

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0077

Instream flow consultant.

Sponsored by: Select Water Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to water; providing that consultant and
2 other associated costs related to feasibility studies on
3 instream flows shall be borne by the game and fish
4 commission; and providing for an effective date.

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6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 41-3-1004(a) is amended to read:

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10 **41-3-1004. Water development commission to determine**
11 **storage feasibility; report to the game and fish commission**
12 **and the legislature.**

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14 (a) Immediately after permits have been applied for
15 under W.S. 41-3-1003(c), the water development commission
16 shall determine the feasibility of providing instream flows

1 for the recommended segments of streams from unappropriated
2 direct flows or from existing storage facilities or from
3 new facilities. The feasibility study shall include a
4 determination of water necessary to maintain or improve
5 existing fisheries for water rights under W.S. 41-3-1001(b)
6 or of water necessary to provide fisheries for water rights
7 under W.S. 41-3-1001(a). The feasibility study shall also
8 include the availability of storage sites, the estimated
9 cost of providing any required storage and such other
10 findings and conclusions as the water development
11 commission deems appropriate. The cost of any consultant
12 and any associated costs that the water development
13 commission determines are necessary to complete a
14 feasibility study under this section shall be borne by the
15 game and fish commission. The water development commission
16 shall consult with the game and fish commission prior to
17 entering into any contract related to a feasibility study
18 under this section.

19

20 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2018.

21

22 (END)