

Water Policy Interim Committee

65th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS JILL COHENOUR PAT CONNELL JON SESSO JEFF WELBORN HOUSE MEMBERS BOB BROWN ZACK BROWN JOHN FLEMING CARL GLIMM

COMMITTEE STAFF JASON MOHR, Lead Staff HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

June 22, 2017

To: Water Policy Interim Committee members From: Jason Mohr, committee staff Re: July 31-Aug. 1 meeting

Greetings new and returning committee members,

The WPIC holds its first meeting of the new interim at 10 a.m. July 31 in room 152 of the State Capitol. In addition to setting the interim work plan, this first meeting features a field trip, "A water tour of the Helena Valley." I hope these informal presentations from various water experts will help lay a foundation for the interim's work.

Please find enclosed the meeting materials, which are also posted online at www.leg.mt.gov/water. Enclosures include:

- A draft agenda
- Minutes from the October 2017 meeting
- Draft committee rules
- A list of natural resources legislation passed during the 2017 session
- A draft committee work plan, including a history of WPIC presiding officers, executive agency organizational charts, and descriptions of agency programs. This draft work plan also includes topics you suggested to me after the legislative session.
- A work plan decision matrix, which will help you determine committee priorities and staff workload.
- A memo regarding committee review of statutorily required reports and advisory councils.
- An update on the water rights adjudication process from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Montana Water Court.

MONTANA LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION STAFF: SUSAN BYORTH FOX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • DAVID D. BOHYER, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND POLICY ANALYSIS • TODD EVERTS, DIRECTOR, LEGAL SERVICES OFFICE • DALE GOW, CIO, OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY • JOE KOLMAN, DIRECTOR, LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE

• A Legal Services Office memo regarding administrative rule review. Please let me know if you have any questions. Otherwise, I will see you on July 31.

Sincerely,

Jason Mohr, research analyst Montana Legislative Environmental Policy Office Capitol Building, room 171 jasonmohr@mt.gov (406)444-1640