



Water Policy Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

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SENATE MEMBERS

WILLIS CURDY
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HOUSE MEMBERS

BOB CARTER
JILL COHENOUR
MARTY MALONE
RUSS MINER
BOB PHALEN
KENNETH WALSH

COMMITTEE STAFF

JASON MOHR, Lead Staff
ALEXIS SANDRU, Legal Staff
JACELYN STERLING, Secretary

Agenda Water Policy Interim Committee

July 24, 2023

Room 172

Agenda times are approximate

Monday, July 24

- 9 a.m. **Call to order—Rep. Cohenour**
- Roll call
 - Committee member introductions
 - Staff introductions
- 9:15 a.m. **Committee Overview - Mr. Mohr**
- 9:30 a.m. **Adoption of Rules - Mr. Mohr**
- Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion, and action
- 9:45 a.m. **Election of WPIC Presiding Officer and Vice-Presiding Officer**
- 10 a.m. **Review of 2023 Water Legislation - Mr. Mohr**
- 10:30 a.m. **Agency Overviews of Water-Related Programs**
- Department of Environmental Quality
 - Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
 - Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 11:15 p.m. **Discussion of 2023-24 Interim Priorities**
- Overview of work plan - Mr. Mohr
 - Overview of administrative rulemaking - Ms. Sandru
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- Noon **Lunch**

- 1 p.m. **Legislative Audit: Data Quality in the Montana Water Rights Information System**
- LAD
 - DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 1:30 p.m. **Water Rights Adjudication Update ([85-2-281, MCA](#))**
- Adjudication Bureau (DNRC)
 - Montana Water Court
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 2 p.m. **Comprehensive Water Review**
- DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 2:30 p.m. **State Drought Plan**
- DNRC
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 3 p.m. **Flathead Lake Levels**
- Energy Keepers
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 3:30 p.m. **Update from Nutrient Work Group (SB 358: Repeal numeric nutrient standards for water quality (2021))**
- DEQ
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 4 p.m. **Water Research ([85-2-105, MCA](#))**
- Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology
 - Public comment
 - Committee questions, discussion
- 4:30 p.m. **Administrative matters**
- Budget overview
 - Adoption of work plan
 - Adoption of WPIC meeting dates
 - Committee contact information
- 4:45 p.m. **Public comment on any issue within the jurisdiction of WPIC**
- 5 p.m. **Adjourn**