



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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TREVOR GRAF, research analyst
JASON MOHR, research analyst
JOLANDA SONGER, secretary

FINAL agenda
Environmental Quality Council
September 27-28, 2023
Room 317

Wednesday, September 27

10 a.m. Call to order, roll call

- Chairman Gunderson

10:05 a.m. Meeting overview

- Jason Mohr, council staff

10:45 a.m. Wildfire update

- Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- Public comment
- Council discussion

11:15 a.m. Update on cleanup of Stillwater Co. train derailment/Yellowstone River spill

- Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Public comment
- Council discussion

11:45 a.m. Report of Montana Invasive Species Council (80-7-1203, MCA)

- MISC
- Public comment
- Council discussion

12:15 p.m. Update on invasive species in the Columbia River system

- Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
- Public comment
- Council discussion

12:30 p.m. Break for lunch

1 p.m. Update on Comprehensive Water Review

- DNRC
- Public comment
- Council discussion

1:30 p.m. Update on land transfers with Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

- DNRC
- Public comment
- Council discussion

2 p.m. Update on pheasant release program

- FWP
- Public comment
- Council discussion

2:30 p.m. Development of state shooting ranges

- FWP
- Public comment
- Council discussion

3:15 p.m. Fish Creek Watershed Recreation planning

- FWP
- Public comment
- Council discussion

4 p.m. Update on Petroleum Tank Release Compensation program

- DEQ
- Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board
- Public comment
- Council discussion

4:30 p.m. Interim committee updates

- Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee–Trevor Graff, committee staff
- Water Policy Interim Committee–Jason Mohr, committee staff
- Council discussion

5 p.m. Recess



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Thursday, September 28

9 a.m. Reconvene

9:05 a.m. Critical commodities (rare earth elements)

- Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
- DEQ
- Public comment
- Council discussion

10 a.m. Sage grouse reports

- Annual report of current sage grouse population numbers (FWP; 87-1-201)
- Annual report of Montana Sage Grouse Oversight Team (87-5-918)
- Public comment
- Council discussion

10:30 a.m. Automated Licensing System: Special drawings, bonus points

- Legislative Audit Division
- FWP
- Public comment
- Council discussion

Noon Lunch

1 p.m. Algal blooms in Montana's waterbodies

- DEQ
- FWP
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and action

1:30 p.m. Department director updates

- DEQ
- DNRC
- FWP

2:30 p.m. Adoption of final work plan

- Review of draft work plan–Jason Mohr, council staff
- Public comment
- Committee discussion and action

2:55 p.m. General public comment on any issue not discussed

3 p.m. Adjourn