



TREASURE STATE
RESOURCES ASSOCIATION
OF MONTANA

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TREASURE STATE RESOURCES ASSOCIATION NEWS

April, 2021

Montana Farm Bureau Speaks Out Against Fish and Wildlife Service Grizzly Decision

Source: Montana Farm Bureau Press Release, April 1, 2021

The announcement by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recommending that grizzly bears remain threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is being met with dismay from Montana Farm Bureau and other agricultural groups. Although their report claimed that recovery is robust, the FWS is still maintaining that the predator needs protection.

Valier rancher and Front Range County Farm Bureau member Trina Jo Bradley expressed dismay at the news. Bradley ranches in areas frequented by grizzly bears and is familiar with problems dealing with the bruins. She has served on numerous boards regarding grizzly recovery and worked tirelessly on the FWS recommendations to try to mitigate grizzly/livestock/human encounters.

“Throughout the assessment, scientists commented on how well the grizzlies have recovered, and how the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) population has more than tripled since 1975. The entire report praises and celebrates the recovery of GYE and Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem grizzlies,” said Bradley.

“However, after praising the work that has been done, the agency then concluded that they are still keeping them on the list. That is a straight punch in the face to every producer who has ever

lost livestock to grizzlies, to every parent that can't let their kids adventure outside for fear they'll have a run-in with a grizzly, and to every scientist who has worked to recover the population of grizzly bears in the lower 48," Bradley noted. "It's like the last 40 years of work didn't even matter."

"The ESA cannot continue to be used as an excuse not to manage grizzly bears," the rancher noted. "Bears must be managed correctly just like every other wildlife species, and right now, the federal government is hiding behind the ESA status and not doing its job."

Since the recovery of the bears over the last 46 years, increased conflicts with ranchers, farmers, small town residents and tourists have increased.

Montana Farm Bureau has long pointed out that no matter what recovery efforts are made and numbers achieved, the FWS as well as some environmental groups continually move the goalposts, which is why the ESA sports such a low success rate.

"As an organization of farmers and ranchers, our members in areas on the Rocky Mountain Front and even now out into farm country, have had to deal with grizzlies killing their livestock and trashing their grain bins, while the bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. turn a blind eye," said MFBB Executive Vice President John Youngberg. "It's easy when you're sitting at your desk in an urban center to want to keep these animals on the ESA; it's entirely different when you're face-to-face with these predators. We certainly hope common sense prevails. Grizzly bears have exceeded the target numbers, so it's time to remove them from the Endangered Species list and let the states manage them as necessary. We want to thank Montana Representative Matt Rosdendale who is a cosponsor of H.R. 1403 which would delist grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone ecological system."

Sam Kieffer, vice president of public affairs, American Farm Bureau, noted, "We are disappointed in the recent decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to keep grizzly bears on the Endangered Species List after the agency's five-year status review. Data shows that grizzly bears in the lower 48 states have more than recovered, and the growing population makes it difficult for farmers and ranchers to care for and protect livestock. With the population of grizzlies thriving, it would be more appropriate to remove them from the Federal Endangered Species list and turn management over to the states, which can more effectively oversee the species.

Note: MT Senator Steve Daines has also cosponsored a measure in United States Senate to delist the grizzly bears in the Great Yellowstone Ecosystem. Wyoming Senators Barrasso and Lummis, and Idaho Senators Crapo and Risch are also co-sponsors of the Grizzly Bear State Management Act of 2021.

Governor Gianforte Announces Funding for Forest Management Projects

Source: Montana Governor's Office

On March 26, 2021 Governor Greg Gianforte announced the funding of 14 forest management projects across Montana that will reduce wildfire risks, improve forest health and wildlife habitat, and support local economies with good-paying jobs in the forest industry.

"Our Montana Comeback Plan calls for using all tools available to reduce wildfire risk across the state," Governor Gianforte said. "Today's announcement helps to advance that goal to improve forest health, which in turn protects critical habitat and watersheds and supports good-paying jobs in our local communities."

The projects range in size from 100 to 1,000 acres and correspond with the recently completed Montana Forest Action Plan, which reassessed statewide forest conditions, identified priority areas for treatment, and developed a cross-boundary plan to accomplish landscape-scale forest restoration. Amanda Kaster, director of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, said the state has committed \$4.5 million for the new projects and received \$500,000 in grant funds from the USDA Forest Service.

