

This document summarizes the Governor's vetoes exercised on 2023 Senate File 0096. Due to insertion of veto explanations, pagination in this document will not match the original enrolled act. See the Governor's veto message for vetoes on the original act.

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0096

ENGROSSED

ENROLLED ACT NO. 97, SENATE

SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2023 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to water development projects; authorizing specified level I and level II studies; providing appropriations; requiring reports; providing for the reversion of unexpended funds; authorizing unobligated funds to be used to complete other designated projects as specified; extending reversion and study dates; authorizing a position; and providing an effective date.

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

[2023-2024 WATER PROGRAM]  
[AUTHORIZED LEVEL I AND LEVEL II STUDIES]

**Section 1. LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT.** The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2025 legislative session:

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[LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Glendo Water Master Plan	Platte County	\$180,000
Newcastle Water Master Plan	Weston County	\$223,000
Orchard Valley Water Master Plan	Laramie County	\$222,000
Ranchester Water Master Plan	Sheridan County	\$128,000
Rawlins Water Master Plan	Carbon County	\$250,000
UW Water Research Program	Statewide	\$442,820
Wardwell Water Master Plan	Natrona County	<u>\$151,000</u>
Total appropriation for Section 1		\$1,596,820

**Section 2. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT.** The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the feasibility study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2025 legislative session:

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Central Wyoming Regional Water System Well Field Study	Natrona County	\$1,567,000
GR-RS-SC JPWB Eastside Zone Study	Sweetwater County	<u>228,000</u>
Total appropriation for Section 2		\$1,795,000

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**Section 3. LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - REHABILITATION.** The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account II, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account II. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2025 legislative session.

[LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - REHABILITATION]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Casper Alcova Irrigation District Master Plan	Natrona County	\$310,000
Goshen Irrigation District Master Plan	Goshen County	\$300,000
Sidon Irrigation District Master Plan	Big Horn County	\$177,000
Tillard Canal Master Plan	Big Horn County	<u>\$173,000</u>
Total appropriation for Section 3		\$960,000

**Section 4. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - REHABILITATION.** The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account II, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to

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complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the feasibility study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account II. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2025 legislative session.

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - REHABILITATION]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Cody Canal Rehabilitation	Park County	\$257,000
GVID Upper Sunshine Outlet Works Rehab	Park County	\$621,000
Lakeview Irrigation District Rehabilitation	Park County	\$160,000
Shoshoni Groundwater Supply & Transmission	Fremont County	\$249,000
Willwood Irrigation District Rehabilitation	Park and Big Horn Counties	<u>\$346,000</u>
Total appropriation for Section 4		\$1,633,000

**Section 5.** There is appropriated five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended for the Green River/Little Snake River Basins Conveyance Loss Study. This appropriation is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account I as described in section 8 of this act and shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert to water development account I as provided by law on July 1, 2026.

**Section 6.** 2017 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 65, Section 2 is amended to read:

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**Section 2.** LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES -  
NEW DEVELOPMENT.

(a) The ~~following~~ sums of money listed in subsection (d) of this section are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the ~~following~~ feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114 that are listed in subsection (d) of this section. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project ~~which~~ that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete ~~the~~ any other feasibility study ~~for any other project~~ listed in this section. ~~Appropriated funds~~

(b) The sums of money appropriated to the following studies by subsection (d) of this section that are not obligated prior to July 1, 2020 shall revert to water development account I, ~~and~~ the commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2019 legislative session:

(i) Big Horn Regional Southern Water Supply;

(ii) Buffalo Groundwater Supply;

(iii) GR/RS/SC JPWB Wind River Zone Study;

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(iv) Lake DeSmet Facilities Acquisition; and

(v) Rolling Hills Groundwater Supply.

(c) The sums of money appropriated to the following studies by subsection (d) of this section that are not obligated prior to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account I and the commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2025 legislative session:

(i) Douglas Test Well Study.

(d) The following feasibility studies and appropriations are authorized under this section:

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Big Horn Regional Southern Water Supply	Hot Springs County	\$180,000
Buffalo Groundwater Supply	Johnson County	\$180,000
Douglas Test Well Study	Converse County	<del>\$1,205,000</del> <del>\$1,655,000</del>
GR/RS/SC JPWB Wind River Zone Study	Sweetwater County	\$180,000
Lake DeSmet Facilities Acquisition	Johnson County	\$200,000
Rolling Hills Groundwater Supply	Converse County	\$750,000
Total <u>2017</u> appropriation for Section 2		\$2,695,000
<u>Total 2023 appropriation for Section 2</u>		<u>\$450,000</u>

**Section 7.** 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 11, Section 5 is amended to read:

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**Section 5.** ~~TIME EXTENSION FOR~~ LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - DAMS AND RESERVOIRS. In the 2015 Omnibus water bill - planning, 2015 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 168, Section 5, the following sums of money ~~were~~are appropriated from water development account III, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(iii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. A three (3) year time extension is granted for the Shell Valley Storage - Leavitt Reservoir project and appropriated funds for that project not obligated prior to July 1, 2021 shall revert to water development account III. A six (6) year time extension is granted for the Clear Creek Storage ~~and Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr. projects~~project and funds appropriated for ~~those projects~~the project but not obligated prior to July 1, 2024 shall revert to water development account III. A seven (7) year time extension is granted for the Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr. project and funds appropriated for that project but not obligated prior to July 1, 2025 shall revert to water development account III. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature prior to the 2020 legislative session: on the Shell Valley Storage - Leavitt Reservoir project study; ~~and~~ prior to the 2023 legislative session on the Clear Creek Storage ~~and Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr. studies~~study; and prior to the 2024 legislative session on the Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr. study.

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[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - DAMS AND  
RESERVOIRS]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Clear Creek Storage	Johnson County	\$700,000
Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr.	Big Horn, Washakie Counties	<del>\$4,000,000</del> <del>\$4,420,000</del>
Shell Valley Storage - Leavitt Reservoir	Big Horn County	\$4,500,000
Total 2015 appropriation for Section 5		\$9,200,000
Total 2018 appropriation for Section 5		\$0
Total 2021 appropriation for Section 5		\$0
<u>Total 2023 appropriation for Section 5</u>		<u>\$420,000</u>

**Section 8.** The state auditor shall transfer five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the general fund to water development account I as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i).

**Section 9.**

(a) The water development office is authorized one (1) full-time employee for a ~~[n upper Colorado river basin]~~ project coordinator. There is appropriated one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000.00) from water development account I as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) to the water development office for purposes of funding the position created by this section for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation on June 30, 2024 shall revert as provided by law. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation and this full-time employee be included in the standard budget for the water development office for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. **[BRACKETED**



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**LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 17, 2023.]**

(b) There is appropriated five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from water development account I as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) to the water development office for the purpose of engaging the services of consultants and other qualified professionals as needed to assist with upper Colorado river basin projects or potential projects. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation on July 1, 2026 shall revert as provided by law.

**Section 10.** There is appropriated sixteen million six hundred eighty-eight thousand forty-three dollars (\$16,688,043.00) from the general fund to water development account III, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(iii).

**Section 11.** There is appropriated five million eight hundred eleven thousand nine hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$5,811,957.00) from the general fund to water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i).

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**Section 12.** This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk