SB 286 INTRODUCED BY GALT, ELLISON, PINSONEAULT, ET AL. REMOVE UNCONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS OF STREAM ACCESS LAW

	INTRODUCED REFERRED TO NATURAL RESOURCES
	SPONSORS ADDED
2/09	SPONSORS ADDED
2/18	HEARING
2/20	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL PASSED AS AMENDED
2/23	2ND READING PASSED AS AMENDED 50 0
2/25	3RD READING PASSED 48 2
	TRANSMITTED TO HOUSE
2/02	REFERRED TO NATURAL RESOURCES
3/03 3/19	HEARING
	DEAK ING
3/27	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED
3/27 3/28	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38
3/27	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED
3/27 3/28	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38
3/27 3/28	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38 3RD READING CONCURRED 55 43
3/27 3/28 3/30	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38 3RD READING CONCURRED 55 43 RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS 2ND READING AMENDMENTS NOT CONCURRED 30 19
3/27 3/28 3/30	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38 3RD READING CONCURRED 55 43 RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS 2ND READING AMENDMENTS NOT CONCURRED 30 19
3/27 3/28 3/30	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38 3RD READING CONCURRED 55 43 RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS 2ND READING AMENDMENTS NOT CONCURRED 30 19
3/27 3/28 3/30 4/02 4/02	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38 3RD READING CONCURRED 55 43 RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS 2ND READING AMENDMENTS NOT CONCURRED 30 19 FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED
3/27 3/28 3/30 4/02 4/02	COMMITTEE REPORTBILL CONCURRED AS AMENDED 2ND READING CONCURRED 51 38 3RD READING CONCURRED 55 43 RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS 2ND READING AMENDMENTS NOT CONCURRED 30 19 FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED HOUSE

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L	Senate BILL NO JE 1100 1.
2	INTRODUCED BY Jak Elison in Cutton Telle Col
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4	A WILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REVISE THE STREAM FAUL
5	ACCESS LAW TO REMOVE PROVISIONS DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL;
5	AMENDING SECTIONS 23-2-301, 23-2-302, AND 23-2-311, MCA; AND
7	PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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

Section 1. Section 23-2-301, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-2-301. Definitions. For purposes of this part, the
following definitions apply:

- (1) "Barrier" means an artificial obstruction located in or over a water body, restricting passage on or through the water, which totally or effectively obstructs the recreational use of the surface water at the time of use. A barrier may include but is not limited to a bridge or fence or any other manmade obstacle to the natural flow of water.
- (2) "Class I waters" means surface waters, other than lakes, that:
- (a) lie within the officially recorded federal government survey meander lines thereof;
- 23 (b) flow over lands that have been judicially
 24 determined to be owned by the state by reason of application
 25 of the federal navigability test for state streambed

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- 2 (c) are or have been capable of supporting the 3 following commercial activities: loq floating, transportation of furs and skins, shipping, commercial 5 quiding using multiperson watercraft, public transportation, or the transportation of merchandise, as these activities 6 have been defined by published judicial opinion as of April 7 19, 1985; or
- 9 (d) are or have been capable of supporting commercial 10 activity within the meaning of the federal navigability test 11 for state streambed ownership.
- 12 (3) "Class II waters" means all surface waters that
 13 are not class I waters, except lakes.
- 14 (4) "Commission" means the fish and game commission 15 provided for in 2-15-3402.
- (5) "Department" means the department of fish,wildlife, and parks provided for in 2-15-3401.
- 18 (6) "Diverted away from a natural water body" means a

 19 diversion of surface water through a manmade water

 20 conveyance system, including but not limited to:
- 21 (a) an irrigation or drainage canal or ditch;
- 22 (b) an industrial, municipal, or domestic water 23 system, excluding the lake, stream, or reservoir from which 24 the system obtains water;
- 25 (c) a flood control channel; or

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(d) a hydropower inlet and discharge facility.

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- (7) "Lake" means a body of water where the surface water is retained by either natural or artificial means and the natural flow of water is substantially impeded.
- (8) "Occupied dwelling" means a building used for a human dwelling at least once a year.
- (9) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the line that water impresses on land by covering it for sufficient periods to cause physical characteristics that distinguish the area below the line from the area above it. Characteristics of the area below the line include, when appropriate, but are not limited to deprivation of the soil of substantially all terrestrial vegetation and destruction of its agricultural vegetative value. A flood plain adjacent to surface waters is not considered to lie within the surface waters' high-water marks.
- (10) "Recreational use" means with respect to surface waters, unless otherwise prohibited or regulated by law: fishing, hunting, swimming, floating in small craft or other flotation devices, boating in motorized craft unless otherwise-prohibited-or-regulated-by-law, or craft propelled by oar or paddle, other water-related pleasure activities, and minimal and related unavoidable or incidental uses necessary for the use of the water.
 - (11) "Supervisors" means the board of supervisors of a

- soil conservation district, the directors of a grazing district, or the board of county commissioners if a request pursuant to 23-2-311(3)(b) is not within the boundaries of a conservation district or if the request is refused by the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district or the directors of a grazing district.
- 7 (12) "Surface water" means, for the purpose of 8 determining the public's access for recreational use, a 9 natural water body, its bed, and its banks up to the 10 ordinary high-water mark."
- Section 2. Section 23-2-302, MCA, is amended to read:

 "23-2-302. Recreational use permitted -- limitations
 -- exceptions. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2)
 through (5)(4), all surface waters that are capable of
 recreational use may be so used by the public without with
 regard to the ownership of the land underlying the waters.
 - (2) The right of the public to make recreational use of surface waters does not include, without permission or contractual arrangement with the landowner:
- 20 (a) the operation of all-terrain vehicles or other
 21 motorized vehicles not primarily designed for operation upon
 22 the water;
- 23 (b) the recreational use of surface waters in a stock
 24 pond or other private impoundment fed by an intermittently
 25 flowing natural watercourse;

