

SENATE FILE NO. SF0095

Wyoming Colorado River committee.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Hicks, Anselmi-Dalton and Baldwin
and Representative(s) Crank, Freeman, Paxton
and Sommers

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to water; creating and providing duties for
2 a Wyoming Colorado River committee; making conforming
3 amendments; requiring a report; providing appropriations;
4 and providing for an effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 41-11-207 is created to read:

9

10 **41-11-207. Wyoming Colorado River committee; purpose;**
11 **creation; duties.**

12

13 (a) The Wyoming Colorado River committee is created
14 to consist of twelve (12) members. The committee shall be
15 administratively housed within the state engineer's office

1 which shall provide the committee with staff resources,
2 administrative support and technical expertise. The
3 committee shall meet at least quarterly for the first two
4 (2) years of the committee and two (2) times per year
5 thereafter and shall meet additionally as necessary or upon
6 request of the state engineer. Committee membership shall
7 consist of:

8

9 (i) The governor, or his designee;

10

11 (ii) The state engineer, or his designee;

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13 (iii) Two (2) legislators, who shall serve
14 ex-officio, representing districts within the Colorado
15 River basin, one (1) appointed by the speaker of the house
16 of representatives and one (1) appointed by the president
17 of the senate; and

18

19 (iv) Eight (8) members appointed by the governor
20 as follows:

21

1 (A) Two (2) shall be agricultural
2 irrigators holding valid water rights within the Colorado
3 River basin;

4

5 (B) One (1) shall be a representative of a
6 special district with primary responsibilities for
7 irrigation within the Colorado River basin;

8

9 (C) One (1) shall be an industry
10 representative representing industries holding valid water
11 rights within the Colorado River basin;

12

13 (D) One (1) shall be a person who recreates
14 or participates in conservation activities within the
15 Colorado River basin;

16

17 (E) One (1) shall be a representative of a
18 municipality or joint powers board that holds a valid water
19 right within the Colorado River basin and that represents a
20 population of at least twelve thousand (12,000) and one (1)
21 member who shall be a representative of a municipality or
22 joint powers board that holds a valid water right within

1 the Colorado River basin and that represents a population
2 of less than twelve thousand (12,000); and

3

4 (F) One (1) shall be a county commissioner
5 from a county within the Colorado River basin.

6

7 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection,
8 members appointed by the governor shall serve a term of
9 four (4) years and may be removed by the governor as
10 provided in W.S. 9-1-202(a). The governor shall designate
11 three (3) of the initially appointed members to serve a
12 term of two (2) years.

13

14 (c) The committee, through work conducted by the
15 state engineer's office and any commissioner appointed
16 pursuant to W.S. 41-11-201 or designated pursuant to W.S.
17 41-11-202 to represent the state of Wyoming in negotiations
18 with any other upper Colorado River basin state, shall:

19

20 (i) Investigate the feasibility of implementing
21 an upper Colorado River basin demand management program in
22 Wyoming based upon temporary, voluntary and compensated

1 reductions in consumptive uses or augmentation of water
2 supplies in the Colorado River basin;

3

4 (ii) Make recommendations to the governor, state
5 engineer and state of Wyoming upper Colorado River basin
6 commissioner regarding the feasibility of a demand
7 management program in Wyoming.

8

9 (d) The state engineer's office, state engineer and
10 state of Wyoming upper Colorado River basin commissioner
11 shall keep the committee informed regarding the formal
12 review of 2007 interim guidelines under the Upper Colorado
13 River Basin Compact.

14

15 (e) Committee meetings and recommendations under this
16 section shall be coordinated with and compliment the demand
17 management program activities and outreach as conducted by
18 the state engineer's office, state engineer or state of
19 Wyoming upper Colorado River basin commissioner.

20

21 (f) Subsections (c) and (d) of this section are
22 repealed effective July 1, 2028.

23

1 **Section 2.** W.S. 41-11-205 is amended to read:

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3 **41-11-205. Mileage, per diem and compensation for**
4 **Wyoming Colorado River committee members, commissioners and**
5 **assistant commissioners.**

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7 Each Wyoming Colorado River committee member and every
8 commissioner and assistant commissioner appointed to
9 represent the state of Wyoming on an interstate compact or
10 in the negotiation thereof shall be paid per diem and
11 compensation in the same amount as provided for members of
12 the Wyoming legislature and mileage at the rate set in W.S.
13 9-3-103 for each mile actually and necessarily traveled in
14 the performance of his duties except state of Wyoming
15 officers and employees shall only be reimbursed for mileage
16 and per diem while away from their regular stations, as in
17 other cases provided. The state engineer is charged with
18 the responsibility for expenditure of such sums as are
19 necessary under this ~~act~~article, except for expenditures
20 necessary for legislative committee members.

21

22 **Section 3.**

23

1 (a) There is appropriated ten thousand dollars
2 (\$10,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative
3 service office for purposes of providing payments
4 authorized by section 2 of this act to legislative
5 committee members of the Wyoming Colorado River committee.
6 This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with
7 the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2022.
8 This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for
9 any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
10 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
11 by law on June 30, 2022.

12

13 (b) There is appropriated forty thousand dollars
14 (\$40,000.00) from the general fund to the state engineer
15 for purposes of providing payments authorized by section 2
16 of this act to nonlegislative committee members of the
17 Wyoming Colorado River committee. This appropriation shall
18 be for the period beginning with the effective date of this
19 act and ending June 30, 2022. This appropriation shall not
20 be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
21 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this
22 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,
23 2022.

1

2 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2020.

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4 (END)