

Montana Audubon

2007 Montana Legislature VOTING RECORD



Montana Audubon • P.O. Box 595 • Helena, MT 59624 • (406) 443-3949

This voting record summarizes how Representatives and Senators at the 2007 Montana Legislature voted on Montana Audubon's primary issues: general environmental protection, wildlife and wildlife habitat, land use planning, recreation, and public lands. Please take the time to observe where your legislators stand—talk to them about any concerns you have regarding their votes, and express your appreciation for votes you support.

House of Representatives

• General Environmental Protection •

HB 405: Exempting Energy Development Projects from MEPA

Sponsor: Representative Mike Lange (R-Billings)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed House, Defeated in Senate

HB 405 would have exempted virtually all energy-related projects—including new and *existing* power plants—from Montana's bedrock environmental laws, the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and the Major Facility Siting Act. Both Acts give the public the ability to review the environmental impacts of projects on things such as wildlife, wildlife habitat, and clean water—and provide input on the project's scope, design and proposed mitigation measures. HB 405 also would have enabled energy projects to increase their use of eminent domain, ignore local land use regulations, and face only limited lawsuits. Nuclear power plants were the only energy projects that would not have qualified for the exemptions contained within HB 405. Defeat of this bill was an Audubon priority for 2007. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 51 – 49. A vote *against* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. This bill ultimately died in the Senate.

How We Chose the Votes

All the bills in this voting record are bills Audubon supported or opposed. Generally, the 2nd Reading (debate stage) vote is used in this scorecard because legislators have just finished debating the issue and it is fresh in their mind.

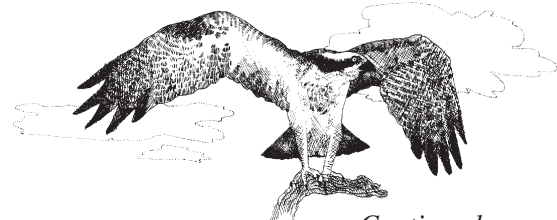
HB 610: Lawsuits Prohibited under MEPA

Sponsor: Representative Jim Keane (D-Butte)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed House, Defeated in Senate

The Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) is Montana's bedrock environmental law. In its simplest terms, MEPA institutes a "look before you leap" policy by requiring state agencies to consider the environmental, social, cultural, and economic impacts of proposals like mines, power plants, subdivisions, and timber sales *before* the project is approved. HB 610 would have removed the ability for the public to sue using MEPA. Although only 39 lawsuits have been filed under MEPA since 1971, the threat of a lawsuit is one of the main ways that state agencies are held accountable for their decisions on projects that affect the environment. Removing the ability for citizens to sue under MEPA would mean that if an agency chose not to comply with MEPA, did a poor job complying, ignored scientific information, or was unresponsive to public input—*there would be no consequences*. The result would be shoddy decision-making, increased litigation based on our constitution, and frustration from all segments of the public. Defeat of HB 610 was an Audubon priority for 2007. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 56 - 44. A vote *against* this bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. This bill ultimately died in the Senate.



Continued on page 4.

