

Water Policy Interim Committee

PO BOX 201706 Helena, MT 59620-1706 (406) 444-3064 FAX (406) 444-3036

65th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

PAT CONNELL - Chair JILL COHENOUR JON SESSO JEFF WELBORN **HOUSE MEMBERS**

ZACH BROWN – Vice Chair BOB BROWN JOHN FLEMING CARL GLIMM COMMITTEE STAFF

JASON MOHR, Lead Staff ERIN BILLS, Legal Staff NADINE SPENCER, Secretary

Aug. 30, 2018

To: Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC) members

From: Jason Mohr, committee staff

Re: Sept. 10 meeting

The 2017-18 interim is drawing to a close—WPIC's final meeting is next week!

The bulk of the one-day meeting is dedicated to final reports and proposed committee legislation. At this time, you have received public comments from six people or entities. These comments relate to the reports, draft legislation, and general water policy. You'll find those comments at tab 5 in this binder.

The committee will consider 11 bills, including drafts related to maintaining the stream gauge network (LCw008) and clarifying the legal availability-adverse effects debate in the change of water right process (LCw04a, LCw04b, LCw04c). The bills at tab 7 should reflect changes you may have requested at your July meeting, along with additionally requested bills related to distribution lists (LCw009) and river basin councils (LCw010).

In addition, the committee will hear a staff performance evaluation of the Water Quality Division (Department of Environmental Quality), an overview by the Environmental Protection Agency, and about data practices of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, among other items.

Finally, the committee will approve committee reports and committee legislation. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any clarifications.

Sincerely,

Jason Mohr, research analyst

Montana Legislative Environmental Policy Office

Capitol Building, room 171

jasonmohr@mt.gov

) Notin

(406)444-1640