



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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FINAL AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
State Capitol, Room 172
March 21-22, 2018

NOTE: AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE--SOME ITEMS MAY TAKE MORE OR LESS TIME THAN IS ALLOTTED.

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

- 10:00 a.m. Call to Order - Roll Call
Sen. Chas Vincent, chair
- 10:05 a.m. Administrative matters--Mr. Kolman
- Budget review
 - Adoption of EQC minutes from January ([Tab 1](#))
 - Proposed change to May 30-31 meeting
- 10:10 a.m. Water Policy Interim Committee update --Mr. Mohr
- Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee update --Mr. Graff
- 10:20 a.m. Natural Heritage Program funding ([Tab 2](#))
- Jennie Stapp, state librarian
 - Bryce Maxell, NHP coordinator
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 11:10 a.m. State Parks program evaluation ([Tab 3](#))
- Parks in Focus update - FWP Director Martha Williams and Chairman Vincent
 - Capital projects update - Director Williams
 - Enforcement in parks and gas tax follow ups - Ms. Stockwell
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for program evaluation
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch

- 1:00 p.m. FWP financials follow up: overview of deferred maintenance, use of [Pittman-Robertson](#) and [Dingell-Johnson](#) funds, tracking funds, and administrative costs (Tab 4)
- Director Martha Williams
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for program evaluation
- 2:00 p.m. Fish and Wildlife licensing and funding review
- Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 2:30 p.m. BREAK
- 2:45 p.m. Dog training in upland game bird areas ([Tab 5](#))
- Overview of regulations - Mr. Kolman
 - [Public comment](#)
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:30 p.m. Overview of federal government agency activity
- Douglas H. Benevento, administrator, EPA Region 8
 - Public comment
 - EQC review and discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 4:00 p.m. Chronic wasting disease
- Update - Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 4:30 p.m. Statutory administrative rule review ([Tab 6](#))
- Ms. Bills
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 4:45 p.m. Public comment on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the EQC.

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Thursday, March 22, 2018

- 8:00 a.m. Fire-related indicators
- Update & Demonstration - Mr. Kolman
 - Public Comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study

- 8:30 a.m. Fire-related study topics ([Tab 7](#))
- Options for landowner assessment fees - Mr. Kolman
 - [DNRC](#)
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
 - [Firefighter issues](#) - Ms. Kurtz
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
 - [Prescribed burning](#) - Mr. Kolman
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 10:00 a.m. BREAK
- 10:15 a.m. Aquatic invasive species program evaluation (Tab 8)
- Montana Invasive Species Commission Update - Bryce Christiaens, chair
 - Upper Columbia Conservation Commission Update - Lori Curtis, chair (by phone)
 - FWP 2018 Inspection/Monitoring Season Update - Director Martha Williams
 - Watercraft fee [matrix](#) and [scenarios](#) - Ms. Stockwell
 - Public Comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 11:25 a.m. SJ 5 Study
- Ms. Nowakowski
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 11:40 p.m. Sage Grouse conservation program update
- Habitat Quantification Tool progress - Carolyn Sime, Program Manager
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Montana State University lab study ([Tab 9](#))
- Staff update - Ms. Albrecht
 - EQC member updates - Rep. Hamlett, Rep. White
 - Proposed letter to congressional delegation
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study

- 1:30 p.m. Mule deer permits ([Tab 10](#))
- Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 2:00 p.m. Public access issues
MT-Plan & access update Ryan Weiss, DNRC public access specialist
- Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- Wildlife Policy & Landowner Relations
- Dan Vermillion, chairman, Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission
 - Terry Anderson, senior fellow, Property and Environment Research Center
 - Nick Gevock, conservation director, Montana Wildlife Federation
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:00 p.m. Review proposed topics for next EQC meeting
- 3:15 p.m. Public comment on any matter not contained in this agenda and that is within the jurisdiction of the EQC
- Other business
Instructions to staff
- 3:30 p.m. Adjourn

Please note:

- All meeting materials are available on the EQC website at <http://leg.mt.gov/eqc>
- Public comment provided in person at a committee meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting.
- 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 Lenore Adams at 406-444-4456 or leadams@mt.gov as soon as possible before the meeting date.