



## Water Policy Interim Committee

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### 63rd Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

CHAS VINCENT--Chair  
JENNIFER FIELDER  
BRADLEY MAXON HAMLETT  
SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS--Vice Chair  
PAT CONNELL  
STEVE FITZPATRICK  
REILLY NEILL

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

JASON MOHR, Lead Staff  
HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney  
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

# MINUTES LOG

January 7, 2014

Room 172, State Capitol Building  
Helena, Montana

Please note: These minutes provide abbreviated information about committee discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. To the left of each section in these minutes is a time designation indicating the approximate amount of time in hours, minutes, and seconds that has elapsed since the start of the meeting. This time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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Hard copies of the exhibits for this meeting are available upon request. Legislative Council policy requires a charge of 15 cents a page for copies of the document.

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. CHAS VINCENT, Chair  
REP. KATHLEEN WILLIAMS, Vice Chair

SEN. JENNIFER FIELDER  
SEN. BRADLEY MAXON HAMLETT  
SEN. SHARON STEWART-PEREGOY

REP. PAT CONNELL  
REP. STEVE FITZPATRICK  
REP. REILLY NEILL

### STAFF PRESENT

JOE KOLMAN, Legislative Environmental Analyst  
JASON MOHR, Lead Staff  
HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney  
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

## **AGENDA & VISITORS' LIST**

Agenda, [Attachment 1](#).  
Visitors' list, [Attachment 2](#).

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

- The Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC) voted 8-0 to continue to receive biennial reports from Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), in-stream leasing report (85-2-436, MCA).
- The WPIC voted 6-2 to send a letter to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) regarding the definition of combined appropriations ([see exhibit 8](#)).
- The WPIC voted 6-2 to ask the Environmental Quality Council (EQC) to object to ARM 36.12.101, definition of combined appropriations.

## **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

00:00:01 Sen. Vincent called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. The secretary called the roll, [Attachment 3](#).

## **AGENDA**

### **DEFINITION OF PERENNIAL STREAMS**

00:01:02 Laurie Zeller, Bureau Chief, Conservation Districts Bureau, DNRC, gave a presentation on conservation districts including the history, jurisdiction, and definition of a perennial stream.

00:04:12 Sen. Hamlett and Sen. Stewart-Peregoy entered the meeting.

### **Public comment**

00:09:29 Jeff Tiberi, Executive Director, Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACO)

00:10:45 Art Pencek, Missoula Conservation District (MCD), referenced the letter that was sent to the committee from the MCD regarding SB 310, [Exhibit 1](#), and provided information explaining the law and the procedure for obtaining a 310 permit, [Exhibit 2](#).

00:13:21 Marcie Murnion, Gallatin Conservation District, [Exhibit 3](#).

00:15:19 Elizabeth Maclay, MCD

00:16:55 Julie Ralston, Bitterroot Conservation District

00:18:11 Don MacIntyre, Attorney, MACO

00:19:16 Judy and Don Van der Hagen, [Exhibit 4](#).

00:25:23 Tara Comfort, District Administrator/Resource Conservationist, MCD

00:26:58 Gayla Wortman, Cascade Conservation District

**Committee questions and discussion** None

**IN-STREAM LEASING REPORT (85-2-436, MCA)**

00:28:24 Mike McLane, Water Resource Specialist, FWP, gave the in-stream leasing report, [Exhibit 5](#).

**Public comment** None

**Committee questions and discussion**

00:34:22 Sen. Fielder asked Mr. McLane about co-ownership of water rights with the Tribe under the proposed CSKT Compact.

00:41:02 Rep. Williams asked Mr. McLane if co-ownership by the Tribe will result in a broader collection of interests represented on all aspects of water rights.

00:42:14 Rep. Connell asked Mr. McLane about the significant number of calls made for water rights on the Yellowstone River in 2013 and if that is typical or the result of a drought year. He also asked if the calls were effective. Mr. McLane described the agency's process.

00:45:23 Sen. Vincent asked Mr. McLane about co-ownership of water rights with the Tribe and what if the Tribe were unwilling to participate in all management decisions under the Compact.

00:47:28 Sen. Vincent asked Mr. McLane if he had any suggestions to provide guidance or to help facilitate co-ownership management decisions under the proposed Compact. Mr. McLane said some suggestions they did at Milltown Dam.

**HB142 REVIEW OF STATUTORY REQUIRED REPORTS: RECOMMENDATIONS TO EQC**

00:49:58 Sen Vincent

00:50:32 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hamlett moved that the WPIC continue to receive biennial in-stream leasing reports from FWP. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**AGENCY RULEMAKING UPDATE**

00:51:01 Ms. Helen Thigpen, Staff Attorney, Legislative Services Division (LSD), gave an update on the rule to define combined appropriation, [Exhibit 6](#).

## **UPDATE ON RULE-MAKING: DEFINITION OF COMBINED APPROPRIATION FOR EXEMPT GROUNDWATER WELLS**

00:53:51 Tim Davis, Administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC, presented the proposed DNRC administrative rule defining combined appropriation (see exhibit 6). Mr. Davis provided a handout on whether a call can be made on an exempt well, [Exhibit 7](#).

### **Public comment**

01:04:46 Rep. Kerry White

01:11:51 Sen. Verdell Jackson

### **Committee questions and discussion**

01:14:38 Sen. Fielder asked why the DNRC has proposed a new rule without taking into account the science involved in determining the distance between wells. Mr. Davis said the rule is using the standard established by statute and said that a scientific review is only done through the permitting process.

01:18:15 Sen. Fielder asked Mr. Davis about the permitting cost for developing a second well that is not exempt.

01:22:44 Sen. Fielder asked Mr. Davis to provide documentation on the range of costs for administrative processes and studies that are necessary to obtain a permit.

01:23:36 Rep. Williams asked Mr. Davis to clarify the new rule.

01:26:53 Rep. Williams asked about opposition to the first round of proposed rules. Mr. Davis said that 91% of the comments were in favor of the proposed rule.

01:27:40 Rep. Williams asked about challenges to the current rule defining a combined appropriation and the risk of being sued. Mr. Davis said the DNRC needs to find a definition for combined appropriation that takes into account the cumulative impacts of combined appropriation of exempt wells so the courts do not make the definition.

01:30:06 Rep. Williams asked if challenges to the rule will go to the Montana Supreme Court. Mr. Davis that challenges will eventually go to the Supreme Court.

01:30:33 Rep. Williams asked Mr. Davis about the pre-1990 definition of the rule and how it compares to the proposed new rule.

01:32:57 Rep. Williams asked how the exemption in Montana compares with other states. Mr. Davis said that as far as he knows Montana's exemption is the most generous.

01:34:05 Rep. Williams asked if adoption of the rule will protect the state from litigation. Mr. Davis said he did not know if it would protect Montana from a lawsuit, but it will present a workable solution to defend.

- 01:34:54 Rep. Williams asked Mr. Davis to comment on trends in exempt well development.
- 01:36:04 Rep. Connell asked if the definition of combined appropriation conflicts with SB 346 (2013). Mr. Davis said that it will be a further layer on top of the rule and may allow for calls to be made on exempt wells within stream depletion zones.
- 01:39:29 Sen. Fielder asked Mr. Davis about the number of homes allowed on a 10 acre subdivision.
- 01:40:42 Sen. Fielder asked if the 35 gallons per minute flow rate still applies. Mr. Davis said they took the 35 gallons per minute flow rate out of the calculation, so only the volume applies.
- 01:41:11 Sen. Hamlett gave historical information on the handout provided by Mr. Davis (see exhibit 7).
- 01:43:44 Sen. Vincent asked if the comments that were made were substantive. Mr. Davis said that every comment they received was substantive.
- 01:44:39 Sen. Vincent asked if the DNRC responds to each of the comments. Mr. Davis said that after the second comment period closes the DNRC will respond to and post all of the comments that are not duplicates.
- 01:45:20 Sen. Vincent discussed writing a letter to the EQC saying that the rule does not conform to what the WPIC decided last interim.
- 01:50:58 **Motion:** Rep. Connell moved to have a letter drafted, and reviewed by the WPIC, to send to the EQC submitting comments on the proposed rule defining combined appropriations as it applies to exempt wells, [Exhibit 8](#).

### **Committee discussion**

- 01:51:14 Rep. Williams
- 01:54:06 Sen. Vincent
- 01:54:36 Rep. Williams
- 01:56:15 Sen. Vincent
- 01:57:00 Sen. Stewart-Peregoy
- 01:58:37 **Vote:** The motion carried 6-2 by roll call vote. Rep. Neill and Rep. Williams voted no, [Exhibit 9](#).
- 01:59:23 Sen. Hamlett made an additional comment on the exhibit from Mr. Davis.
- 02:00:27 Recess
- 02:20:12 Reconvene

## **FUTURE OF AGRICULTURAL WATER USE**

02:20:44 Jason Mohr, Lead Staff, LSD, introduced the panelists for the discussion on the future of agricultural water use, [Exhibit 10](#).

### **Climate Variability, Research Priorities**

02:22:09 Kelsey Jencso, State Climatologist, Montana Climate Office, University of Montana, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Montana's climate and its variability, and priorities to enhance agricultural productivity in response to climate, [Exhibit 11](#).

### **Key Stresses**

02:46:59 Paul Stoy, Assistant Professor, Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences, Montana State University gave a PowerPoint presentation on the hydroclimate of Montana over the past half century in the context of global trends, [Exhibit 12](#).

### **Resiliency of System**

02:59:33 Marco Maneta, Assistant Professor, Department of Geosciences, University of Montana, gave a PowerPoint presentation on farmers' response to water scarcity, policy, and risk, [Exhibit 13](#).

### **Future Supply**

03:18:06 Tim Davis, Administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC, gave a preview of how the State Water Plan will include future demands for agricultural water use in Montana.

**Public comment**      None

### **Committee questions and discussion**

03:24:41 Rep. Connell asked if the State Water Plan is looking at the changes in vegetation on federal lands that may effect headwaters. Mr. Davis said they will be coordinating with the forestry division of DNRC and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to coordinate with what they are doing in the watershed.

03:27:55 Rep. Connell said that the State Water Plan needs to address the timing of the flow of water. Mr. Davis said the issue will be addressed.

03:30:53 Rep. Neill asked Mr Jencso to address why the information they have is not being reported directly to any entities. Mr. Jencso said a lot of the information exists in different locations.

- 03:32:02 Rep. Neill asked if the DNRC is using the information that the State Climate Office is putting together for the State Water Plan. Mr. Davis said they are not creating data, but using data sources that are already available.
- 03:33:01 Sen. Hamlett asked about the importance of agricultural experimental stations to Montana and agriculture going forward. Mr. Jencso said they are crucial.
- 03:34:04 Sen. Hamlett asked about Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), remote sensing technologies, and the forests. Mr. Jencso said NDVI is one tool they can use to accurately assess vegetation and forest productivity.
- 03:35:25 Sen. Hamlett asked about forest fires and the effects of the emission of CO<sub>2</sub>, heat, and soot. Mr. Stoy said an important consideration is the regional climate.
- 03:38:08 Sen. Hamlett asked if there are records of CO<sub>2</sub> levels beginning in 1950 for Montana. Mr. Stoy said there are CO<sub>2</sub> tracking stations around the world and he can obtain the information.
- 03:39:16 Sen. Hamlett commented on the presentations.
- 03:42:03 Sen. Fielder said there is a study by Sierra Nevada Institute, completed in November 2011, on how to increase water yield through forest management practices that found that increases could be obtained through reducing over densified forests.
- 03:44:41 Rep. Williams said that the Upper Missouri state water planning meeting in February will be discussing non-traditional ways to increase storage and retention of water and asked Mr. Davis what information will be available at the March WPIC meeting.
- 03:47:18 Sen. Hamlett asked if there was a change in the political atmosphere regarding reservoirs and dams. Mr. Davis said that people are interested in looking for more ways to capture and retain water when it is available.
- 03:48:19 Sen. Hamlett asked if early spring water run-off from snow melt is occurring ahead of the growing season. Mr. Davis said that runoff is happening earlier and they may see that temperature, runoff, and the growing season do not align well and that changes may need to be made to the water plan.
- 03:49:13 Sen. Hamlett asked if it will be possible to adjust period of use dates if snow melt happens earlier and temperatures are warmer earlier in the spring. Mr. Davis said they will need to determine if there will be any adverse effects.
- 03:50:43 Sen. Hamlett said there is existing legislation allowing irrigation districts to store water in order to use early spring runoff water during the growing season.
- 03:51:20 Sen. Vincent asked Mr. Jencso several questions about the high frequency towers that are used to analyze information and measurements of different vegetation types and asked Mr. Jencso to bring forward ideas for the next legislative session.