"In order to qualify, all of these projects were to provide matching funds and carry out management activities in a collaborative manner across ownership boundaries," Kaster said. "That's a critical element of active management, because problems of forest health and wildfire risk don't stop at the fence line."

A total of 47 projects were submitted through the RFP process requesting nearly \$14 million in funding.

"It is critical to continue to work with our partners to identify opportunities to utilize all available authorities and options to actively facilitate forest management work across Montana," Gianforte said.

A complete list of awarded projects may be found at <https://www.montanaforestactionplan.org/>.

TSRA Annual Meeting Room Block is Open

TSRA's 2021 Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 16-17th at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Billings. This will be an in-person meeting.

Activities begin with the traditional 4-person golf scramble on the afternoon of June 16th with the first tee time at 1:00 pm. A box lunch will be included. We'll be playing at the Pryor Creek Golf Course at Huntley, MT on their private course - the Elmer Link Course.

We plan to feature updates from the new Gianforte Administration and learn more about how we can help with Montana's "Come Back Plan". We also anticipate learning more about Montana's new nutrient regulatory program (if SB 358 becomes law) and hear about the work of the Governor's "Red Tape Advisory Council". Watch for more information about registering for the meeting, as well as the meeting agenda.

It is now possible to reserve your room at the hotel using the link below. **Please note that the Room Block is set up for two nights beginning on Tuesday, the 15th, just in case you need to arrive earlier for golf or other business. If you only need to stay for the night of the 16th, you will need to make a change on the arrival date by clicking on "edit stay", change the arrival day and hit update.**

To make a reservation, click here:

https://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/B/BILD/DTT-TSR-20210615/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

If you need to contact the hotel directly call: 406-238-4306.

Thank you to our Early Bird Meeting Sponsors

TSRA appreciates all the sponsors who help make our annual meeting program possible. To date our Early Bird Sponsors include:

Trailblazer: BNSF, MDU Resources, and NorthWestern Energy

Champion: Browning, Kaleczyc, Berry & Hoven, Crowley Fleck, Enbridge Energy, Hecla Montana, NextEra Energy, The Washington Companies, and Weyerhaeuser

Advocate: Ash Grove Cement, Denbury Resources, Energy Laboratories, Great Northern Properties, IBEW #44, Montana Coal Council, Montana Independent Bankers Association, Parsons, Behle & Latimer, Phillips 66, and Sandfire Black Butte

Groundbreaker Golf: Citizens for Balanced Use and Great Northern Properties

Supporter: Galt Government Affairs, Ken Morrison, and Melissa Lewis & Associates

TSRA Legislative Activity Update

The Montana Legislature took a brief Easter Break but will be back in action on April 6th to wrap up the remainder of the session. The full 90 days would take the session into May, but most observers believe it will be done by the end of this month –possibly leaving time for a special

session to be called later if adjustments need to be made regarding how to deploy the federal stimulus money. The state budget has passed the House and should be on the Senate floor soon. Plans for spending the funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (HB 632) are somewhat dependent on pending guidance from federal agencies. Meanwhile general (or policy) bills are making their way through the rest of the process.

TSRA has worked closely with our members and partner organizations on a broad range of bills either to support or oppose. The following is a report on bills we have followed to date (**Please note updated information is in red for those bills already reported in the March Newsletter**):

HB 86 (Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, D-Helena) Rep. Dunwell carried HB 86 on behalf of the Local Government Interim Committee. The bill authorized the creation of regional fire protection service authorities and allowed for fees to be assessed for their operation. Owners of forest lands, including TSRA member companies, already pay the DNRC assessment for fire preparedness and regional fire district fees for services provided by local fire departments. Formation of Regional Fire Protection Service Authorities could have resulted in a cost increase for owners of those forest lands. The Montana Wood Products Association and individual forest land owners, as well as TSRA, opposed the bill as written and asked for an amendment that would provide a mechanism to assure their costs would not increase if an “authority” were created.

The bill was heard in the House Local Government Committee. An amendment was offered to address the opponents’ concerns. The amendment was added but the bill was ultimately tabled.