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(ii) altering

by the commission;

23-2-301(10)+; or

1	(c) the recreational use of waters while diverted away
2	from a natural water body for beneficial use pursuant to
3	Title 85, chapter 2, part 2 or 3, except for impoundments or
4	diverted waters to which the owner has provided public
5	access;
6	(d)big-game-hunting-except-bylongboworshotgun
7	when-specifically-authorized-by-the-commission;
8	te)overnightcampingwithinsightof-any-occupied
9	dwelling-or-within500yardsofanyoccupieddwelling;
10	whichever-is-less;
11	(f)theplacementorcreation-of-any-permanent-duck
12	blindy-boat-mooragey-or-any-seasonal-or-other-objects-within
13	sight-of-orwithin500yardsofanoccupieddwelling;
14	whichever-is-less;-or
15	+g+(d) use of a streambed as a right-of-way for any
16	purpose when water is not flowing therein+;
17	(3)The-right-of-the-public-to-makerecreationaluse
18	ofclassII-waters-does-not-include;-without-permission-of
19	the-landowner:
20	<pre>{a}big-game-hunting;</pre>
21	<pre>tb)overmight-comping;</pre>
22	<pre>fc)the-placement-or-creation-of-any-seasonalobject;</pre>
23	or

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     of the underlying and adjoining privately owned land.
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          t4)(3) The right of the public to make recreational
     use of surface waters does not grant any easement or right
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     to the public to enter onto or cross private property in
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     order to use such waters for recreational purposes.
          (4) The commission shall adopt rules, pursuant to
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     87-1-303, in the interest of public health, public safety,
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     or the protection of public and private property, governing
      recreational use of class I and class II waters. These rules
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     must include the following:
          (a) the establishment of procedures by which any
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     person may request an order from the commission:
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(f) any activities that involve more than minimal use

(i) limiting, restricting, or prohibiting the type,

restrictions.

or

incidence, or extent of recreational use of a surface water:

prohibitions on recreational use of a surface water imposed

findings and a decision whenever a request is made pursuant

within class II waters which are not capable of recreational

to the rules adopted under subsection (5)(a); and

(b) provisions requiring the issuance of written

(c) a procedure for the identification of streams

limitations,

water-related pleasure activities

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td)(e) other activities which are not primarily

defined

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use or are capable of limited recreational use, and a procedure to restrict the recreational use to the actual capacity of the water.

- t6)(5) The provisions of this section do not affect any rights of the public with respect to state-owned lands that are school trust lands or any rights of lessees of such lands."
- Section 3. Section 23-2-311, MCA, is amended to read:

 "23-2-311. Right to portage -- establishment of
 portage route. (1) A member of the public making
 recreational use of surface waters may, above—the—ordinary
 high-water—mark as provided herein, portage around barriers
 in the least intrusive manner possible, avoiding damage to
 the landowner's land property and violation of his rights.
- (2) A landowner may create barriers across streams for purposes of land or water management or to establish land property ownership as otherwise provided by law. If a landowner erects a structure which does not interfere with the public's use of the surface waters, the public a portage route may not go be established above the ordinary high-water mark to portage around the structure.
- (3) (a) A portage route around or over a barrier may be--established--to-avoid-damage-to-the-landowner-s-land-and violation-of-his-rights7--as--well--as--to must provide a reasonable and safe route for the recreational user of the

surface waters.

- 2 (b) A portage route may be established when either a
 3 landowner or a--member--of--the--recreating--public the
 4 department submits a request to the supervisors that such a
 5 route be established.
 - (c) Within 45 days of the receipt of a request, the supervisors shall, in consultation with the landowner and a representative of the department, examine and investigate the barrier and the adjoining land to determine a reasonable and safe portage route and the compensation to be paid to the landowner.
- 12 (d) Within 45 days of the examination of the site, the 13 supervisors shall make a written finding of the most 14 appropriate portage route.
- (e) The cost--of--establishing compensation to the landowner for the portage route around artificial barriers must be borne by the involved--landownery--except--for--the construction--of--notification-signs-of-such-route; -which-is the--responsibility--of--the department. The---cost---of establishing--a-portage-route-around-artificial-barriers-not owned-by-the-landowner-on-whose-land-the-portage-route--will be-placed-must-be-borne-by-the-department-
 - (f) Once the route is established, the department has the exclusive responsibility thereafter to construct the portage route and to maintain the portage route at

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reasonable times agreeable to the landowner. The department shall post notices on the stream of the existence of the portage route and the public's obligation to use it as the exclusive means around a barrier.

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(q)--If-either-the-landowner-or-recreationist-disagrees
with--the--route--described--in--subsection--(3)(e)7--he-may
petition--the--district--court--to---name---a---three-member
arbitration--panel:--The--panel--must-consist-of-an-affected
landowner7-a-member-of-an-affected-recreational-group7-and-a
member-selected-by-the-two-other-members-of-the--arbitration
panel:--The--arbitration-panel-may-accept7-reject7-or-modify
the-supervisors1-finding-under-subsection-(3)(d):

(h)--The-determination--of--the--arbitration--panel--is binding-upon-the-landowner-and-upon-all-parties-that-use-the water--for--which--the--portage--is--provided;--Costs-of-the arbitration--panel;--computed--as--for--jurors!--fees--under 3-15-201;-shall-be-borne-by-the-contesting-party-or-parties; all-other-parties-shall-bear-their-own-costs;

ti)(g) The determination decision of the arbitration panel supervisors may be appealed within 30 days to the district court for trial de novo. If not appealed within 30 days, the decision is final.

(i) (h) Once a portage route is established, the public shall use the portage route as the exclusive means to portage around or over the barrier. 1 (4)--Nothing-contained-in-this-part-addresses-the-issue 2 of--natural--barriers--or--portage-around-said-barriers--and 3 nothing-contained-in-this-part-makes-such-portage-lawful--or 4 unlawfulr"

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the fish and game commission to make rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of this act.

