



# 2013 State Legislative Scorecard

*Stefan Heinisch photo.*



Montana Conservation Voters fights to protect clean water and air and our outdoor heritage by involving people in government. Through our affiliated political arm, MCV uniquely works to elect legislators, local and statewide officials who stand up for Montana’s conservation values. MCV is a non-partisan, grassroots membership organization with members throughout the state, and chapters in Flathead, Missoula, Gallatin, Park and Yellowstone counties.

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# Conservation Collaboration: Working Together to Protect Montana

Montana Conservation Voters determines legislative priorities in collaboration with the Conservation Working Group, a diverse coalition of groups whose staff, most of whom work in the legislature, identify common priorities to maintain healthy communities.

MCV produces briefing and educational materials for lawmakers and the public throughout the session, including the weekly *Conservation Hotlist*. The *Hotlist* summarizes priority legislation, provides contact information for the lead group working on the bill, and clearly identifies the Conservation Working Group’s position on the legislation. MCV distributes the *Hotlist* to legislators and the public.

This scorecard draws votes from hotlisted bills that represent a portfolio of priority conservation and environmental issues, and consensus positions among the Conservation Working Group.

We deeply appreciate the members of the Conservation Working Group, and thank them for their policy expertise and continued collaboration: Alternative Energy Resources Organization; Clark Fork Coalition; Community Food and Agriculture Coalition; Greater Yellowstone Coalition; Montana Audubon; Montana Environmental Information Center; Montana Public Interest Research Group; Montana Sierra Club; Montana Smart Growth Coalition; Montana Trout Unlimited and Northern Plains Resource Organization.



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**W**hat would Montana look like today if Steve Bullock were not Montana's Governor? Many blue ribbon trout streams would be threatened by new cyanide gold mining and severely weakened water quality laws—something that very nearly happened with SB 347, a bill the Legislature passed and Governor Bullock vetoed.

Montana's thriving clean, renewable energy industry would be side-tracked—and some say ground to a halt—without the Governor's veto of SB 31. Agricultural land would have suffered from the ravages of haphazard growth and local governments would have lost critical tools to map out their future in the face of development. Cherished water rights would have gone down the drain. Our incredible wildlife heritage and bison herds would be a thing of the past. And coal, oil and gas development would receive more multi-million dollar tax breaks.

As a Montana Conservation Voters member, you can be proud of our work to help recruit and elect candidates who stand up for clean water, wild country, and a clean, renewable energy future. Governor Bullock and many conservationists in the Legislature stood strong for our values. But despite our wins in 2012 at the ballot box, the best we can say about the 2013 Legislative session is "it could have been worse."

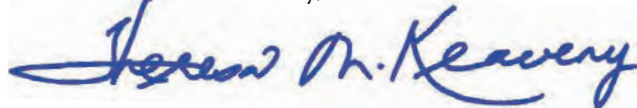
Imagine if conservationists held the majority in the Legislature. Our incredible fish and wildlife heritage would be protected and readily accessible to current and future generations. Montanans would enjoy programs and a revolving loan fund promoting energy conservation and clean, renewable energy. Out of state oil and gas corporations would have to pay their fair share, and offset the impacts of development, because their tax holiday would finally be repealed. The party of Teddy Roosevelt would once more stand up for balanced policies that promote resource stewardship. The majority of legislators would have voting records that are in line with the conservation values of Montana's citizens.

That's a vision Montana Conservation Voters wants to make a reality as we celebrate our 15th anniversary next year.

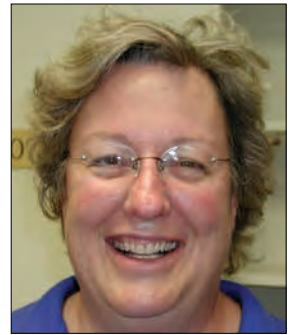
Since we began in 1999, Montana Conservation Voters has helped shift the balance of power in favor of conservation and environmental protection in statewide offices, at the city level, and in the U.S. Senate. In many instances, our candidate recruitment and electoral work made the difference that put conservation champions in office. There are now 31 MCV members in the Montana Legislature—over 20 percent—and dozens more with excellent voting records. But that's not enough for a Conservation Majority.

I'd like to count on you to help make Montana Conservation Voters' 15th anniversary vision a reality. Use this scorecard to learn how your legislators voted. Thank those who stood against bills that attacked our clean water, clean energy, and world-class fish and wildlife. Hold accountable those who are out of step. Thank Governor Bullock for his support. Recruit legislative candidates today and help get them elected next year, in newly drawn legislative districts. Attend an upcoming Montana Conservation Voters gathering and be part of our growing grassroots organization. Visit [www.mtvoters.org](http://www.mtvoters.org) today.

Because for Montana's clean water and wild country, who we elect matters!



Theresa Keaveny, Executive Director



**Thanks to the 121 members who attended one of our four Lobby Days; to the more than 50 people who made weekly phone calls to voters; and to the 2 dozen members who wrote letters to the editor and guest commentaries.**



## Montanans Defend Clean Energy, Wildlife, and Community Planning

*How did Montana's land, air and water fare in the 2013 Legislative Session?*

*Montanans stood strong and defeated attempts to degrade blue-ribbon trout streams and reduce opportunities to hunt and fish. While efforts to roll back the laws that protect public health and clean water spanned the gamut, most attacks were concentrated around wildlife, clean energy and land-use planning.*

### WILDLIFE AND HUNTING

According to the Outdoor Recreation Industry Association, hunting, fishing, and Montana's outdoor recreation industry contribute \$5.8 billion in consumer spending and 68,000 direct jobs to our economy. Dozens of bills threatened Montana's outdoor heritage, specifically risking fair chase hunting.

**Five bills would have nearly eradicated free roaming bison in the state, including on sovereign American Indian Reservations.** The most egregious, SB 143 (Brendan, R-Scobey), created a zero-tolerance policy for bison outside

Yellowstone National Park or the National Bison Range near Dixon. Native American leaders from around the Northern Rockies joined forces with conservationists and sportsmen and women to kill these bills. **SB 397 would have dramatically altered predator management**, allowing wolf snares, bait hunting, and the use of hounds to hunt black bears. Sportsmen and women contended that these practices violated fair chase principles; wildlife managers argued liberalizing hunting should be based on scientific management, not

political ideology.