TSRA Position: Oppose as Introduced

HB 99 (Rep. Denise Hayman, D-Bozeman) The bill would have eliminated the preapproval process for electricity supply sources essentially undoing the practice established in 2007 when Montana sought to re-regulate utilities. Under pre-approval, the state Public Service Commission can approve a resource acquisition that is determined to be prudent before it’s purchased or built and allow the utility to “rate base” the cost. That would help with financing and other planning needs. The measure came out of a last minute action taken by the Interim Energy and Telecommunications Committee in response to a suggestion from an outgoing PSC member with very little discussion.

The bill was heard in the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations and later tabled.

TSRA Position: Oppose

HB 150 (Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, D-Helena) Similar to a measure introduced in 2019, the bill would have established carbon equivalent emission reduction targets and enacted a carbon tax

on large sources. Montana would be the second state to enact a carbon tax. The bill was widely opposed by industry representatives and business groups.

The measure was heard in the House Taxation Committee on January 21, 2021 and tabled the following day.

TSRA Position: Oppose

HB 173 (Rep. Denley Loge, R-St. Regis) This act establishes a fire hazard reduction fund and requires the deposit of revenue from forfeited fire hazard reduction performance bonds into a state special revenue fund for authorization, management, and completion of fire hazard reduction activities. The Department of Natural Resources has been using forfeited bond funds for reclamation of abandoned projects for decades, but discovered legislative authority for that activity did not exist. This bill gives the Department the authority for that expenditure.

The bill **has passed both the House and Senate and is on its way to the Governor's desk.**

TSRA Position: Support

HB 245 (Rep. Larry Brewster, R-Billings) This bill took an opposite approach to the utility pre-approval process and reinforced the practice by providing for accountability on the part of both the utility and the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission would be directed to provide more information about why a request for pre-approval was denied.

The bill was heard in the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations Committee and was later tabled.

TSRA Position: Support

HB 387 and HB 389 (Rep. Ed Stafman, D-Bozeman) Both these measures were aimed at the Colstrip Energy Limited Partnership (CELP) and Yellowstone Energy Limited Partnership (YELP) plants, both of which utilize waste material to generate electricity. The sponsor proposed to set arbitrary emission limits and impose bonding costs that would very likely cause them to shut down. Opponents provided information about the broader purposes served by the plants besides just producing energy, including maintaining compliance with overall air quality standards in the Billings area.

The bills were heard in the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations Committee and were later tabled.

TSRA Position: Oppose

HB 394 (Rep. Mark Noland, R-Bigfork) HB 394 would make the temporary (originally 10-year) tax exemption for air and water pollution control and carbon capture equipment permanent.

Proponents called attention to the fact that pollution control equipment that is installed at considerable expense to the affected entity is intended to produce a “healthier” environment for everyone and as such their tax burden should not be increased as a result. It allows companies to make long term plans for capital improvements with more predictability.

The bill **has passed the House and the Senate and is on its way to the Governor’s desk.**

TSRA Position: Support

HB 481 (Rep. Steve Gunderson, R-Libby) This measure identifies an extensive list of critical infrastructure facilities for added protection in terms of penalties imposed for trespassing or damage. While civil protests are not affected, anyone who knowingly trespasses is subject to fines and minimal jail time. However, if that individual also causes damage the penalties grow in severity. If it can be clearly demonstrated they were hired by an organization to take such action that entity is also liable for penalties. One of our TSRA members called attention to the possibility that activities conducted by organized labor that are allowed under the National Labor Relations Act might be implicated under the original language of the bill. At our request, Rep. Gunderson supported an amendment that exempted those activities.

The bill **passed the House as amended and was heard on April 1st in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Prior to the hearing, TSRA, MPA and others worked on additional amendments to distinguish between misdemeanor and felony offenses based on the level of property damage.**

TSRA Position: Support as Amended

HB 554 (Rep. Josh Kassmier) This bill is a response to an effort to establish a Natural Heritage Area covering a large swath of both public and private land near Great Falls. Supporters argue that the designation will help promote tourism. Private landowners are concerned about the potential for limitations on use of their property, as has been the case in other parts of the country. HB 554 requires legislative approval of national heritage areas and national historic trails in Montana as a means to ensure concerns about property rights and other matters are carefully considered.

