

Montana State Water Planning Process

Summary of Planned Public Outreach for Public Review of Draft State Water Plan in 2014

1. **August 21, 2014**
 - a. DNRC will deliver Draft State Water Plan to the Legislative Services Division for distribution to the Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC) and the Environmental Quality Council (EQC).
2. **September 3, 2014** (Date to be confirmed)
 - a. DNRC will provide an opportunity for stakeholder groups to meet with the Department in Helena for a conversation on the Draft State Water Plan.
3. **September 8 – 11, 2014**
 - a. DNRC will present DRAFT State Water Plan to WPIC and EQC.
4. **September 15, 2014**
 - a. DNRC will post DRAFT State Water Plan on the Department's web site.
 - b. DNRC will post notice of public hearings on Department's web site.
 - c. DNRC will send notice of public hearings to major newspapers including, but not limited to:

Ag News	Whitehall Ledger
Big Timber Pioneer	Jordan Tribune
Billings Gazette	Glendive Ranger Review
Billings Gazette	Circle Banner
Carbon County News	Big Horn County News
Cascade Courier	Powder River Examiner
Cheyenne Voice, Busby	Broadwater Reporter (Townsend)
Daniels County Leader	Roundup Herald
Dillon Tribune	The Madisonian (Ennis)
Fairfield Sun Times	The River Press (Fort Benton)
Glasgow Courier	Havre Daily News
Great Falls Tribune	Bozeman Chronicle
Harlowton Times-Clarion	Wolf Point Herald
Helena Independent Record	Montana Standard (Butte)
Independent Observer (Conrad)	The Prairie Star
Lake County Leader (Polson)	Silver State Post (Deer Lodge)
Lewistown News-Argus	Sidney Herald
Livingston Enterprise	Independent Press, Forsyth
Meagher County News	Phillips County News
Miles City Star	Sidney Herald
Missoulian	Montana Standard
Ravalli Republic	Sanders County Ledger (Thompson Falls)
Roundup Record-Tribune	Bitterroot Star (Stevensville)
Seeley-Swan Pathfinder (Seeley Lake)	Missoula Independent
The Anaconda Leader	The Valley Journal (Ronan)
The Phillipsburg Mail	The Montanian (Libby)
Western News (Libby)	Three Forks Herald

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- d. DNRC will notify stakeholder organizations of upcoming public hearings including, but not limited to; Montana Association of Conservation Districts, Montana Watershed Coordination Council, Montana Water Users Association, Montana Stock Growers Association, and Montana Farm Bureau.
 - e. DNRC will send notification of upcoming public hearings to approximately 1,600 individuals on listservs and Interested Parties email lists.
- 5. September 22 – October 24, 2014**
- a. DNRC will hold at least 2 public hearings in each of the four planning basins to receive comment on the Draft State Water Plan.
 - b. DNRC will accept public comment on Draft State Water Plan via Department's web site or email.
- 6. October 25 – December 5, 2014**
- a. DNRC will revise and finalize the State Water Plan

Montana State Water Planning Process

Upper Missouri Basin Water Planning Process Notification of Opportunities for Public Participation

Fall 2013 – Issue Scoping Process

Public Scoping Meetings

Location	Meeting Date
Great Falls	September 30
Conrad – Pondera Golf & Country Club	October 1
Helena – Holiday Inn	October 2
Bozeman – Holiday Inn	October 8
Dillon – UM Western	October 9

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent to the following newspapers:

Newspaper	Scheduled Run Date
Great Falls Tribune	Sept. 22, 25, 26, 27, & 29 and Oct. 2, 6, 16, 20, & 27*
Bozeman Chronicle	Sept. 29. Oct. 2 & 6
Helena Independent Record	Sept. 22, 26, & 29.
Montana Standard (Butte)	Sept. 29. Oct. 3 and 8
Dillon Tribune	Sept. 25 & Oct. 2
The Madisonian (Ennis)	Sept. 25 & Oct. 2
Whitehall Ledger	Sept. 25 & Oct. 2
Three Forks Herald	Sept. 26
Cascade Courier	Sept. 25
Broadwater Reporter (Townsend)	Sept. 26
Fairfield Sun Times	Sept. 26
The River Press (Fort Benton)	Sept. 25
Independent Observer (Conrad)	Sept. 25

* GF Tribune's October notification contained announcements for meetings in both the Upper and Lower Missouri basins. Lower basin meetings took place in late October.