House of Representatives

Name	District	Party	Town	HB 405	HB 610	HB 343	HB 439	SB 128	HB 415	HB 557	SB 201	HB 37	SB 78	SB 391	Rating
Ankney, Duane	43	R	Colstrip	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
Arntzen, Elsie	53	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Augare, Shannon	16	D	Browning	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Barrett, Debby	72	R	Dillon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Beck, Bill	6	R	Whitefish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Becker, Arlene	52	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	91%
Bergren, Bob	33	D	Havre	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	82%
Bixby, Norma	41	D	Lame Deer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Blasdel, Mark	10	R	Somers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Boggio, Scott	59	R	Red Lodge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Branae, Gary	54	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Butcher, Ed	29	R	Winifred	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ab	-	-	Ab	0%
Cafferro, Mary	80	D	Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Callahan, Tim	21	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Campbell, Margaret	31	D	Poplar	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Clark, Edith	28	R	Sweetgrass	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	E	-	10%
Cohenour, Jill	78	D	E. Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Cordier, Doug	3	D	Columbia Falls	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91%
Dickenson, Sue	25	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Driscoll, Robyn	51	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Dutton, Ernie	56	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	18%
Ebinger, Bob	62	D	Livingston	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91%
Erickson, Ron	93	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Everett, George	5	R	Kalispell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Franklin, Eve	24	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
French, Julie	36	D	Scobey	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	73%
Furey, Kevin	91	D	Milltown	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Gallik, Dave	79	D	Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Glaser, Bill	44	R	Huntley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
Grinde, Wanda	48	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Groesbeck, George	74	D	Butte	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91%
Hamilton, Robin	92	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Hands, Betsy	99	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Hawk, Ray	90	R	Florence	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
Heinert, Ralph	1	R	Libby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	9%
Hendrick, Gordon	14	R	Superior	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Henry, Teresa	96	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Hilbert, Edward	38	R	Glendive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Himmelberger, Dennis	47	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Hiner, Cynthia	85	D	Deer Lodge	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	73%
Hollenbaugh, Galen	81	D	Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Ingraham, Pat	13	R	Thompson Falls	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	9%
Jacobson, Hal	82	D	Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Jayne, Joey	15	D	Arlee	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Jones, Llew	27	R	Conrad	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	18%
Jones, Bill	9	R	Bigfork	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	Ab	-	20%
Jopek, Mike	4	D	Whitefish	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Jore, Rick	12	C	Ronan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Kasten, Dave	30	R	Brockway	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Keane, Jim	75	D	Butte	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	82%

House of Representatives

Name	District	Party	Town	HB 405	HB 610	HB 343	HB 439	SB 128	HB 415	HB 557	SB 201	HB 37	SB 78	SB 391	Rating
Kerns, Krayton	58	R	Laurel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Klock, Harry	83	R	Harlowton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Koopman, Roger	70	R	Bozeman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Kottel, Deb	20	D	Great Falls	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	82%
Lake, Bob	88	R	Hamilton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
Lambert, Carol	39	R	Broadus	-	-	-	-	Ab	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Lange, Mike	55	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
MacLaren, Gary	89	R	Victor	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	27%
Malcolm, Bruce	61	R	Emigrant	-	-	Ab	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	20%
McAlpin, Dave	94	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
McChesney, Bill	40	D	Miles City	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	82%
McGillvray, Tom	50	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
McNutt, Walter	37	R	Sidney	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	27%
Mendenhall, Scott	77	R	Clancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Milburn, Mike	19	R	Cascade	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	9%
Morgan, Penny	57	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Musgrove, John	34	D	Havre	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Noonan, Art	73	D	Butte	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Nooney, Bill	100	R	Missoula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
O'Hara, Jesse	18	R	Great Falls	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	18%
Olson, Alan	45	R	Roundup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Parker, John	23	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Peterson, Ken	46	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	18%
Phillips, Mike	66	D	Bozeman	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Pomnichowski, JP	63	D	Bozeman	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Raser, Holly	98	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Reinhart, Michele	97	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Rice, Diane	71	R	Harrison	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Ripley, Rick	17	R	Wolf Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Ross, Jack	60	R	Absarokee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	18%
Sales, Scott	68	R	Bozeman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Sands, Diane	95	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Sesso, Jon	76	D	Butte	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Sinrud, John	67	R	Bozeman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Small-Eastman, Veronica	42	D	Lodge Grass	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91%
Sonju, Jon	7	R	Kalispell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Stahl, Wayne	35	R	Saco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ab	+	-	-	10%
Stoker, Ron	87	R	Darby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Taylor, Janna	11	R	Dayton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Thomas, Bill	26	D	Great Falls	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	73%
Van Dyk, Kendall	49	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Villa, Dan	86	D	Anaconda	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Vincent, Chas	2	R	Libby	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	9%
Ward, John	84	R	Helena	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%
Wells, Jack	69	R	Bozeman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Wilmer, Franke	64	D	Bozeman	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Wilson, Bill	22	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Windy Boy, Jonathan	32	D	Box Elder	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	100%
Wiseman, Brady	65	D	Bozeman	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Witte, Craig	8	R	Kalispell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%

• **Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat** •

HB 343: Fund Private Lawsuit on Wolf Delisting

Sponsor: Representative Diane Rice (R-Harrison)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed House, Defeated in Senate

HB 343 would have given \$150,000 of state taxpayer money to a Wyoming law firm to fund a lawsuit over the delisting of wolves under the Endangered Species Act. The anti-wolf group Friends of the Northern Yellowstone Elk Herd initiated the lawsuit. It is not appropriate to have state taxpayers fund an anti-wildlife groups' lawsuit (based on questionable legal theory), particularly when the federal government has already started to delist this species. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 58 – 41. A vote *against* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. HB 343 ultimately died in the Senate.

HB 439: Exempt Fish Ponds from Licenses

Sponsor: Rep. Roger Koopman (R-Bozeman)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed the Legislature, Vetoed by Governor

HB 439 would have exempted certain private fish pond owners from a license. This license is used to protect native fisheries and water bodies; it allows Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) to educate pond-owners about such threats as introducing nuisance species and diseases. As the Governor stated in his veto message, "Although HB 439 would exempt only ponds that are less than 50 acres in size, are unconnected to other bodies of waters, and are outside the historic flood plain, these factors do not anticipate flood events that can transport pond contents into receiving waters. They also fail to address invaders that can be easily transported (sometimes unknowingly) by humans or even birds...[to] receiving waters." Montana Audubon opposed HB 439 because it increased the risk of native fish and wildlife being harmed from the introduction of exotic wildlife. This is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 51 – 49. A vote *against* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. This bill died from the Governor's veto.

SB 128: Eliminate Termination Date for Instream Flow Program

Sponsor: Senator Jesse Laslovich (D-Anaconda)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and became law

SB 128 removed the termination date for Montana's instream flow leasing program. This program helps keep water flowing in Montana's streams without altering the state's first-in-time, first-in-right water law. Instream

flows are crucial for maintaining Montana's famous fish and wildlife resources. SB 128 also allows FWP to 'change' certain water rights into instream flow water rights on up to 12 stream reaches. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 57 - 42. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.

• **Land Use Planning** •

HB 415: Parkland Dedication in Subdivisions

Sponsor: Rep. Michele Reinhart (D-Missoula)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and became law

HB 415 allows local governments to require parkland for minor subdivisions (four or fewer lots), giving local governments the option to create much needed parks and open space. Consequently, this bill takes away a developer's incentive to create numerous minor subdivisions in order to avoid setting aside parkland. Previously the law only required park dedication for major subdivisions (five or more lots). Minor subdivisions contribute significantly to Montana's current explosion in growth. Parkland can be located within a subdivision or clustered with other land to make larger regional parks. Featured is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 51 - 49. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.

HB 557: Restrict Zoning for Gravel Operations

Sponsor: Representative Ralph Heinert (R-Libby)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed House, Defeated in Senate

HB 557 would have made it virtually impossible for local governments to protect open space from new gravel mine development through zoning. Specific to Audubon, this legislation would have allowed a 160-acre gravel pit to be developed within our Clark Fork-Grass Valley Important Bird Area outside Missoula—even though this mine was unanimously rejected by County Commissioners. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 54 - 46. A vote *against* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. This bill ultimately died in the Senate.

SB 201: City-County Cooperative Planning Incentives

Sponsor: Senator Rick Laible (R-Darby)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and became law

SB 201 provides incentives for cities and counties to work together to identify and plan for efficient future growth, with a focus on locations around cities where growth can occur most efficiently. By encouraging growth where it is efficient—and discouraging it elsewhere—local planners can minimize urban sprawl

and conserve valuable open space for wildlife habitat. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 65 - 33. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.