The bill **was approved by the Senate Natural Resources Committee with the addition of an amendment to clarify that approval must take place “prior to a congressional act” . It will be scheduled for the 2nd Reading on the Senate floor in the near future.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 38 (Sen. Terry Gauthier, R-Helena) The bill cleans up the language in the “Snowmobile Trail Pass” bill passed by the 2019 Legislature. The measure also allows private clubs and organizations to use the summer recreation trail grant program in the Department of Fish,

Wildlife and Parks to provide motorized safety and ethics education as well as for other authorized uses.

The bill **has passed both the House and Senate and is on its way to the Governor's desk.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 86 (Sen. Duane Ankney R-Colstrip) The bill revises the coal-fired generation remediation and retirement requirements at Colstrip to include the estimated loss of value of residential or commercial property due to the retirement of a coal-fired generating unit in the decommissioning costs. It adds administration of a new grant program to assist home and business owners with recovering some of the lost value of their property for a drop in the real estate market associated with plant closures to the duties of the MT. DEQ. In addition the bill impacts agreed-upon provisions of SB 339 passed as a "consensus" bill in 2019.

The bill was heard in the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee on March 25, 2021 and moved to the Senate Floor where it awaits 2nd reading. TSRA and many of the Colstrip owners opposed the bill, as well as the Montana DEQ due in large part to questions raised about the workability of the new grant program.

TSRA Position: Oppose

SB 134 (Sen. Jason Small, R-Busby) This measure adds to language under the section of statute that addresses what activities qualify for working capital loans from the permanent coal tax trust fund to an owner of a coal-fired generating unit. The change would authorize costs related to decommissioning and remediation of a coal-fired generation unit or affected property to meet applicable legal obligations.

The bill passed the Senate and **was heard in** the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations Committee **on March 12th.** The bill is awaiting **Executive Action.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 176 (Sen. Brad Molnar R-Laurel) This is one of several measures that appears aimed at "forcing" a solution for the Colstrip Generation Facility in terms of keeping it in operation. While both proponents and opponents spoke to a common desire to see Colstrip 3 & 4 continue operating, the bill presented a number of legal and practical concerns, including interference with the Administrative Order of Consent that was signed by the owners, DEQ, and other shareholders to ensure remediation of ponds and other environmental issues at the plant.

The measure passed out of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee after being amended to address some fairly minor concerns relative to obligations for entities that receive

funding from the interest generated by the coal trust. It failed on a tie vote on second reading in the Senate but was later revived and sent to Senate Finance and Claims, keeping it in play **after the mid-session transmittal deadline. The Finance and Claims Committee passed it on March 23rd but the bill will need to return to the Senate floor for 2nd Reading.**

TSRA Position: Oppose

SB 201 (Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick, D-Great Falls) SB 201 provides some sideboards for the Public Service Commission and the Courts in terms of what avoided costs can, and cannot be considered in setting rates. The measure will prevent the PSC or Courts from adding a bonus payment or “adder” to the calculation of avoided cost rates that are not grounded in actual costs in regulation or law. It also prevents the PSC or the Courts from adding a bonus payment or “adder” to the calculation of utility rates that are not grounded in actual costs in regulation or law. One benefit of the measure is that it protects Montana consumers from bearing a cost of externalities, like carbon, that are speculative in nature.

The bill **passed** the Senate **and was heard in** the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations Committee **on March 17th where it is waiting for Executive Action.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 233 (Sen. Duane Ankney, R- Colstrip) Similar to a measure introduced in 2017, Senator Ankney’s bill as introduced would have eliminated the Board of Environmental Review, leaving rulemaking responsibilities and appeals to the Department of Environmental Quality. The Senator proposed to amend the bill to move all the rulemaking authority to the Department, but keep the BER for such purposes as hearing appeals from department decisions. Currently some rules are now adopted solely by the Department, while others go through the Board. It is largely a creature of how the authorizing statute was written. In both cases, the DEQ already does all the work with stakeholders and any applicable oversight entities before proposals are heard by the Board. Proponents stated it made sense to keep the rulemaking closest to staff and stakeholders with the applicable expertise and experience. All rules will still have to go through the formal public rulemaking process. There were no opponents.

The bill **has passed the Senate as amended and was approved by the House Natural Resources Committee on March 29th. A new fiscal note was requested and once available the bill should be scheduled for 2nd reading.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 249 (Sen. Mike Lang, R-Malta) The bill primarily revises the way the Montana Sage Grouse Program operations are funded, establishing a cost-sharing agreement between the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. That

includes use of excess Pittman-Robertson fees. Oversight of the program by the Montana Sage Grouse Oversight Team remains in place. Proponents stressed the importance of keeping the program in place, along with the oversight component.

