

SENATE FILE NO. SF0096

Omnibus water bill-planning and administration.

Sponsored by: Select Water Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to water development projects; authorizing
 2 specified level I and level II studies; providing
 3 appropriations; requiring reports; providing for the
 4 reversion of unexpended funds; authorizing unobligated
 5 funds to be used to complete other designated projects as
 6 specified; extending reversion and study dates; authorizing
 7 a position; amending funding source for the board of
 8 control; and providing for effective dates.

9

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

11

12 [2023-2024 WATER PROGRAM]

13 [AUTHORIZED LEVEL I AND LEVEL II STUDIES]

14

15 **Section 1.** LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - NEW
 16 DEVELOPMENT. The following sums of money are appropriated

1 from water development account I, as created by W.S.
 2 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be
 3 expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as
 4 defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this
 5 section for a particular project that are in excess of the
 6 actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject
 7 to the review and recommendation of the select water
 8 committee, be expended by the commission to complete the
 9 reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this
 10 section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior
 11 to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account
 12 I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature
 13 on each of the following studies prior to the 2025
 14 legislative session:

16 [LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

17	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
18			
19	Glendo Water Master Plan	Platte County	\$180,000
20	Newcastle Water Master Plan	Weston County	\$223,000
21	Orchard Valley Water Master Plan	Laramie County	\$222,000
22	Ranchester Water Master Plan	Sheridan County	\$128,000
23	Rawlins Water Master Plan	Carbon County	\$250,000
24	UW Water Research Program	Statewide	\$442,820
25	Wardwell Water Master Plan	Natrona County	\$151,000
26	Total appropriation for Section 1		\$1,596,820
27			

28 **Section 2.** LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW
 29 DEVELOPMENT. The following sums of money are appropriated

1 from water development account I, as created by W.S.
 2 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be
 3 expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as
 4 defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this
 5 section for a particular project that are in excess of the
 6 actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject
 7 to the review and recommendation of the select water
 8 committee, be expended by the commission to complete the
 9 feasibility study for any other project listed in this
 10 section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior
 11 to July 1, 2026 shall revert to water development account
 12 I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature
 13 on each of the following studies prior to the 2025
 14 legislative session:

15
 16 [LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

17	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
18			
19	Central Wyoming Regional Water		
20	System Well Field Study	Natrona County	\$1,567,000
21	GR-RS-SC JPWB Eastside		
22	Zone Study	Sweetwater County	228,000
23	Total appropriation for Section 2		\$1,795,000

24

25 **Section 3.** LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES -

26 REHABILITATION. The following sums of money are

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

15

16 [LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - REHABILITATION]

17	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
18			
19	Casper Alcova Irrigation		
20	District Master Plan	Natrona County	\$310,000
21	Goshen Irrigation District		
22	Master Plan	Goshen County	\$300,000
23	Sidon Irrigation District		
24	Master Plan	Big Horn County	\$177,000
25	Tillard Canal Master Plan	Big Horn County	<u>\$173,000</u>
26	Total appropriation for Section 3		<u>\$960,000</u>

27

1 **Section 4. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES -**
2 REHABILITATION. The following sums of money are
3 appropriated from water development account II, as created
4 by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii), to the water development
5 commission to be expended to conduct the following
6 feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds
7 appropriated under this section for a particular project
8 that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to
9 complete the study may, subject to the review and
10 recommendation of the select water committee, be expended
11 by the commission to complete the feasibility study for any
12 other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds
13 not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2026 shall
14 revert to water development account II. The commission
15 shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the
16 following studies prior to the 2025 legislative session.

17

18

1 [LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - REHABILITATION]

2	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
3			
4	Cody Canal Rehabilitation	Park County	\$257,000
5	GVID Upper Sunshine Outlet		
6	Works Rehab	Park County	\$621,000
7	Lakeview Irrigation District		
8	Rehabilitation	Park County	\$160,000
9	Shoshoni Groundwater Supply &		
10	Transmission	Fremont County	\$249,000
11	Willwood Irrigation District		
12	Rehabilitation	Park and Big Horn Counties	\$346,000
13	Total appropriation for Section 4		\$1,633,000

14

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

26

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

29

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

3
4 (a) The ~~following~~ sums of money listed in
5 subsection (d) of this section are appropriated
6 from water development account I, as created by
7 W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development
8 commission to be expended to conduct the
9 ~~following~~ feasibility studies as defined in W.S.
10 41-2-114 that are listed in subsection (d) of
11 this section. Funds appropriated under this
12 section for a particular project ~~which~~ that are
13 in excess of the actual amount necessary to
14 complete the study may, subject to the review of
15 the select water committee, be expended by the
16 commission to complete ~~the~~ any other feasibility
17 study ~~for any other project~~ listed in this
18 section. ~~Appropriated funds~~

19
20 (b) The sums of money appropriated to the
21 following studies by subsection (d) of this
22 section that are not obligated prior to July 1,
23 2020 shall revert to water development account I-

1 and the commission shall submit a report to the
2 legislature on each of the following studies
3 prior to the 2019 legislative session:
4

5 (i) Big Horn Regional Southern Water
6 Supply;
7

8 (ii) Buffalo Groundwater Supply;
9

10 (iii) GR/RS/SC JPWB Wind River Zone
11 Study;
12

13 (iv) Lake DeSmet Facilities
14 Acquisition; and
15

16 (v) Rolling Hills Groundwater Supply.
17

18 (c) The sums of money appropriated to the
19 following studies by subsection (d) of this
20 section that are not obligated prior to July 1,
21 2026 shall revert to water development account I
22 and the commission shall submit a report to the

1 legislature on each of the following studies
2 prior to the 2025 legislative session:

3
4 (i) Douglas Test Well Study.

