



## JORDAN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011 –10:00-11:00  
Salt Lake County Building Room N2003

### Meeting Minutes

#### Attendance:

Scott Stoddard; Army Corp of Engineers  
Melissa Stamp; Bio-West, Inc.  
Jennifer Madsen; CH2M Hill  
Gary Kleeman [via conference call]; EPA  
Jeff Salt; Jordan River Restoration Network  
Marie Owens; Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD)  
Kim Sorensen; Murray City  
Becky Hansen; Murray City  
Brandon Fleming; Salt Lake City Open Space  
Florence Reynolds; Salt Lake City Public Utilities  
Gene Drake; Salt Lake Conservation District  
Dan Drumiler; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Marian Hubbard; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Megan Walsh; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Lynn Berni; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Bob Thompson; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Julie Peck-Dabling; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Lynn Larsen; Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation (SLCo)  
Megan Ferguson; Salt Lake Valley Health Department (SLVHD)  
Ana M. Paz; South Jordan City  
Corby Talbot; South Salt Lake City  
Julie Howe; Stantec Consulting  
Grace Sperry; Sugarhouse Community Council  
Eric McCulley; SWCA  
Amy Collins; Tree Utah  
Hob Calhoun; Tree Utah  
Amy DeFreese; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)  
Hillary Arens; Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ)  
Scott Zeidler; Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, State Lands (FFSL)  
Randy Kaufman; Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, State Lands (FFSL)  
Carolina Roa; Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR)  
Arthur Miller; Utah Open Lands

## I. Introductions

## II. Housekeeping

- Mission: The Jordan River Watershed Council is dedicated to the ecological and economic sustainability of the Jordan River watershed through the promotion of stakeholder involvement
- Emails: Please email the listserv or contact us if your email has changed.
- Calendar coming to Website soon!
- **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium to be held August 10-12, 2011** at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center (same place as last year). This year the field trips will be held on Friday, not concurrently during presentations.

## III. Jordan River TMDL Update

- Hillary Arens (DWQ):
  - EPA has approved a Phased approach.
  - Dissolved Oxygen (DO) caused by organic matter. Qual2K is being used to determine bulk allocations. Need to know the sources of organic matter, time of year, quantities, and where it is settling. The model will divide out point sources and non-point sources above and below 2100 South. There is still a lot more research to be done.
  - DWQ is in the process of reviewing administrative drafts before the drafts go to the public for review and comment. The plan is to have a 60 day review and comment period starting at the end of April, which will include open house events for the public. This fall DWQ plans to bring TMDL to the Water Quality Board to ask for submission to EPA.
  - Information about upcoming comment periods and open houses will be distributed on the JWRC listserv.
- Jeff Salt (Jordan River Restoration Network):
  - Comment on the Technical Advisory Committee- TMDL is “not very digestible” for the public. It is an important document for the public to understand. Wants to make sure there is an outreach plan.
- Hillary Arens (DWQ):
  - DWQ plans to have a brief presentation breaking down important info for the public. There will be open houses in the summer and possibly will have 2 presentations at the symposium in the summer.
- Marian Hubbard (SLCo):
  - Watershed Watch Newsletter contains updates on TMDL, as well as tabling events and other outreach.
- Julie Howe (Stantec):
  - Asked when it would go final
- Hillary Arens (DWQ):
  - DWQ was hoping to have it submitted to EPA by the end of September but that won't happen, but probably by the end of the calendar year. Once EPA has it there will probably be a 3 month turn-around.
  - After this phase, the next phase is the research phase, which will probably be 8 years long, and will be a collaborative research effort.
- Hob Calhoun (Tree Utah)
  - Asked about any outreach materials
- Hillary Arens (DWQ):
  - Would like to put together maybe a three-fold synopsis (brochure) that can be handed out at outreach events.

#### IV. Round Robin

- Marian Hubbard (SLCo):
  - Update on Water Quality Stewardship Plan (WaQSP) implementation activities:
    - Design for streambank & riparian restoration projects throughout the County are planned
    - Mapped hotspots, looking for possible collaboration opportunities for additional restoration projects
    - Water quality data collection is ongoing throughout the County
    - A new database for WQ data is under construction.
    - Wetland delineation implementation is planned-possibly work with the Army Corps
    - Grant applications and facilitation continue
    - A new draft riparian ordinance for Salt Lake County is planned
    - Public involvement and outreach-the outreach calendar is starting to get full for the summer months
    - Development of a new “Stream Care Guide for Homeowners” has begun, with funding from state. Will outline BMP’s for landowners. There will be some outreach campaigns when it is finished.
  