**Anti-wildlife bills were not limited to predators.** Freshman Rep. Nancy Ballance (R-Hamilton) sponsored legislation establishing a fund to pay landowners for damage to crops and other private property by wildlife (HB 375), and another bill to allow counties to manage game species (HB 376).



In the end, hundreds of Montanans rallied, called and emailed legislators, demanding fair and science-based wildlife management. Some of these anti-wildlife bills died in legislative process, and Governor Bullock vetoed the rest.



### RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN ENERGY JOBS

We have nearly met the requirements of the Renewable Energy Standard (RES), the law that requires utilities to acquire 15% of their energy resources from clean and new renewable energy resources by 2015. This session, **conservationists helped pass SJ6**, a study resolution sponsored by Sen. Alan Olson (R-Roundup), chair of the Senate Energy Committee. The study resolution directs the interim legislative energy committee to **report on the economic and environmental effects of the RES** over the next 18 months. There will be many opportunities for the public to engage in the process through the interim committee.

Since Montana passed a Renewable Energy Standard (RES) in 2005, legislators have repeatedly tried to weaken it. This year, conservationists and clean energy advocates around the nation faced similar efforts to “water-down” or eliminate laws that promote renewable energy. These bills were seeded by ALEC, the right-wing and fossil-fuel funded American Legislative Exchange Council. Sen. Debby Barrett (R-Dillon) carried SB 31, a bill that would have counted the energy produced from dams toward the standard. Other legislation nearly eliminated the requirement for utilities to invest in smaller, community-based renewable projects (SB 125). Governor Bullock vetoed both bills.

**The Legislature did amend the RES in 2013.** First, Sen. Keane’s bill SB 45 allowed the energy produced from upgrades to existing dams to count toward the standard. Further, legislators revised the RES to allow wood treated with creosote, arsenic, and pentachlorophenol (PCP) to be used as biomass. SB 325 was amended to limit the use of potentially toxic, treated wood to small facilities of less than 5 mega watts, but public health advocates are still concerned the bill provides an incentive for burning toxic materials that pollute air and water.

**On the upside, small business owners came close to expanding opportunities for small-scale, distributed renewable energy.** There are more than 950 roof-top solar panels, backyard wind turbines and micro-hydro systems in Montana connected to the grid that generate electricity for homeowners, farmers, ranchers, schools, and fire stations. These systems are known as “net-metering,” which means that the owner receives a credit on their power bill for the energy they produce. Despite a large and growing number of systems in the state, net-metered renewable energy projects still generate only a tiny fraction of all the electricity we use. SB 247 (Sen. Mike Phillips, Bozeman) and HB 394 (Rep. Tom Jacobson, Great Falls) would have enhanced this sector but were narrowly defeated.

## RESPONSIBLE PLANNING AND LOCAL CONTROL

**The Subdivision and Platting Act** is used by local governments to ensure that development benefits communities. In 2013, the primary attack on subdivision review limited the information that could be considered during the review process, including the effects of development on agricultural land (SB 147). This bill passed the Legislature, and Gov. Bullock vetoed it.

**Interim zoning** is used by local governments to maintain and protect private property rights when considering new land use proposals. Montanans have used interim zoning in the past when faced with rapid, haphazard development associated with coal bed methane development, open-pit mining operations, or medical marijuana storefronts. The Legislature passed SB 105, which would have undermined this tool, preventing local governments from adopting interim zoning if a complete application has been filed for a project that is subject to state permitting. Gov. Bullock vetoed the bill.

Developers also tried to **reduce review and public scrutiny of open-cut mines** or gravel pits. SB 24, sponsored by Sen. Rosendale (R-Glendive) would have allowed gravel mining operators to file for a permit at nearly any point in the zoning process, preempting local zoning. Again, our governor vetoed the legislation.

**Finally, Montana’s decades-old debate over so-called “exempt wells” raged on in 2013.** This exemption allows new water users to drill a well that pumps less than 35 gallons per minute and 10 acre feet of water per year without a permit from the DNRC. SB 19 sponsored by Sen. Hamlett (D-Great Falls) would have codified this exemption, encouraging water users to exploit our streams and groundwater at the expense of other senior water-right holders. Gov. Bullock vetoed SB 19.



Dan Burden photo.



## These legislators deserve a special thank you.



**Thanks to Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D–Helena)**, who demanded safe communities, tax fairness and corporate accountability by sponsoring SB 295, the bill to repeal the oil and gas tax holiday. Sen. Kaufmann has earned a 100% in every session since she began in 2001. She is a tireless and expert advocate for Montana’s people and special places.

**Thanks to** the delegation from Butte-Silverbow, where the average voting record improved by 19% in the House (from a 71% to a 90%) and by 7% in the Senate (from a 63% to a 70%). As Democratic leader in the Senate, Sen. Sesso’s score increased by 14%, the greatest gain in that chamber. The delegation provided leadership (Rep. McCafferty and Sen. Sesso) and innovation. For example, freshman **Rep. Amanda Curtis (D–Butte)** kept Montanans informed with innovation and honesty, posting regular video blogs describing her daily life in the Legislature. Her regular communication with her constituents and the broader public provided valuable and frank insight into legislative life.



**Thanks to Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D–Crow Agency)** for speaking up for wildlife and tribal sovereignty. Along with fellow members of the Native American caucus, she defended sound wildlife management against an onslaught of radical “zero-tolerance-for-bison” legislation.

**Thanks to Rep. Kelly Flynn (R–Townsend)**, who’s score improved the most between 2011 and 2013, gaining a significant 17%.

**Among the 31 MCV members in the Legislature, we are proud to recognize four former state MCV board members:** Rep. Virginia Court (D–Billings), Rep. Mary McNally (D–Billings), Sen. Dick Barrett (D–Missoula) and Sen. Cliff Larsen (D–Missoula).



**Thanks to Governor Bullock** and his **Natural Resource Policy Advisor Tim Baker**. Governor Bullock vetoed a dozen bills that jeopardized Montana’s outdoor heritage. Thank him for standing up for clean water and public land. E-mail him through an online contact form at [bit.ly/emailgov](mailto:tim.baker@mt.gov).

## Farewell and thank you

These MCV-endorsed, term-limited legislators will be missed: Sen. Larry Jent (D–Bozeman), Sen. Mitch Tropila (D–Great Falls), Rep. Franke Wilmer (D–Bozeman) and Sen. Dave Wanzenreid (D–Missoula).



## Notable Changes in Individual Scores

Representative	HD	City	+/-
Flynn, Kelly (R)	68	Townsend	17
McCafferty, Edith (D)	75	Butte	12
Swanson, Kathy (D)	86	Anaconda	12
Noonan, Pat (D)	73	Ramsay	11
Connell, Patrick (R)	87	Conner	-24
Fitzpatrick, Steve (R)	20	Great Falls	-24
Hoven, Brian (R)	24	Great Falls	-36

Senator	SD	City	+/-
Sesso, Jon (D)	37	Butte	14
Jent, Larry (D)	32	Bozeman	-21
Hamlett, Bradley (D)	10	Cascade	-28

The following shows the legislators in the House and Senate with the most improved scores from 2011 to 2013 and the legislators with scores that decreased the most from 2011 to 2013.

## Legislators Place Referendum on Ballot to Repeal Election Day Registration

Montana Conservation Voters helped pass the law enabling Montanans to register and vote on Election Day in 2005 because it is central to our mission to expand opportunities for citizens to participate in democracy. Since then, 28,000 Montanans have exercised that right. States like Montana with same day registration have significantly higher turnout than the national average; voters are 10 to 17 percent more likely to cast a ballot. Late and Election Day registration and voting are clearly an asset to the state.

Election Day registration safeguards against bureaucratic errors that would otherwise disenfranchise qualified voters. In 2012 in Montana, Election Day registrants cited problems with their registration originating at the Department of Motor Vehicles. Other voters moved since registration, and learned when they arrived at their polling place they were required by Montana law to re-register. Election Day registration provided a remedy to these mistakes, and has helped make Montana's voter participation one of the highest in the nation.

This year, Rep. Washburn (R-Bozeman) sponsored HB 30, which would have repealed Election Day registration and rolled it back to the Friday before election. Similar, highly partisan measures supported only by Republican majorities were introduced and defeated in 2007 and 2009, and Governor Schweitzer vetoed a bill like HB 30 in 2011.

In keeping with the recent practice of side-stepping vetoes by placing measures on the ballot (which requires a simple majority vote), SB 405 was introduced at the 11th hour with less than 2 hours notice for the hearing. The measure essentially puts HB 30 on the ballot, but the title deceives voters, referring to the proposal as 'protect(ing) the integrity of Montana elections' and 'ensuring compliance with the National Voter Registration Act.' The referendum does neither. The bill passed largely along party lines

with Republican Representatives Rob Cook (Conrad), Steve Gibson (East Helena) and Doc Moore (Missoula) joining Democrats to oppose the bill on 3rd reading in the House. All Senate Republicans supported it.

Several other bills to restrict voter rights and access to the polls were introduced and defeated in the legislature. Notably, HB 108 (Rep. Washburn, R-Bozeman) would have made Montana's voter proof of identify requirements the most restrictive in the nation. It was tabled in the House State Administration Committee. The committee also tabled HB 428 (Rep. Kary, R-Billings), which would have allowed counties to decide whether to eliminate polling places for state and federal elections and instead conduct those elections by mail. Rep. Washburn's HB 410 attempted to restrict third party groups from registering voters and enrolling voters for absentee ballots. Those provisions were amended out of the bill, and as amended the bill passed and was signed into law.

### Expanding Access to Voting

The Legislature considered other proposals that would have made it easier for Montanans to register and vote. SB 206 (Sen. Wanzenried, D-Missoula) would have allowed qualified voters with a valid Montana's driver's license or state ID to register electronically. Seventeen states allow online, paperless registration. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, Arizona implemented online voter registration in 2002, and now over 70% of registrations are done online. The state also witnessed an increase of 9.5% in voter registration within the first two years of online registration. Arizona reports a significant reduction in costs associated with processing registration, and an increase in accuracy. While there were no opponents to SB 206, it died in committee. HB 327 (Rep. Wilmer, D-Bozeman) allowed youth election judges but was tabled as well.

**Learn more about the campaign to protect our right to vote as well as additional voting-related legislation at [www.mtvotersfund.org](http://www.mtvotersfund.org)**

# 2013 House of Representatives Scores

+ : Vote in **support** of MCV's position  
 - : Vote **against** MCV's position  
 A/E : Absent or excused, not counted in score  
**BOLD** : MCV-endorsed candidates

Dist	Representative	City	Term Limit	Oppose, FWPP pay for damage from wildfire, 2nd reading	Oppose, Defund Habitat Montana, 3rd reading	Support, Increase energy eff. tax credits, 2nd reading	Oppose, Reduce review for mega loads, 3rd reading	Oppose, Codify exempt wells, 3rd reading	Oppose, Permits for gravel pits, 3rd reading	Oppose, Water-down RES, 3rd reading
				HB375	HB404	HB429	HB513	SB19	SB24	SB31
43	Ankney, Duane (R)	Colstrip	2014	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
89	Ballance, Nancy (R)	Hamilton	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80	Bangerter, Liz (R)	Helena	2018	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
92	<b>Bennett, Bryce (D)</b>	Missoula	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1	Bennett, Gerald (R)	Libby	2016	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	Berry, Tom (R)	Roundup	2016	+	<b>E</b>	-	-	<b>E</b>	-	-
10	Blasdel, Mark (R)	Somers	2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	Blyton, Joanne (R)	Joliet	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	<b>Boland, Carlie (D)</b>	Great Falls	2016	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
32	Brockie, Clarena (D)	Harlem	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
7	Brodehl, Randy (R)	Kalispell	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	<b>Calf Boss Ribs, Frosty (D)</b>	Heart Butte	2020	+	+	+	+	+	<b>E</b>	+
17	Clark, Christy (R)	Choteau	2018	-	-	+	-	+	-	-
93	<b>Coffin, Douglas (D)</b>	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
87	Connell, Patrick (R)	Conner	2018	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
27	Cook, Rob (R)	Brady	2018	+	-	-	-	+	-	+
52	<b>Court, Virginia (D)</b>	Billings	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	Cuffe, Mike (R)	Eureka	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
76	Curtis, Amanda (D)	Butte	2020	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
38	Doane, Alan (R)	Bloomfield	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99	<b>Dudik, Kimberly (D)</b>	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
82	<b>Eck, Jenny (D)</b>	Helena	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
100	Edmunds, Champ (R)	Missoula	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
88	Ehli, Ron (R)	Hamilton	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
46	Fiscus, Clayton (R)	Billings	2020	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
20	Fitzpatrick, Steve (R)	Great Falls	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
68	Flynn, Kelly (R)	Townsend	2018	<b>A</b>	-	+	-	+	-	-
83	Galt, Wylie (R)	Martinsdale	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
78	Gibson, Steve (R)	East Helena	2018	+	-	-	-	-	+	-
6	Glimm, Carl (R)	Kila	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
90	Greef, Edward (R)	Florence	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
98	Gursky, Jenifer (D)	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
19	Hagan, Roger (R)	Great Falls	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
53	Hagstrom, Dave (R)	Billings	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Halvorson, David (R)	Sidney	2020	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
33	Hansen, Kristin (R)	Havre	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Harris, Bill (R)	Mosby	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Hertz, Greg (R)	Polson	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
94	<b>Hill, Ellie (D)</b>	Missoula	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
28	Hollandsworth, Roy (R)	Brady	2016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
81	<b>Hollenbaugh, Galen (D)</b>	Helena	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
24	Hoven, Brian (R)	Great Falls	2016	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
60	Howard, David (R)	Park City	2016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
79	<b>Hunter, Chuck (D)</b>	Helena	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
13	Ingraham, Pat (R)	Thompson Falls	2014	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	<b>Jacobson, Tom (D)</b>	Great Falls	2020	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
56	Jones, Don (R)	Billings	2020	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
48	Kary, Douglas (R)	Billings	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
58	Kerns, Krayton (R)	Laurel	2014	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Knudsen, Austin (R)	Culbertson	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