2. DNRC posted notification of scoping meetings on the Upper Missouri River Basin Water Planning web site at: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/upper_missouri/default.asp
3. Notification was sent to listservs hosted by the MT Watershed Coordination Council – Watershed News (700 subscribers), and the MT Association of Conservation Districts – Montana Conservationist (200+ subscribers)
4. Notification was sent to the Upper Missouri Basin Interested Parties Email List (140 subscribers).
5. DNRC gave a presentation at the MT Watershed Coordination Council's Watershed Symposium in Missoula on Oct. 16.
6. Articles on the Upper Missouri Basin water planning process appeared in the following newspapers:
 - Great Falls Tribune and Helena Independent Record – Sept. 30
 - Bozeman Chronicle – Oct. 9

Montana State Water Planning Process

Winter / Spring 2014 – Public Comment on DRAFT Recommendations Report

Public Meetings to Receive Comments on Draft Recommendations

Location	Meeting Date
Dillon – UM Western	May 21
Manhattan – Gallatin CD Office	May 22
Shelby – St. Luke’s Church	May 28
Great Falls – Cascade CD Office	May 29

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Press Release sent on May 16 to the following newspapers:

Dillon Tribune	Madisonian
Whitehall Ledger	Belgrade News
Bozeman Chronicle	Broadwater Reporter (Townsend)
Helena Independent Record	Cascade Courier
Great Falls Tribune	Meagher County News (White Sulphur)
River Press (Ft. Benton)	Choteau Acantha
Fairfield Sun-Times	Independent Observer (Conrad)
Valerian and Shelby Promoter.	

2. Radio Station KSEN – Shelby aired an ad and placed notification on station web site.
3. DNRC gave presentations at the Madison County Interagency Coordinating meeting in Alder on April 18 and at the Missouri Headwaters Partnership meeting in Whitehall on May 6.
4. Notification sent to Upper Missouri Interested Parties email list on May 19 (140 subscribers). Basin Advisory Council Members were encouraged to forward the notices to other interested parties and groups.
5. Bozeman Chronicle ran a story on May 21.
6. DNRC posted Draft Recommendations Report to the Upper Missouri River Basin Water Planning web site on May 19:
http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/upper_missouri/default.asp

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Lower Missouri Basin Water Planning Process Notification of Opportunities for Public Participation

Fall 2013 – Issue Scoping Process

Public Scoping Meetings

Location	Date
Lewistown – FWP Conference Center, Airport	October 8
Glasgow – Cottonwood Inn	October 23
Culbertson – Public Library	October 24
Roundup – St. Benedict’s Church	October 30
Harlowton – Kiwanis Youth Center	October 31
Havre – Great Northern Inn	November 7

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent September 18, 2013 – Content, meeting announcements for Lewistown-Roundup-Harlowton-Havre Public Scoping Meetings on October 8, 30, & 31, and November 7. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent to¹:

Lewistown News-Argus Oct. 2 & 5 ²	Culbertson Searchlight Sept. 30, and Nov. 10, & 17
Jordan Tribune Oct. 4 & 11	Blaine County Journal Oct. 30
Meagher County News Oct. 17, 24, & 31	Harlowton Times-Clarion Oct. 17, 24, & 31
Big Sandy Mountaineer Oct. 30	Havre Daily News Nov. 5, & 6
Great Falls Tribune Oct. 2, 6, 16, 20, & 27 ³	

1 - The announcement was also picked up by The Water and Power Report Daily in Montana.

2 - Dates for paid display ads.

3 - This ad covered meetings in Lewistown, Glasgow, Culbertson, Roundup, Harlowton, and Havre.

2. Press Release sent September 26, 2013 – Content, meeting announcement for first Public Scoping Meeting in Lewistown, October 8, 2013, along with instructions and contacts for written comments. Press Release sent to:

Ag News	Meagher County News
Lewistown News-Argus	Beartooth NBC
Montana Watershed Coordination Council	

3. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent by Facilitation Contractor, September 30, 2013 – Content, meeting announcements for Glasgow-Culbertson Public Scoping Meetings October 23 and 24, 2013. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent to:

Daniels County Leader (press release only)	Circle Banner Oct. 3, & 17
Ag News (press release only)	Glasgow Courier Oct. 2, & 16
Phillips County News Oct. 9, & 16*	Radio Station KATQ - Plentywood
Wolf Point Herald Oct. 10, & 17	Radio Station KLTZ - Glasgow

* Dates for paid display ads

4. DNRC gave a presentation at the MT Watershed Coordination Council’s Watershed Symposium in Missoula on Oct. 16.

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5. Notice sent to Lower Musselshell Conservation District email list, October 28, 2013 – Content, meeting reminder for Roundup-Harlowton Public Scoping Meetings October 30-31, 2013.
6. Newspaper story on Lower Missouri Basin planning process and scoping meeting in Harlowton written by Shirley Wegner, Harlowton Times-Clarion, November 6, 2013.
7. Press Release sent November 7, 2013 – Content, summary of Roundup, Harlowton, Havre scoping meetings and explanation of Basin Advisory Council’s next steps in adopting the Issues Scoping Report. Press Release sent to:

The Prairie Star	Jordan Tribune
Daniels County Leader	Meagher County News
Roundup Herald	Phillips County News
Glasgow Courier	Roundup Record-Tribune
Havre Daily News	Musselshell Watershed Coalition Newsletter
Lewistown News-Argus	Montana Watershed Coordination Council
Sidney Herald	Beartooth NBC
Harlowton Times-Clarion	Radio Station KLTZ – Glasgow
Wolf Point Herald	Radio Stations KXLO-KLCM - Lewistown
Billings Gazette	Radio Station KATQ - Plentywood
Circle Banner	Radio Station KGHL - Billings
Ag News	Radio Station KPQX – Havre*

* KPQX did an in-depth interview with Michael Downey (DNRC Planner) & Bill Milton (Basin Facilitator)

8. Personal Email Update on Lower Missouri Basin planning process as of January 17, 2014 – Content, information on the Water Resources Issues Scoping Report submitted to DNRC by Lower Missouri River Basin Advisory Council, and available on the DNRC State Water Plan website. Sent to list of 180 email addresses of interested parties collected over the previous six months.
9. Lewistown News Argus ran a story on February 15, 2014 regarding oil and gas development in the Lewistown area. Article mentioned the State Water Planning Process and the fact that Tom Richmond of the MT Board of Oil & Gas would be making a presentation to the Basin Advisory Council regarding oil and gas development in eastern Montana.
10. DNRC posted notification of meetings on the Lower Missouri Basin Water Planning web site at: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/lower_missouri/default.asp

Montana State Water Planning Process

Winter / Spring 2014 – Public Comment on DRAFT Recommendations Report

Public Meetings to Receive Comments on Draft Recommendations

Location	Date
Harlowton – Kiwanis Youth Center	April 29
Lewistown – Yogo Inn	April 30
Havre – Great Northern Inn	May 6
Wolf Point – Elks Club	May 7

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Press Release, Thursday, April 17, 2014 – Content, meeting announcements, information on Draft Recommendation Development Report, where to find a copy of the report, and how to comment if unable to attend meeting. Press Release sent to:

The Prairie Star	Havre Daily News
Billings Gazette	Lewistown News-Argus
Circle Banner	Phillips County News
Roundup Herald	Roundup Record-Tribune
Jordan Tribune	Wolf Point Herald
Meagher County News	Montana Watershed Coordination Council
Sidney Herald	Beartooth NBC
Harlowton Times-Clarion	Radio Station KPQX – Havre
Daniels County Leader	Radio Station KATQ - Plentywood
Glasgow Courier	Radio Station KLTZ - Glasgow

2. Personal Email Notice to Basin Advisory Council members and Technical Advisers for circulation, April 22, 2014 – Content, information on meeting dates/venues, availability of Draft Recommendation Development Report, where to find a copy of the report, and how to comment if unable to attend meeting.
3. Personal Email Notice to 199 addressees (including a number of local government contacts, conservation districts and local watershed groups) collected by Facilitator Contractor over the previous ten months, April 24, 2014 – Content, information on Draft Recommendation Development Report, where to find a copy of the report, site for submitting online comments, and contact information for sending other written comments.
4. DNRC posted Draft Recommendations Report to the Lower Missouri Basin Water Planning web site at: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/lower_missouri/default.asp.

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Clark Fork / Kootenai Basins Water Planning Process Notification of Opportunities for Public Participation

Fall 2013 – Issue Scoping Process

Public Scoping Meetings

Location	Date
Missoula – UM Campus	October 15
Hamilton – City Hall	October 17
Anaconda – Fairmont	October 24
Kalispell – Best Western	October 29
Libby Visitors Center	October 30
Deer Lodge – Community Center	November 13

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent to the following newspapers:

Newspaper	Scheduled Run Date
Missoulian	Oct. 3, 6, 9, 13, 15
Montana Standard	Oct. 2, 15, 17, 20, & 23
Ravalli Republic	Oct. 3, 6, 9, 13, & 15
Sanders County Ledger (Thompson Falls)	Oct. 10, 17; & 24
Seeley-Swan Pathfinder (Seeley Lake)	Oct. 10, 17, & 24.
Bitterroot Star (Stevensville)	Oct. 9, & 16
Lake County Leader (Polson)	Oct. 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24, 27, & 29.
Silver State Post (Deer Lodge)	Oct. 9, 16, & 23
Western News (Libby)	Oct. 18, 22, & 25
The Montanian (Libby)	Oct. 23 & 30
The Anaconda Leader	Oct. 9, 11, 16, 18, & 23
Missoula Independent	Oct. 3
The Phillipsburg Mail	Oct. 10, 17, & 24
The Valley Journal (Ronan)	Oct. 9, 16, & 23

2. DNRC posted notification of public meetings to the Clark Fork / Kootenai Basins Water Planning web site: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/clarkfork/default.asp
3. Members of the Clark Fork / Kootenai Basin Advisory Council created a Public Service Announcement video encouraging basin residents to become involved in the basin planning process. The video was posted to the internet site Vimeo.com: <http://vimeo.com/76817449>.
4. Email notices were sent to Clark Fork / Kootenai Basin Advisory Council members and ex-officio members, Conservation Districts, Watershed groups, and interested parties encouraging attendance at public meetings. Basin Advisory Council Members were encouraged to forward the notices to other interested parties and groups.

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5. DNRC gave a presentation at the MT Watershed Coordination Council's Watershed Symposium in Missoula on Oct. 16.

