

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS31484 / H0687

This legislation starts the water adjudication process for the Kootenai River Basin in North Idaho. The Idaho Department of Water Resources will be the responsible state agency. There will be no new staff requirements. The IDWR staff assigned to the adjudication of the neighboring Pend Oreille Basin will remain for this project after completing their current work. This project will likely take 4-5 years and is supported by the water users of the basin. The Kootenai Basin is the last water basin in the state to address their water adjudication needs.

## FISCAL NOTE

The estimated cost for the adjudication of water rights in the Kootenai River Basin is \$3.25 million over a five-year period, plus funding for the negotiation of federal claims. It is estimated there will be 3,000 claims in the Kootenai River Basin Adjudication. The claim filing fees are anticipated to fund five to 10 percent of the cost of the Adjudication.

### Contact:

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**DISCLAIMER:** This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).