# 2013 House of Representatives Scores

Oppose, Restrict interim zoning, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Decrease community renewables, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Tax breaks for fossil fuel production, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Eradicate free-roaming bison, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Remove ag land from subdivision review, 3rd reading  
 Opposed, Tie FWP \$ to specific parcels of land, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Allow mining co's to degrade water, 3rd reading

## Past Scores

SB105	SB125	SB138	SB143	SB147	SB250	SB347	2013	2011	2009	2007	Representative
-	E	-	+	-	-	-	23	19	27	8	Ankney
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Ballance
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	29	-	-	Bangerter
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Bennett
-	-	E	-	-	-	-	8	0	18	-	Bennett
-	-	+	+	-	-	A	27	19	27	-	Berry
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	0	Blasdel
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	Blyton
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93	100	100	-	Boland
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Brockie
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	-	Brodehl
E	E	E	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Calf Boss Ribs
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	19	-	-	Clark
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Coffin
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	31	-	-	Connell
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	38	-	-	Cook
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Court
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	-	-	Cuffe
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93	-	-	-	Curtis
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Doane
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Dudik
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Eck
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	-	-	Edmunds
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14	19	-	-	Ehli
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Fiscus
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	31	-	-	Fitzpatrick
-	+	-	-	-	-	-	23	6	-	-	Flynn
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Galt
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	21	38	-	-	Gibson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Glimm
-	-	-	+	-	+	-	14	13	-	-	Greef
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Gursky
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Hagan
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Hagstrom
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Halvorson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	-	Hansen
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	-	Harris
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	Hertz
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Hill
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	7	13	27	-	Hollandsworth
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	Hollenbaugh
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	14	50	36	-	Hoven
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0	-	Howard
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	94	100	-	Hunter
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	18	8	Ingraham
+	+	+	+	-	+	+	57	-	-	-	Jacobson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	Jones
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	19	-	-	Kary
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	13	0	8	Kerns
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	-	Knudsen

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**BOLD** : MCV-endorsed candidates

Dist	Representative	City	Term Limit	Oppose, FWP pay for damage from wildlife, 2nd reading	Oppose, Defund Habitat Montana, 3rd reading	Support, Increase energy eff. tax credits, 2nd reading	Oppose, Reduce review for mega loads, 3rd reading	Oppose, Codify exempt wells, 3rd reading	Oppose, Permits for gravel pits, 3rd reading	Oppose, Water-down RES, 3rd reading
				HB375	HB404	HB429	HB513	SB19	SB24	SB31
35	Lang, Mike (R)	Malta	2020	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
57	Laszloffy, Sarah (R)	Laurel	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Lavin, Steve (R)	Kalispell	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
50	Lenz, Dennis (R)	Billings	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	<b>Lieser, Ed (D)</b>	Whitefish	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
74	Lynch, Ryan (D)	Butte	2020	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
54	<b>MacDonald, Margie (D)</b>	Billings	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
51	<b>McCarthy, Kelly (D)</b>	Billings	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
40	McChesney, Bill (D)	Miles City	2014	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
75	McClafferty, Edith (D)	Butte	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
49	<b>McNally, Mary (D)</b>	Billings	2018	+	+	+	+	+	<b>E</b>	+
44	McNiven, Jonathan (R)	Huntley	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Mehlhoff, Robert (D)	Great Falls	2016	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
84	Miller, Mike (R)	Helmville	2016	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
91	Moore, David (R)	Missoula	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
62	<b>Neill, Reilly (D)</b>	Livingston	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
73	Noonan, Pat (D)	Ramsay	2016	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
18	O'Hara, Jesse (R)	Great Falls	2014	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
3	O'Neil, Jerry (R)	Columbia Falls	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Osmundson, Ryan (R)	Buffalo	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	<b>Pease-Lopez, Carolyn (D)</b>	Billings	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
41	Peppers, Patricia (D)	Lame Deer	2020	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
85	Pierson, Gordon (D)	Deer Lodge	2020	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
66	<b>Pomnichowski, Jennifer (D)</b>	Bozeman	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
21	<b>Price, Jean (D)</b>	Great Falls	2018	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
39	Randall, Lee (R)	Broadus	2016	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
61	Redfield, Alan (R)	Livingston	2020	-	+	-	-	+	-	-
5	Regier, Keith (R)	Kalispell	2016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Reichner, Scott (R)	Bigfork	2016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Salomon, Daniel (R)	Ronan	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	<b>Schreiner, Casey (D)</b>	Great Falls	2020	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
14	Schwaderer, Nicholas (R)	Superior	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
71	Shaw, Ray (R)	Sheridan	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Smith, Bridget (D)	Wolf Point	2020	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
55	Smith, Cary (R)	Billings	2016	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
96	<b>Squires, Carolyn (D)</b>	Missoula	2018	+	+	+	<b>E</b>	-	+	+
95	<b>Steenberg, Tom (D)</b>	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
86	<b>Swanson, Kathy (D)</b>	Anaconda	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
67	Vance, Gordon (R)	Bozeman	2016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
77	Wagoner, Kirk (R)	Montana City	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Warburton, Wendy (R)	Havre	2016	+	-	-	<b>E</b>	+	-	-
69	Washburn, Ted (R)	Bozeman	2016	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
72	Welborn, Jeffrey (R)	Dillon	2016	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
70	White, Kerry (R)	Bozeman	2020	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
16	<b>Whitford, Lea (D)</b>	Cut Bank	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
65	<b>Williams, Kathleen (D)</b>	Bozeman	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
63	<b>Wilmer, Franke (D)</b>	Bozeman	2014	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
97	<b>Wilson, Nancy (D)</b>	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
64	<b>Woods, Tom (D)</b>	Bozeman	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
47	Zolnikov, Daniel (R)	Billings	2020	-	-	-	-	-	<b>A</b>	-

