

1 House BILL NO. 33
 2 INTRODUCED BY *J. Murphy Jim Muller Gunderman Merrill*
 3 *Johnson Edward Lee Fishbaugh Ernest Hummerfeldt*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SALINE
 5 SEEP CONTROL PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS;
 6 PROVIDING EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES."

7
 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9 Section 1. Statement of Policy. The legislature
 10 recognizes that saline-alkali damage to land and water
 11 resulting from agricultural practices in this state is a
 12 serious problem warranting legislative action to support
 13 research and implementation of solutions to prevent, reduce
 14 and correct saline alkali damage.

15 Section 2. Definitions. As used in this act unless
 16 the context requires otherwise:

17 (1) "Saline-alkali damage" means the accumulation or
 18 concentration of salts and related minerals in soil or
 19 water, resulting from agricultural use of land, to such an
 20 extent that the productivity of the land or the quality of
 21 related water supplies has suffered or is likely to suffer
 22 significant deterioration.

23 (2) "Department" means the department of state lands.

24 (3) "Agricultural practices" means any use of land for
 25 the production of crops or the raising of livestock,

1 including dryland agriculture, irrigation, grazing of
 2 livestock, and construction of stock ponds and reservoirs.

3 Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities of the
 4 Department. The department shall develop and implement a
 5 program for the control of saline-alkali damage. The
 6 department shall:

7 (1) Allocate grants or contracts to public and private
 8 organizations, using such funds as the legislature may
 9 appropriate, in order to conduct necessary research,
 10 education or other activities to accomplish the following
 11 objectives:

12 (a) implementation of necessary agricultural practices
 13 for the prevention, reduction or correction of saline-alkali
 14 damage.

15 (b) development and evaluation of agricultural
 16 practices and technology which will prevent or correct
 17 saline-alkali damage.

18 (c) appraisal and monitoring of the extent, nature and
 19 magnitude of saline-alkali damage.

20 (d) development of vegetation species useful for the
 21 prevention, reduction or correction of saline-alkali damage.

22 (e) development of technology useful for the detection
 23 of saline-alkali damage and its causes.

24 (2) Encourage or develop legislation, policies and
 25 programs for local, state and federal government which will

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1 aid in the prevention, reduction or correction of
2 saline-alkali damage.

3 (3) Identify potential sources of gifts, grants and
4 donations and actively seek such funding for special and
5 general research, information, education, and all other
6 activities consistent with the purposes of this act.

7 (4) Take or initiate any other lawful action
8 consistent with the purpose of this act in order to prevent,
9 reduce or correct saline-alkali damage.

10 (5) Conduct such research or studies as are necessary
11 to accomplish the purposes of this act.

12 (6) Develop short-range and long-range plans for the
13 control, prevention, reduction and correction of
14 saline-alkali damage.

15 Section 4. Advisory council. The Governor may appoint
16 an advisory council to assist the department in the
17 discharge of its duties and responsibilities. If appointed,
18 the council shall be composed as follows:

19 (1) Five (5) members shall be selected from areas of
20 the state with significant salinity damage problems.

21 (2) Four (4) members shall be representatives of the
22 following state agencies: Montana state university, Montana
23 bureau of mines and geology, the department of natural
24 resources and conservation, and the department of
25 agriculture.

1 Section 5. Effective and termination dates. This act
2 shall become effective upon passage and approval and shall
3 terminate July 1, 1977, unless further extended by law.

-End-

Approved by Committee
on Agriculture Livestock
& Irrigation

HOUSE BILL NO. 33

INTRODUCED BY MURPHY, MULAR, GUNDERSON, MANUEL, JACOBSEN,
DASSINGER, FISHBAUGH, KUMMERFELDT, LIEN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SALINE
SEEP CONTROL PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS;
PROVIDING EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Statement of policy. The legislature
recognizes that saline-alkali damage to land and water
resulting from agricultural practices OR OTHER WATER
CONCENTRATION PRACTICES in this state is a serious problem
warranting legislative action to support research and
implementation of solutions to prevent, reduce and correct
saline alkali damage.