The bill passed the full Senate **and was approved by the House Natural Resources Committee on March 29th. It will be scheduled for 2nd reading in the near future.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 257 (Sen. Jason Small, R-Busby) Sen. Small brought this measure to prohibit local governments from imposing their own carbon fee or tax. There has been a push nationally for local governments to impose such taxes or fees to address climate change. No Montana community has proposed a tax at this time, but many have established local policies aimed at reducing carbon.

The bill has passed the Senate **and was approved by** the House Taxation Committee. **It will be scheduled for 2nd reading after the Easter Break.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 258 (Sen. Duane Ankney, R-Colstrip) At the request of the Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties, Senator Ankney's bill proposes to rename the Treasure State Endowment Program and Fund to the Montana Coal Endowment Program and Fund. Proponents noted it made sense to connect the dots for communities that benefit from the coal severance tax in terms of funding for local infrastructure needs all across the state.

The bill passed the full Senate **and** the House Natural Resources Committee. **2nd reading is pending in the House.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 316 (Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick, R-Great Falls) Introduced as a measure to more broadly revise civil laws related to use of funds for restoration damages, it was amended in the Senate to restrict the bill to construction repairs and restoration. The bill was brought to the attention of TSRA and others during the transmittal break relative to its potential to accomplish the broader purpose as originally proposed to make sure damages awarded to restore contaminated property will be used for their intended purpose.

The bill was heard in the House Judiciary Committee on March 23rd and is awaiting Executive Action. Amendments may be offered to expand the bill's provisions.

TSRA Position: Support

SB 325 (Sen. Brian Hoven, R-Great Falls) The bill was introduced on behalf of Malmstrom Air Force Base and sought to prohibit placement of wind turbines within 2 nautical miles of military installations. A representative of the Air Force testified the limitation was needed to address security concerns relative to landing helicopters near missile silos. Opponents pointed out the potential impacts to private property owners whose options to work with wind developers would be reduced as a result of the bill. Testimony also highlighted existing protections provided for via the Department of Defense Clearinghouse that made the bill unnecessary.

The bill was heard in the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee and later tabled.

TSRA Position: Oppose

SB 328 (Sen. Duane Ankney, R-Colstrip) The bill seeks to bring Montana's administrative rules in line with both state and federal laws regarding bond release for reclaimed coal mine lands. It is intended to improve the process by which private lands are returned to productive uses more quickly, while maintaining high standards for reclamation.

The bill has passed the full Senate **and was later amended by** the House Natural Resources Committee to **clarify DEQ will retain a portion of the bond, particularly in situations where water replacement in the designated area is a concern. The bill is awaiting 2nd reading. The Senate will then need to act on the House Amendment.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 338 (Sen. Mike Lang, R-Malta) SB 328 is a Montana Chamber of Commerce priority that establishes that a landowner owes a trespasser no duty of care with respect to the condition of the property. Those individuals are on the property without permission or knowledge of the landowner and should not be able to hold the landowner responsible for actions they have taken. The landowner would still be liable for any injury to person or property for an act or omission that constitutes willful or wanton misconduct.

The bill passed the full Senate **and was approved by the House Judiciary Committee. It is awaiting 2nd reading in the House.**

TSRA Position: Support

SB 358 (Sen. John Esp, R-Big Timber) Brought at the request of the Montana League of Cities and Towns, the Montana Mining Association, the Montana Petroleum Association and TSRA this bill would repeal the current approach to regulating nutrients and replace with one that is more practical while still being protective of water quality. It follows from a series of court challenges that have created uncertainty for the future of nutrient regulation and subsequently both

municipal and private dischargers. After the bill passed the Senate, proponents worked with the Department of Environmental Quality to resolve concerns with the new regulatory approach that applies Adaptive Management principles. Implementation details will be addressed in rulemaking that is currently required to be completed within one year.

The bill passed the full Senate and was approved on April 1st by the House Natural Resources Committee as amended to reflect the agreement reached between proponents and MT DEQ. A Fiscal Note will likely be requested for the bill as amended prior to 2nd reading on the House floor.

