



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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DRAFT AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
State Capitol, Room 172
January 17-18, 2018

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

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order - Roll Call
Sen. Chas Vincent, chair
- 9:35 p.m. Administrative matters--Mr. Kolman (Tab 1)
- Budget review
 - Adoption of EQC minutes, Sept. [27-28](#), 2017
- 9:40 a.m. State Parks Program Evaluation (Tab 2)
- Introduction of new Parks Division Administrator - Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - State Parks and Recreation Board Update - Angie Grove, Chair
 - Funding overview - Director Williams
 - [Fuel tax revenue analysis](#) - Ms. Stockwell
 - Management plans and land administration - Ms. Stockwell
[A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#), [E](#)
 - Performance Audit update - John Harrington, LAD
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for program evaluation
- 11:00 a.m. SJ 5 Study: Coal Tax Collection and Distribution ([Tab 3](#), [A](#), [B](#), [C](#))
- Ms. Nowakowski
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 11:45 a.m. Water Policy Interim Committee update--Mr. Mohr
- Energy & Telecommunications Interim Committee update--
Mr. Graff

- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Overview of Federal Government Agency Activity
- Dave Schmid, deputy Region 1 forester, U.S. Forest Service
 - Public comment
 - EQC review and discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 1:30 p.m. Study of labs at Montana State University
- Staff update - Ms. Albrecht
 - EQC member updates - Rep. Hamlett, Rep. White
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 1:45 p.m. Chronic wasting disease [\(Tab 4\)](#)
- Update - Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - Cost of doing testing in Montana
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 2:15 p.m. FY 2017 State Trust Lands Report [\(Tab 5\)](#)
- Shawn Thomas, DNRC Trust Lands Division administrator
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 2:30 p.m. Agency budget updates [\(Tab 6\)](#)
- Director John Tubbs, DNRC
 - Director Tom Livers, DEQ
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 2:45 p.m. BREAK
- 3:00 p.m. Agency litigation updates (Tab 7) [A](#), [B](#), [C](#)
- Overview - Mr. Kolman
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:15 p.m. Statutory administrative rule review (Tab 8) [A](#), [B](#)
- Ms. Bills
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any

- 3:30 p.m. Dog training in upland game bird areas (Tab 9) [A](#), [B](#)
- Statutory Overview - Ms. Bills
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 4:15 p.m. Sage Grouse ([Tab 10](#))
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act Waiver - Ms. Stockwell
 - Habitat Quantification Tool progress - SG conservation program
 - 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.

Recess

Thursday, January 18, 2017

- 8:00 a.m. Fish and Wildlife Licensing & Funding Review (87-1-629, MCA)
- Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 9:00 a.m. Aquatic Invasive Species Program Evaluation (Tab 11) [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#)
- Lessons learned/plans for the 2018 inspection season - Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - Invasive Species Council update - Bryce Christiaens, Chair
 - Funding mechanisms and what other states are doing - Ms. Stockwell
 - Public Comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 10:00 a.m. BREAK
- 10:15 a.m. Fire-related study topics (Tab 12) [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#), [E](#)
- Comparison of fire funding in other states - Ms. Kurtz
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Next steps for study
- 11:15 a.m. Natural Heritage Program Funding ([Tab 13](#))
- Jennie Stapp, state librarian
 - Bryce Maxell, NHP program coordinator
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion

- 12:00 p.m.
 - Next steps for study
 Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.
 - Update on Willow Creek Dam transfer
 - DNRC
 - Willow Creek Water Users Association
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 1:30 p.m.
 - Compliance and enforcement reports (Tab 14)
 - [Dept of Ag](#)
 - Director Ben Thomas
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
 - [DEQ](#)
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
 - [DNRC](#)
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 2:30 p.m.
 - BREAK
- 2:45 p.m.
 - Elimination of elk as brucellosis vector ([Tab 15](#))
 - Director Martha Williams, FWP
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 3:15 p.m.
 - Grizzly bears
 - FWP suggested regulatory changes - Director Martha Williams
 - Public comment
 - EQC questions & discussion
 - Committee action, if any
- 4:00 p.m.
 - Review proposed topics for next EQC meeting
- 4:50 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
- 5:00 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.