Section 2. Definitions. As used in this act unless
the context requires otherwise:

(1) "Saline-alkali damage" means the accumulation or
concentration of salts and related minerals in soil or
water, resulting from agricultural use of land, to such an
extent that the productivity of the land or the quality of
related water supplies has suffered or is likely to suffer
significant deterioration.

(2) "Department" means the department of state lands.

(3) "Agricultural practices" means any use of land for
the production of crops ~~or--the--raising--of--livestock~~
~~including--dryland--agriculture--irrigation--grazing--of~~
~~livestock--and--construction--of--stock--ponds--and--reservoirs,~~
RAISING OF LIVESTOCK, OR WILDLIFE, INCLUDING DRYLAND AND
IRRIGATED CROP PRODUCTION, RANGE AND IRRIGATED LIVESTOCK
GRAZING, CONSTRUCTION OF WATER RETENTION, DELIVERY, OR
ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES.

Section 3. Duties and responsibilities of the
department. The department shall develop and implement a
program for the control of saline-alkali damage. The
department shall:

(1) Allocate grants or contracts to public and private
organizations, using such funds as the legislature may
appropriate, in order to conduct necessary research,
education or other activities to accomplish the following
objectives:

(a) implementation of necessary agricultural practices
for the prevention, reduction or correction of saline-alkali
damage.

(b) development and evaluation of agricultural
practices and technology which will prevent or correct
saline-alkali damage.

(c) appraisal and monitoring of the extent, nature and
magnitude of saline-alkali damage.

1 (d) development of vegetation species useful for the
2 prevention, reduction or correction of saline-alkali damage.

3 (e) development of technology useful for the detection
4 of saline-alkali damage and its causes.

5 (2) Encourage or develop legislation, policies and
6 programs for local, state and federal government which will
7 aid in the prevention, reduction or correction of
8 saline-alkali damage.

9 (3) Identify potential sources of gifts, grants and
10 donations and actively seek such funding for special and
11 general research, information, education, and all other
12 activities consistent with the purposes of this act.

13 (4) Take or initiate any other lawful action
14 consistent with the purpose of this act in order to prevent,
15 reduce or correct saline-alkali damage.

16 (5) Conduct such research or studies as are necessary
17 to accomplish the purposes of this act.

18 (6) Develop OR CAUSE TO BE DEVELOPED short-range and
19 long-range plans for the control, prevention, reduction and
20 correction of saline-alkali damage.

21 Section 4. Advisory council. The governor may appoint
22 an advisory council to assist the department in the
23 discharge of its duties and responsibilities. If appointed,
24 the council shall be composed as follows:

25 (1) Five (5) members shall be selected from areas of

1 the state with significant salinity damage problems.

2 (2) Four (4) members shall be representatives of the
3 following state agencies: Montana state university, Montana
4 bureau of mines and geology, the department of natural
5 resources and conservation, and the department of
6 agriculture.

7 Section 5. Effective and termination dates. This act
8 shall become effective upon passage and approval and shall
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20 concentration of salts and related minerals in soil or
21 water, resulting from agricultural use of land, to such an
22 extent that the productivity of the land or the quality of
23 related water supplies has suffered or is likely to suffer
24 significant deterioration.

25 (2) "Department" means the department of state lands.

1 (3) "Agricultural practices" means any use of land for
2 the production of crops ~~or--the--raising--of--livestock,~~
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4 ~~livestock,--and--construction--of--stock--ponds--and--reservoirs,~~
5 RAISING OF LIVESTOCK, OR WILDLIFE, INCLUDING DRYLAND AND
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21 (b) development and evaluation of agricultural
22 practices and technology which will prevent or correct
23 saline-alkali damage.

24 (c) appraisal and monitoring of the extent, nature and
25 magnitude of saline-alkali damage.

1 (d) development of vegetation species useful for the
2 prevention, reduction or correction of saline-alkali damage.

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9 (3) Identify potential sources of gifts, grants and
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