



Final Decree Transition

Stakeholder Working Group Meeting Agenda

May 10, 2022, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Room 137 Capitol Building, Helena, MT
[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting Objectives:

- Build and clarify understanding of the drafted concept for a Water Division Court Model
 - Identify pros and cons to this model
 - Determine if this model meets the stakeholder working group's goal of integrating local and statewide benefits
 - If not, explore and discuss options
- Draft recommendations for the role of the judiciary as per Framing Question #2
- Discuss and generate ideas for final decrees as per Framing Question #1
- Continue to explore ways to build consensus and find common ground
- Continue to build out processes to support the SWG's work
- Gather SWG input and guidance on priorities and next steps

9:00 AM **Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Overview**

9:15 AM **Presentation: Drafted Concept of Water Division Court Model**

- Overview
- Proposed concept framed in edited/drafted legislation
- Updated Framing Questions
- Q and A

10:30 AM **Break**

10:45 AM **Discussion: Drafted Concept of Water Division Court Model**

- Does this model address the working group's goal of integrating local support (flexibility) and understanding with statewide benefits and control (consistency)? If so, additional questions to be answered:
 - Roles defined (as presented in the strawman)
 - Chief and associated water judge- jurisdiction over adjudication

- Division Water judges- jurisdiction over commissioners, disputes, other judicial water issues
 - Division Water Judges vs District Court Judges
 - Additional capacity needed other than one judge/division?
 - Where do Petitions for Judicial Review go?
 - Should there be the opportunity to substitute Division Water Judges?
- What parameters (3-7-402)?

Noon

Lunch

12:45 PM

Continued Discussion: Drafted Concept of Water Division Court Model

1:30 PM

Discussion: Framing Question #1 – Final Decrees

- Refer to the questions to be answered in the updated 5.10.22 Framing Questions document

2:30 PM

Public Comment (time subject to change)

2:45 PM

Summary of the Day and Next Steps

- Determine SWG work needs prior to next meeting
- Determine discussion focus for next meeting
- Determine information needed from DNRC for next meeting

3:00 PM

Adjourn