• Recreation and Public Land •

HB 37: Weed Control on State Land

Sponsor: Rep. Michele Reinhart (D-Missoula)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and became law

HB 37 provides the Montana Dept. of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC) with an important tool to improve weed control on state school trust lands: after noncompliant lessees are notified several times, HB 37 allows DNRC to control weeds on state lands and then bill the lessees for costs. Noxious weeds infest an estimated 459,000 acres of Montana's 5.2 million acres of state school trust lands. These non-native species reduce rangeland and cropland productivity, and impact wildlife habitat. A 2003 Legislative Performance Audit, which Montana Audubon was instrumental in launching, directed DNRC to improve its weed control program. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it passed 51 - 49. A vote *for* HB 37 is a vote *for* the Audubon position. The bill passed the Senate with little opposition.

SB 78: Stream Access from Bridges

Sponsor: Senator Lane Larson (D-Billings)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed Senate, Defeated in House

SB 78 clarified how public access at bridges on county roads should be accommodated when adjoining landowners need to construct a fence in the public right-of-way to control livestock. It allowed fences to be altered that do not provide reasonable and safe public access, and provided some funding to help landowners pay for altering problem fences. The featured vote is on a motion by Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D-Bozeman) to take SB 78 from the House Fish, Wildlife & Parks Committee (where it failed to pass) to the House floor for a vote; the motion failed 47 - 50, which killed the bill. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.

<i>Vote Totals for House Voting Record</i>					
Bill No.	+	-	Bill No.	+	-
HB 405	49	51	HB 557	46	54
HB 610	44	56	SB 201	65	33
HB 343	41	58	HB 37	51	49
HB 439	49	51	SB 78	47	50
SB 128	57	42	SB 391	49	50
HB 415	51	49			

SB 391: Allow Conservation Easements on School Trust Land

Sponsor: Senator Dan Weinberg (D-Whitefish)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed Senate, Defeated in House

Currently the state manages approximately 5.2 million acres of "school trust land." These lands provide income for Montana's schools through grazing fees, timber harvest contracts, oil and gas leases, and similar activities. Recently the state has become more aggressive in using trust land for development purposes (commercial buildings, etc.). While developing these lands may generate revenue for Montana's schools, it is not always appropriate. SB 391 would have allowed revenue to be generated for Montana's schools through the purchase of conservation easements on any school trust lands—an activity that is currently only allowed under 3 limited circumstances. This bill was an Audubon priority bill in 2007. Featured here is the House 2nd Reading vote; it failed on a 49 - 50 vote, which killed the bill. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.



KEY	
+	= Vote in favor of Audubon's position
-	= Vote against Audubon's position
Ab	= Legislator absent but NOT excused from voting
C	= Constitutional Party
D	= Democrat
E	= Legislator excused from voting
FWP	= MT Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
HB	= House Bill
MEPA	= Montana Environmental Policy Act
R	= Republican
SB	= Senate Bill
SJR	= Senate Joint Resolution

Montana Senate

• General Environmental Protection •

HB 610: Lawsuits Prohibited under MEPA

Sponsor: Representative Jim Keane (D-Butte)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed House, Defeated in Senate

HB 610 is described in the House Voting Record. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it failed 24 - 26, which killed the bill. A vote *against* this bill is a vote *for* the Audubon position.

SJR 20: Reduce Global Warming Gas Emissions

Sponsor: Senator Mike Cooney (D-Helena)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed Senate, Defeated in House

Burning fossil fuels—coal, oil, and natural gas—is the primary source of U.S. global warming pollution. The two most polluting entities are power plants, which contribute approximately 39% of emissions, and passenger vehicles, which contribute 20% of emissions. Unchecked, the impact of global warming will be devastating for numerous wildlife species, from polar bears to Montana’s sage grouse and wetland-dependent water birds. SJR 20 called on members of Congress to enact a science and market-based limit on greenhouse gas emissions. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 29 – 20. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon’s position. This resolution was later killed in the House.

• Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat •

HB 343: Fund Private Lawsuit on Wolf Delisting

Sponsor: Representative Diane Rice (R-Harrison)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed House, Defeated in Senate

HB 343 is described in the House Voting Record. The featured Senate vote was a motion by Senator Verdell Jackson (R-Kalispell) to take HB 343 from the Finance & Claims Committee (where it failed to pass) to the Senate floor for a vote; the motion failed 23 – 27, which killed the bill. A vote *against* this motion is a vote *for* Audubon’s position.

HB 439: Exempt Fish Ponds from Licenses

Sponsor: Rep. Roger Koopman (R-Bozeman)

Audubon Position: Oppose

Status: Passed the Legislature, Vetoed by Governor

HB 439 is described in the House Voting Record. The Senate amended this bill to exempt certain eastern

Montana private fish pond owners from the required license. The Governor stated in his veto message that eastern Montana should have the same “protection against the threat of alien invaders” that is offered to central and western Montana. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 27 - 23. A vote *against* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon’s position. The bill died from the Governor’s veto.

SB 128: Eliminate Termination Date for Instream Flow Program

Sponsor: Senator Jesse Laslovich (D-Anaconda)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and Became Law

SB 128 is described in the House Voting Record. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 35 - 15. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon’s position.

• Land Use Planning •

HB 415: Parkland Dedication in Subdivisions

Sponsor: Rep. Michele Reinhart (D-Missoula)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and became law

HB 415 is described in the House Voting Record. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 25 - 22. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon’s position.

SB 201: City-County Cooperative Planning Incentives

Sponsor: Senator Rick Laible (R-Darby)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Passed the Legislature and became law

SB 201 is described in the House Voting Record. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 34 - 15. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon’s position.

SB 345: The Montana Stream Legacy Act

Sponsor: Senator Bob Hawks (D-Bozeman)

Audubon Position: Support

Status: Failed in Senate

Montana’s rivers and their associated riparian areas provide some of the most important wildlife habitat in the state, are critical for maintaining clean water, and reduce the affects of flooding. Unfortunately, many of our rivers are being lined by homes—often second homes—that impact these sensitive areas. SB 345 would have protected wildlife habitat, water quality, and property by establishing a setback for new buildings of 250 feet from the high-water mark of major rivers. This bill was

Continued on page 8.

Montana Senate

Name	District	Party	Town	HB 610	SJR 20	HB 343	HB 439	SB 128	HB 415	SB 201	SB 345	SB 398	SB 78	SB 391	SB 452	Rating
Bales, Keith	20	R	Otter	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Balyeat, Joe	34	R	Bozeman	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	17%
Barkus, Greg	4	R	Kalispell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Black, Jerry	14	R	Shelby	-	-	-	-	+	E	+	-	-	-	-	-	18%
Brown, Roy	25	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	8%
Brueggeman, John	6	R	Polson	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	50%
Cobb, John	9	R	Augusta	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	25%
Cocchiarella, Vicki	47	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	92%
Cooney, Mike	40	D	Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Curtiss, Aubyn	1	R	Fortine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Elliott, Jim	7	D	Trout Creek	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Esp, John	31	R	Big Timber	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Essman, Jeff	28	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	25%
Gallus, Steve	37	D	Butte	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	92%
Gebhardt, Kelly	23	R	Roundup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Gillan, Kim	24	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Hansen, Ken	17	D	Harlem	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	92%
Harrington, Dan	38	D	Butte	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Hawks, Bob	33	D	Bozeman	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Jackson, Verdell	5	R	Kalispell	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Jent, Larry	32	D	Bozeman	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	91%
Juneau, Carol	8	D	Browning	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kaufmann, Christine	41	D	Helena	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kitzenberg, Sam	18	D	Glasgow	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	75%
Laible, Rick	44	R	Darby	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	17%
Larson, Lane	22	D	Billings	-	Ab	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	90%
Laslovich, Jesse	43	D	Anaconda	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Lewis, Dave	42	R	Helena	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	25%
Lind, Greg	50	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
McGee, Dan	29	R	Laurel	-	-	+	-	-	E	-	-	-	-	-	-	9%
Moss, Lynda	26	D	Billings	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Murphy, Terry	39	R	Cardwell	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	25%
O'Neil, Jerry	3	R	Columbia Falls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	8%
Pease, Gerald	21	D	Lodge Grass	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	92%
Perry, Gary	35	R	Manhattan	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17%
Peterson, Jim	15	R	Buffalo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Ryan, Don	10	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	75%
Schmidt, Trudi	11	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Shockley, Jim	45	R	Victor	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	58%
Smith, Frank	16	D	Poplar	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	83%
Squires, Carolyn	48	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Stapleton, Corey	27	R	Billings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ab	-	-	-	0%
Steinbeisser, Don	19	R	Sidney	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Story, Bob	30	R	Park City	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Tash, Bill	36	R	Dillon	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Tropila, Joe	13	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	83%
Tropila, Mitch	12	D	Great Falls	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	92%
Wanzenreid, Dave	49	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Weinberg, Dan	2	D	Whitefish	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Williams, Carol	46	D	Missoula	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