Winter / Spring 2014 – Public Comment on DRAFT Recommendations Report

Public Meetings to Receive Comments on Draft Recommendations

Location	Meeting Date
Missoula – Holiday Inn	April 30
Kalispell – Flathead CD Office	May 1
Hamilton – City Hall	May 1
Libby – Venture Inn Hotel	May 5
Deer Lodge – Elks Lodge	May 7

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Press Release was sent on April 23 to the following newspapers:

Ravalli Republic	Montana Standard
Missoulian	Kalispell Daily Interlake

2. Email notices was sent to approximately 159 individuals including Clark Fork / Kootenai Basin Advisory Council members and ex-officio members, Conservation Districts, Watershed groups, and interested parties encouraging attendance at public meetings. Basin Advisory Council Members were encouraged to forward the notices to other interested parties and groups.
3. Ravalli Republic ran a stories on April 28 and April 30
4. DNRC posted Draft Recommendations Report to the Clark Fork / Kootenai Basins Water Planning web site: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/clarkfork/default.asp
5. DNRC posted Draft Recommendations Report to the Clark Fork River Basin Task Force's web site: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/clarkforkbasin_taskforce/

Montana State Water Planning Process

Yellowstone Basin Water Planning Process Notification of Opportunities for Public Participation

Winter / Spring 2013 – Issue Scoping Process

Public Scoping Meetings

Location	Meeting Date
Billings – MSU Billings Downtown Campus	March 18
Glendive – Dawson Community College	March 27
Big Timber – Carnegie Library	April 12
Forsyth – Public Library	April 24
Billings – MSU Billings Downtown Campus	May 7 & 8

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Paid Advertisements/Press Release sent to the following newspapers:

Newspaper	Scheduled Run Date
Miles City Star	March 22 & 25; April 16
Sidney Herald	March 24 & 27; April 17
Billings Gazette	March 24; April 5, 17, & 30; May 2 & 5
Big Horn County News	April 11 & 18
Livingston Enterprise	April 3 & 18
Independent Press, Forsyth	April 11 & 18
Carbon County News	April 18
Powder River Examiner	April 11 & 18
Big Timber Pioneer	April 4 & 11
Glendive Ranger Review	March 21 & 24
Cheyenne Voice, Busby	April 12 & 19

2. DNRC posted Notification of meetings to the Yellowstone Basin Water Planning web site:
http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/yellowstone/default.asp
3. Over 200 phone calls were made to interested individuals encouraging them to attend public meetings.

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Winter / Spring 2014 – Public Comment on DRAFT Recommendations Report

Public Meetings to Receive Comments on Draft Recommendations

Location	Meeting Date
Glendive – Dawson Community College	May 12
Forsyth – Public Library	May 13
Billings – MSU Billings Library	May 14
Big Timber – Carnegie Library	May 15
Billings - MSU Billings Downtown Campus	May 29

Avenues of Public Notification

1. Press release was issued on April 28 to the following area newspapers:

Big Timber Pioneer	Forsyth Independent Press
Billings Gazette	Glendive Ranger Review
Carbon County News	Stillwater County News
Fallon County News	Ekalaka Eagle
Miles City Star	Big Horn County News
Powder River Examiner	Sidney Herald

2. Over 200 phone calls were made to interested individuals encouraging them to attend public meetings.
3. Email notice was sent on May 2 to Yellowstone Basin Advisory Council members and ex-officio members, Conservation Districts, Watershed groups, and interested parties encouraging attendance at public meetings. Basin Advisory Council Members were encouraged to forward the notices to other interested parties and groups.
4. Email notice was sent on May 23 to approximately 199 individuals including Yellowstone Basin Advisory Council members and ex-officio members, Conservation Districts, Watershed groups, and interested parties encouraging attendance at final meeting on May 29.
5. DNRC posted Draft Recommendations Report to the Yellowstone Basin Water Planning web site: http://dnrc.mt.gov/wrd/water_mgmt/state_water_plan/yellowstone/default.asp
6. Big Timber Pioneer printed a Letter to the Editor on May 15 encouraging residence to get involved in the planning process.
7. Articles were printed in the following newspapers
 - Bozeman Chronicle – May 5
 - Big Timber Pioneer – May 22.
 - Billings Gazette – May 6 and May 23