

**2009 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

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Work Plan

The Water and Natural Resources Committee proposes to focus on the following topics and issues during the 2009 interim:

- A. issues involving wildlife, livestock or agriculture, including:
 - 1. elk management and population and landowner compensation; and
 - 2. seizure of stray livestock and brand inspection;
- B. use and designation of land and water for recreation and other purposes, including:
 - 1. new state park projects, including Pecos State Park;
 - 2. off-highway motor vehicle registration and regulation;
 - 3. boat registration legislation;
 - 4. the Rio Grande trail project; and
 - 5. suggestions on making the Valles Caldera National Preserve self-sufficient;
- C. water management, adjudications, research, litigation and projects, including:
 - 1. creation of a subcommittee to hear from the acequia community on October 26, the day before the October 27-28 Española meeting and a report to the full committee on acequia issues;

2. state engineer jurisdiction over deep nonpotable aquifers;
 3. a report from the Institute for Public Law on stakeholder suggestions on changing the adjudication process;
 4. a report from the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District and the Mid-Region Council of Governments on the state of levees in the middle Rio Grande;
 5. a report from New Mexico State University on water conservation methods;
 6. a report from the Department of the Environment on the status of the Water Conservation Fund;
 7. the status of the *Navajo*, *Taos*, *Aamodt* and *Pecos* water settlements and the Gila River planning process;
 8. an update on federal legislation authorizing the Ute pipeline;
 9. status of the strategic water reserve;
 10. an update on projects endorsed by the Water Trust Board;
 11. an update on the state and regional water plans;
 12. a report from the Buckman Direct Diversion Project Board;
 13. inter-basin water transfers;
 14. New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology aquifer mapping project;
 15. the Utton Transboundary Resource Center ombudsman program;
 16. formation of new regional water associations;
 17. outstanding national resource waters designation of certain areas in New Mexico; and
 18. availability of federal stimulus money for water projects; and
- D. use of renewable energy payments as an alternative to renewable energy portfolio standards to promote the use of renewable energy in New Mexico.

2009 Approved Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 5	Santa Fe
July 6-7	Socorro
August 20-21	Angel Fire
September 21-22	Silver City
October 27-28	Española
November 30 & December 1	Santa Fe

Subcommittee on Acequia Issues Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
October 26	Santa Fe