Water Law Section of the Montana State Bar c/o Ryan McLane, Chair P.O. Box 1155 Helena, MT 59624-1155

January 2, 2020

Water Policy Interim Committee, Montana Legislature c/o Jason Mohr, Committee Staff P.O. Box 201704 Helena, MT 59620-1704

Re: Water Law Section's Survey results concerning Water Law in Montana

Dear Chairman Brown, and Members of WPIC:

Thank you for the invitation to present at the January 2020 meeting of WPIC, concerning WPIC's HJ14 study bill. I plan on attending on behalf of the Water Law Section.

As discussed at WPIC's August 2019 meeting, the Water Law Section had prepared an internal survey of its members concerning the status and future of water law in Montana. We have very recently completed that survey, and we have attached a copy of the results. We intend to briefly discuss this survey at the January 2020 meeting. We hope that the collective opinions and experiences of our members will prove useful to WPIC in identifying challenges and opportunities for the future of water law in Montana.

Please let us know how the Water Law Section, and its members, can continue to be of assistance to WPIC and the State of Montana. Thank you.

Water Law Section of the State Bar of Montana

By: Ryan McLane, chair

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