**Summary**

Administered by the State Engineer, the Division is responsible for the measurement, appropriation, apportionment, and distribution of water in the state. The State Engineer and his staff oversee dam safety, stream channel alterations and water well drilling. The Division is the only division in the Department of Natural Resources that does not have an oversight board. For detailed information on this line item, please see Compendium of Budget Information for the 2007 General Session, pages 133-144.

**Issues and Recommendations**

**Title Specialist**

The growth in Utah population has increased the number of changes in water rights ownership, which has impacted the workload on Division staff. In the past five years the number of Water Rights Conveyances has increased by 10 percent per year but the Division staff level has remained the same. In order to meet the increased demand, the Division is requesting funding to hire an additional Engineering Technician. The Analyst recommends the Committee appropriate ongoing $65,000 from Dedicated Credits for the new position.

**Snake Valley Project**

The Southern Nevada Water Authority, which supplies with water the fast growing area around Las Vegas, is planning a ground-water pumping project to divert 25,000 acre-feet from Snake Valley, which is on the Nevada/Utah border. Federal legislation requires the two states to enter into an agreement before any water is taken out of the basin. In FY 2007 the Division of Water Rights was directed to provide all available resources and help Utah protect its existing water rights. In this process the Division has incurred additional expenses and is requesting a supplemental appropriation. The Analyst recommends the Committee consider placing on its funding priority list a request for $60,000 from the General Fund as a supplemental appropriation for FY 2007.
**Budget Recommendation**

The Analyst recommends for the Division of Water Rights for FY 2007 base budget appropriation of $7,700,600, with $6,869,800 from the General Fund (see Budget Detail Table). The Analyst also recommends a $65,000 ongoing appropriation from Dedicated Credits for a Title Specialist.

At this time the Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) has not allocated any General Funds beyond the agencies’ base budgets. The Analyst recommends the Subcommittee consider placing the request for $60,000 supplemental appropriation from the General Fund for the Snake Valley Project on the funding priority list for the EAC.

None of the requests for funding increase are built in the tables and charts of this Budget Brief.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Finance</th>
<th>FY 2006</th>
<th>FY 2007 Appropriated</th>
<th>Changes</th>
<th>FY 2007 Revised</th>
<th>Changes</th>
<th>FY 2008* Base Budget</th>
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<td>General Fund</td>
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<td>General Fund, One-time</td>
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<td>Federal Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dedicated Credits Revenue</td>
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<td>342,500</td>
<td>357,500</td>
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<td>394,500</td>
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<td>105,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Nonlapsing</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>$646,200</td>
<td>$7,970,700</td>
<td>($270,100)</td>
<td>$7,700,600</td>
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</table>

**Programs**

- Administration: 704,200
- Applications and Records: 811,200
- Dam Safety: 650,600
- Field Services: 1,061,400
- Cooperative Studies: 418,700
- Technical Services: 656,300
- Advertising: 150,000
- Regional Offices: 2,432,700

**Total** $6,885,100

**Categories of Expenditure**

- Personal Services: 5,488,500
- In-State Travel: 38,600
- Out of State Travel: 11,300
- Current Expense: 799,900
- DP Current Expense: 148,800
- Capital Outlay: 13,300
- Other Charges/Pass Thru: 384,700

**Total** $6,885,100

**Other Data**

- Budgeted FTE: 77.9

*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.*