nice reservoir in the Judith Basin 6 miles south of Hobson. It was in good shape, with 18 designated campsites, and 17 picnic shelters, and 2 hand pumps for water. It's not very big, but alot of people use it, as there are few other lakes in the area. There are few trees, and no inflow to the lake could be seen. The lakeshore was gravel, not mud. (Appeared to be mainly day use).

FY 93 budget - 18,876

CY 92 Fee income - 4,888

Region #5, Billings:

Deadman's Basin State Park:

A fairly large reservoir near Harlowton, with 31 designated campsites, two picnic shelters, and no water available when visited. There are 5 "main" camping areas, and many people camp on the beach. There are private cabins located here, and it can be very windy. In past full pool years, erosion washed away part of the camping areas, and some previous roads. It's mostly used for fishing and water skiing, and the long boat ramp was very muddy when visited. All in all, it's a pretty "bleak" spot.

FY 93 budget - 16,175

No Fee income (no water).

Natural Bridge State Park:

This is a very beautiful area south of Big Timber on the Boulder River in the transition between Mountains and "flatter" country. There is a canyon flowing to a waterfall into a large basin, but the Natural Bridge collapsed in the late 1980's, and no longer exists. There are interpretive signs (with pictures of the natural bridge), a new wooden walkbridge across the canyon, and hiking trails. This is a day use area only, with a unique waterfall, and it looks like great fishing.

Region #7, Miles City:

Medicine Rocks State Park:

A beautiful wooded area of unique geological formations located between Ekalaka and Baker. There are 13 identified campsites, and one group use area. The hand pump by the entrance has some of the best water in the area. This area was used alot by locals, and hunters in the fall. (Note that there were many complaints by locals on entrance fees here). There is currently a proposal to turn this area back to the county, due to the fee complaints.

This area has burned since it was visited, and the effects of

Pirouge Island:

This is a beautiful island in the Yellowstone River across from Miles City, and is undeveloped, used mainly for hiking. It can be prone to flooding, and is full of large cottonwood trees.

Note the two above parks are grouped together in budgets.

FY 93 budgets - 8,025

that are unknown to this author.

CY 92 fee income - 1,088

4-6-93 HB 314 SENATE FICH AND GAME

ENCION NO. 5

DATE 4-4-93

April 6, 1993 BALL NO.4+B 314

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

The Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks continues to endorse the concept of providing a diversity of opportunities in our state park system, including the opportunity for a primitive experience. We currently manage a number of sites in primitive condition. Therefore, we support the intent of this bill.

We opposed certain elements of the initial bill, primarily because it had such a large fiscal impact. We also wanted the local users to know that they must come to the legislature in the future and amend this legislation if they want development that is prohibited by this bill.

However, we appreciate the sponsors' attempts to help fund State Park maintenance needs with HB 642. In supporting this bill, it is also essential that you support HB 642.

IMPACT OF HB314 -- LOST REVENUE

C:\123FILES\BUDGET\94~95\HB314IMP.WK1

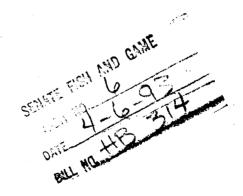
	Resident/	Lost	lesident R	evenue
Site *	Non-Res.			Total Lost
	Use	Camping	Day Use	Revenue
Lk Mary Ronan	62/38	\$2,690	\$3,137	\$5,827
Thompson Falls+	54/46	\$0	\$1,808	\$1,808
Wildhorse Island	60/40	\$0	\$1,028	\$1,028
Beaverhead Rock	60/40	\$0	\$0	\$0
Lost Creek	60/40	\$1,114	\$2,359	\$3,472
Painted Rocks	60/40	\$438	\$535	l
Ackley Lake	90/10	\$1,247	\$3,152	\$4,399
Sluice Boxes	60/40	\$0	\$0	\$0
Deadman's Basin++	60/40	\$765	\$1,935	\$2,700
Madison Buffalo Jump	60/40	\$0	\$2,501	\$2,501
Natural Bridge	60/40	\$0	\$0	\$0
Council Grove	60/40	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pirogue Island	60/40	\$0	\$0	\$0
Medicine Rocks	60/40	\$110	\$542	\$653
Missouri Headwaters+	80/20	\$0	\$7,046	\$7,046
TOTALS		\$6,365	\$24,043	\$30,408

+ Resident camping fees will be collected

++ Estimate. Fees planned for 1994.