9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 5. Effective date. This act is 10 effective on passage and approval.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM. ON NATURAL RESOURCES

2	INTRODUCED BY GALT, ELLISON, PINSONEAULT, KELLER, COBB,
3	HOFMAN, SEVERSON, HIRSCH, HAMMOND, BOYLAN, KEATING, SWIFT
4	
5	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REVISE THE STREAM
6	ACCESS LAW TO REMOVE PROVISIONS DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL;
7	TO REQUIRE RECREATIONAL USE TO BE EXERCISED WITH REGARD TO
8	LAND OWNERSHIP; TO REQUIRE LANDOWNER PERMISSION FOR
9	RECREATIONAL USE INVOLVING MORE THAN MINIMAL USE OF LAND; TO
10	REVISE PROVISIONS CONCERNING PORTAGE ROUTES; AMENDING
11	SECTIONS 23-2-301, 23-2-302, AND 23-2-311, MCA; AND
12	PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."
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14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
15	Section 1. Section 23-2-301, MCA, is amended to read:
16	"23-2-301. Definitions. For purposes of this part, the
17	following definitions apply:
18	(1) "Barrier" means an artificial obstruction located
19	in or over a water body, restricting passage on or through
20	the water, which totally or effectively obstructs the
21	recreational use of the surface water at the time of use. A
22	barrier may include but is not limited to a bridge or fence
23	or any other manmade obstacle to the natural flow of water.
24	(2) "Class I waters" means surface waters, other than
25	lakes, that:

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- 1 (a) lie within the officially recorded federal
 2 government survey meander lines thereof;
- 3 (b) flow over lands that have been judicially
 4 determined to be owned by the state by reason of application
 5 of the federal navigability test for state streambed
 6 ownership;
- (c) are or have been capable of supporting the 7 8 following commercial activities: log floating, 9 transportation of furs and skins, shipping, commercial 10 quiding using multiperson watercraft, public transportation, 11 or the transportation of merchandise, as these activities 12 have been defined by published judicial opinion as of April 13 19, 1985; or
- (d) are or have been capable of supporting commercial activity within the meaning of the federal navigability test for state streambed ownership.
- 17 (3) "Class II waters" means all surface waters that 18 are not class I waters, except lakes.
- 19 (4) "Commission" means the fish and game commission
 20 provided for in 2-15-3402.
- 21 (5) "Department" means the department of fish, 22 wildlife, and parks provided for in 2-15-3401.
- 23 (6) "Diverted away from a natural water body" means a
 24 diversion of surface water through a manmade water
 25 conveyance system, including but not limited to:

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- 1 (a) an irrigation or drainage canal or ditch:
- 2 (b) an industrial, municipal, or domestic water
 3 system, excluding the lake, stream, or reservoir from which
 4 the system obtains water:
 - (c) a flood control channel; or

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- (d) a hydropower inlet and discharge facility.
- (7) "Lake" means a body of water where the surface water is retained by either natural or artificial means and the natural flow of water is substantially impeded.
- 10 (8) "Occupied dwelling" means a building used for a
 11 human dwelling at least once a year.
 - (9) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the line that water impresses on land by covering it for sufficient periods to cause physical characteristics that distinguish the area below the line from the area above it. Characteristics of the area below the line include, when appropriate, but are not limited to deprivation of the soil of substantially all terrestrial vegetation and destruction of its agricultural vegetative value. A flood plain adjacent to surface waters is not considered to lie within the surface waters' high-water marks.
- 22 (10) "Recreational use" means with respect to surface
 23 waters, unless otherwise prohibited or regulated by law:
 24 fishing, hunting; swimming, floating in small craft or other
 25 flotation devices, boating in motorized craft unless

otherwise-prohibited-or-regulated-by-law, or craft propelled by oar or paddle, other water-related pleasure activities, and minimal and related unavoidable or incidental uses necessary for the use of the water.

(11) "Supervisors" means the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district, the directors of a grazing district, or the board of county commissioners if a request pursuant to 23-2-311(3)(b) is not within the boundaries of a conservation district or if the request is refused by the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district or the directors of a grazing district.

12 (12) "Surface water" means, for the purpose of 13 determining the public's access for recreational use, a 14 natural water body, its bed, and its banks up to the 15 ordinary high-water mark."

Section 2. Section 23-2-302, MCA, is amended to read:

"23-2-302. Recreational use permitted -- limitations

-- exceptions. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2)

through (5)(4), all surface waters that are capable of

recreational use may be so used by the public without with

regard to the ownership of the land underlying the waters.

- 22 (2) The right of the public to make recreational use 23 of surface waters does not include, without permission or 24 contractual arrangement with the landowner:
- 25 (a) the operation of all-terrain vehicles or other

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tb}--overnight-camping;

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(ii) altering

by the commission;

1	motorized vehicles not primarily designed for operation upon
2	the water;
3	(b) the recreational use of surface waters in a stock
4	pond or other private impoundment fed by an intermittently
5	flowing natural watercourse;
6	(c) the recreational use of waters while diverted away
7	from a natural water body for beneficial use pursuant to
8	Title 85, chapter 2, part 2 or 3, except for impoundments or
9	diverted waters to which the owner has provided public
10	access;
11	(d)big-game-hunting-except-bylongboworshotgun
12	when-specifically-authorized-by-the-commission;
13	<pre>fe}overnightcampingwithinsightof-any-occupied</pre>
14	dwelling-or-within500yardsofanyoccupieddwelling,
15	whichever-is-less;
16	<pre>(f)theplacementorcreation-of-any-permanent-duck</pre>
17	blind,-boat-moorage,-or-any-seasonal-or-other-objects-within
18	sight-of-orwithin500yardsofanoccupieddwelling,
19	whichever-is-less;-or
20	tg $+(d)$ use of a streambed as a right-of-way for any
21	purpose when water is not flowing therein+;
22	(3)The-right-of-the-public-to-makerecreationaluse
23	ofclassII-waters-does-not-include;-without-permission-of

