



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

PO BOX 201704
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1704
(406) 444-3742

**GOVERNOR GREG GIANFORTE
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JASON MOHR, Research Analyst
NADINE SPENCER, Secretary
JOE CARROLL, Legal Staff
JOE KOLMAN, Legislative Environmental Analyst

**FINAL AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
Room 317, Capitol
March 22-23, 2022**

NOTE: AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

- 10:00 a.m. **Call to Order - Roll Call** – Chair Lang
- 10:05 a.m. **Administrative matters** – Mr. Kolman
- 10:10 a.m. **Water Policy Interim Committee Update**
- Mr. Mohr
 - Questions/discussion -- EQC
 - Committee action, if any
- 10:30 a.m. **HJ 27 Conservation District Funding (Tab 1)**
- Coal Severance tax study update, Megan Moore & Sam Schaefer
 - Options Overview – Mr. Kolman
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Next Steps for Study
 - Committee action, if any
- 11:30 **Land Banking Report (77-2-366, MCA) (Tab 2)**
- Shawn Thomas, DNRC Trust Land Administrator
 - Public comment
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Committee action, if any

- 11:45 **State Land Road Closures Report, (77-1-280, MCA)**
- Shawn Thomas, DNRC Trust Land Administrator
 - Public comment
 - Questions/discussion -- EQC
 - Committee action, if any
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. **Mountain Sheep Report, (87-2-702, MCA)**
- FWP
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Committee action, if any
- 1:30 p.m. **Contractual Public Elk Hunting Access Agreements (Tab 3)**
- FWP
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Committee action, if any
- 2:30 p.m. Break
- 2:45 p.m. **Orphan Share Report, (75-10-743(14))**
- Jenny Chambers, DEQ Remediation Division Administrator
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:00 p.m. **Subdivision Review Update**
- Amy Steinmetz, DEQ Water Quality Division Administrator
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:30p.m. **Libby Asbestos Superfund Oversight Committee Report (75-10-1601, MCA)**
- DEQ Director Chris Dorrington
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Committee action, if any
- 4:00 p.m. **Public comment on any matter not on agenda but within the jurisdiction of EQC**
- Recess**



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Wednesday, March 23, 2022

8:00 a.m. **Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee Update**

- Mr. Graff
- Questions/discussion – EQC
- Committee action, if any

8:30 a.m. **Wildfire Behavior and Mitigation**

- Philip Higuera, Professor of Fire Ecology, University of Montana College of Forestry & Conservation
- Mark A. Finney, Ph.D. Research Forester USDA Forest Service Missoula Fire Sciences Laboratory, Rocky Mountain Research Station
- John Radke Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, City and Regional Planning Center for Catastrophic Risk Management University of California, Berkeley
- Public comment
- Questions/discussion -- EQC
- Committee action, if any

9:30 a.m. **Break**

9:45 a.m. **Fire Season & Water Supply update**

- Sonya Germann, Forestry Division Administrator, DNRC
- Public comment
- Questions/discussion -- EQC
- Committee action, if any

10:15 a.m. **Federal Land Management and State Coordination**

- Acting State Director Theresa Hanley, Bureau of Land Management
- Acting Supervisor Ben Conard. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Montana Ecological Services Office
- FWP
- DNRC
- Public comment
- Questions/discussion -- EQC

- Committee action, if any
- Noon Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. **Rule Review (Tab 4)**
- Joe Carroll, EQC attorney
 - Questions/discussion – EQC
 - Public comment
 - Committee action, if any
- 1:15 p.m. **Agency updates from Directors**
- Department of Environmental Quality**
- Questions/discussion – EQC
- 1:30 p.m. **Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks**
- Questions/discussion – EQC
- 1:45 p.m. **Department of Natural Resources and Conservation**
- Questions/discussion -- EQC
- 2:00 p.m. **Other business**
- Next Steps for HJ27 Conservation District Study
 - Agenda items for May 24-25 meeting
 - Instructions to staff
- 2:30 **Public comment on any matter not on agenda but within the jurisdiction of EQC**
- Adjourn**

Note:

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Members of the public who wish to participate via Zoom may do so. Please email jkolman@mt.gov with your name and a request and you will be sent instructions for joining and participating by 5 p.m. the day before.

During times set aside for public comment on the agenda, members of the public who have joined by Zoom may "raise their hand" and participate after being recognized by the presiding officer or Zoom manager. Comments will be taken in order. Written public comment may be sent via email in advance of the meeting to jkolman@mt.gov and will be provided to committee members. Any oral or written public comment provided to the committee is a public record that is recorded, archived, and available on the web.

The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact Joe Kolman (jkolman@mt.gov, 406-444-3474) as soon as possible before the meeting date.