

SENATE FILE NO. SF0163

Water strategic plan.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Von Flatern and Bebout and
Representative(s) Barlow

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to administration of the government;
2 providing for the development, review, revision, adoption
3 and monitoring of a state biennial water strategy; creating
4 a water strategy committee; delegating duties to the new
5 committee, the water development commission and the
6 governor; and providing for an effective date.

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

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10 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-1-225 is created to read:

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12 **9-1-225. Water strategic plan; definitions;**
13 **committee; powers and duties.**

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15 (a) As used in this section:

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2 (i) "Biennial water strategy" means the
3 coordinated and comprehensive biennial planning activities
4 of state departments, boards, commissions and agencies to
5 manage, develop, conserve and protect water and to restore
6 watersheds for the highest benefit of citizens;

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8 (ii) "Water management, development and
9 conservation agencies" means the water development
10 commission, state engineer's office, department of
11 environmental quality, Wyoming game and fish department and
12 other departments, boards and agencies as the governor
13 designates.

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15 (b) The governor shall:

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17 (i) Appoint a water strategy committee
18 consisting of one (1) member of each of the boards and
19 commissions of the water management, development and
20 conservation agencies;

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22 (ii) Appoint or reappoint committee members for
23 staggered terms not to exceed four (4) years each;

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2 (iii) Be a member of the committee or appoint a
3 designee.

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5 (c) The water development commission shall:

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7 (i) Convene the water strategy committee,
8 representatives of the federal government and its agencies,
9 various individuals and interest and user groups to elicit
10 their views regarding the status of existing programs and
11 initiatives and the development of new recommendations for
12 a biennial water strategy;

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14 (ii) Coordinate the efforts of the water
15 strategy committee to review comments obtained under
16 paragraph (i) of this subsection and other sources of
17 information and to prepare a biennial water strategy. The
18 biennial water strategy shall identify water management,
19 development and conservation agencies responsible for
20 executing initiatives.

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22 (d) The water strategy committee shall:

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(i) Review, revise or adopt the biennial water strategy;

(ii) Monitor implementation of the biennial water strategy by water management, development and conservation agencies and provide regular progress reports to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee;

(iii) Recommend to the governor budget requests from water management, development and conservation agencies as they carry out water strategy initiatives;

(iv) By August 30, 2019, and every two (2) years thereafter, prepare and submit the biennial water strategy to the legislature, through the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2017.

(END)