03/25/93

11:28 AM



Amendment to HJR 24 — White Copy March 16, 1993

BATT NO DATE EXHIBIT NO GAME

Prepared by the Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

1. Page 1, Lines 22 - 25. Following: "opportunities"

Strike: "and" and lines 23 and 24 in their entirety, and "heritage" on line 25.

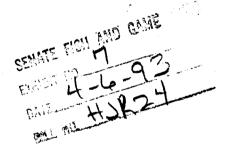
2. Page 1, Line 25.

Following: "and"

Insert: "Whereas, outfitters are increasingly held responsible for diminishing access to private property with little recognition for the landowner's preference or the concept of 'willing leasor, willing leasee'

3. Page 3, Line 9. Following: "(d)"
Strike: "encouraging"
Insert: "ensuring"

4. Page 8, Line 18. Following: "hunting" Insert: ", outfitting"



HJR 24 April 6, 1993

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

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks supports House Joint Resolution 24 which urges landowners, sportspersons, outfitters and the public to work toward common goals to resolve the various issues brought forth during this legislative session.

Each group - landowners, sportspersons or outfitters - has legitimate concerns that must be addressed with mutual consideration and respect. One-sided proposals will not result in lasting solutions and will only widen the gaps among the parties. This resolution has stated some of the problems. The list could be extended, but I believe the parties involved know the issues.

Now is the time for those same people and their organizations to seek common goals and identify the steps needed to reach them.

The resolution as written does not portray bias toward any party but attempts to review the concerns. As you consider this resolution, we urge you to keep this same simple and straightforward format to set the example for future working groups.

I suggested some approaches to resolve these conflicts to the House subcommittee working on this resolution. While generally well received, it takes time to build understanding and support for any proposal. While I very much want to see movement and action, I understand the need to work through the various work groups.

This is no small task. It will require considerable sustained commitment. So what makes this different from past attempts to resolve these issues? First, I believe there is a genuine commitment by all parties to work toward reducing problems. Second, awareness of the issues has been raised to a new level by the bills brought forward during this legislative session.

Finally, and possibly most important, is the nature of Montanans. Montanans still talk to each other and not at each other. Montanans share many common values and a strong sense of community, despite the vast distances. Montanans have a large measure of common sense, and when they feel people are listening and they are being treated fairly, they will support a process and programs even when they do not get all they want.

The department offers to act as staff to this resolution. The department would contract professional facilitators to conduct meetings and provide background information as needed to assist with discussions. The cost is expected to be about \$25,000 for facilitators, reports, and other services provided to assist the various working groups.

DATE 4-6-93				•	
SENATE COMMITTEE ON	Sh & Game				
BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY:	4B 463, HB3	514,H	JR	24	<i>'</i>
Name	Representing	Bill No.	Check	One	
Bill LEARY	CAUJON JERRY Rac ASCW.	40463	V		
GEORGE DCHENSKI	MIT STATE PARKS FNDATION ACTION FUND	#314	-		
Jean Johnson	MT Ocet Fitters & Quicker	H5F241			
Dave Serfort	not Boating Aus	1463	V		
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Ken Hoovestol	MT. Boating Assn.	463	۷		
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David Loss	Wt Auduban Legislotive Fund	463	i/		
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VISITOR REGISTER

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY

DATE 4-6-93			
SENATE COMMITTEE ON	h + GAME		
BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY:	B 463. AB314	f As	R24
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		Bill	 Check One
Name	Representing	No.	Support Oppose
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Wayne Hirst	Mt. State Parks Fouldation	HB 314	U
John Brownguist	Mt. Stechgrous	1+JR 24	
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VISITOR REGISTER

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY