

Audubon Colorado
State Board Meeting Minutes
June 14th, 2008
Four-Mile Ranch
Pagosa Springs, Colorado

Attendees: Steve Bloom, Carol DeStefanis, Martha Grewal, Bob Johnson, Bill Miller, Peggy Montano, Jean Sutherland, Bob Turner, Linda Vidal

Staff: Les Corey, Becky Gillette, Gary Graham, Laurel Mattrey, Randy Schilling, Ken Strom

Guests: Allan & Joyce Farrow

Meeting Start 10:10 AM

Board Actions

- **The March Board Meeting minutes were approved**
- **Gregg Sutherland was elected to serve a second four-year term**
- **Pam Butler was elected to serve on the board**
- **The Board approved the pursuit of a partnership with Lend Lease Communities to further the goals of the Audubon Center for Conservation Careers.**

Welcome and President's Report

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am by Steve Bloom. Steve wants to revisit the strategic plan in light of new realities, primarily the urgency of Global Warming issues. Gary welcomed Allan & Joyce Farrow, Becky Gillette, Les Corey and Randy Schilling. No additions to the agenda. No additions or corrections to the minutes. Bob Johnson moved to approve the minutes; Bill Miller seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The board voted on a second term for Gregg Sutherland, which passed unanimously. Pam Butler was nominated as new board member, Gary discussed her qualifications, and the board voted unanimously to elect Pam to the board.

Hershey Partnership and Project; Weminuche Chapter Report

Gary discussed Audubon's history and relationship with Terry Hershey, the fact that the property is protected by conservation easements, and discussed the biodiversity and avian significance of the property. Becky Gillette provided an update on the ongoing programs and goals and her successful transition as the Southwest Colorado Regional Audubon Director from Linda Newberry, who left to move to Santa Fe for family reasons.

Organizational Capacity

Strategy #1: Continue to strengthen and diversify State Board

Steve Bloom provided an update on board membership. He said Harold Smethills of Sterling Ranch near Roxborough Park south of Denver is a good candidate to serve on the board. Beth Conover started a consulting firm and therefore is not available to serve

on the board right now. She did indicate that she may be interested in the future and invited us to ask again in December. Dick Maxwell is a potential candidate. Bill Miller knows Dick, an ex- board member of Platte and Prairie Audubon, a Poudre heritage alliance member, and has a lot of contacts in Greeley.

Steve expressed concern that the board has not been more successful in recruiting a more diversified group of new members for the board. Peggy suggested that we network more with the Latina Initiative. Gary suggested that Mely Whiting from Uruguay might be a potential future board member for the Pagosa chapter. Gary talked about the importance of having a board with strong fundraising capacity, and maximizing the abilities of current members.

Peggy mentioned that as a result of the Miller and Coors joint venture, a significant foundation is being started that may be a strong funding source. She also stated that Conoco Phillips is moving into Storage Tek and thus offers potential partnership possibilities.

Dick Franklin has resigned from board, he is starting an environmental consulting firm around LEED building and sustainable development. He is still interested in supporting Audubon.

Les Corey, Chief of Field Operations for the National Audubon Society, discussed the governance of Audubon and talked about the breadth of Audubon (25 state offices). He highlighted the importance of state boards to the programmatic and financial successes of Audubon.

Randy Schilling, Senior Major Gifts Officer for NAS is working with fundraising staff in Colorado, Wyoming and Arizona to provide on-going assistance and fundraising tips. He suggested starting to identify 12 to 20 corporate executives to serve on a Corporate Advisory Council that could open doors for Audubon Colorado. Randy is also working with the NAS office to find more major sources of funding, including foundations and individuals, through expanding the circle of contacts and developing current members as 'super volunteers'.

Strategy #2: Ensure sufficient staff to support the goals of Soaring to Success

Gary stated that we are not hiring a Northwest Community Naturalist and will instead focus on biodiversity conservation planning for the Colowyo site on the Yampa River. Also, we have hired three new interns of which two are working with Ken on IBA and one is working with Gary on global warming issues.

Science and Conservation

Strategy #1: Grasslands and Grouse; Rivers of Birds Initiatives

- ESA listing litigation for Gunnison Sage-Grouse
- Audubon's Sage-Grouse/Sage Brush Initiative
- Gunnison Sage-Grouse Summit and Rendezvous
- White River and Yampa River Updates

Gary reported that a court decision on the litigation against USFWS concerning their denial of the petition to list the Gunnison Sage-Grouse under the federal Endangered Species Act would probably be made in December. Gary then gave an overview of Audubon's regional sagebrush initiative, which is nearing the final plan stages. The initiative will include policy, research, advocacy, and education efforts throughout the northern Rockies. He also discussed some of the funding opportunities. The San Miguel Gunnison Sage-Grouse working group organized a Gunnison Sage-Grouse summit that Ken will attend. Ken also organized a three-day monitoring rendezvous for the last weekend in June. Linda mentioned that this is a good opportunity to bring in new people.

The BLM is proposing to lease all the public lands on the Roan Plateau for oil and gas development. The Roaring Fork Audubon Society is hosting a field trip to the Roan on July 20th. Colorado's congressmen are against the leasing, and Audubon will be filing a protest letter. The Roan Plateau currently is NOT listed as an Important Bird Area.

Ken provided an update on projects in Northwest Colorado, including the Yampa, White and Colorado rivers. With funding from Rio Tinto, we are looking into expanding our conservation efforts beyond the riparian into the sagebrush habitats above the rivers. He asked members to think about additional funding sources. Finally, Ken recapped the last Science & Conservation Committee conference call. Global Warming was a major topic and the Science & Conservation Committee should address the subject more.

Public Policy and Advocacy: Colorado's Voice for Conservation

Strategy #3: Address Critical Federal and State Conservation Policy Issues

Ken provided an overview of this year's legislative session and offered a year-end review of Jen Boulton's work, which is in her attached report. Audubon is working with the Wilderness Society and the National Wildlife Federation on wind energy issues and transmission line corridors. Audubon continues to work with the CO DNR on ways to minimize impact of wind energy projects on avian populations.

Gary has been working with Julia Levin from NAS who has secured about \$54,000, including \$36,000 from Al Gore's Alliance for Climate Protection) to support Audubon Colorado's work on Global Warming issues in Colorado. There will be some funding available for chapters to do local work. Gary will send out an email about how to access these funds at a later date.

Gary gave an update on oil & gas regulations in Colorado. He is giving testimony on Monday, June 23rd on grouse issues relating to the proposed regulations. The oil & gas industry is putting up a lot of resistance to the recent recommended regulations that would minimize impacts to wildlife. Gary has been sending alerts to chapters. The Oil & Gas Commission will make their final decisions on these recommendations in August 2008.

Steve Bloom suggested that to recruit younger members we could bring in a group of young adults to figure out the best way to do youth outreach and that we needed to

address this issue in the strategic plan. Les Corey talked about how Audubon's Together Green will help with youth recruitment and reiterated the need to increase the number of new, younger generation, people participating in the conservation movement. Les also mentioned that California is very aggressive in recruiting younger and newer audiences. Colorado can be a good place to initiate new technologies to increase new members (i.e. Get Active software).

Chapters and Membership: Power to the People

Strategy #2: Conduct the Jake and Terry Hershey Audubon Pilot Outreach Program

See Hershey Project report, above.

Strategy #3: Improve Communication and Strengthen Ties

Bob Wilson stated that the Grand Junction Audubon Society is interested in working with their school district to form a math and science consortium. Students will come to Audubon sites and learn math and science using an existing curriculum. Audubon Society of Great Denver works with a lot of students at the Chatfield IBA. They are hosting a bio-blitz, a native plant sale, and bird banding stations throughout the spring. They are also updating their website. They hosted a very successful Global Warming Forum in Golden on May 31st with Audubon Colorado and are working on developing a global warming exhibit at Chatfield. The Boulder County Audubon Society is also focusing on Global Warming, and recent newsletters have highlighted issues relating to climate change.

The Fort Collins chapter is at 700 members; they recently hosted a program about the Colorado bark beetles. Their biggest issue at this time is the Northern Integrated Supply Project, which proposes three new reservoirs that will draw water from the Poudre River and will involve 12 municipalities. Peggy recused herself (stated a conflict of interest) from any decision-making about the project but encouraged everyone to read the actual Environmental Impact Statement and discuss the pros and cons with professionals associated with the project before making any decisions. Linda Vidal with the Roaring Fork Audubon Society discussed the difficulties in recruiting new members, specifically those who are willing to take on leadership roles. She requested help with creation of a recruitment questionnaire. Fort Collins used survey monkey online, along with an annual appeal letter they sent out in April for a 10% return. RFAS recently participated in a cooperative meeting with Wilderness Workshop, held 8 programs and 25 field trips. The Black Canyon Audubon Society is issuing bimonthly newsletters and is organizing bird banding.

Centers and Education: Creating a Culture of Conservation

Strategy #1: Audubon's Center for Conservation Careers

As reported before, we did not receive expected funding for the ACCC (Audubon Center for Conservation Careers) from Shell, NPS, Commerce City, Coors, Anschutz, or SCFD. On the positive side, however, Gary talked with staff from the Colorado State Land Board and Lend Lease Communities about the Lowry Range and the possibility of an ACCC partnership associated with their development on the Range near Aurora and Denver. Commerce City is no longer a viable option due to their inability to help fund

the project on the scale originally anticipated. We are now considering it a program, not a physical center. Gary has asked discussed with Lend Lease the possibility of partially funding a program director position for two years since that is what we need to start. Steve Bloom would like to see it transformed as a model program. Peggy Montano withdrew herself from any decision-making regarding Lend Lease since she represents them on their water planning for the project. Gary requested a motion to pursue a partnership with Lend Lease to further the goals of ACCC, with benchmarks. Jean Sutherland moved on the motion, Bill Miller seconded and the motion passed (Peggy Montano abstained).

Meeting the Costs of Conservation

Strategy #1: Develop an aggressive fundraising plan and program

We submitted 10 proposals to corporations, government agencies and foundations this quarter for a total of \$117,000. Staff met with and/or contacted 17 potential new or rejuvenated sources of funding. We received a \$36,000 grant from Al Gore's Alliance for Climate Change, \$2,500 from the Energy Foundation, \$7,000 from the National Toyota Volunteer Days fund, \$18,000 from the Sea Change Foundation, \$2,500 from Kroll Factual Data and approximately \$95,000 from major donors.

We sent out spring appeal letters and our spring newsletter to past donors and donors who give to NAS and not to Audubon Colorado. Gary completed a bird-a-thon in Brazil and three more bird-a-thons supporting Audubon Colorado are slated for June. The Women in Conservation event has been postponed until the spring of 2009, due to potential conflicts and fundraising competition with the Democratic National Convention.

As a consequence of changes in revenue and expense projections, we have revised our FY09 budget from what was presented at our last Board meeting. The revised bottom-line of our FY09 budget request is for \$590,646 in expenses while projecting revenues of \$614,633, including the 5% contingency. The \$590,646 in expenses is \$28,253 (3.4%) less than the approved FY08 amount of \$618,899. Salaries and fringe make up 72% of this budget request. Subtracting that contingency (\$28,332) leaves \$586,301 and an operating deficit of (4,345). This compares with an operating \$338 surplus projected in the original projection. The revenue projection is \$54,225 less and the expenses are \$49,542 less than projected in the original budget.

AUDUBON COLORADO LEGISLATIVE REPORT

May 27, 2008

Jen Boulton

The 2008 legislative session ended one day early for a historic third year in a row. It was an extraordinarily successful session.

Common Acronyms:

CDPHE – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

CWCB – Colorado Water Conservation Board

CWPDA – Colorado Water and Power Development Authority

DNR – Department of Natural Resources

DRMS – Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

DOLA – Department of Local Affairs

DOW – Division of Wildlife

GEO – Governor’s Energy Office

MLRB – Mined Land Reclamation Board

PILT – Payment in Lieu of Taxes

REA – Rural Electric Association

WQCC – Water Quality Control Commission

PRIORITY BILLS

***SB221 BONDING FOR FOREST HEALTH**

(Romer, Scanlon)

Position: Support as amended

Status: Passed

SB221 allows the CWPDA to issue bonds to governmental entities for forest health and watershed protection projects. It also adds timber removed as part of such projects in the biomass definition of “clean energy”. While we are supportive of the intent to protect watersheds from the effects of catastrophic fire, there were a number of concerns with the introduced version of the bill.

The definition of forest health project needed to include sidebars to assure ecological protection and mitigation of unavoidable consequences. The definition of watershed protection project needed to be clarified to ensure that increasing water supply is not a management goal. Narrowing these definitions would also reduce the problem of including additional timber in the biomass section.

We were successful in amending all of our concerns related to the definitions. We were also able to ensure that relevant stakeholders have a seat at the table during the project selection process, rather

than leaving project selection solely to entities involved in financing. Finally, we successfully added a sunset provision in five years to ensure that the program works as intended.

***SJR22 AMEND OIL AND GAS RULEMAKING**

(Cadman, McKinley)

Position: Oppose

Status: Dead

SJR22 called on the COGCC to limit the scope of the ongoing oil and gas rulemaking. It also called on the COGCC to include economic analysis of potential cost increases as a result of the rulemaking. We adamantly oppose efforts to soften potential regulations for protection of species, habitat, and the ecosystem as a whole. SJR22 died in the waning hours of the session on a 15-20 party line vote.

***HB1069 OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT**

(Curry, Tochtrop)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1069 allows State peace officers to enforce off highway vehicle regulations on federally owned public land. The bill also requires the DOW to report to the legislature in one year about the number of citations issued. Although there is no additional staff to search for violations, HB1069 is a very positive step.

***HB1137 LIMIT DIVISION OF WILDLIFE ACQUISITIONS**

(Sonnenberg, Brophy)

Position Oppose

Status: Dead

HB1137 required the DOW to release land or water of equal value whenever it acquired new property. Additionally, it required that all acquisitions be approved by bill in the legislature. HB1137 also required the DOW to pay PILT to counties in which it owned property.

HB1137 was a direct attack on conservationists. We lose thousands of acres of habitat to development every day. Requiring DOW to divest property would have put innumerable species at risk. HB1137 essentially required the state to sacrifice some species in order to save others. Choosing winners and losers among wildlife species was not only poor public policy; it would have ultimately resulted in everyone losing.

Additionally, requiring a bill for all acquisitions would have thrown a wrench into the timing of transactions. The legislature already has oversight, as DOW must get approval from the Capital Development Committee before proceeding with any transaction. Requiring a bill as well would have set negotiations back by a full year since the legislature is only in session from January through May.

***HB1141 SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY**

(Curry, Bacon)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

HB1141 requires that developers demonstrate, during the approval process, that a sufficient water supply exists to serve the proposed development. HB1141 represents the first time in nearly a decade that we have seen an attempt to link water supply with new development.

After numerous rewrites, HB1141 was supported by a wide coalition of water providers and local governments, as well as by the conservation community. After further amendment, the realtors and homebuilders changed to a neutral position. We were successful in passing the bill and reaching agreement between the chambers.

Although the bill finally passed in a softer format than we would have drafted, it remains a landmark victory. For the first time, developers throughout the state must demonstrate availability of a sustainable water supply before receiving approval for any proposed development of more than 50 houses.

***HB1161 IN SITU LEACH MINING OF URANIUM**

(Kefalas, Johnson)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1161 does three things. First, the bill defines uranium mining as designated mining operations. Designated mining operations (DMO) were created after the Summitville disaster. DMOs involve a heightened standard of environmental protection, monitoring, and surety for reclamation. Second, the bill requires in situ mining operations to demonstrate that they can reclaim the aquifer to pre-mining conditions. Finally, the bill requires the operator to notify the DRMS immediately if anything goes wrong, and to begin reclamation immediately upon cessation of mining or sooner if something bad happens.

***HB1165 STRENGTHEN MINING RECLAMATION**

(Fischer, Bacon)

Position: Support

Status: Dead

HB1165 increased the oversight of the MLRB over mining operations in a number of ways. The bill required the MLRB to account for risks to human health and to the environment during the permitting process. It required the MLRB to regulate mining operations so as to minimize and mitigate environmental hazards. It required that reclamation costs be borne by the operator, and that availability of funds for reclamation was a condition of permitting. The bill also required reclamation costs to be calculated based on the anticipated time at which the reclamation occurred rather than on current costs. Finally, the bill increased the membership of the MLRB from seven to nine by adding the director of the CDPHE, and a member representing local government interests.

HB1165 died in the House Ag committee, but will be reintroduced as a smaller piece of the original legislation.

***SB228 PROSPECTING NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

(Schwartz, Curry)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

SB228 is the reintroduction of HB1165. It requires mining operators to provide additional public notice when prospecting activities occur.