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the-landowner:

ta)--big-game-hunting;

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2	<pre>{c}the-placement-or-creation-of-any-seasonalobject;</pre>
3	or
4	<pre>(d)(e) other activities which are not primarily</pre>
5	water-related pleasure activities as defined in
6	23-2-301(10)+; or
7	(f) any activities that involve more than minimal use
8	of the underlying and adjoining privately owned land.
9	(4) The right of the public to make recreational
10	use of surface waters does not grant any easement or right
11	to the public to enter onto or cross private property in
12	order to use such waters for recreational purposes.
13	(5) The commission shall adopt rules, pursuant to
14	87-1-303, in the interest of public health, public safety,
15	or the protection of public and private property, governing
16	recreational use of class I and class II waters. These rules
17	must include the following:
18	(a) the establishment of procedures by which any
19	person may request an order from the commission:
20	(i) limiting, restricting, or prohibiting the type,
21	incidence, or extent of recreational use of a surface water;
22	or

limitations,

prohibitions on recreational use of a surface water imposed

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restrictions,

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(b) provisions requiring the issuance of written findings and a decision whenever a request is made pursuant to the rules adopted under subsection (5)(a); and

- (c) a procedure for the identification of streams within class II waters which are not capable of recreational use or are capable of limited recreational use, and a procedure to restrict the recreational use to the actual capacity of the water.
- (6)(5) The provisions of this section do not affect any rights of the public with respect to state-owned lands that are school trust lands or any rights of lessees of such lands."
- Section 3. Section 23-2-311, MCA, is amended to read:

 "23-2-311. Right to portage -- establishment of
 portage route. (1) A member of the public making
 recreational use of surface waters may, above--the--ordinary
 high-water--mark as provided herein, portage around barriers
 in the least intrusive manner possible, avoiding damage to
 the landowner's land property and violation of his rights.
- (2) A landowner may create barriers across streams for purposes of land or water management or to establish land property ownership as otherwise provided by law. If a landowner erects a structure which does not interfere with the public's use of the surface waters, the public a portage route may not go be established above the ordinary

- high-water mark to portage around the structure.
- 2 (3) (a) A portage route around or over a barrier may
 3 be--established--to-avoid-damage-to-the-landowner's-land-and
 4 violation-of-his-rightsy--as--well--as--to must provide a
 5 reasonable and safe route for the recreational user of the
 6 surface waters.
 - (b) A portage route may be established when either a landowner or a-member-of-the-recreating-public the department submits a request to the supervisors that such a route be established.
 - (c) Within 45 days of the receipt of a request, the supervisors shall, in consultation with the landowner and a representative of the department, examine and investigate the barrier and the adjoining land to determine a reasonable and safe portage route and the compensation to be paid to the landowner.
- 17 (d) Within 45 days of the examination of the site, the
 18 supervisors shall make a written finding of the most
 19 appropriate portage route.
 - (e) The cost--of--establishing compensation to the landowner for the portage route around artificial barriers must be borne by the involved--landowner; --except--for--the construction--of--notification-signs-of-such-route; -which-is the--responsibility--of--the department. The---cost---of establishing--a-portage-route-around-artificial-barriers-not

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owned-by-the-landowner-on-whose-land-the-portage-route--will be-placed-must-be-borne-by-the-department:

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- (f) Once the route is established, the department has the exclusive responsibility thereafter to construct the portage route and to maintain the portage route at reasonable times agreeable to the landowner. The department shall post notices on the stream of the existence of the portage route and the public's obligation to use it as the exclusive means around a barrier.
- (g)--If-either-the-landowner-or-recreationist-disagrees
 with--the--route--described--in--subsection--(3)(e)7--he-may
 petition--the--district--court--to---name---a---three-member
 arbitration--panel---The--panel--must-consist-of-an-affected
 landowner7-a-member-of-an-affected-recreational-group7-and-a
 member-selected-by-the-two-other-members-of-the--arbitration
 panel---The--arbitration-panel-may-accept7-reject7-or-modify
 the-supervisors--finding-under-subsection-(3)(d)7
- (h)--The-determination--of--the--arbitration--panel--is binding-upon-the-landowner-and-upon-all-parties-that-use-the water--for--which--the--portage--is--provided---Costs-of-the arbitration--panely--computed--as--for--jurors---fees--under 3-15-2017-shall-be-borne-by-the-contesting-party-or-parties; all-other-parties-shall-bear-their-own-costs-
- fi)(g) The determination decision of the arbitration panel supervisors may be appealed within 30 days to the

district court for trial de novo. If not appealed within 30
days, the decision is final.

3 (f)(h) Once a portage route is established, the public 4 shall use the portage route as the exclusive means to 5 portage around or over the barrier.

(4)--Nothing-contained-in-this-part-addresses-the-issue
of--natural--barriers--or--portage-around-said-barriers--and
nothing-contained-in-this-part-makes-such-portage-lawful--or
unlawful-"

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Extension of authority. Any
existing authority of the fish and game commission to make
rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is
extended to the provisions of this act.

NEW SECTION. Section 5. Effective date. This act is effective on passage and approval.