Senate Voting Record - Continued from Page 6.

a priority for Audubon in 2007. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it failed on a 30 - 20 vote, which killed the bill. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.

SB 398: Require Local Governments to Locate Sand & Gravel Resources

Sponsor: *Senator Kelly Gebhardt (R-Roundup)*

Audubon Position: *Oppose*

Status: *Defeated in Senate*

SB 398 would have required local governments to develop an inventory of all sand and gravel resources in the county before County Commissioners could restrict the location of new gravel operations. This expensive requirement would have made it extremely difficult for local governments to control where future gravel operations are located. Specific to Audubon, this legislation would have allowed a 160-acre gravel pit to be developed within our Clark Fork-Grass Valley Important Bird Area outside Missoula. Featured is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it failed 24 – 25, which killed the bill. A vote *against* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position.

• **Recreation and Public Land** •

SB 78: Stream Access from Bridges

Sponsor: *Senator Lane Larson (D-Billings)*

Audubon Position: *Support*

Status: *Passed Senate, Defeated in House*

SB 78 is described in the House Voting Record. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 31 - 19. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. This bill was later defeated in the House.

SB 391: Allow Conservation Easements on School Trust Land

Sponsor: *Senator Dan Weinberg (D-Whitefish)*

Audubon Position: *Support*

Status: *Passed Senate, Defeated in House*

SB 391 is described in the House Voting Record. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 25 - 24. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* Audubon's position. This bill was later defeated in the House.

SB 452: Montana Working Forests, Ranches, and Watersheds Program

Sponsor: *Senator Carol Williams (D-Missoula)*

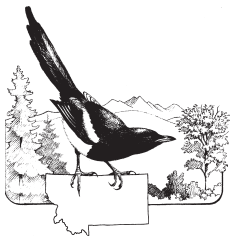
Audubon Position: *Support*

Status: *Passed Senate, Defeated in House*

SB 452 would have set up a program to protect critical lands important for recreation, long-term timber supply, wildlife habitat, and the economic livelihood of rural Montana communities. This program would have served as a mechanism to acquire some of the Plum Creek timber lands in western Montana that may be subdivided. Featured here is the Senate 2nd Reading vote; it passed 31 – 19. A vote *for* the bill is a vote *for* the Audubon position. This bill was later defeated in the House.

Vote Totals for Senate Voting Record

Bill No.	+	-	Bill No.	+	-
HB 610	26	- 24	SB 201	34	- 15
SJR 20	29	- 20	SB 345	20	- 30
HB 343	27	- 23	SB 398	25	- 24
HB 439	23	- 27	SB 78	31	- 19
SB 128	35	- 15	SB 391	25	- 24
HB 415	25	- 22	SB 452	31	- 19



Montana Audubon
P.O. Box 595
Helena, MT 59624

Nonprofit Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 29
Helena, MT 59601