***HB1279 TAKINGS**

(Bruce)

Position: Oppose

Status: Dead

HB1279 was the most egregious takings bill we had ever seen. It required all local governments and the State office of Smart Growth to create a list of impact fees. The fees were to account for all capital needs resulting from growth. Payment of the fees became the only prerequisite for approval of development applications. The fees were also required to comply with the “rough proportionality”

test from the Dolan case. “RP” is a standard that has never been met, and remains undefined, requiring legal challenges to determine a definition.

Additionally, the bill prohibited enforcement, without compensation, of any land use regulation that reduced speculative property value by one percent if the regulation was enacted subsequent to acquisition of the affected property. In other words, the regulations applicable to a specific parcel would change every time the property was sold.

Finally, the bill allowed property owners of parcels 25 acres or larger to petition out of ALL land use regulations- including zoning, based on signatures of twenty-five percent of the landowners within the proposed parcel.

Fortunately, HB1279 was killed in its first committee on a nearly unanimous vote (10-1).

***HB1280 INSTREAM FLOW**

(Fischer, Schwartz)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1280 is part of our instream flow package. It removes a hurdle to long term leases of ISF water. Under Colorado water law, the value of a water right is determined by the amount of water used consumptively every year. Years during which the right was leased or loaned for instream use, the consumptive use credit is currently zero. Obviously, receiving zeros for several years can decrease the value significantly. HB1280 removes the years during which water is leased/loaned for instream flow from calculations of consumptive use, thus protecting the long-term value of the right.

***HB1304 BALD EAGLE PROTECTION**

(Solano, Schwartz)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1304 adds bald eagles to the list of species for which Colorado levies heightened fines for illegal take or possession.

***HB1346 CWCB PROJECTS BILL**

(Curry, Isgar)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

HB1346 is the annual projects bill for the CWCB. Most of the bill details the loans and grants made by CWCB to various water users. The advent of a new administration in 2006 resulted in a significant shift of priority for several agencies, including the CWCB. For the first time ever, this year’s projects bill includes an exciting section appropriating \$1M for acquisition of Instream Flow.

***HB1369 TAX CREDIT FOR INSTREAM FLOW**

(Pommer, Shaffer)

Position: Support

Status: Dead

HB1369 allowed a tax credit against State income tax for permanent donation of water rights to the CWCB for instream flow purposes. The credit was limited to \$250,000 per person and \$2M statewide. Additionally, the credit was only available in TABOR surplus years.

AIR QUALITY/ENERGY

SB55 STATIONARY SOURCE EMISSION FEES

(Hagedorn, Madden)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

SB55 increases fees for pollution from stationary sources.

HB1025 CONSOLIDATE GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE

(Weissmann, Tupa)

Position: FYI

Status: Signed

HB1025 is a nonsubstantive consolidation of the requirements placed on the Governor's Energy Office in the last several years.

HB1107 ENERGY EFFICIENCY

(Levy, Veiga)

Position: Support

Status: Dead

HB1107 required REAs to reinvest a percentage of their sales revenue in conservation activities and education.

HB1160 NET METERING

(Solano, Shaffer)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1160 requires municipally owned utilities and REAs to allow net metering systems of up to 10KW for residential and 25KW for commercial customers. Excess generation is carried forward each month at a one to one correspondence (retail rate). At the end of the year, the utility may reimburse customers with net generation as they choose (retail rate, avoided cost, or even zeroed out – no reimbursement)

HB1164 ADVANCEMENT OF SOLAR TECHNOLOGIES

(Solano, Schwartz)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

HB1164 directs the PUC to establish rules for the encouragement, and regulation of solar technologies.

LAND USE

SB37 RENAME ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANTS

(Tupa, Fischer)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

SB37 creates a new name for environmental covenants. There have been problems with the US Department of Defense, which has refused to grant an environmental covenant to the State at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal. The Federal agency has argued that environmental covenants may create a State interest in Federal property. As a result, they have contended that they are unable to grant a covenant as Federal law bars them from transferring an interest in property until cleanup is complete. SB37 solves the problem by creating an identical program, a Notice of Environmental Restriction, based on the police powers of the State.