-End-

1	SENATE BILL NO. 286
2	INTRODUCED BY GALT, ELLISON, PINSONEAULT, KELLER,
3	COBB, HOFMAN, SEVERSON, HIRSCH, HAMMOND, BOYLAN,
4	KEATING, SWIFT, SPAETH
5	
6	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REVISE THE STREAM
7	ACCESS LAW TO REMOVE PROVISIONS DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL;
8	TO-REQUIRE-RECREATIONAL-USE-TO-BE-EXERCISED-WITH-REGARDTO
9	LANDOWNERSHIP;TOREQUIRELANDOWNERPERMISSIONPOR
10	RECREATIONAL-USE-INVOLVING-MORE-THAN-MINIMAL-USE-OF-LAND; TO
11	REVISE PROVISIONS CONCERNING PORTAGE ROUTES; AMENDING
12	SECTIONS 23-2-301, 23-2-302, AND 23-2-311, MCA; AND
13	PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."
14	
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
16	(Refer to Second Reading Bill)
17	Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:
18	Section 1. Section 23-2-302, MCA, is amended to read:
19	"23-2-302. Recreational use permitted limitations
20	exceptions. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2)
21	through (5), all surface waters that are capable of
22	recreational use may be so used by the public without regard
23	to the ownership of the land underlying the waters.

of surface waters does not include, without permission or

2	(a) the operation of all-terrain vehicles or other
3	motorized vehicles not primarily designed for operation upo
4	the water;
5	(b) the recreational use of surface waters in a stoc
6	pond or other private impoundment fed by an intermittentl
7	flowing natural watercourse;
8	(c) the recreational use of waters while diverted awa
9	from a natural water body for beneficial use pursuant to
10	Title 85, chapter 2, part 2 or 3, except for impoundments o
11	diverted waters to which the owner has provided public
12	access;
13	(d) big game hunting exceptby-long-bow-or-shotgum
14	when-specifically-authorized-by-the-commission;
15	<pre>fe)overnight-camping-withinsightofanyoccupie</pre>
16	dwellingorwithin500yardsofany-occupied-dwelling
17	whichever-is-less;
18	<pre>ff)(e) the placement or creation of any permanent duck</pre>
19	blind, boat moorage, or any-seasonal-or-other-objects-within
20	sight-of-orwithin500yardsofanoccupieddwelling;
21	whichever-is-less other permanent object; or
22	(g)(f) use of a streambed as a right-of-way for any
23	purpose when water is not flowing therein.

contractual arrangement with the landowner:



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(3) The right of the public to make recreational use of class II waters does not include, without permission of

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1 the landowner:

- 2 (a) big game hunting;
- 3 (b) overnight camping;
- 4 (c) the placement or creation of any seasonal object;
- 5 or
- 6 (d) other activities which are not primarily
 7 water-related pleasure activities as defined in
 8 23-2-301(10).
- 9 (4) The right of the public to make recreational use 10 of surface waters does not grant any easement or right to 11 the public to enter onto or cross private property in order 12 to use such waters for recreational purposes.
- 13 (5) The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to 14 87-1-303, in the interest of public health, public safety,
- or the protection of public and private property, governing
- 16 recreational use of class I and class II waters. These rules
- 17 must include the following:
- 18 (a) the establishment of procedures by which any
 19 person management an order from the commission:
- (i) limiting, restricting, or prohibiting the type,incidence, or extent of recreational use of a surface water;
- 22 or
- 23 (ii) altering limitations, restrictions, or
- 24 prohibitions on recreational use of a surface water imposed

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25 by the commission;

- 1 (b) provisions requiring the issuance of written 2 findings and a decision whenever a request is made pursuant 3 to the rules adopted under subsection (5)(a); and
- 4 (c) a procedure for the identification of streams
 5 within class II waters which are not capable of recreational
 6 use or are capable of limited recreational use, and a
 7 procedure to restrict the recreational use to the actual
 8 capacity of the water.
- 9 (6) The provisions of this section do not affect any 10 rights of the public with respect to state-owned lands that 11 are school trust lands or any rights of lessees of such 12 lands."
- Section 2. Section 23-2-311, MCA, is amended to read:

 "23-2-311. Right to portage -- establishment of

 portage route. (1) A member of the public making

 recreational use of surface waters may, above the ordinary

 high-water mark, portage around barriers in the least

 intrusive manner possible, avoiding damage to the

 landowner's land and violation of his rights.
- 20 (2) A landowner may create barriers across streams for
 21 purposes of land or water management or to establish land
 22 ownership as otherwise provided by law. If a landowner
 23 erects a structure which does not interfere with the
 24 public's use of the surface waters, the public may not go
 25 above the ordinary high-water mark to portage around the

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structure.

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- (3) (a) A portage route around or over a barrier may be established to avoid damage to the landowner's land and violation of his rights, as well as to provide a reasonable and safe route for the recreational user of the surface waters.
- (b) A portage route may be established when either a landowner or a member of the recreating public submits a request to the supervisors that such a route be established.
- (c) Within 45 days of the receipt of a request, the supervisors shall, in consultation with the landowner and a representative of the department, examine and investigate the barrier and the adjoining land to determine a reasonable and safe portage route.
- (d) Within 45 days of the examination of the site, the supervisors shall make a written finding of the most appropriate portage route.
- {e} The cost of establishing the portage route around artificial barriers must be borne by the involved-landowner; except--for--the--construction-of-notification-signs-of-such route; which-is-the-responsibility-of--the department. The cost of establishing a portage route around artificial barriers not owned by the landowner on whose land the portage route will be placed must be borne by the department.

- (f) Once the route is established, the department has the exclusive responsibility thereafter to construct and to maintain the portage route at reasonable times agreeable to the landowner. The department shall post notices on the stream of the existence of the portage route and the public's obligation to use it as the exclusive means around a barrier.
- (q) If either the landowner or recreationist disagrees 9 with the route described in subsection (3)(e), he may 10 petition the district court to name a three-member 11 arbitration panel. The panel must consist of an affected landowner, a member of an affected recreational group, and a 12 13 member selected by the two other members of the arbitration panel. The arbitration panel may accept, reject, or modify 14 the supervisors' finding under subsection (3)(d). 15
- 16 (h) The determination of the arbitration panel is
 17 binding upon the landowner and upon all parties that use the
 18 water for which the portage is provided. Costs of the
 19 arbitration panel, computed as for jurors' fees under
 20 3-15-201, shall be borne by the contesting party or parties;
 21 all other parties shall bear their own costs.
- (i) The determination of the arbitration panel may beappealed within 30 days to the district court.
- (j) Once a portage route is established, the public
 shall use the portage route as the exclusive means to

1 portage around or over the barrier.

