



Water Policy Interim Committee

63rd Montana Legislature

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FINAL AGENDA WATER POLICY INTERIM COMMITTEE

State Capitol, Room 172
January 6-7, 2014

AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

Monday, Jan. 6

- 9 a.m. Call to Order - Sen. Vincent
- Roll Call
 - Approval of minutes from June 2013 WPIC
- 9:15 a.m. State Water Plan update (85-1-203, MCA)
- Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 9:45 a.m. Adjudication update (85-2-281, MCA) (*Tab 1*)
- Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC
 - Russ McElyea, chief water judge, Montana Water Court
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 10:30 a.m. Groundwater studies: Ground Water Characterization Program in Park and Sweetgrass counties
- John LaFave, senior research hydrologist, Ground Water Assessment Program
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 11 a.m. Water Transfers in the West: Projects, trends, and leading practices in voluntary water trading (*Tab 2*)
- Tony Willardson, executive director, Western States Water Council
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any

- Noon Lunch
- 1 p.m. Update of *Montana v. Wyoming* case on interstate water compact (*Tab 3*)
 •Cory Swanson, deputy attorney general, Department of Justice
 •Public comment
 •Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 1:30 p.m. Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review (*Tab 4*)
 •Jennifer Anders, council vice chair, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
 •Public comment
 •Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 2 p.m. Break
- 2:15 p.m. Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission report on CSKT (*Tab 5*)
 •John Tubbs, director, DNRC
 •Public comment
 •Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 4:30 p.m. Recess for the day. Reconvene at 8 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 7

- 8 a.m. Reconvene
- 8:05 a.m. Definitions of perennial streams (*Tab 6*)
 •Laurie Zeller, bureau chief, Conservation Districts Bureau, DNRC
 •Public comment
 •Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 8:45 a.m. Instream leasing report (85-2-436, MCA) (*Tab 7*)
 •Mike McLane, water resources specialist, FWP
 •Public comment
 •HB142 review of statutorily required reports: Recommendation to EQC
 •Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 9:05 a.m. Agency rulemaking update
 •Ms. Thigpen
 •Public comment
 •Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any

- 9:15 a.m. Update on rule-making: Definition of combined appropriation for exempt groundwater wells
- Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 10 a.m. Future of agricultural water use (*Tab 8*)
- Climate variability, research priorities: Kelsey Jencso, state climatologist, Montana Climate Office, University of Montana
 - Key stresses: Paul Stoy, assistant professor, Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences, Montana State University
 - Future supply: Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC
 - Resiliency of system: Marco Maneta, assistant professor, Department of Geosciences, University of Montana
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- Noon Lunch
- 1 p.m. Federal funding and Montana floodplain mapping program (*Tab 9*)
- Laurence Siroky, bureau chief, Water Operations Bureau, DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 1:30 p.m. U.S. Forest Service water reservations (85-20-1401, MCA) (*Tab 10*)
- Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 2 p.m. Hydrologic impacts of 2011 Bitterroot wildfires (*Tab 11*)
- Tim Davis, administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC
 - Chris Clancy, fisheries biologist, FWP
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action, if any
- 2:30 p.m. Public Comment on any issue within the jurisdiction of the WPIC
- 2:45 p.m. Other business
- 3 p.m. Administrative matters
- Revisions to work plan, if necessary
 - Budget update
 - Identification of areas where more information is needed
 - Instructions to staff

3:30 p.m. Adjourn

NOTE: Meeting materials available online: <http://leg.mt.gov/water>

Meeting attendees who may need services or accommodations should contact Jason Mohr (406-444-1640 or jasonmohr@mt.gov) at least five working days before the meeting.