# 2013 House of Representatives Scores

Oppose, Restrict interim zoning, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Decrease community renewables, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Tax breaks for fossil fuel production, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Eradicate free-roaming bison, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Remove ag land from subdivision review, 3rd reading  
 Opposed, Tie FWP \$ to specific parcels of land, 3rd reading  
 Oppose, Allow mining co's to degrade water, 3rd reading

## Past Scores

SB105	SB125	SB138	SB143	SB147	SB250	SB347	2013	2011	2009	2007	Representative
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	Lang
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Laszloffy
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	13	-	-	Lavin
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Lenz
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Lieser
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	86	-	-	-	Lynch
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	MacDonald
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	McCarthy
+	-	+	+	-	+	-	64	75	82	54	McChesney
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	93	81	73	-	McClafferty
E	E	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	McNally
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	-	McNiven
+	+	+	+	-	+	+	71	80	82	-	Mehlhoff
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	9	-	Miller
-	-	+	+	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	Moore
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Neill
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	86	75	64	-	Noonan
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	21	27	36	15	O'Hara
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	9	O'Neil
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	-	Osmundson
+	E	+	+	+	E	+	100	94	91	-	Pease-Lopez
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	86	-	-	-	Peppers
+	-	+	+	+	+	-	71	-	-	-	Pierson
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	100	100	Pomnichowski
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93	100	-	-	Price
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	0	-	Randall
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	Redfield
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	18	-	Regier
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	18	-	Reichner
-	-	-	+	-	-	+	14	6	-	-	Salomon
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93	-	-	-	Schreiner
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Schwaderer
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Shaw
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	86	-	-	-	Smith
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	0	-	Smith
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	92	100	100	100	Squires
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Steenberg
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	88	-	-	Swanson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	-	Vance
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Wagoner
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	13	9	-	Warburton
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	25	45	-	Washburn
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	18	-	Welborn
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	White
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Whitford
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Williams
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	Wilmer
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Wilson
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	-	-	-	Woods
A	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	Zolnikov



# 2013 Senate Scores

+ : Vote in **support** of MCV's position  
 - : Vote **against** MCV's position  
 A/E : Absent or excused, not counted in score  
**BOLD** : MCV-endorsed candidates

Dist	Senator	City	Term Limit	Oppose, Defund Habitat Montana, 2nd reading	Oppose, Codify exempt wells, 3rd reading	Oppose, Permits for gravel pits, 3rd reading	Oppose, Water-down RES, 3rd reading	Oppose, Restrict interim zoning, 3rd reading	Oppose, Decrease community renewables, 3rd reading	Oppose, Tax breaks for fossil fuel production, 3rd reading
				HB404	SB19	SB24	SB31	SB105	SB125	SB138
27	Arntzen, Elsie (R)	Billings	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Arthun, Ron (R)	Wilsall	2018	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
8	Augare, Shannon (D)	Browning	2018	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
36	Barrett, Debby (R)	Dillon	2016	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
47	<b>Barrett, Dick (D)</b>	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
11	<b>Blewett, Anders (D)</b>	Great Falls	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
44	Boulanger, Scott (R)	Darby	2024	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Brenden, John (R)	Scobey	2016	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
2	Brown, Dee (R)	Hungry Horse	2020	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
22	Brown, Taylor (R)	Huntley	2016	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
13	Buttrey, Edward (R)	Great Falls	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	<b>Cafarro, Mary (D)</b>	Helena	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
26	<b>Driscoll, Robyn (D)</b>	Billings	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
28	Essmann, Jeff (R)	Billings	2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
48	<b>Facey, Tom (D)</b>	Missoula	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
7	Felder, Jennifer (R)	Thompson Falls	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	<b>Hamlett, Bradley (D)</b>	Cascade	2016	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
5	Jackson, Verdell (R)	Kalispell	2014	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	<b>Jent, Larry (D)</b>	Bozeman	2014	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
17	<b>Jergeson, Greg (D)</b>	Chinook	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
14	Jones, Llew (R)	Conrad	2018	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
41	<b>Kaufmann, Christine (D)</b>	Helena	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
38	Keane, Jim (D)	Butte	2016	+	-	-	-	+	-	+
50	<b>Larsen, Cliff (D)</b>	Missoula	2016	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
42	Lewis, Dave (R)	Helena	2014	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
46	<b>Malek, Sue (D)</b>	Missoula	2020	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
20	Moore, Frederick (R)	Miles City	2018	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
39	Murphy, Terry (R)	Cardwell	2014	-	+	-	-	+	-	-
23	Olson, Alan (R)	Roundup	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Peterson, Jim (R)	Buffalo	2014	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
33	<b>Phillips, Mike (D)</b>	Bozeman	2020	+	+	-	+	+	<b>E</b>	+
30	Priest, Jason (R)	Red Lodge	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Ripley, Rick (R)	Wolf Creek	2016	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
19	Rosendale, Matthew (R)	Glendive	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Sales, Scott (R)	Bozeman	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Sesso, Jon (D)	Butte	2020	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
4	Sonju, Jon (R)	Kalispell	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Stewart Peregoy, Sharon (D)	Crow Agency	2016	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
6	Taylor, Janna (R)	Dayton	2020	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
45	Thomas, Fred (R)	Stevensville	2020	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	<b>Tropila, Mitch (D)</b>	Great Falls	2014	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
3	Tutvedt, Bruce (R)	Kalispell	2016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	<b>Van Dyk, Kendall (D)</b>	Billings	2018	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1	Vincent, Chas (R)	Libby	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
43	Vuckovich, Gene (D)	Anaconda	2018	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
29	Walker, Edward (R)	Billings	2018	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
49	<b>Wanzenried, Dave (D)</b>	Missoula	2014	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
24	Webb, Roger (R)	Billings	2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Windy Boy, Jonathan (D)	Box Elder	2016	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
35	Wittich, Art (R)	Bozeman	2018	-	-	+	-	+	+	-

