

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26

Introduced by Cohen, et al.

2/14	Introduced
2/15	Referred to Fish & Game
2/16	Hearing
2/17	Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended
2/21	2nd Reading Passed
2/22	3rd Reading Passed

Transmitted to Senate

2/28	Referred to Fish & Game
3/09	Hearing
	Died in Committee

1 ~~HOUSE~~ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26  
2 INTRODUCED BY John Connelly Moore Pearson  
3 Harriet Carney Supers W Ed Brown  
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA DIRECTING THE STATE  
6 FORESTER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH,  
7 WILDLIFE, AND PARKS TO WORK COOPERATIVELY TO DEVELOP AND  
8 IMPLEMENT STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF  
9 STATE FOREST LANDS IN THE SWAN RIVER DRAINAGE AND THE NORTH  
10 FORK OF THE FLATHEAD RIVER DRAINAGE TO PROVIDE FOR TIMBER  
11 MANAGEMENT CONSISTENT WITH THE LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF  
12 WHITE-TAILED DEER HABITAT.

14 WHEREAS, white-tailed deer populations in the mountains  
15 and valleys of the Swan River and the North Fork of the  
16 Flathead River are vital to the quality of life of area  
17 residents, and these areas are renowned statewide and  
18 nationwide for their hunting opportunities; and

19 WHEREAS, the habitat components of these populations  
20 are well understood and include significant and crucial  
21 acreage on lands comprising the Swan River State Forest in  
22 the Swan River Valley and the Coal Creek State Forest in the  
23 North Fork Valley; and

24 WHEREAS, the major federal, state, and private  
25 landowners in these areas have adjusted some of their timber

1 harvest plans to maintain and enhance habitat for  
2 white-tailed deer; and

3           WHEREAS, continued care in management is needed to  
4 ensure that healthy and productive populations of  
5 white-tailed deer and other wildlife species are sustained  
6 in the future; and

7           WHEREAS, profitable timber management in the Swan River  
8   and Coal Creek State Forests can be conducted while  
9   retaining significant amounts of crucial habitat components,  
10   including old-growth forests; and

11           WHEREAS, Montana receives substantial economic benefits  
12   from hunting, outfitting, tourism, and other activities  
13   related to white-tailed deer and other wildlife, and these  
14   economic benefits, in the form of increased property values  
15   and tax base, provide considerable support to public  
16   education.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
19 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

20 That the State Forester and the Director of the  
21 Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks are urged to work  
22 cooperatively to develop and implement standards and  
23 guidelines for state forest lands in the drainages of the  
24 Swan River and the North Fork of the Flathead River that  
25 will provide for timber management consistent with the

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1 long-term conservation of the diverse habitat needed by  
2 white-tailed deer.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature finds that  
4 management of these lands in a manner that optimizes timber  
5 and wildlife goals and provides for productive, long-term  
6 management of each resource is the most beneficial way for  
7 Montana to meet its constitutional obligations related to  
8 school trust revenues and environmental conservation.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the success of such  
10 efforts on state forest land in the drainages of the Swan  
11 River and the North Fork of the Flathead River should  
12 encourage the State Forester and the Director of the  
13 Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks to undertake similar  
14 cooperative efforts for the management of timber and  
15 wildlife resources on other forest lands.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMM.  
ON FISH AND GAME

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26  
INTRODUCED BY COHEN, CONNELLY, MOORE,  
REAM, GERVAIS, HARP, RANEY, DEMARS,  
DEBRUYCKER, STRIZICH, PIPINICH, B. BROWN

