

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
SFN 2058 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

4015

2001 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

SCR 4015

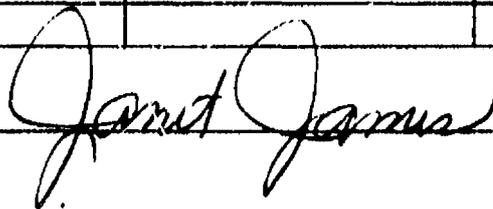
2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4015

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 2-15-01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		X	32.9 - end
2	X		Start - 2.2
2	X		29.0 - 36.5
Committee Clerk Signature 			

Minutes:

SENATOR FISCHER opened the hearing SCR 4015.

SENATOR BILL BOWMAN, of District 39 introduced SCR 4015, RELATING TO ACCESS AND USE OF PUBLIC LANDS. He testified that the "National Grasslands Policy" has always been a multiple use concept. That means there is hunting, camping, ranching, hiking and oil production on these grasslands. What happened was with a stroke of a pen in Washington DC, that without any hearings the direction of the National Grasslands was changed to a special interest group policy. These groups want a wilderness type proposal without roads that are needed by the people in the area. The resolution is to ask congress to go back and review this proposal and evaluate the damage that it will cause to our state, whether its in ranching or oil production.

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID DROVDAL of District 39 cosponsor of SCR 4015, pointed out that 50% of his district is owned by state & federal government. He is concerned our dependence

Page 2

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4015

Hearing Date 2-15-01

on the middle east for oil production and if we are ever to become independent and we need to have access to this land.

RON NESS, Executive Director of the North Dakota Petroleum Council testified in support of SCR 4015. This resolution will tell the president and congress to let North Dakotans decide how to man the public lands of our state. He presented a list of rules and planning efforts of the National Forest Service (See attached testimony).

WES TOSSETT representing the LAND (Landowners Association of North Dakota) testified in support of SCR 4015. He feels local control is the way to manage grasslands.

JOHN EMTER, representing God's Laws, testified in a neutral position of SCR 4015. He feels we need to look at the large picture.

MIKE DONAHUE, representing the North Dakota Wildlife Federation testified in opposition of SCR 4015. They support multiple use of the lands, but feels the study should be forwarded to the Forest Service Program for more input.

PAUL CRARY representing the Cass County Wildlife Club testified in opposition to SCR 4015, because it will open it up to oil drilling and are afraid of that.

SENATOR FISCHER closed the hearing on SCR 4015.

TAPE # 2

More discussion was held on SCR 4015.

SENATOR TOLLEFSON made a motion for a "DO PASS" of SCR 4015.

SENATOR EVERY second the motion.

SENATOR FISCHER called for a roll vote of SCR 4015. The vote indicated 6 YAYS, 0 NAYS, AND 1 ABSENT.

SENATOR TOLLEFSON will carry SCR 4015.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 15, 2001 2:06 p.m.

Module No: SR-28-3546
Carrier: Tollefson
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**SCR 4015: Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Fischer, Chairman) recommends DO
PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4015 was placed on
the Eleventh order on the calendar.**

2001 HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES

SCR 4015

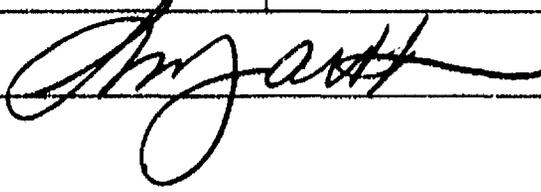
2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4015

House Natural Resources Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 9, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	x		2850 to 3765
Committee Clerk Signature 			

Minutes:

Chairman Earl Rennerfeldt, Vice Chair Jon O. Nelson, Rep. Brekke, Rep. DeKrey, Rep. Droydal, Rep. Galvin, Rep. Keiser, Rep. Klein, Rep. Nottestad, Rep. Porter, Rep. Weiler, Rep. Hanson, Rep. Kelsh, Rep. Solberg, Rep. Winrich.

Chairman Rennerfeldt: I will open the hearing on SCR 4015.

Sen. Bowman - District 39: This resolution will have a huge impact on our district, we have a huge amount of national grasslands as you all know in District 39. What we are asking for in this resolution, is simple, go back to multiple use. Multiple use allows every aspect, every person that has an interest to utilize that grass. That means ranchers, hunters, hikers, campers and the oil industry which has a huge impact on the economy in ND. To understand this a little better you might want to understand this one thing. There was a meeting held in Medora, but that place was full and we talked about this very issue. 99% of the people there said use it as it was intended,

