

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1261

BY RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO PRIEST LAKE; AMENDING SECTION 70-507, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE  
2 THAT THE PRIEST LAKE OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE SHALL BE UNDER THE SU-  
3 PERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD, TO REVISE  
4 PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE STRUCTURE,  
5 TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE AND REGULATION OF THE  
6 WATER SURFACE LEVEL OF PRIEST LAKE, AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION.  
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. That Section 70-507, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 70-507. ~~DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER ADMINISTRATION~~ IDAHO WA-  
12 TER RESOURCE BOARD TO HAVE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL. The Priest Lake outlet  
13 control structure shall, when constructed, be under the supervision and con-  
14 trol of the ~~director of the department of water administration, who~~ Idaho wa-  
15 ter resource board, which may enter into contracts for a period of one (1)  
16 year or more with persons or corporations, ~~by him~~ deemed qualified, by the  
17 board to operate and maintain, ~~at their sole expense,~~ said outlet control  
18 structure or any other control structure erected as a replacement thereof; ;  
19 provided, however, that under no circumstances shall the water surface level  
20 of Priest Lake be maintained or regulated by said ~~director of the department~~  
21 ~~of water administration~~ board above 3.05 feet on the present United States  
22 Geological Survey Priest Lake outlet gage with gage datum of 2434.64 feet  
23 above mean sea level, datum of 1929, supplementary adjustment of 1947, or re-  
24 leased below 0.1 feet on said gage; provided further, that the water surface  
25 level of Priest Lake shall be maintained at 3.0 feet during the recreation  
26 season when the water supply to Priest Lake is plentiful, meaning normal to  
27 wet years, and between 3.0 feet and 3.5 feet during the recreation season  
28 when the water supply to Priest Lake is lacking, meaning dry and marginally  
29 dry years, on the United States Geological Survey Priest Lake outlet gage,  
30 from and after the time each year following the ~~run-off~~ runoff of accumulated  
31 winter snows, when the surface level of the waters of Priest Lake has receded  
32 to such elevation, until the time after the close of the main recreational  
33 season, as determined by said ~~director of the department of water adminis-~~  
34 ~~tration~~ board, that said lake waters may be released and the surface level  
35 permitted to recede below said elevation 3.0.