

Summary Grid: Suggestions to Natural Resources Subcommittee, SCEG

as of March 26, 2012

| <i>Suggestion</i>  | <i>Preliminary findings</i>  | <i>Options for subcommittee</i>  |
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| <p>Post septic system and well permitting records online</p> | <p><b>Septic system permits</b> are held by county sanitarian or health officer. Approximately six counties have digital septic permit records on a GIS database. (For example, Gallatin County appears to have posted their septic permits online.) The remaining 50 or so counties keep these permits as paper records, which likely vary from county to county.</p> <p><b>Groundwater well records</b> are available online at the Ground Water Information Center. Well drillers are required to submit well log reports to Bureau of Mines and Geology. The DNRC also maintains a database of all water rights, including groundwater rights.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further staff research and discussion (panel)</li> <li>• Letter to Montana Association of Counties, suggesting a discussion by member counties about digitalizing septic permit records</li> <li>• Develop finding in SCEG interim report to 2013 Legislature</li> <li>• Draft legislation, possibly similar to Form 603 (Well Log Report), requiring filing of permit information with DEQ</li> <li>• Remove suggestion from subcommittee consideration</li> <li>• Other action by subcommittee</li> </ul> |

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| <p>Increase use of electronic forms</p> | <p>Stakeholders identified the following permits and reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs)</b></li> <li>• <b>Small Miner Exclusion Statements (SMES)</b></li> <li>• <b>Annual reports</b> to DEQ's Hard Rock Mining Program</li> </ul> <p>DEQ is developing eDMRs. Development of electronic SMES and Hard Rock Mining annual reports would likely require additional funding.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further staff research and discussion (panel)</li> <li>• Letter to DEQ, urging further development of digital efforts</li> <li>• Develop finding on this subject for SCEG interim report to 2013 Legislature</li> <li>• Draft legislation</li> <li>• Other action</li> <li>• Remove suggestion from subcommittee consideration</li> <li>• Other action by subcommittee</li> </ul> |
| <p>Standardized state-federal MOUs</p>  | <p>Stakeholders identified project-specific MOUs related to metal mine permitting as time-consuming for department staff to develop. Stakeholders believe programmatic or standardized MOUs would help agency and stakeholders.</p> <p>DEQ has general MOUs with USFS and BLM in place. DEQ also typically monitors contracts for environmental analyses, as co-lead with federal agency.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further staff research and discussion (panel)</li> <li>• Develop finding on this subject for SCEG interim report to 2013 Legislature</li> <li>• Draft legislation</li> <li>• Other action</li> <li>• Remove suggestion from subcommittee consideration</li> <li>• Other action by subcommittee</li> </ul>   |

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| Undo requirement to prepay fee to DNRC for road access through state land | DNRC requires stakeholder to prepay land use licenses. License is necessary for access across state land to company land. Stakeholder believes prepayment is unnecessary and may delay a timber project by 1-2 weeks. Stakeholder believes this is a recent policy change.<br>DNRC said rental fees for timber hauling land use licenses are typically charged upfront. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further staff research and discussion (panel)</li> <li>• Letter to DNRC, seeking clarification of department rules for land use license fees</li> <li>• Develop finding on this subject for SCEG interim report to 2013 Legislature</li> <li>• Draft legislation</li> <li>• Remove suggestion from subcommittee consideration</li> <li>• Other action by subcommittee</li> </ul> |
| Issuance of permit to private party is mandatory action                   | Stakeholder believes project on private property should be mandatorily issued a permit, if applicable rules and regulations are followed.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further staff research and discussion (panel)</li> <li>• Develop finding on this subject for SCEG interim report to 2013 Legislature</li> <li>• Draft legislation</li> <li>• Remove suggestion from subcommittee consideration</li> <li>• Other action by subcommittee</li> </ul>  |

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| <p>Require annual meetings between DNRC and timberland/resource management stakeholders</p> | <p>Timber industry stakeholders would like annual, regular meetings with DNRC Land Office staff to discuss industry issues.</p> <p>DNRC attends industry association meetings and reinstated annual Purchasers Meeting two years ago. The Purchasers Meeting focuses on the timber program and contracts.</p> <p>Stakeholders believe meetings with Land Office staff would cover more than what is covered in Purchasers Meetings, such as state forester's strategy.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further staff research and discussion (panel)</li> <li>• Letter to DNRC, urging annual meetings between Land Office staff and timber stakeholders</li> <li>• Develop finding on this subject for SCEG interim report to 2013 Legislature</li> <li>• Draft legislation, perhaps requiring DNRC to report status of Purchasers Meetings or other annual meetings with land offices regularly to EQC</li> <li>• Remove suggestion from subcommittee consideration</li> <li>• Other action by subcommittee</li> </ul> |