multiple use. As you all know, it was declared by Executive Order to go back to a special interest use. What will that do to ND economy. For a select few it may make better hunting. But let me read something I have in policy right here. This is the final report from the Department of Interior on this. I want to read just one little quote. This is what it says about hunting, and then I want you to think about your age and the distance you might be and the situation that this bill might put you in when you hunt. The quality of hunting would be enhanced for those who desire a non motorized experience. In other words pack your bag and be ready to go to the outdoors. However, hunters would not be able to drive cross country to retrieve your game. Which may be a concern for some. Let's go out in one of those big pastures and let's walk 3-4 miles from where our pickup is, now you shoot a two point mule deer buck. All of a sudden the weather starts to change and you need to get back to your truck. How many mule deer bucks will we find in those draws next spring, because people are not going to drag a buck that many miles back to that pickup. The law now says it is an experience to drag a buck back to your pickup. A lot of people aren't ready for that kind of physical challenge. Part of understanding the national grasslands is understanding why we have them and what happens when they allow us to go back and run cattle on those grasslands. We had a major problem in the 30's with no water development, it was all open range and consequently all the cattle and all the wildlife congregated around the water. They mashed the grass, there was no rain and it started to blow. Then it sustained a position of non-productivity. What happened to the people out there, they left and the government bought that land to reclaim it. So the government allocated so many acres to a farmstead if you would come back and reclaim that land. So working with the ASCS offices it worked to reclaim that land, they planted thousands of acres of grass. They were smarter then, and decided to avoid this scenario again. They allowed a management plan between the ranchers and the grain association

and the ASCS. The plan was to protect the wildlife, the grasses and to have better utilization and it works for everyone. In my particular case I developed a management plan and I put seven tanks under ground to spread out across all the area where we have poor water. Why, if you spread your cattle out you have better utilization. That benefits the wildlife and me. That enhances productivity which is good for everyone. That is why the multiple use concept is the best use of that land. How does oil development work out there. We all know when they first came in, everybody was concerned about the Big Horn Sheep and most ranchers were concerned about them. But when you can go out and take a picture of a Big Horn Sheep laying against an oil well pumping oil. They have the ability to adapt. Maybe someone can prove this theory wrong or right, but when the oil well is done pumping oil and they reclaim that site...I can take you to some sights out there that you will never an oil well was there. You can plant that, you can fill up that road and it will be just the way it was when it was first there. If we go back to the multiple use we will all benefit. It think it is for the best interest of the people and the state of ND. I hope you support this.

Chairman Rennerfeldt: Any questions of the committee? Anyone that wants to oppose this?

Those in favor would you sign the register.

Rep. Droydal: I move a Do Pass on SCR 4015.

Rep. Solberg: I second.

Chairman Rennerfeldt: I have a motion for a Do Pass. Any further questions on this. All those in favor signify by saying Aye. Opposed? Put that on the consent calendar.

MOTION FOR A DO PASS

YES, 14 NO, 0

1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING

Page 4
House Natural Resources Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SCR 4015
Hearing Date March 9, 2001

CARRIED BY REP. DROVDAL

PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Date: 3/9/01
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4015

House Natural Resources Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DO PASS

Motion Made By Rep. Drovdal Seconded By Rep. Solberg

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Earl Rennerfeldt - Chairman			Lyle Hanson		
Jon O. Nelson - Vice Chairman			Scot Kelsh		
Curtis E. Brekke			Lonnie B. Winrich		
Duane DeKrey			Dorvan Solberg		
David Drovdal					
Pat Galvin					
George Keiser					
Frank Klein					
Darrell D. Nottestad					
Todd Porter					
Dave Weiler					

Total (Yes) 14 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Drovdal

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Consent Calendar

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 9, 2001 1:15 p.m.

Module No: HR-41-5243
Carrier: Drovdel
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4015: Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Rennerfeldt, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4015 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

2001 TESTIMONY

SCR 4015

There are currently four national Forest Service rulemaking efforts ongoing.

+ Two Planning efforts

1. **Proposed planning rule:** This effort will change the regulations and processes for managing the National Forest Management Act commonly called the Grassland Plan. The proposed rule states that forests under current revision will not be affected. Thus, the DPG will finish NGP under the old rules.
2. **Proposed road management rule:** Provides direction for managing FS roads and provides processes for these terminating needs for additional roads.
3. **Proposed roadless rule:** This proposed rule would prohibit road construction or reconstruction in roadless inventoried areas. It also directs the local managers during the grassland plan revision process to: identify additional roadless areas, determine suitable activities allowed within roadless areas and delineate roaded portions of roadless areas.

4) **And the FS cost recovery proposed rule that would shift administrative costs currently paid through the general fund onto industry by imposing a duplicate set of fees similar to what BLM currently has for each well, mile of road or pipeline.**

There are two other planning efforts ongoing locally.

1. **Off highway vehicle (OHV) EIS.** This proposal will restrict motorized vehicles to existing roads and trails.
2. **Northern Great Plains:** This is a revision of the Dakota Prairie Grasslands land use plan. The preferred alternative, among other things, identifies approximately 15% of the land to be managed in back country non-motorized fashion.