

Performance Evaluation Grid, WPIC (2017-18)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Agency	Division	Bureau	Program/section/unit	Description (if available)	Current emerging issues
2	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Quality Planning Bureau		The bureau's mission is accomplished through an integrated approach based on water quality standards development, monitoring and assessment, and development and implementation of quality data management systems. <i>(deq.mt.gov)</i>	Future federal funding
3	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Quality Planning	Water Quality Standards	Develops water quality criteria to identify the level of water quality necessary to protect the beneficial uses of a stream, river, or lake, as well as, the state's groundwater resources. Examples of beneficial uses include drinking water, recreation, and fish and aquatic life. The NPS program seeks to protect and restore these beneficial uses. A complete review of standards occurs every three years, but changes to the standards can occur at any time. <i>(deq.mt.gov)</i>	
4	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Quality Planning	Monitoring and Assessment	Monitors water quality conditions and trends statewide and assesses sources and severity of pollution problems by (a) operating statewide water quality monitoring networks, (b) conducting inventories of pollution sources, and (c) identifying impaired waterbodies. This monitoring and assessment provides the basis for Montana's Integrated Report, which addresses 75-5-702 of the Montana Water Quality Act and sections 305(b) and 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act. <i>(deq.mt.gov)</i>	
5	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Quality Planning	Information Management and Technical Services	The section provides technical support services for the Water Quality Division's Clean Water Act programs in the areas of data systems development and project management, database stewardship, data management, program reporting, and library services. Specifically, the section's staff manages data systems supporting water quality metric (sample) data, water quality assessments, TMDL development and implementation, water discharge permits, and our non-point source water quality reference library. Section staff maintains the bureau's library database and ensures access to documents, reports, books, periodicals, and maps that exist in hard-copy and electronic format, or both. Section staff also provides systems and business process analysis for custom application development supporting data analysis, data reduction and presentation, data systems integration, and enhanced reporting capabilities. Finally, the section also prepares the state's biennial Water Quality Integrated Report that includes the list of impaired waters in need of TMDLs and the statewide water quality report as required by sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the federal Clean Water Act. <i>(deq.mt.gov)</i>	
6	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Protection Bureau		The Water Protection Bureau was formed to prevent surface and ground water pollution by review of the potential sources of pollution and issuance of Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits. The Water Protection Bureau also is responsible for determinations of nondegradation. <i>(deq.mt.gov)</i>	
7	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Protection	Watershed Protection Section	Works to protect and restore water quality from the effects of nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. NPS pollution is the state's largest source of water quality impairment. NPS pollution can be generated by most land-use activities and occurs when water moves over and through the ground, moving sediments, nutrients, metals, pesticides, and salts into wetlands, groundwater, creeks, rivers, and lakes. WPS works with volunteers, watershed groups, conservation districts, educational institutions, and state and federal agencies to implement Montana's Nonpoint Source Program (Section 319 of the Clean Water Act). Section 319 grants provide funding for on-the ground projects, monitoring, and NPS education and outreach. <i>(formerly posted on deq.mt.gov)</i>	
8	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Protection	Watershed Management	Develops Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for impaired waters on Montana's 303(d) list. <i>(formerly posted on deq.mt.gov)</i>	

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9	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Protection	MPDES Permitting	The goal of the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination system (MPDES) program is to control point source discharges of wastewater such that water quality in state surface water is protected. Levels of water quality that are required to maintain the various beneficial uses of state surface waters are set forth in the Water Quality Standards (WQS). All point sources of wastewater discharge are required to obtain and comply with MPDES permits. The effluent limitations and other conditions for certain categories of wastewaters are required to be treated to federally-specified minimum levels based on available and achievable water treatment technologies. Additionally, effluent limits and permit conditions are established to protect beneficial uses and applicable WQS. The Nondegradation Rules are a part of the WQS that apply to new or increased sources of pollution. These rules prohibit significant increases in discharge of toxic and deleterious materials to state waters, unless it is affirmatively demonstrated to the DEQ that a change is justifiable as a result of necessary economic or social development and will not preclude present and anticipated use of these waters. Each MPDES permit issued is designed to protect the state surface water quality at the point of discharge. In addition, recognizing the dynamic nature of streams and the potential additive or cumulative effects of pollutants, MPDES permits also address stream reach or basin-wide pollution problems. A calculation process called total maximum daily load (TMDL) is used to apportion allowable pollutant discharge levels among the various dischargers. If reductions of a given pollutant in a stream reach or basin are found necessary to meet WQS, the TMDL process is used to apportion the reductions among the dischargers in that reach or basin. The program is funded by application and annual permit fees. Activities of program staff include public education, reviewing applications, determining effluent limits and best management practices, environmental assessments, public participation and information retrieval, effluent and instream data review and management, field inspections, enforcement, regulation and guidance preparation, program planning and administration. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	Updated variance rules for nutrients (total nitrogen, total phosphorous)
