



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

Water Policy Interim Committee

64th Montana Legislature

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Feb. 22, 2016

To: Water Policy Interim Committee
From: Jason Mohr, committee staff
Re: March 7-8 meeting

Committee members,

The March 7-8 meeting begins at 9 a.m. in room 172 of the State Capitol. Enclosed are meeting materials, which are also posted at www.leg.mt.gov/water. This meeting is nearly exclusively focused on your three studies. A few notes about your packet materials:

- Tab 1 includes two documents related to **SJ2 (state assumption of federal section 404 permitting process)**, including a staff memo estimating the annual costs of the program. The packet also includes information about the Environmental Protection Agency's Wetland Program Development Grants.
- Tab 2 includes documents related to the **study of water availability and supply**. For a DEQ presentation on gray water use, the packet includes laws related to gray water, and a report on a gray water system tax credit. For the discussion of Bozeman's water supply, four documents outline its long-term water supply plan and conservation efforts. And the 2014 Report Card for Montana's Infrastructure is included for discussion of Montana's aging water and storage infrastructure.
- Tab 3 includes documents related to the **future of the Water Court study**, including suggestions related to water right ownership updates, a memo on the duties of water commissioners, a Water Court guide for district courts, and input from the Water Court's Adjudication Advisory Committee. Finally, your packet includes a staff memo on legal authorities related to water rights.

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Mohr".

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