



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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FINAL agenda

Environmental Quality Council

May 12-13, 2026
Room 317

Tuesday, May 12

8 a.m. Call to order, preview of May meeting

8:10 a.m. Administrative rule review

- Legal Services Office
- Public comment
- Council questions, discussion

8:30 a.m. HB70 (Study of state fire suppression)

- Draft findings - Jason Mohr, council staff
- Fire tool "consumer version" (Modernization and Risk Analysis Committee)
 - Alice Hecht, Fiscal GIS analyst (Legislative Fiscal Division)
- Council work group reports - council members
- Public comment
- Council discussion: draft recommendations, legislation

10 a.m. HJ62 (Study of wildfire prevention/resilience)

- Draft findings - Jason Mohr, council staff
- NorthWestern Energy wildfire mitigation plan
 - Nate Linder, director of wildfire operations (NWE)
- Public comment
- Council discussion: draft recommendations, legislation

11:30 a.m. Lunch

- 1 p.m. SJ42 (Study of noxious weed control)
- Draft findings
 - Legislative history of County Weed Act - Jason Mohr, council staff
 - Treatment of noxious weeds by Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
 - Parker Osterloh, Land Management Section supervisor (DNRC)
 - Public comment
 - Council discussion: draft recommendations, legislation
- 2:30 p.m. Montana Invasive Species annual report (80-7-1201)
- Liz Lodman, council administrator (Montana Invasive Species Council)
 - Public comment
 - Council questions, discussion
- 3 p.m. DEQ subdivision report (76-4-116)
- Lindsey Krywaruchka, Water Quality Division administrator (Department of Environmental Quality)
 - Public comment
 - Council questions, discussion
- 3:30 p.m. Public comment on any issue within the jurisdiction of the EQC
- 4 p.m. Recess
- Wednesday, May 13
- 8 a.m. Reconvene
- 8:05 a.m. Legal status of “corner crossing”
- Lt. Gov. Kristen Juras
 - Public comment
 - Council questions, discussion
- 9 a.m. Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks enforcement division
- FWP staff
 - Public comment
 - Council questions, discussion
- 10 a.m. Director’s reports
- Sonja Nowakowski, director (DEQ)
 - Amanda Kaster, director (DNRC)
 - Christy Clark, director (FWP)
 - Public comment
 - Council questions, discussion

11:30 a.m. Elk management in northwest Montana

- FWP staff
- Public comment
- Council questions, discussion

Noon Mule deer management

- FWP staff
- Public comment
- Council questions, discussion

12:30 p.m. Administrative work session:

- Montana Environmental Policy Act database, handbook - Jason Mohr, council staff
- Combined fire report - Jason Mohr, council staff
- Directions to staff

1 p.m. Adjourn

Note:

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To offer public comment via remote meeting technology, please submit the online form at <https://participate.legmt.gov> for remote participation at least 2 hours before the scheduled start of the meeting.

Written public comment may be submitted either through the online form at <https://participate.legmt.gov> or by mailing the comments to the Environmental Quality Council, P.O. Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.

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