# 2013 Senate Scores

Oppose, Eradicate free-roaming bison, 3rd reading	Oppose, Remove ag land from subdivision review, 3rd reading	Oppose, No net gain in state land, 3rd reading	Support, Increase net-metering, Motion to Reconsider	Oppose, Restrict FWP maintenance \$, 3rd reading	Support, Repeal the oil and gas tax holiday, Blast Motion	Oppose, Allow mining co's to degrade water, 3rd reading	Oppose, Eradicate predators, 2nd reading	Past Scores				Senator
SB143	SB147	SB237	SB247	SB250	SB295	SB347	SB397	2013	2011	2009	2007	Senator
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	27	0	Arntzen
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	6	-	-	Arthun
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	87	94	70	92	Augare
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	8	0	Barrett
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Barrett
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	93	94	100	-	Blewett
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Boulanger
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	8	-	Brenden
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	36	-	Brown
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13	13	31	-	Brown
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	Buttrey
+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	93	94	100	100	Caferro
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	94	91	100	Driscoll
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	23	27	Essmann
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	-	-	Facey
+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	Fielder
-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	53	81	69	-	Hamlett
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	7	0	15	9	Jackson
+	+	+	+	E	+	-	+	79	100	100	100	Jent
-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	73	-	-	-	Jergeson
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13	13	30	25	Jones
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	Kaufmann
+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	53	50	54	46	Keane
+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	87	100	100	-	Larsen
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	8	55	Lewis
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	-	Malek
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	13	-	-	Moore
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	13	23	27	Murphy
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	8	Olson
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	6	8	9	Peterson
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	86	100	91	92	Phillips
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	-	Priest
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	8	0	Ripley
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	-	-	Rosendale
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	8	Sales
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	87	73	82	85	Sesso
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	13	9	8	Sonju
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	94	83	-	Stewart Peregoy
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	0	0	Taylor
-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	Thomas
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	93	100	92	82	Tropila
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	23	-	Tutvedt
+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	93	100	100	100	Van Dyk
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	27	0	Vincent
-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	60	69	-	-	Vuckovich
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	0	-	-	Walker
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	91	Wanzenried
-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	Webb
+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	80	94	77	100	Windy Boy
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	31	-	-	Wittich

## The following votes are featured in the 2013 legislative scorecard:

### CLEAN AND ABUNDANT WATER

#### SB 19, Give away water to developers



**Sponsor:** Sen. Hamlett (D-Cascade). This bill codifies a loophole in the Department of Natural Resources' regulations, allowing "exempt wells," jeopardizing senior water rights and stream flow. The bill was primarily supported by building and development interests, including realtors and well-drillers, and opposed broadly by a diverse group from agricultural groups including the MT Stockgrowers Association and MT Farm Bureau, senior water-right holders, conservation groups like Montana Trout Unlimited and the Clark Fork Coalition, oil and gas interests,

and PPL Montana.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 26-24  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 54-45  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed

#### SB 347, Allow mining companies to dewater rivers and streams

**Sponsor:** Sen. Vincent (R-Libby). This bill would have allowed companies without water rights to dry up Montana's streams and rivers without any review of the impacts on water quality. Hard rock mining companies were the primary proponents, while conservation organizations, the Montana Department of Natural Resources,

the MT Department of Environmental Quality and agricultural interests opposed.



**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed as Amended by House, 39-11  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 64-35  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed

### RESPONSIBLE LAND USE

#### SB 24, Allow gravel mine permits without due process

**Sponsor:** Sen. Rosendale (R-Glendive). SB 24 would have allowed gravel mining operators to file for a permit at nearly any point in the zoning process, preempting local zoning. The bill was supported by the MT Association of Realtors and other development interests, and opposed by the MT Association of Planners, Montana Smart Growth Coalition and other conservation interests.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 33-17  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 63-34  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed

#### SB 105, Restrict local control of interim zoning

**Sponsor:** Sen. Brown (R-Huntley). This bill would have restricted local governments' ability to implement interim zoning. Proponents included building and development interests, as well as a Yellowstone County Commissioner. Opponents included the MT Department of Commerce, a Lewis and Clark County Commissioner, and conservation organizations like the Montana Smart Growth Coalition.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 27-23  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 60-37  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed



## **SB 147, Limit local governments' ability to protect farmland**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Buttrey (R-Great Falls). This bill would have restricted a local government's ability to mitigate impacts to agricultural land in subdivision review. The bill was supported primarily by realtors and the Montana Building Industry Association, and was opposed by many farmers and ranchers, the City of Missoula, The MT Association of Planners, the Ag Land Network, the Community Food and Agriculture Coalition and other agricultural groups and conservation organizations.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 30-20  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 64-36  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed



## **CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

### **SB 31, Destroy the Renewable Energy Standard**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Barrett (R-Dillon). SB 31 would have made the Renewable Energy Standard (RES) meaningless. It eliminated incentives for new, diverse and often community-based renewable energy development like wind, swamping the standard by counting the energy produced by dams. This bill lacked broad support, but proponents included Pennsylvania, Power and Light and Public Service Commissioner Bob Lake. The bill was opposed by the MT Department of Commerce, conservation groups like the Montana Environmental Information Center and MontPIRG, and renewable energy and consumer advocates.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 32-18  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 61-39  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed

### **SB125, Undermine requirements for community renewable energy development**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Olson (R-Roundup). This bill would have undermined efforts to promote community renewable energy projects in rural areas across the state by significantly reducing the penalty utilities must pay if they do not comply with the Community Renewable Energy Projects provision of the Renewable Energy Standard. The bill's single proponent was Northwestern Energy. Opponents included Gaelectric Wind Energy, and renewable energy, conservation, agricultural and consumer advocacy groups like the Renewable Northwest Project and Northern Plains Resource Council.