03:55:36 Sen. Vincent asked if there is data that shows increased flows or increased water availability in the areas that have had pine beetle infestations. Mr. Davis said he will find out.

03:56:22 Sen. Vincent asked if the water plan can be crafted to allow flexibility when new issues arise. Mr. Davis said they are hoping that the plan will be a process that will continue to be updated as they have more information.

03:58:20 Recess

05:02:27 Reconvene

## **FEDERAL FUNDING AND MONTANA FLOODPLAIN MAPPING PROGRAM**

05:02:56 Laurence Siroky, Bureau Chief, Water Operations Bureau, DNRC, gave a presentation on federal funding and the Montana flood plain mapping program, [Exhibit 14](#).

### **Public comment**

05:17:12 Jim Carpita, Beaverhead County Engineer and Flood Plain Administrator

### **Committee questions and discussion**

05:18:29 Rep. Williams asked about the implication for property owners with 1972 maps. Mr. Carpita said the maps are not an accurate reflection of current flood plains.

05:19:37 Rep. Williams asked Mr. Carpita if people buying property could be unaware they are buying in a flood zone and the implications.

05:21:48 Rep. Williams asked about the money received from the Legislature and how urgent it is for the legislature to provide additional funding. Mr. Siroky said where the money is being spent and that it is urgent to receive more money from the Legislature because of the downturn in funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

05:24:12 Sen. Hamlett asked what LiDAR is and the benefits of using LiDAR versus other types of mapping. Mr. Siroky said that LiDAR is a means of collecting topographic data for a large area. He said it is a less expensive way to collect topographic information.

05:25:45 Sen. Hamlett asked if LiDAR was done by plane. Mr. Siroky said that information is collected by aerial laser.

05:27:10 Sen. Vincent asked Mr. Siroky about the elevation difference constituting a flood zone.



- 05:28:26 Sen. Vincent asked which method of mapping was used in Lincoln County. Mr. Siroky said it was probably mapped using existing aerial photography and overlaying the photos on paper maps.
- 05:29:50 Sen. Vincent asked Mr. Siroky how often flood zone maps are updated using new technologies.
- 05:33:57 Sen. Vincent asked how many cities or counties are qualified to participate in the FEMA insurance program. Mr. Siroky said there are 134 communities that participate in the FEMA flood insurance program.
- 05:34:58 Sen. Vincent asked about the average cost of flood insurance. Mr. Siroky said the cost is dependent on the homes base elevation.
- 05:36:18 Rep. Williams asked about the budget proposal for 2015. Mr. Davis said they do not know right now as it has to go through the executive planning process.
- 05:37:42 Sen. Vincent asked what stage the LiDAR study was in. Joe Kolman, Legislative Environmental Analyst, LSD, said that the study resolution died in the House last session.
- 05:38:48 Sen. Vincent asked if DNRC coordinates with other agencies that use the same information. Mr. Davis said they are coordinating with other agencies and if they do invest in LiDAR it will serve multiple purposes.
- 05:40:07 Sen. Hamlett said that the state should look at LiDAR as a valuable tool and provide funding.

### **U.S. FOREST SERVICE WATER RESERVATIONS (85-20-1401, MCA)**

- 05:41:12 Mr. Tim Davis, Administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC, gave a report on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) water reservations, for instream flow, non consumptive uses, on forest service land, [Exhibit 15](#).

#### **Public comment**

- 05:43:46 John Hagengruber, USFS, Region 1  
 05:44:14 Eric Johnston, USFS, Region 1  
 05:44:55 Gene Erb  
 05:45:27 Sen. Vincent  
 05:46:12 Mr. Erb  
 05:46:37 Sen. Vincent  
 05:47:24 Mr. Davis

#### **Committee questions and discussion**

- 05:48:18 Rep. Connell asked Mr. Davis to address the appropriateness and compliance of using the Wetted P model as required by the Compact.

- 05:53:56 Sen. Fielder asked Mr. Davis how the state provides a new water right in a closed basin. Mr. Davis said that it is based on statute.
- 05:55:08 Sen. Fielder asked about the increase in the number of claims and if the trend is expected to continue. Mr. Johnston said their intention is to do 30 streams per year.
- 05:57:21 Sen. Fielder asked how many claims can be expected in the future. Mr. Johnston said they will try to continue to do 30 claims per year.
- 05:59:21 Sen. Fielder asked if the USFS filing for water rights is standard in all states or unique to Montana. Mr. Johnston said he thought it was unique because of the compact.
- 06:00:07 Sen. Fielder asked if other states had compacts. Mr. Johnston said he did not think so.
- 06:00:37 Rep. William asked how other states are handling reserved water rights with the USFS and if there is any litigation. Mr. Johnston said there is litigation in other states.
- 06:02:18 Rep. Williams said that it is not unique that the USFS has a claim to water in Montana, but unique that Montana has a compact. Mr. Johnston said that he agreed.
- 06:02:38 Sen. Vincent asked about the USFS budget and which area they will target next. Mr. Johnston said that no one singular place has been targeted for additional in-stream flow rights.
- 06:04:26 Sen. Vincent asked if the USFS was done working in the Kootenai National Forest. Mr. Johnston said he did not know.

## **HYDROLOGIC IMPACTS OF 2011 BITTERROOT WILDFIRES**

- 06:06:27 Tim Davis, Administrator, Water Resources Division, DNRC, gave a report on the hydrologic impacts of the 2011 Bitterroot wildfires and what needs to be done to set a baseline for the amount of sedimentation in the Painted Rocks Reservoir, [Exhibit 16](#).
- 06:11:56 Chris Clancy, Fisheries Biologist, FWP, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the effects of wildfires in the Bitterroot and the result on fish populations, [Exhibit 17](#).

### **Public comment**

- 06:31:45 Mr. Hagengruber

### **Committee questions and discussion**

- 06:32:14 Rep. Connell asked Mr. Hagengruber if in the last quarter century there has been a larger occurrence of very large fires in the northern Rockies.

- 06:36:19 Rep. Connell asked if it is reasonable to expect that larger fires will impact full drainages. Mr. Hagengruber said that the fire probability and severity risk is increasing.
- 06:38:31 Rep. Connell asked why the USFS has not utilized their responsibilities toward the watersheds as justification for achieving and defending projects. Mr. Hagengruber said that they are and gave Ten-Mile watershed as an example.
- 06:40:25 Rep. Connell asked if the USFS has acknowledged and utilized its subordinate position to the laws of the state of Montana as a defense or as an argument for their projects. Mr. Johnston said that he did not know if they have stated anything in those terms.
- 06:44:10 Rep. Connell said that the USFS responsibility for vegetative management is critical to Montana and the quality of life we have.
- 06:46:39 Sen. Fielder said some quotes from a U.S. Department of Agriculture report to the Montana Public Service Commission in August 2013 dealing with the amount of transmission lines that are threatened by wildfires and trends regarding wildfires.
- 06:48:43 Sen. Hamlett asked if the USFS researchers and scientists test and record, on a yearly basis, the nutrient levels in the streams, in the forest service lands, and the streams and rivers those tributaries flow into. Mr. Johnston said he is not aware of any systematic work being done.
- 06:50:51 Rep. Williams asked if there is action required on the cost estimates for determining the sedimentation presented by Mr. Davis. Sen. Vincent said the estimates were provided as information only and that no action is required.
- 06:52:16 Sen. Vincent asked about the pre-fire data that was being collected. Mr. Clancy said that the pre-fire data was collected as part of a long term monitoring program in the forest.
- 06:53:14 Sen. Vincent asked if the USFS does volume testing. Mr. Clancy said they do not and only measure how many fish are in a stream.
- 06:53:28 Sen. Vincent asked, in the areas that were severally burned by wildfires, if there is a relationship between the fact that there is more water in streams and the expansion of the fish populations in the reaches. Mr. Clancy said there are a number of reasons why fish populations increase after fire.
- 06:58:05 Sen. Vincent asked Mr. Johnston about making the USFS purpose and need documents clear for the public.
- 07:01:37 Sen. Vincent said that there are different effects of catastrophic wildfires which can be included in the SJ 15 public land study.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE WPIC**

None

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

07:03:21 Sen. Vincent asked if the committee reviewed the letter drafted to the DNRC on the proposed rule on combined appropriations.