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA ~~DIRECTING THE STATE  
FORESTER--AND--THE--DIRECTOR--OF--THE--DEPARTMENT--OF--FISH,  
WILDLIFE,--AND--PARKS--TO--WORK--COOPERATIVELY--TO--DEVELOP--AND  
IMPLEMENT--STANDARDS--AND--GUIDELINES--FOR--THE--MANAGEMENT--OF  
STATE--FOREST--LANDS--IN--THE--SWAN--RIVER--DRAINAGE--AND--THE--NORTH  
FORK--OF--THE--FLATHEAD--RIVER--DRAINAGE--TO--PROVIDE--FOR--TIMBER  
MANAGEMENT--CONSISTENT--WITH--THE--LONG--TERM--CONSERVATION--OF  
WHITE-TAILED-DEER-HABITAT.~~ DIRECTING THE STATE FORESTER TO  
MANAGE STATE FOREST LANDS TO CONSERVE WILDLIFE AND FISH  
HABITATS FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL TRUST  
FUND AND THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA; AND DIRECTING  
THE STATE FORESTER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS TO WORK COOPERATIVELY TO DEVELOP  
AND IMPLEMENT STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR MANAGING FISH AND  
WILDLIFE HABITATS ON STATE FOREST LANDS.

(Refer to Introduced Bill)

Strike everything after the title and insert:

WHEREAS, the Department of State Lands is directed to

manage state lands for the support of the public school  
trust fund and, pursuant to section 77-1-202, MCA, "for the  
attainment of other worthy objects helpful to the well-being  
of the people of this state"; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks is  
directed under the laws of the State of Montana to provide  
for the protection, preservation, and management of wildlife  
and fish within the state; and

WHEREAS, both departments desire to work together for  
the common purpose of developing, maintaining, and managing  
all of the wildlife and fish resources on forest lands  
administered by the Department of State Lands for the best  
interests of the public school trust fund and the people of  
Montana; and

WHEREAS, Montana receives substantial economic benefits  
from hunting, outfitting, tourism, and other activity  
related to wildlife and fish, and these economic benefits,  
in the form of increased property values and tax base,  
provide considerable support to public education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the State Forester manage state forest lands to  
conserve wildlife and fish habitats for the best interests  
of the public school trust fund and of the people of Montana

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1 to the extent permitted and required by federal and state  
2 laws and regulations and the principles of multiple-use  
3 management.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Forester and the  
5 Director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks work  
6 cooperatively to develop and implement standards and  
7 guidelines for managing fish and wildlife habitats on state  
8 forest lands.

-End-

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA ~~DIRECTING THE STATE FORESTER--AND--THE--DIRECTOR--OF--THE--DEPARTMENT--OF--FISH, WILDLIFE,--AND--PARKS--TO--WORK--COOPERATIVELY--TO--DEVELOP--AND--IMPLEMENT--STANDARDS--AND--GUIDELINES--FOR--THE--MANAGEMENT--OF--STATE--FOREST--LANDS--IN--THE--SWAN--RIVER--DRAINAGE--AND--THE--NORTH--FORK--OF--THE--PLATHEAD--RIVER--DRAINAGE--TO--PROVIDE--FOR--TIMBER--MANAGEMENT--CONSISTENT--WITH--THE--LONG--TERM--CONSERVATION--OF--WHITE-TAILED-DEER-HABITAT.~~ DIRECTING THE STATE FORESTER TO MANAGE STATE FOREST LANDS TO CONSERVE WILDLIFE AND FISH HABITATS FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL TRUST FUND AND THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA; AND DIRECTING THE STATE FORESTER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS TO WORK COOPERATIVELY TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR MANAGING FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITATS ON STATE FOREST LANDS.

(Refer to Introduced Bill)

Strike everything after the title and insert:

WHEREAS, the Department of State Lands is directed to

manage state lands for the support of the public school trust fund and, pursuant to section 77-1-202, MCA, "for the attainment of other worthy objects helpful to the well-being of the people of this state"; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks is directed under the laws of the State of Montana to provide for the protection, preservation, and management of wildlife and fish within the state; and

WHEREAS, both departments desire to work together for the common purpose of developing, maintaining, and managing all of the wildlife and fish resources on forest lands administered by the Department of State Lands for the best interests of the public school trust fund and the people of Montana; and

WHEREAS, Montana receives substantial economic benefits from hunting, outfitting, tourism, and other activity related to wildlife and fish, and these economic benefits, in the form of increased property values and tax base, provide considerable support to public education.

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