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- (4) Nothing contained in this part addresses the issue of natural barriers or portage around said barriers, and nothing contained in this part makes such portage lawful or unlawful.*
- NEW SECTION. Section 3. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the fish and game commission to make rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of this act.
- 10 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 4. Effective date. This act is 11 effective on passage and approval.

-End-

T	SENATE BILL NO. 286
2	INTRODUCED BY GALT, ELLISON, PINSONEAULT, KELLER,
3	COBB, HOFMAN, SEVERSON, HIRSCH, HAMMOND, BOYLAN,
4	KEATING, SWIFT, SPAETH
5	
6	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REVISE THE STREAM
7	ACCESS LAW TO REMOVE PROVISIONS DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL;
8	TO-REQUIRE-RECREATIONAL-USE-TO-BE-EXERCISED-WITHREGARDTO
9	bandownership;worequirebandownerpermissionpor
10	RECREATIONAL-USE-INVOLVING-MORE-THAN-MINIMAL-USE-OF-LAND; TO
11	REVISE CLARIFY PROVISIONS CONCERNING PORTAGE ROUTES;
12	AMENDING SECTIONS 29-2-301, 23-2-301, 23-2-3027, AND
13	23-2-311, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."
14	
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
16	(Refer to Second Reading Bill)
17	Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:
18	SECTION 1. SECTION 23-2-301, MCA, IS AMENDED TO READ:
19	"23-2-301. Definitions. For purposes of this part, the
20	following definitions apply:
21	(1) "Barrier" means an artificial obstruction located
22	in or over a water body, restricting passage on or through
23	the water, which totally or effectively obstructs the
24	recreational use of the surface water at the time of use. A
25	harrier may include but is not limited to a bridge or fence

- or any other manmade obstacle to the natural flow of water. 1
- 2 (2) "Class I waters" means surface waters, other than
- lakes, that:
- (a) lie within the officially recorded federal 4
- government survey meander lines thereof;
- 5 (b) flow over lands that have been judicially
- determined to be owned by the state by reason of application 7
- the federal navigability test for state streambed 8
- 9 ownership;
- 10 (c) are or have been capable of supporting
- following 11 commercial activities: floating,
- transportation of furs and skins, shipping, commercial 12
- guiding using multiperson watercraft, public transportation, 13
- or the transportation of merchandise, as these activities 14
- have been defined by published judicial opinion as of April 15
- 16 19, 1985; or
- (d) are or have been capable of supporting commercial 17
- activity within the meaning of the federal navigability test 18
- 19 for state streambed ownership.
- 20 (3) "Class II waters" means all surface waters that
- 21 are not class I waters, except lakes.
- (4) "Commission" means the fish and game commission 22
- 23 provided for in 2-15-3402.
- (5) "Department" means the department of 24 fish,
- wildlife, and parks provided for in 2-15-3401.

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- (6) "Diverted away from a natural water body" means a diversion of surface water through a manmade conveyance system, including but not limited to:
- (a) an irrigation or drainage canal or ditch;
- 5 (b) an industrial, municipal, or domestic water system, excluding the lake, stream, or reservoir from which 6 7 the system obtains water:
 - (c) a flood control channel; or

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- (d) a hydropower inlet and discharge facility.
- 10 (7) "Lake" means a body of water where the surface 11 water is retained by either natural or artificial means and the natural flow of water is substantially impeded. 12
 - (8) "Occupied dwelling" means a building used for a human dwelling at least once a year.
 - (9) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the line that water impresses on land by covering it for sufficient periods to cause physical characteristics that distinguish the area below the line from the area above it. Characteristics of the area below the line include, when appropriate, but are not limited to deprivation of the soil of substantially all terrestrial vegetation and destruction of its agricultural vegetative value. A flood plain adjacent to surface waters is not considered to lie within the surface waters' high-water marks.
- 25 (10) "Recreational use" means with respect to surface

- waters, unless otherwise prohibited or regulated by law: 1 fishing, hunting waterfowl, swimming, floating in small craft or other flotation devices, boating in motorized craft unless-otherwise-prohibited-or-regulated-by--law; or craft propelled by oar or paddle, other water-related pleasure activities, and related unavoidable or incidental uses.
 - (11) "Supervisors" means the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district, the directors of a grazing district, or the board of county commissioners if a request pursuant to 23-2-311(3)(b) is not within the boundaries of a conservation district or if the request is refused by the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district or the directors of a grazing district.
- (12) "Surface water" means, for the purpose of 14 15 determining the public's access for recreational use, a natural water body, its bed, and its banks up to the 16 17 ordinary high-water mark."
- Section 2. Section 23-2-302, MCA, is amended to read: 18 19 "23-2-302. Recreational use permitted -- limitations 20 -- exceptions. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) through (5), all surface waters that are capable of 21 recreational use may be so used by the public without regard 22 23 to the ownership of the land underlying the waters. HOWEVER, ANY USE OF THE BED AND BANKS MUST BE OF MINIMAL IMPACT AND 24
- NECESSARY FOR UTILIZATION OF THE WATER ITSELF. 25

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	(2)	The	right	of the	public	to make	recreational	use
of s	urfac	e wat	ers doe	s not i	nclude,	without	t permission	or
contractual arrangement with the landowner:								