07:03:32 **Motion:** Rep. Connell moved to send the letter to the DNRC.

#### **Committee discussion**

07:03:38 Sen. Fielder

07:04:16 Sen. Vincent

07:04:39 Sen. Fielder

07:05:26 Sen. Vincent

07:05:42 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Fielder made a substitute motion to add "the proposed rules do not reflect the intent of the legislature".

#### **Committee discussion**

07:05:52 Rep. Williams

07:06:57 Sen. Vincent

07:07:59 Rep. Williams

07:08:19 **Vote:** The motion carried by voice vote with Rep. Williams voting no.

#### **Committee discussion**

07:08:28 Sen. Vincent

07:08:48 Mr. Kolman

07:09:13 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. Williams made a substitute motion to insert the vote count after WPIC in the first paragraph.

#### **Committee discussion**

07:10:31 Sen. Vincent

07:10:45 Rep. Williams

07:11:17 Sen. Hamlett

07:11:40 Rep. Williams

07:11:58 Sen. Vincent

07:12:45 Mr. Kolman

07:13:03 **Vote:** The substitute motion to insert the vote count carried unanimously by voice vote.

07:13:25 **Vote:** The motion carried 6-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Williams and Rep. Neill voting no to send the letter to the DNRC, [Exhibit 18](#).

07:14:39 **Motion:** Rep. Fitzpatrick moved to ask the EQC to object to the rule on combined appropriations (ARM 36.12.101).

### **Committee discussion**

07:15:07 Rep. Williams

07:16:51 Sen. Hamlett

07:17:18 **Vote:** The motion to ask the EQC to object carried 6-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Williams and Rep. Neill voting no, [Exhibit 19](#).

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

07:17:53 Sen. Vincent requested that a panel discussion be put together on SB 346 for the March EQC meeting.

07:19:11 Mr. Mohr gave an update on the WPIC budget.

07:19:42 Sen. Vincent gave instructions to the staff on the CSKT Compact.

07:21:46 Sen. Hamlett asked about committee bills going forward out of the WPIC. Sen. Vincent said the WPIC will be getting presentations from DNRC and there will be requests for bills that may need to be considered.

07:23:07 Sen. Hamlett said that the Water Court needs to be made permanent. Sen. Vincent asked if that would be part of the March meeting.

07:23:44 Mr. Mohr said that the work plan calls for discussion of the Water Court role in permitting and change applications and everything else agreed on by the WPIC at the September meeting, and he will add the panel discussion on SB 346.

07:24:20 Sen. Vincent asked if WPIC was done with the perennial stream discussion. Sen. Hamlett said that the clarification of terms is beneficial.

07:25:54 Sen. Fielder said that the WPIC needs to look at the impacts from change of use under the CSKT Compact.

07:28:40 Sen. Vincent commented on the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) request that will be coming before the committee and the ability of the committee to investigate. Sen. Fielder requested time at the next WPIC meeting for discussion.

07:30:54 Rep. Williams asked if there will be time at the next meeting to request that the compact staff provide more in-depth information. Sen. Vincent said that it can be included on the agenda for March.

- 07:32:40 Sen. Fielder said that she also had additional questions for the compact staff, and Rep. Williams asked about organizing questions before the next WPIC meeting. Sen. Vincent requested committee members to forward questions to the staff before the March meeting.
- 07:34:31 Sen. Hamlett requested a copy of the 1855 Judith River Treaty.
- 07:35:31 Rep. Williams requested a copy of the Hellgate Treaty.
- 07:35:45 Sen. Stewart-Peregoy said that she will provide copies of an article that looks at treaty construction.
- 07:36:38 Sen. Vincent said there was an article he found and will forward a copy to the WPIC.
- 07:36:54 Sen. Hamlett asked what specific treaties the WPIC should look at that pertain to the Crow. Sen. Stewart-Peregoy said she will provide WPIC with copies of the three specific treaties.
- 07:37:53 Sen. Vincent adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.

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