

GROUND WATER INVESTIGATION PROGRAM

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology

Ground Water Investigation Program 2018 Project Nomination Timeline

The timeline presented below includes the key dates in the submittal, review and ranking of projects. If you have any questions, contact Ginette Abdo (gabdo@mtech.edu; 406-496-4152), Ground Water Investigation Program (GWIP) Manager, or Russell Levens, (rlevens@mt.gov ; 406-444-6679), Ground Water Steering Committee (GWSC) Chair.

Activities are completed on or before indicated dates

- January:** Pre-announcements of upcoming nominations on web pages and emails by GWIP.
- February 7:** Requests for GWIP project nominations are distributed jointly by the GWSC and GWIP.
- April 16:** Nomination packages are returned to GWIP by the project sponsors.
- July 2:** GWIP prepares project summaries and the draft-ranking matrix (excluding the GWSC discretionary points). If necessary, GWIP will seek additional input from sponsors.
- The GWSC voting and ex-officio members are sent the project nomination documents and the draft-ranking matrix.
- August 3:** The GWSC voting and ex-officio members review the proposals; create their individual project ranking based on their experience and the contingency they represent, and submit project comments to the GWSC Chair.
- August 31:** An informational public meeting is held to discuss the projects. At least one week prior to the public meeting, project sponsors will be sent the project summaries and draft-ranking matrix.
- During the meeting GWIP provides a summary of each project, project sponsors are invited to provide commentary and answer questions from the GWSC.
- September 14:** The GWSC voting members reconvene at a separate ranking meeting to assign discretionary points based on their professional judgement, directives from their perspective agencies, information from the ex-officio members and the public, and other pertinent information.
- September 28:** The project ranking is publicized.

Prior to the GWSC informational public meeting, the GWIP manager will evaluate the available GWIP resources and estimate how many projects GWIP teams might reasonably investigate during the next cycle. The GWSC will approve the appropriate number of projects for the upcoming GWIP workload. If GWIP does not complete all of the approved projects prior to the next round of ranking, the approved but not initiated projects will move to the top of the next-cycle ranking list and the future approved work load decreased to accommodate these carry overs. In the event GWIP completes the approved investigations prior to the next scheduled round of ranking, the Committee can re-evaluate the existing list of lower-ranked projects and move one or more into the approved category.