TSRA Position: Support

SB 379 (Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick R-Great Falls) The bill's primary purpose is to incentivize the acquisition of additional ownership or power from Colstrip to prolong its life. The Public Service Commission retains oversight over the same utility matters.

The bill was heard on March 30, 2021 before the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee. The measure was amended in Executive Action on April 1st and will advance to 2nd reading on the Senate floor.

TSRA Position: Support

SJ 10 (Sen. Jason Small, R-Busby) This Joint Resolution calls on Congress to appropriate funding under the Energy Act of 2020 for the development of carbon capture technologies at the Colstrip Electric Generating Station. The sponsor spoke to the importance of keeping coal in the mix of our energy supply by using technology to reduce carbon.

The Resolution was heard in the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee and has passed the full Senate. It was heard in the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations Committee on March 19th and is waiting for Executive Action.

TSRA Position: Support

SJ 16 (Sen. Steve Hinebauch, R-Wibaux) This Joint Resolution urges Congressional and Presidential approval for the Keystone XL Pipeline. The sponsor and proponents for the measure cited the tax revenue and jobs that would be generated in Montana and the importance of keeping an adequate supply of fossil fuels in the mix to generate energy for the nation.

The Resolution passed the full Senate and was approved by the House Natural Resources Committee as amended at the request of the sponsor to include language stating that President Biden's revocation of the permit issued by former President Trump is a "taking" since the

company has already invested significant resources in the project. The measure is awaiting 2nd reading in the House.

TSRA Position: Support

SR 4 (Sen. Jeff Welborn, R-Dillon) This resolution sought to confirm the appointment of the new Director of the Department of Environmental Quality, Christopher Dorrington. Mr. Dorrington will serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

The resolution adopted by the Senate **and signed by the Senate President on February 3, 2021.**

TSRA Position: Support

SR 81 (Sen. Jeff Welborn, R-Dillon) SR 81 called for confirmation of a new member of the Board of Environmental Review. Julia Altemus, Executive Director of the Montana Wood Products Association was nominated by the Governor to serve as a public member. Ms. Altemus has extensive experience in resource management issues.

The resolution **was adopted by the Senate on March 9th and has been signed by the Senate President.**

TSRA Position: Support

Participation in the 2021 Session

Each committee meeting is staffed with an individual solely devoted to assisting the Chair with identifying and managing testimony.

To offer testimony remotely those interested in testifying must **register by noon** the day before the hearing. Written testimony can be uploaded at that time and will be shared with committee member, especially important for those participating remotely. Once signed up, you'll receive a link to testify during the bill hearing. This is available for any bill that is scheduled for hearing.

For more information, go to the Montana Legislature's Homepage leg.mt.gov and for links to:

- more information on remote participation
- the form to request to testify or upload your documents
- the web messaging form
- Bill Search, Legislator Search, Session Information, and Revenue and Budget Information
- where to click to Watch/Listen to all meetings.

Standing Committee Members for 2021 Legislative Session

The 2021 House and Senate Standing Committees lists are online at: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/session-committees/>

Members and other information are subject to change. Check the website for the most up-to-date lists.

Legislative Bill Draft Requests:

If you'd like to see what bills have been drafted and introduced, that information can be found on the legislative site. Those interested in reviewing the list can click on the following link: [List All Introduced and Unintroduced Bills](#)

The "Bill Look-Up" site also has information about upcoming hearings both the House and Senate.

TSRA Weekly Legislative Meetings - Thursdays at 7:00 am.

TSRA continues to hold weekly legislative meetings on Thursday mornings at 7:00 am. If you haven't already signed up, contact Peggy Trenk at: <mailto:ptrenk@tsria.net> to get on the list to receive the Zoom link and weekly agenda.

Weekly meetings allow us to look at upcoming hearings and determine what action TSRA will take on various bills, as well as discuss broader issues that arise during the session.

Upcoming Events/Dates:

June 16-17,2021	TSRA Annual Meeting DoubleTree Hotel, Billings, MT
August 30 – September 1, 2021	Montana Petroleum Association DoubleTree Hotel, Billings, T

If you don't want to receive the TSRA Newsletter, please let me know. If you want to share with others in your company or organization, please do so. The mission of the Treasure State Resources Association is to promote and enhance the Montana Way of Life through responsible resource development.