



NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hearing on petition to commence the Kootenai River Basin Adjudication rescheduled for July 15, 2025

TWIN FALLS – (April 10, 2025) – 5th District Court Judge Eric Wildman, the presiding judge overseeing the Idaho Water Adjudications, has rescheduled the hearing date on the petition to commence the Kootenai River Basin Adjudication from April 15 to July 15.

Judge Wildman’s decision granted a joint motion by the United States and the State of Idaho to postpone the April 15 hearing for 90 days. The hearing on July 15 will occur before the Idaho Water Adjudications Court in Twin Falls, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time.

Background: The Idaho Legislature passed legislation during the 2024 session to authorize the adjudication of the waters of the Kootenai River Basin. That law took effect on July 1, 2024, starting the legal process to move forward with the adjudication.

What is an Adjudication? An adjudication is a multi-step legal process that inventories and confirms water rights lawfully established by water users in various river basins in Idaho. As part of the process, Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) staff investigates and verifies all surface and groundwater uses claimed by water users. Eventually, IDWR files a Director’s Report with the Idaho Water Adjudications Court, detailing the Department’s recommendations regarding the elements of each water right. Ultimately, the court issues a decree confirming the elements of those water rights.

For more information, please see the [IDWR Adjudications](#) web page.

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