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THE CASPER STAR TRIBUNE

Cheney and Pruitt draw attention to \$850k EPA grant for Wyoming water protection

The Casper Star Tribune
Heather Richards
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Wyoming will receive nearly a million federal dollars to address water pollution, an award praised by U.S. Rep. Liz Cheney and EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.

The \$850 million grant will be used for seven state projects that include stream restoration and the reduction of pollutants like selenium in rivers to lakes. That type of pollution occurs from runoff, when rain and snowmelt carry contaminants from cities, bacteria or pesticides from ranches and pollutants from mines and drilling activities down to Wyoming's waterways.

Cheney praised Wyoming regulators for their work in a statement Friday.

"Wyoming's waters are a precious natural resource that have tremendous impact on our local economy and every facet of our way of life," Cheney said in a statement Friday. "The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality deserves to be recognized for crafting effective, efficient and actionable watershed plans worthy of this funding that will help to improve the quality of our impaired waters today and for generations to come." ...

Trump appointee Pruitt said the grant reinforces the idea that states are the best managers of environmental standards.

"Providing funds directly to Wyoming is an excellent example of EPA partnering with states to help address their unique and critical environmental challenges," EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said in a statement. "EPA is making investments like this grant to help empower states who know best how to protect resources, and grow their economy while solving real environmental problems in local communities."

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