**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed as Amended to House, 27-22  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 61-35  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed

### **SB 138, Give millions in tax breaks to coal, oil and gas**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Wittich (R-Bozeman). This bill would have given new coal, oil and gas development a significant tax break, reducing taxable percentage from 12 to 3 and substantially reducing a critical tax revenue source. The bill was backed by Northwestern Energy, and opposed by the MT Department of Revenue and conservation groups.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Scored:** 2nd Reading, Passed 29-21  
**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading, Passed 58-40  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed



## **SB 247, Increase residential and business renewable energy installations**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Phillips (D-Bozeman). This bill would have expanded opportunities to install and use small scale clean energy systems on homes and businesses. Proponents included many small businesses that install renewable energy and energy efficiency systems, the Montana Renewable Energy Association, conservation and consumer advocates and the MT Department of Environmental Quality. There were two opponents; Northwestern Energy and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The bill passed out of committee, but failed 2nd reading on the Senate floor. Sen. Phillips attempted to secure another vote on the bill through a “motion to reconsider,” which also failed.

### **Conservation Community**

**Position:** Support

**Senate Vote Score:** Motion to Reconsider, Failed 24-26

**Bill Status:** Dead

## **HB 429, Increase energy efficiency tax credits**

**Sponsor:** Rep. Wilmer (D-Bozeman). This bill would have increased the tax credit that homeowners may claim for the installation of measures that

make a home more energy efficient, or for the installation of residential renewable energy systems. Proponents included the Helena Building Industry Association, clean energy advocates and conservation groups like the Alternative Energy Resources Organization. There were no opponents. The bill died on the House floor.

**Conservation Community Position:** Support

**House Vote Score:** 2nd Reading Failed, 46-54

**Bill Status:** Dead



Jack Dykinga, USDA photo.

## **FISH AND WILDLIFE**

## **SB 143, Decimate Montana’s bison population**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Brenden (R-Scobey). This bill would have set up a “no tolerance” policy for wild bison within the state of Montana, setting a dangerous precedence for irresponsible wildlife management and restricting translocation of the wildlife to tribal locations. The bill was supported by the Stockgrowers Association and the Farm Bureau, and opposed by a large coalition of tribes and tribal interests, sportsmen and women, conservation groups, wildlife advocates and the MT Board of Livestock. The bill died on the House floor on a tie vote.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose

**Senate Vote Score:** 2nd Reading, Passed 31-19

**House Vote Score:** 3rd Reading, Failed 50-50

**Bill Status:** Dead

## **SB 397, Take the science out of predator management**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Boulanger (R-Darby). The bill would have extended the hunting season for predators, threatening grizzly bears and other endangered species, allowing bait hunting, trapping, hound hunting and wolf snares. It was supported by a limited number of outfitters, and opposed by a long, bipartisan list of sportsmen and women, the chair of the House Fish, Wildlife and Parks committee Rep. Welbourn (R-Dillon), wildlife advocacy groups, conservation groups, the MT Houndsmen Association and many individual Montanans. The bill was tabled in the House Fish, Wildlife and Parks committee.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Score:** 2nd Reading, Passed 30-20  
**Bill Status:** Dead

## PUBLIC LANDS

### **SB 237, Require Land Board approval of land purchases**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Brenden (R-Scobey). This bill would have effectively prohibited the state from gaining new public lands, with the exception of fishing access sites that are less than 5 acres in size. Proponents included the United Property Owners of MT, Citizens for Balanced Use, the MT Stockgrowers Association and the MT Farm Bureau. Numerous opponents included sportsmen and women, conservation groups including the Montana Wildlife Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, and MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The bill was tabled in the House Natural Resources committee.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Score:** 3rd Reading, Passed 30-20  
**Bill Status:** Dead

### **SB 250, Restrict FWP's land management and acquisition**

**Sponsor:** Sen. Barrett (R-Dillon). This bill would have required FWP to set up a cumbersome process, tying specific maintenance money to particular parcels of land. Proponents included the United Property Owners of MT. Opponents included MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks, conservation groups including the Montana Wildlife Federation and sportsmen and women.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Score:** 3rd Reading, Passed 34-15  
**House Vote Score:** 3rd Reading, Passed 60-39  
**Bill Status:** Vetoed



Montana DEQ photo.

### **HB 375, Establish a "takings" payment for land damaged by game**

**Sponsor:** Rep. Balance (R-Hamilton). This bill would have required the FWP Commission to establish a program to reimburse landowners for crop losses, crop damages, and "other losses" outside of the state's control. It was supported by a group called the Ravalli County Right to Farm and Ranch and was opposed by sportsmen and women, conservation groups, and MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The bill was tabled in the House Fish, Wildlife and Parks committee.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**House Vote Score:** 2nd Reading, Failed 32-67  
**Bill Status:** Dead

### **HB 404, Reduce Habitat Montana's funding**

**Sponsor:** Rep. Flynn (R-Townsend). This bill would have redirected 25% of Habitat Montana's funding to the block management program. Both are critical to hunters and wildlife. It was supported by the MT Stockgrowers, Farm Bureau, Wood Products Association, and Montana Outfitters and Guides Association. It was opposed by sportsmen and women including the Montana Bowhunters Association and conservation groups like Montana Audubon. The bill died on the Senate floor.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose  
**Senate Vote Score:** 2nd Reading, Failed 26-24  
**House Vote Score:** 3rd Reading, Passed 58-41  
**Bill Status:** Dead



DNRC photo.



## IMPACTS OF OIL & GAS

### SB 295, Repeal the oil and gas tax holiday

**Sponsor:** Sen. Kaufmann (D-Helena). This bill would have repealed the oil and gas tax holiday, providing hundreds of millions in funding to communities with crumbling infrastructure and inadequate public health and safety due to the oil and gas boom in eastern Montana. The bill was supported by the Partnership for Montana's Future, a broad coalition of groups working on tax equity, landowners in eastern Montana, the Montana Organizing Project, the Montana Budget and Policy Center, Northern Plains Resource Council, and other conservation groups. Opponents included the MT Petroleum Association and other industry interests. SB 295 was tabled in the Senate Tax Committee. Sen. Kaufmann attempted to blast it out of committee with a Senate floor vote, which failed.

