The purpose of the feasibility study is to further refine some of the 2014 Bear River Pipeline Concept Report findings and determine how the state can develop its 220,000 acre-foot allocation on the Bear River once it is needed. Four water districts will purchase and deliver the water as allowed by the Bear River Development Act. The study shows that it is feasible to accomplish this via storage development. The study includes 13 potential reservoir combinations, pipeline alignments, as well as an updated cost estimate.

View the full feasibility study at:  https://water.utah.gov/Bear-River

Want to stay informed about Bear River Development?
Fill out this survey to join our mailing list:  https://water.utah.gov/BR-Info
Who will it benefit?
The Bear River Development will provide additional water supply for northern Utahns.

When will it be needed?
In 1991, the water was estimated to be needed in 2015. Today, estimates are between 2045 and 2050. This could change based on water conservation progress and population growth.

How will it impact the Great Salt Lake’s elevation?
At full development, the Bear River Development Project is estimated to decrease the Great Salt Lake’s elevation by an average of 8.5 inches.

How much will it cost?
Bear River Development cost scenarios are estimated to range from $1.5 to $2.8 Billion.

What’s Next?

1. Corridor preservation to reduce costs and minimize impacts to communities.
2. Apply regional water conservation goals to demand projections.
3. Study climate change and Great Salt Lake modeling.
4. Study additional pipeline corridor options.

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