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- (a) the operation of all-terrain vehicles or other motorized vehicles not primarily designed for operation upon the water;
- 7 (b) the recreational use of surface waters in a stock 8 pond or other private impoundment fed by an intermittently 9 flowing natural watercourse;
 - (c) the recreational use of waters while diverted away from a natural water body for beneficial use pursuant to Title 85, chapter 2, part 2 or 3, except for impoundments or diverted waters to which the owner has provided public access;
 - (d) big-game hunting except-by-long-bow-or-shotgun when-specifically-authorized-by-the-commission; EXCEPT WATERFOWL HUNTING. THIS SUBSECTION (D) DOES NOT REQUIRE PERMISSION OF THE LANDOWNER UNLESS PERMISSION IS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY 45-6-201 AND 45-6-203 OR BY 87-3-304.
- 20 (e)--overnight-camping-within--sight--of--any--occupied
 21 dwelling--or--within--500--yards--of--any-occupied-dwelling;
 22 whichever-is-less;
- 23 (f)(e) the placement or creation of any permanent OR
 24 SEASONAL duck blind, boat moorage, or any-seasonal-or-other
 25 objects-within-sight-of-or-within-500-yards-of--an--occupied

1	dwelling; -whichever-is-less	other	permanent	<u>object</u> ;	or

- 2 tgf(f) use of a streambed as a right-of-way for any
 3 purpose when water is not flowing therein;
- 4 (G) CAMPFIRES, EXCEPT PORTABLE STOVES, UNLESS MANDATED
 5 BY AN EMERGENCY:
- 6 (H) OVERNIGHT CAMPING, UNLESS IT IS NECESSARY FOR
- 7 UTILIZATION OF THE WATER ITSELF AND UNLESS IT DOES NOT OCCUR
- 8 WITHIN SIGHT OR 500 YARDS OF AN OCCUPIED DWELLING; OR
- 9 (I) OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE NOT PRIMARILY
- 10 WATER-RELATED PLEASURE ACTIVITIES AS PROVIDED FOR IN
- 11 23-2-301(10).
- 12 (3) The right of the public to make recreational use
 13 of class II waters does not include, OVERNIGHT CAMPING
- 14 without permission of the landowner:

- 17 {c}--the--placement-or-creation-of-any-seasonal-object;
- 18 or
- 19 (d)--other---activities---which---are---not---primarily
- 20 water-related----pleasure----activities----as---defined---in
- 21 23-2-301(10).
- 22 (4) The right of the public to make recreational use
- 23 of surface waters does not grant any easement or right to
- 24 the public to enter onto or cross private property in order
- 25 to use such waters for recreational purposes.

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(5) The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to 87-1-303, in the interest of public health, public safety, or the protection of public and private property, governing recreational use of class I and class II waters. These rules must include the following:

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- (a) the establishment of procedures by which any
 person may request an order from the commission:
- 8 (i) limiting, restricting, or prohibiting the type,
 9 incidence, or extent of recreational use of a surface water;
 10 or
- 11 (ii) altering limitations, restrictions, or 12 prohibitions on recreational use of a surface water imposed 13 by the commission:
- 14 (b) provisions requiring the issuance of written 15 findings and a decision whenever a request is made pursuant 16 to the rules adopted under subsection (5)(a); and
 - (c) a procedure for the identification of streams within class II waters which are not capable of recreational use or are capable of limited recreational use, and a procedure to restrict the recreational use to the actual capacity of the water.
- 22 (6) The provisions of this section do not affect any 23 rights of the public with respect to state-owned lands that 24 are school trust lands or any rights of lessees of such 25 lands."

- Section 3. Section 23-2-311, MCA, is amended to read:

 "23-2-311. Right to portage -- establishment of

 portage route. (1) A member of the public making

 recreational use of surface waters may, above the ordinary

 high-water mark, portage around barriers in the least

 intrusive manner possible, avoiding damage to the

 landowner's land and violation of his rights.
 - (2) A landowner may create barriers across streams for purposes of land or water management or to establish land ownership as otherwise provided by law. If a landowner erects a structure which does not interfere with the public's use of the surface waters, the public may not go above the ordinary high-water mark to portage around the structure.
- 15 (3) (a) A portage route around or over a barrier may
 16 be established to avoid damage to the landowner's land and
 17 violation of his rights, as well as to provide a reasonable
 18 and safe route for the recreational user of the surface
 19 waters.
 - (b) A portage route may be established when either a landowner or a member of the recreating public submits a request to the supervisors that such a route be established.
- 23 (c) Within 45 days of the receipt of a request, the 24 supervisors shall, in consultation with the landowner and a 25 representative of the department, examine and investigate

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the barrier and the adjoining land to determine a reasonable and safe portage route.

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- (d) Within 45 days of the examination of the site, the supervisors shall make a written finding of the most appropriate portage route.
- (e) The cost of establishing the portage route around artificial barriers, WHETHER OR NOT THE LANDOWNER OWNS THE BARRIER, must be borne by the involved-landowner, except-for the-construction-of-notification-signs-of-such-route, which is-the-responsibility-of-the department. The-cost-of establishing-a-portage-route-around-artificial-barriers-not owned-by-the-landowner-on-whose-land-the-portage-route-will be-placed-must-be-borne-by-the-department.
- (f) Once the route is established, the department has the exclusive responsibility thereafter to construct and to maintain the portage route at reasonable times agreeable to the landowner. The department shall post notices on the stream of the existence of the portage route and the public's obligation to use it as the exclusive means around a barrier.
- 21 (g) If either the landowner or recreationist disagrees
 22 with the route described in subsection (3) (e) (D), he may
 23 petition the district court to name a three-member
 24 arbitration panel. The panel must consist of an affected
 25 landowner, a member of an affected recreational group, and a

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- member selected by the two other members of the arbitration panel. The arbitration panel may accept, reject, or modify the supervisors' finding under subsection (3)(d).
- 4 (h) The determination of the arbitration panel is 5 binding upon the landowner and upon all parties that use the 6 water for which the portage is provided. Costs of the 7 arbitration panel, computed as for jurors' fees under 8 3-15-201, shall be borne by the contesting party or parties; 9 all other parties shall bear their own costs.
- 10 (i) The determination of the arbitration panel may be
 11 appealed within 30 days to the district court.
- 12 (j) Once a portage route is established, the public 13 shall use the portage route as the exclusive means to 14 portage around or over the barrier.
- 15 (4) Nothing contained in this part addresses the issue 16 of natural barriers or portage around said barriers, and 17 nothing contained in this part makes such portage lawful or 18 unlawful."
- NEW SECTION. Section 4. Extension of authority. Any existing authority of the fish and game commission to make rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is extended to the provisions of this act.
- NEW SECTION. Section 5. Effective date. This act is effective on passage and approval.

