

**Environmental Interests Advisory Committee  
July 12, 2005 Meeting**

Attendance: Thom Benedict; Hawkwatch International  
Merritt Frey; Utah Rivers Council  
Dee Holladay; Friends of Big Cottonwood  
Jeff Salt; Great Salt Lake Keeper  
Lynn De Freitas; Friends of Great Salt Lake  
Lindsey Wilson; Utah Society for Environmental Education  
Steve Jensen; Water Resources Planning Program Manager  
Natalie Rees; Water Resources Planning Program Salt Lake County

**Background Information**—A powerpoint presentation was provided that went over some background information in regard to: 1) The Jordan River Watershed; 2) History of the Jordan River Watershed Council; 3) Current watershed issues; 4) Impaired waters in the Jordan River Watershed; 5) Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs); 6) Watershed Council goals and objectives, and 7) Anticipated timeline of TMDL. Please refer to attached PDF of powerpoint presentation.

**Discussion of Environmental Interest stakeholder concerns**

1. Camp Williams needs to be included in this council. We will be contacting them to discuss which advisory council would be the most appropriate for them.
2. It was also mentioned that an advisory committee comprised of scientific expertise might be appropriate. We will discuss this at our core council meeting on July 19, 2005 and will let you know if we are able to organize this group. The hydrologic observatory and extension service were mentioned as potential participants in a scientific advisory group.
3. The question was asked as to why Parley's Creek has not been assessed. In looking at the EPA 305(b) assessment data, it appears that Parley's Creek has been partially assessed and is actually impaired for habitat alteration from 1300 East to Mountain Dell Reservoir. The headwaters to the Reservoir are classified as "Good". Additionally, DWQ's website shows that the same reach was impaired in 2002 for hydrologic modification. It appears that the GIS layer I used for the map in my powerpoint presentation was inaccurate. Please see the websites below for clarification.

[http://oaspub.epa.gov/pls/tmdl/w305b\\_report\\_v2v.huc?p\\_huc=16020204&p\\_state=U](http://oaspub.epa.gov/pls/tmdl/w305b_report_v2v.huc?p_huc=16020204&p_state=UT)  
[T http://waterquality.utah.gov/watersheds/jordan/water\\_quality.htm](http://waterquality.utah.gov/watersheds/jordan/water_quality.htm)

4. It was mentioned that habitat and ecological health are appropriate topics for this council to address. Although water quality concerns, such as the TMDLs, will consume much of the initial efforts of this council, it is anticipated that the council will serve as a forum for these ecosystem concerns.
5. It was also mentioned that the new wastewater treatment facility might require a revision of the 208 plan.
6. The Division of Water Quality model of new wastewater treatment facility impacts needs to be incorporated into the TMDL. We will follow up on this to determine if the consultant is aware of this model.
7. Instigating a cap on water reuse allocations may mitigate dewatering concerns associated with water reuse at the proposed new wastewater treatment facility.
8. Public participation is essential to the effectiveness of this council. Participation may be maximized through newspapers, newsletters, and radio announcements. We will be utilizing these avenues as the council becomes more solidified.
9. It was mentioned that a list serve might be a useful means of communication for the Council. We will be exploring the possibility of posting this on the Flood Control and Engineering website.
10. It was mentioned that the council might be an appropriate arena for conflict resolution between stakeholders with opposing views.
11. It was determined that a values statement would be appropriate for this advisory committee. Merritt is going to draft an initial statement and distribute it to the advisory committee members.
12. Jeff requested that each individual verbalize their primary motivation in participating on this advisory committee.
  - a. Thom Benedict—Habitat protection, specific concerns in regard to migratory and residential bird species.
  - b. Lindsay Wilson—USEE is engaged in providing information and education and wishes to stay abreast of watershed concerns.
  - c. Merritt Frey—Merritt personally has a background in TMDLs and the Utah Rivers Council is interested in water quantity issues statewide, but particularly in the Wasatch front area.
  - d. Jeff Salt—Jeff has an amalgam of interests along the Jordan. He is active in river clean-up, environmental advocacy, and recreational use of the river.

- e. Lynn De Freitas—Friends of the Great Salt Lake have a keen interest in protecting the Great Salt Lake. The Jordan River, as a tributary to the Lake, is of concern to this group. Lynn is also interested in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan.
13. Merritt mentioned that she would be willing to give a presentation on what a good TMDL looks like to the members of the Council. We will work with her to schedule an appropriate time and place for this presentation. It may be appropriate to invite the state Technical Advisory Committee and consultant to this presentation.
14. It was also mentioned that a brief statement of how the Environmental Interest advisory committee views an effective TMDL would be an appropriate thing to draft. Merritt will also draft this statement.

#### Discussion of desired meeting frequency and schedule

*It was determined that the Environmental Interest advisory committee will meet on a quarterly basis for now; however, this schedule might change in accordance with need and desire of the stakeholders. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 4, 2005 at 3:00 PM. Hopefully, the water quality review will be complete by this next meeting.*

#### Open discussion of questions and concerns

- Public participation is a keen concern of this stakeholder group.
- The interaction between the core council and the advisory councils is also a concern. At this point in time, the main forms of communication between the core council and the advisory committees will be through position statements, presentations, and facilitated discussion. Subsequent to the core council meeting to be held July 19, 2005, a clearer understanding of this interaction will be determined.
- Appointing a representative from the environmental advisory committee to sit on the core council might be an effective way to ensure communication. This possibility will also be discussed at the core council meeting.
- Merritt will be drafting a values statement as well as a brief statement of how this advisory council views an effective TMDL.
- A brief statement describing the Jordan River Watershed will be provided for publication in stakeholder newsletters.

#### Closing thoughts??

*Prior to the next environmental interest advisory committee meeting, updates will be distributed, a values statement will be drafted, a statement of how the environmental interest group views an effective TMDL will be drafted, and public outreach and information will be explored.*