WATER

SB28 BONNY RESERVOIR

(Brophy, Gardner)

Position: Monitor

Status: Dead

SB28 required the Department of Parks and Outdoor recreation to cede control of water in the conservation pool at Bonny Reservoir to the CWCB. The CWCB was directed to release the water as an “instream flow” in order to meet the compact delivery required on the Republican River.

SB36 WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT

(Isgar, Curry)

Position: Support

Status: Dead

SB36 required that local governments have a water conservation plan in place in order to apply for grants from the water supply reserve account. The bill also made the account perpetual by repealing the requirement that moneys revert to the severance tax operational account in four years.

HB1014 WELL PERMIT TRANSFER

(Looper, Gordon)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1014 requires that well permits be included in closing documents for real estate transactions. The bill also requires that buyers register the change of ownership with the State Engineer’s Office within a certain timeframe.

HB1026 CHANGE NAME OF CWRRI

(Fischer, Schwartz)

Position: Support

Status: Signed

HB1026 changes the name of the Colorado Water Resources Research Institute to the Colorado Water Institute. The bill also restores some funding to the Institute.

HB1099 MOVE DRINKING WATER PENALTY APPEALS TO WQCC

(McNulty, Tochtrop)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

HB1099 simply moves the hearing of appeals to drinking water penalties and discharge permit violations to the Water Quality Control Commission rather than the State Board of Health. The bill is necessary as a result of more substantial changes in authority in previous years. These two programs were overlooked in drafting of previous legislation.

HB1222 EXPAND HYDRO DEFINITION

(McNulty, Harvey)

Position: Neutral as amended

Status: Passed

As introduced, HB1222 had several problems. Although intended to replace existing size caps in the definition of hydropower under the renewable energy portfolio standard with a low impact standard, the language of the bill lacked sufficient protection for fish health and minimum flows. The bill also

included pumped storage as a qualifying source of energy, despite the fact that pumped storage results in a net loss of energy. Finally, the bill left the existing size caps in place, and simply added incentives for additional hydro.

As amended, the bill was reduced to an interim committee study on the potential for changing or expanding the definition of hydro, and whether hydro should really be included at all.

WILDLIFE

SB13 REALLOCATE SEVERANCE TAX

(Schwartz, Fischer)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

SB13 reduces the amount of severance tax distributed to the COGCC and the DRMS by five percent each. The cumulative ten- percent of severance tax is redistributed to the DOW and the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. DOW is required to spend the money on energy related impacts to wildlife. The Parks Department is not constrained in its expenditures.

SB71 EXTEND PINE BEETLE PILOT PROGRAM

(Gibbs, Scanlan)

Position: FYI

Status: Passed

SB71 extends the repeal date of the pine beetle pilot program until 2012. There are no changes to the program itself.

SB168 SPECIES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND

(Isgar, Curry)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

SB168 is the annual appropriation to the species conservation trust fund. This year there is a larger than usual amount of money available due to reversion of the funds originally slated for the Deep Underground Science Experimental Lab (DUSEL) project at the Henderson mine. Most of this additional funding is being used to pay down Colorado's obligation to the tri-state recovery program for the cranes in Nebraska. A smaller portion (\$500,000) is slated for acquisition of instream flow rights to protect endangered fish.

HB1200 BAN INTERNET HUNTING

(Soper, Tochtrop)

Position: Support

Status: Passed

HB1200 bans the practice of remote internet hunting in Colorado. While Audubon generally doesn't take positions on hunting issues, the practice of internet hunting poses a number of problems for wildlife management. With only a two dimensional screen, the hunter has no way of ensuring that other game, or non-game species aren't affected by his activities. Internet hunting also poses a risk to human safety, as the hunter cannot realistically account for topography, wind, or other variables present in the field.

HJR1026 SHORTGRASS PRAIRIE PRESERVATION

(McFadyen, Schwartz)

Position Neutral

Status: Dead

HJR1026 was a resolution calling on the State to adopt policies to preserve and protect shortgrass prairie habitat and species. While we are very supportive of the mission to protect prairie species, there were several clauses in the resolution that were suspect. Although HJR1026 died, we look forward to conversations with the sponsors and proponents about additional protection of shortgrass prairie systems.

That's it for this session. Interim committees will begin in mid-June. We anticipate a busy interim particularly for the water resources review committee.

Have a GREAT summer!

Jen

For more information contact:

Jen Boulton

303-841-6905 (office)

303-579-9334 (cell)