

MINUTES
JOINT MEETING

**SENATE RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HOUSE RESOURCES & CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

DATE: Monday, February 03, 2020

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: WW02 Lincoln Auditorium

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Heider, Vice Chairman Brackett, Senators Bair, Johnson, Mortimer, Patrick, Guthrie, Stennett, and Jordan

Chairman Gibbs, Vice Chairman Gestrin, Representatives Moyle, Shepherd, Wood, Boyle, Vander Woude, Mendive, Kauffman, Blanksma, Addis, Lickley, Moon, Raybould, Rubel, Toone, Mason, and Necochea

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Representatives Moyle, Wood, and Rubel

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Heider** called the joint meeting of the Senate Resources and Environment Committee and House Resources and Conservation Committee (Committees) to order at 1:31 p.m.

PRESENTATION: A Limnology Primer.

Roy Eiguren, Managing Partner, Eiguren Ellis, introduced himself and explained the reason for the presentation was to provide the Committee with an understanding of the basic science of the composition and lifecycle of lakes, and the impacts of wave action, specifically waves or wakes created by motorboats, upon Idaho lakes. **Mr. Eiguren** further discussed what the study of limnology entailed, and provided background on the 1991 Big Payette Water Quality Act. He then introduced Dr. Frank M. Wilhelm, detailed his background, and emphasized he was an internationally recognized scientist in the field of limnology.

Frank M. Wilhelm, Ph.D., Professor, University of Idaho, introduced himself and presented his limnology primer (for his summary see attachment 1) so that the Committee could understand the study he has undertaken. He explained that water was an important resource therefore it needed to be taken care of for a prosperous future. **Dr. Wilhelm** detailed the various demands placed upon water resources by humans, animals, industry, agriculture, and recreation. He reported on water needs of the state per capita, per day. He further explained current lake conditions in scientific detail and what the future may hold for the lakes that filter Idaho's water. He described with concern that turbidity increases throughout the day as a boat goes by and redistributes sediment. He addressed that Idaho has a 100 foot no wake zone, and that counties and cities can set additional restrictions. He showed graphics to illustrate sediment, algae, and lake conditions.

DISCUSSION: **Chairman Heider** asked several questions regarding the effect wakes have on shorelines. **Dr. Wilhelm** detailed that wakes hit higher on the sea walls than what is already there, and depending on the composition of the shoreline and soil type, and size of wake, this causes shorelines to erode at a much faster rate. He explained that graduate students are doing research right now, collecting various data points. He also specified that wake zones laws should be set according to the body of water's shoreline condition and composition, to be able to understand what it can handle.

Alan Shealy, an Idaho resident, requested permission to ask questions and discussed with Dr. Wilhelm the vertical displacement of water by wakes, and the graduate students' ongoing research.

Jessica Archibald introduced herself as a research assistant on the project. She expounded to the Committee that she had created a compendium (see attachment 2) which details her findings. In response to Committee questions she explained that her studies were focused on prevention versus cures, and discussed Montana's more stringent polices.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Heider** adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

Senator Heider
Chair

Erin Miller
Secretary