**Conservation Community Position:** Support

**Senate Vote Scored:** Blast Motion, Failed 20-30

**Bill Status:** Dead

## RIGHT TO KNOW

### HB 513, Exempt megaloads from environmental review (MEPA)

**Sponsor:** McChesney (D-Miles City). This bill would have removed any environmental review for oversized loads, and would potentially have major impacts on public safety, environmental quality, and cultural resources. The bill was amended in the Senate to allow an exemption for oversized loads in limited circumstances—when the right-of-way doesn't have to be altered—ultimately satisfying many of the conservation community's concerns. The bill was supported by a long list of construction and development interests as well as the Montana AFL-CIO, and opposed by conservation groups like the Montana Environmental Information Center and individuals. The scored vote reflects the bill in its original, pre-amended state.

**Conservation Community Position:** Oppose

**House Vote Scored:** 3rd Reading Passed, 72-26

**Bill Status:** Law as amended



FightingColfath.org

## Conservation-Related Legislative Interim Committees

Committees meet throughout the 18 month interim period. Dates listed are first meetings.

**Energy and Telecommunications**, June 21, Capitol, Room 172

**Environmental Quality Council**, June 19 - 20, Capitol, Room 172

**Water Policy**, June 17 - 18, Capitol, Room 172

Learn more: [www.leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim](http://www.leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim)

LEGISLATURE	2013	2011	2009	2007	2005	2003
Score Average	41	41	52	53	60	47
Democratic Score Avg.	91	93	89	91	96	85
Republican Score Avg.	8	11	16	15	21	8

SENATE	2013	2011	2009	2007	2005	2003
Score Average	40	47	50	59	60	40
Democratic Score Avg.	86	92	87	89	94	78
Republican Score Avg.	7	11	18	26	19	13

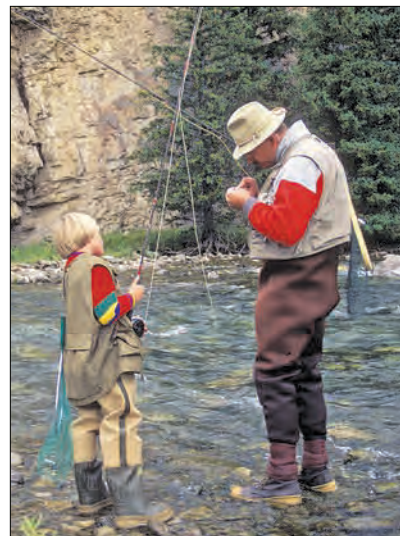
HOUSE	2013	2011	2009	2007	2005	2003
Score Average	41	38	53	50	59	44
Democratic Score Avg.	94	93	91	92	92	88
Republican Score Avg.	8	12	15	9	22	5

BY COUNTY (Senate)	2013	2011	2009	2007	2005	2003
Missoula	84	71	100	92	92	62
Silver Bow	70	63	77	97	94	33
Cascade	49	55	88	73	85	71
Gallatin	46	61	58	59	60	60
Lewis and Clark	44	53	58	69	57	58
Yellowstone	36	41	45	48	61	28
Ravalli	10	19	31	53	33	0
Flathead	6	18	28	34	30	6

BY COUNTY (House)	2013	2011	2009	2007	2005	2003
Silver Bow	90	71	78	71	88	61
Missoula	76	77	90	82	86	68
Gallatin	55	43	57	52	45	41
Cascade	50	56	80	71	83	61
Lewis and Clark	40	44	74	59	66	55
Yellowstone	36	35	38	40	55	42
Flathead	15	4	36	27	38	16
Ravalli	9	25	7	16	19	9

It is a post *Citizens United* world, and as a result, Montanans are losing ground. Corporate money and shadow PACs dominated legislative elections in 2012, and Montana's people and places are feeling the impacts of increasing partisanship and polarization. In addition, term limits have nearly eliminated the statesmanship and bipartisan camaraderie that used to characterize our citizen government.

**On average, legislators voted with the conservation community only 41% of the time.** Democrats stood up for our outdoor heritage more frequently than their Republican colleagues (91% compared to just 8%). Conservationists made progress in some communities, including Butte-Silverbow in both chambers and Missoula in the Senate.





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## Know the Score

Use this scorecard to find out how your legislators voted. Together, we will transform that knowledge into power:



- 1. THANK LEGISLATORS** who stood with Montanans and resisted attacks on clean water, our right to a clean and healthful environment, and our clean energy economy.
- 2. CALL ON LEGISLATORS** who stood with corporate polluters to explain their votes.
- 3. HOLD ACCOUNTABLE** legislators with poor conservation voting records. Help us recruit candidates who will fight for clean water and public health.
- 4. SUPPORT MONTANA CONSERVATION VOTERS.** Together, we will help elect legislators who will fight for Montana's outdoor heritage.

## Upcoming MCV Events

### Join Local Efforts to Protect Montana's Outdoor Heritage

Celebrating Pat Williams  
 Caras Park, Missoula  
 June 26th, 6:00 pm  
 Contact Sarah, [sarah@mtvoters.org](mailto:sarah@mtvoters.org)

Independence Day Party  
 Home of Liz Ametsbichler, Missoula  
 July 2nd, 5:30-7:30 pm  
 Contact Shelbi, [shelbi@mtvoters.org](mailto:shelbi@mtvoters.org)

Gallatin-Park Chapter Summer Picnic  
 13 Mile Lamb and Wool, Bozeman  
 July 11th, 6:00-8:00pm  
 Contact Pete, [pete@mtvoters.org](mailto:pete@mtvoters.org)

Yellowstone Chapter Annual Party  
 July 25th, 5:30-8:00 pm  
 Veterans Park, Billings  
 Contact Pete, [pete@mtvoters.org](mailto:pete@mtvoters.org)

**Help elect legislators who stand with us, not corporate polluters.**

**Visit [www.mtvoters.org](http://www.mtvoters.org) and make a contribution today!**