-End-

_	MARCH 27, 19 87	
/e, the committee onJUDICIARY		
BILL NO. 286		

do pass do not pass

Mr. Speaker: W

report SENATE

₩ be concurred in De not concurred in * as amended

statement of intent attached

Ealer Long

AMENDMENTS TO SB 286. PROPOSED BY SUBCOMMITTEE OF HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

1. Title, line 11. Strike: "REVISE" Insert: "CLARIFY"

2. Title, line 12. Following: "23-2-301-" Insert: "23-2-301." Following: "23-2-3027" Insert: ","

3. Page 1, line 18.

Following: line 17
Insert: ""Section 1. Section 23-2-301, MCA, is amended to read: *23-2-301. Definitions. For purposes of this part, the

following definitions apply: (1) "Barrier" means an artificial obstruction located in or over a water body, restricting passage on or through the water, which totally or effectively obstructs the recreational use of the surface water at the time of use. A barrier may include but is not limited to a bridge or fence or any other manmade obstacle to the natural flow of water.

(2) "Class I waters" means surface waters, other than

lakes, that:

(a) lie within the officially recorded federal government survey meander lines thereof;

(b) flow over lands that have been judicially determined to be owned by the state by reason of application of the federal navigability test for state streambed ownership;

(c) are or have been capable of supporting the following commercial activities: log floating, transportation of furs and skins, shipping, commercial guiding using multiperson watercraft, public transportation, or the transportation of merchandise, as these activities have been defined by published judicial opinion as of April 19, 1985;

PAGE	T	WO	•
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(d) are or have been capable of supporting commercial activity within the meaning of the federal navigability test for state streambed ownership.

(3) "Class II waters" means all surface waters that are

not class I waters, except lakes.

(4) "Commission" means the fish and game commission provided for in 2-15-3402.

(5) "Department" means the department of fish, wild-

life, and parks provided for in 2-15-3401.

(6) "Diverted away from a natural water body" means a diversion of surface water through a manmade water conveyance system, including but not limited to:

(a) an irrigation or drainage canal or ditch;

(b) an industrial, municipal, or domestic water system, excluding the lake, stream, or reservoir from which the system obtains water;

channel; control (c) a flood

(d) a hydropower inlet and discharge facility.

(7) "Lake" means a body of water where the surface water is retained by either natural or artificial means and the natural flow of water is substantially impeded.

(8) "Occupied dwelling" means a building used for a

human dwelling at least once a year.

(9) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the line that water impresses on land by covering it for sufficient periods to cause physical characteristics that distinguish the area below the line from the area above it. Characteristics of the area below the line include, when appropriate, but are not limited to deprivation of the soil of substantially all terrestrial vegetation and destruction of its agricultural vegetative value. A flood plain adjacent to surface waters is not considered to lie within the surface waters' high-water marks.

(10) "Recreational use" means with respect to surface waters, unless otherwise prohibited or regulated by law: fishing, hunting waterford, swimming, floating in small craft or other flotation devices, boating in motorized craft unless-etherwise-prohibited-or-regulated-by-law, or craft propelled by oar or paddle, other water-related pleasure activities, and related unavoidable or incidental uses.

(11) "Supervisors" means the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district, the directors of a grazing district, or the board of county commissioners if a request pursuant to 23-2-311(3)(b) is not within the boundaries of a conservation district or if the request is refused by the board of supervisors of a soil conservation district or the directors of a grazing district.

(12) "Surface water" means, for the purpose of determining the public's access for recreational use, a natural water body, its bed, and its banks up to the ordinary high-water mark.""

Renumber: subsequent sections

4. Page 1, line 23. Following: "waters."

Insert: "However, any use of the bed and banks must be of minimal impact and necessary for utilization of the water itself."

5. Page 2, line 13. Strike: "big game"

Page 2, line 14.

Following: "earmission"
Strike: ";"
Insert: ", except waterfowl hunting. This subsection (d) does not require permission of the landowner unless permission is otherwise required by 45-6-201 and 45-6-203 or by 87-3-304."

7. Page 2, line 18. Following: "permanent" Insert: "or seasonal"

8. Page 2, line 21. Strike: "permanent" Strike: "or"

9. Page 2, line 23. Following: "therein" Strike: "."

Insert: ": (g) campfires, except portable stoves, unless mandated

by an emergency;

(h) overnight camping, unless it is necessary for utilization of the water itself and unless it does not occur within sight or 500 yards of an occupied dwelling; or

(i) other activities which are not primarily water-related pleasure activities as provided for in 23-2-301(10)."

10. Page 2, line 25. Following: "include" Strike: ","

Insert: ""overnight camping" 11. Page 3, lines 1 through 8. Following: "landowner" on line 1 Strike: ":" on line 1 through "23-2-301(10)" on line 8 12. Page 5, line 19. Following: "barriers" Insert: ", whether or not the landowner owns the barrier,"

Strike: "The" on line 21 through end of line 25

14. Page 6, line 9. Strike: "(e)" Insert: "(d)"

13. Page 5, lines 21 through 25.