5
6 (d) The following feasibility studies and
7 appropriations are authorized under this section:

8
9 [LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

10	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
11			
12	Big Horn Regional Southern		
13	Water Supply	Hot Springs County	\$180,000
14	Buffalo Groundwater Supply	Johnson County	\$180,000
15	Douglas Test Well Study	Converse County	\$1,205,000 \$1,655,000
16	GR/RS/SC JPWB Wind River		
17	Zone Study	Sweetwater County	\$180,000
18	Lake DeSmet Facilities		
19	Acquisition	Johnson County	\$200,000
20	Rolling Hills Groundwater		
21	Supply	Converse County	\$750,000
22	Total <u>2017</u> appropriation for Section 2		\$2,695,000
23	<u>Total 2023 appropriation for Section 2</u>		<u>\$450,000</u>

24

25 **Section 7.** 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 11,

26 Section 5 is amended to read:

27

28 **Section 5.** TIME EXTENSION FOR LEVEL II

29 FEASIBILITY STUDIES - DAMS AND RESERVOIRS. In the

30 2015 Omnibus water bill - planning, 2015 Wyoming

1 Session Laws, Chapter 168, Section 5, the
2 following sums of money ~~were~~are appropriated
3 from water development account III, as created by
4 W.S. 41-2-124(a)(iii), to the water development
5 commission to be expended to conduct the
6 following feasibility studies as defined in W.S.
7 41-2-114. A three (3) year time extension is
8 granted for the Shell Valley Storage - Leavitt
9 Reservoir project and appropriated funds for that
10 project not obligated prior to July 1, 2021 shall
11 revert to water development account III. A six
12 (6) year time extension is granted for the Clear
13 Creek Storage ~~and Nowood River Storage - Alkali~~
14 ~~Cr. projects~~project and funds appropriated for
15 ~~those projects~~the project but not obligated
16 prior to July 1, 2024 shall revert to water
17 development account III. A seven (7) year time
18 extension is granted for the Nowood River Storage
19 - Alkali Cr. project and funds appropriated for
20 that project but not obligated prior to July 1,
21 2025 shall revert to water development account
22 III. The commission shall submit a report to the
23 legislature prior to the 2020 legislative

1 session: on the Shell Valley Storage - Leavitt
 2 Reservoir project study; ~~and~~ prior to the 2023
 3 legislative session on the Clear Creek Storage
 4 ~~and Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr. studies~~
 5 study; and prior to the 2024 legislative session
 6 on the Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr. study.

7

8 [LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - DAMS AND
 9 RESERVOIRS]

10	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
11			
12	Clear Creek Storage	Johnson County	\$700,000
13	Nowood River Storage -	Big Horn,	
14	Alkali Cr.	Washakie	
15		Counties	\$4,000,000 <u>\$4,420,000</u>
16	Shell Valley Storage -	Big Horn	
17	Leavitt Reservoir	County	<u>\$4,500,000</u>
18	Total 2015 appropriation for Section 5		<u>\$9,200,000</u>
19	Total 2018 appropriation for Section 5		\$0
20	Total 2021 appropriation for Section 5		\$0
21	<u>Total 2023 appropriation for Section 5</u>		<u>\$420,000</u>

22

23 **Section 8.** The state auditor shall transfer five
 24 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the general
 25 fund to water development account I as created by W.S.
 26 41-2-124(a)(i).

27

1

2 **Section 10.**

3

4 (a) The water development office is authorized one
5 (1) full-time employee for an upper Colorado river basin
6 project coordinator. There is appropriated one hundred
7 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000.00) from the general
8 fund to water development account I as created by W.S.
9 41-2-124(a)(i) for purposes of funding the position created
10 by this section for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and
11 ending June 30, 2024. These funds shall not be transferred
12 or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,
13 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation on June
14 30, 2024 shall revert as provided by law. It is the intent
15 of the legislature that this appropriation and this full-
16 time employee be included in the standard budget for the
17 water development office for the immediately succeeding
18 fiscal biennium.

19

20 (b) There is appropriated five hundred thousand
21 dollars (\$500,000.00) from the general fund to water
22 development account I as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) for
23 the purpose of engaging the services of consultants and

1 other qualified professionals as needed to assist with
2 upper Colorado river basin projects or potential projects.
3 These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any
4 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
5 remaining from this appropriation on July 1, 2026 shall
6 revert as provided by law.

7

8 **Section 11.**

9

10 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
11 section this act is effective immediately upon completion
12 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided
13 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

14

15 (b) Section 9 of this act is effective July 1, 2023.

16

17 (END)