10	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Protection	Ground Source Water	Montana is required under 1996 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act to carry out a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). Among other things, the SWAP requires the participation of all public water systems (PWSs) in identifying and protecting their water sources. Montana's program has been developed using the maximum possible public participation, including input from PWSs. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	
11	DEQ	Water Quality	Water Protection	Compliance, Training, and Technical Support	Compliance and Enforcement is an integral part of environmental protection. The Compliance and Technical Support Section provides compliance assistance to areas that yield the most environmental benefit or reduce risk to human health and pursues enforcement when applicable. The overall compliance status of each facility is monitored through continual review of permit requirements through the self-monitoring component of the program and on-site inspections. Compliance monitoring is one of the key components the Section uses to protect human health and the environment by ensuring that the regulated community understands and complies with permit requirements through visits by qualified inspectors, and a review of self-monitoring reports submitted by the permit holders. The staff also provide compliance assistance through one-on-one counseling, online resources, guides and trainings to the regulated community to help them understand their requirements and to minimize or prevent violations from occurring at regulated facilities. Inspectors provide technical support with hands-on assistance to small municipal wastewater treatment plant operators and businesses to provide compliance assistance, and identify maintenance and performance improvement matters by providing operations, maintenance and technical assistance at no cost to the community. The inspectors develop procedures and protocol for compliance evaluations to ensure equity and consistency in compliance evaluations. Each inspector prepares and manages enforcement cases and provides technical support to the permit holders through the Department's Enforcement Division in returning permit holders to compliance with their permits. The mission of the Compliance and Technical Support Section includes providing proper fiscal, data, and information management support and regulatory expertise essential to protect public health and the environment from the harmful effects of improper, inadequate, or unsound management of water pollutants within the limits of authority delegated by the Legislature and applicable federal statutes. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	

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12	DEQ	Water Quality	Public Water Supply Bureau		The bureau assures that public health is maintained through a safe and adequate supply of drinking water. These functions are achieved by technical reviews, licensing, certifications, compliance monitoring, training and technical assistance. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	
13	DEQ	Water Quality	Public Water Supply	Technical Services		
14	DEQ	Water Quality	Public Water Supply	Monitoring/Reporting Section		
15	DEQ	Water Quality	Public Water Supply	Field Services Section		
16	DEQ	Water Quality	Engineering Bureau		The Engineering Bureau plays an integral role in the function of the Department of Environmental Quality. The department has the responsibility for protecting and preserving Montana's environment, while balancing a host of economic and political interests. In order to do this effectively, we must be able to offer concrete alternatives and solutions to environmental problems and to foster effective working relationships with a variety of customers across Montana. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	
17	DEQ	Water Quality	Engineering	Water Pollution Control SRF	The Montana Legislature established the Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund Loan Program for water pollution control projects. The program provides at or below market interest rate loans to eligible Montana entities. The DEQ is the administering agency and assures that the technical, financial, and programmatic requirements of the program are met. The DNRC issues the State's general obligation bonds and makes loans to the project borrowers. Cooperatively, DEQ and DNRC administer the program. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	
18	DEQ	Water Quality	Engineering	Subdivisions Review	The Department of Environmental Quality Subdivision Program reviews divisions of land comprising less than 20 acres, as well as condominiums and recreational camping vehicle and mobile home parks, regardless of the size of the parcel where they are located. This review under the sanitation in subdivisions regulations is limited to sanitation facilities, including the water supply, sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, and storm drainage systems. Proper design and location of these facilities is necessary to protect the quality of water for public water supplies, domestic uses, and other beneficial uses, including uses related to agricultural, industry, recreation, and wildlife. Subdivisions are reviewed prior to creating the parcels to assure that adequate sanitation facilities can be constructed, operated, and maintained to support each parcel. Planning ahead for proper design and location of the facilities helps protect both our surface and ground water in Montana. Design manuals have been developed to provide standards for wastewater treatment systems, water supply development, and storm drainage systems. The regulations also set out minimum separation distances between water supply sources and potential contamination sources such as wastewater treatment systems, surface waters, and floodplains. The regulations and subdivision review are structured to prevent pollution problems through the proper design, location, operation, and maintenance of sanitation facilities. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	
19	DEQ	Water Quality	Engineering	Public Water Supply Plan Review	Section staff reviews plans and specifications for new public water and wastewater systems and modifications to existing systems for compliance with Design Standards. (<i>deq.mt.gov</i>)	
20	DEQ	Water Quality	Engineering	Drinking Water SRF	The Montana Legislature established the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program for Drinking Water projects. The program provides at or below market interest rate loans to eligible Montana entities. The DEQ is the administering agency and assures that the technical, financial, and programmatic requirements of the program are met. The DNRC issues the State's general obligation bonds and makes loans to the project borrowers. Cooperatively, DEQ and DNRC administer the program.	
21	DNRC	Water Resources Division			The Division carries out its duties for the purpose of promoting the general welfare and prosperity of the people of Montana. Sound coordination of the development and utilization of the state's waters allows the Division to protect existing uses and to promote adequate future supplies for domestic, industrial, agricultural, recreation, the conservation of water for wildlife, aquatic life and other beneficial uses. (<i>dnrc.mt.gov</i>)	
22	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Water Rights Bureau		The Water Rights Bureau administers the following: Establishing new water rights or changing existing water rights (New Appropriations Program); Water right hearings (Hearings Unit); Water right records (Water Rights Records Unit) (<i>dnrc.mt.gov</i>)	SB28: Water Court review of certain DNRC water right permitting/change decisions

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23	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Water Projects Bureau		The State Water Projects Bureau (SWPB) is the successor to the original State Water Conservation Board that was created in the 1930s for the purpose of locating and building water infrastructure projects throughout Montana. Today, the SWPB administers the operation, maintenance, management, and rehabilitation of state-owned water projects including 22 dams, approximately 250 miles of irrigation canals, and one hydropower facility. The SWPB also assists in the operation and maintenance of nine (9) dams owned by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. (<i>dnrc.mt.gov</i>)	
24	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Water Operations Bureau		Includes the following programs: Board of Water Well Contractors (administratively attached board that licenses water well drillers and contractors; enforces water well construction standards); Dam Safety Program ("regulates the construction, operations, and maintenance of Montana's dams to protect life and property from damages due to dam failure"); Floodplain Management ("Assists the 110 locally administered floodplain management programs throughout Montana in reducing the loss of life and structural property through wise floodplain development, and in reducing the loss of functional floodplains by reducing the amount of erosion of stream banks due to unwise floodplain development throughout Montana.")	Congressional renewal of National Flood Insurance Program
25	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Water Management Bureau		The Water Management Bureau conducts hydrologic assessments of Montana's surface water and groundwater resources, develops the State Water Plan, supports development of water resource planning studies, fosters stewardship of the state's water resources through diverse education programs and supports the implementation of federal and tribal water compacts. The activities and work products of Bureau staff support the conservation, development, utilization and sustainability of the state's water resources. In carrying out their duties, Bureau staff frequently partner with local watershed groups and conservation districts, other bureaus and Divisions within DNRC, other units of state government, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). (<i>dnrc.mt.gov</i>) Includes the Hydro Sciences Section ("technical analysis and investigations of surface and ground water resources"), Water Planning Section ("complex water planning documents"), Compact Implementation Section ("administrative and technical support to MT RWRCC")	Update on Missouri Headwater Basin Study; update on State Water Plan implementation
26	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Water Adjudication Bureau		The Water Adjudication Bureau assists the Montana Water Court in the adjudication of all claims to pre July 1, 1973 water rights. The Bureau examines all claims pursuant to Supreme Court rules and provides a summary report to the Water Court on each of the basins (85) in the state. Pursuant to legislation passed in 2005 the Bureau must complete the examination of the remaining claims 57,000 claims (as of 2005) by June 30, 2015. The Bureau must provide summary reports to the Water Court for the remaining 30 basins (as of 2005) by June of 2020. The Bureau is required to report progress quarterly to the Environmental Quality Council (EQC). The Bureau also provides post decree assistance to the Water Court as requested and to district courts as Water Court decrees are placed under enforcement (upon petition to the district court). (<i>dnrc.mt.gov</i>) SB57 (2015) provided different benchmarks to reexamine verified claims	Re-examination of certain pre-1973 water rights claims (now in the objections phase)
27	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission		The RWRCC is to conclude compacts for the equitable division and apportionment of waters between: the State of Montana, its people and the several Indian tribes claiming reserved water rights within the state (MCA 85-2-701), and the State, its people and the federal government claiming non-Indian reserved water within the state (MCA 85-2-703). The RWRCC is authorized to negotiate settlements with Montana Indian tribes and federal agencies claiming reserved water rights within the State of Montana. Reserved water rights have been claimed and negotiated for seven Montana Indian reservations, national parks, forests and wildlife refuges, and federally designated wild and scenic rivers. (<i>dnrc.mt.gov</i>)	Duties of the Compact Implementation Bureau; status of Compact Implementation Technical Team of CSKT water rights settlement; Turtle Mountain Band claims, objections
28	DNRC	Water Resources Division	Field Operations			