- Mark Atencio (JWWCD)-[Announced via Marian Hubbard]:
  - Wetlands enhancement study is completed. Stakeholder process coming up. (Stakeholder sign-up sheet passed around)
  
- Marie Owens (JWWCD):
  - Report to be finalized sometime this spring and they really want stakeholder involvement. One of the concerns is the effects of developing shallow groundwater wells have on wetlands.
  
- Amy Defreese (U.S. Fish & Wildlife)- [Announced via Marian Hubbard]:
  - Applied for funding for planting on Galena Property in Draper. Upland area will also apply for Audubon bird and vegetation surveys. Extra resources may be needed, possibly volunteers.
  
- Arthur Morris (Utah Open Lands):
  - Adding to Amy’s comments-Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands owns 150 acres...On Bangerter and 123<sup>rd</sup> South there will be restoration and enhancement of property including Russian olive and weed control. Want to increase biodiversity of plant and wildlife communities.
  - Looking for volunteers, send him email if you’re interested.
  
- Eric McCulley (SWCA):
  - Will be taking inventory of sites along the Jordan River. Will be working with Salt Lake County to do targeted weed control. Prioritizing funding available for weed control.
  - Grant from Utah Partners for Conservation and Development (UPCD) to look at 6 properties where they will do a comparative analysis of effectiveness in restoration. Integrate vegetation, bird population, and hydrology to determine the effectiveness of a project.
  - There has been successful restoration field trips and have logged over 1000 volunteer hours.
  - If anyone has done any restoration site volunteer activities, please contact Eric.
  
- Lynn Larsen (SLCo Parks & Rec):
  - Working with Tree Utah, UTA on Redwood Nature Area (63 acres) to restore wildlife and wetlands.
  - Grant with FFSL.
  - Will hire contractors to do weed control, ultimately SLCo staff will be trained
  
- Randy Kauffman (FFSL):
  - Working on Equestrian Trail at Galena site.
  - Working on 2 pedestrian bridges with UTA and Murray City that cross Jordan River at 7200 and 7800 south.

- Scott Zeidler (FFSL):
  - Often refers to WaQSP and Blueprint for Jordan River when applying for grants
  - Urban Community Forest complete “Reconnect the Wasatch Front” Plan collaborate
  - Encouraging municipal partners to go for grants.
  - Engaged with USFS to highlight Spruce Beetle epidemic and identify risks and hazards to built areas near ski resorts.
  - Continue to administer wildfire suppression program during the summer which involves trying to reduce fuels near forest and establish fuel breaks.
  
- Hob Calhoun (Tree Utah):
  - Last year was a good year for volunteers, and they logged over 3,000 volunteer hours. In the past 20 years, they have logged over 325,000 volunteer hours.
  - They are working closely with Salt Lake County at the Redwood Nature Area and they already have 14 volunteer groups scheduled to plant trees.
  - An AmeriCorps intern designed a brochure to illustrate the work that they have done with native plantings. Email Hob if you would like a copy of the brochure.
  
- Melissa Stamp (Bio-West):
  - Helped the County with design near Jordan River and Redwood Nature Preserve where they figured out how to connect floodwaters through culverts with wetland area. There could be potential negative impacts of floodwaters bringing weed seeds into restored areas. They are looking at any opportunity to connect river to depositional zones and to learn how all the systems work together.
  
- Hob Calhoun (Tree Utah):
  - There was a spring flooding event where water backed up on Bio-West site. Shallow water was full of macroinvertebrates.
  
- Jeff Salt (Jordan River Restoration Network):
  - Focus on implementation of Salt Lake County Water Trail Plan (on Salt Lake County Parks & Rec website).
  - Working with/talking to communities about boating plan and more grant-writing.
  - The state is going through a 3-year review of water quality standards. The comment period is closed.
  
- Brandon Flemming (Salt Lake City Open Space):
  - Has grant to develop integrated weed management plan. Wants to create a weed management field guide for staff and home owners.
  - Weed mapping along Jordan River and other places.
  
- Florence Reynolds (Salt Lake City Public Utilities):
  - City has funding for culvert improvement projects. Culvert designs will have velocity control on downstream side addressing community’s concern with stream bank erosion.
  - New employee in stormwater program and Weed initiative program.
  
- Julie Peck-Dabling (SLCo):
  - Jordan River Commission Update:
  - Interviewing for director position and will make recommendation next week.
  - Looking for Ex-Officio members and Technical Advisory Committee members. Information about the technical advisory committee will be sent out soon.
  
- Scott Stoddard-(Army Corps):
  - Has been doing restoration design on 14 sites in the county and 4 sites in the city
  
- Carolina Roa (Utah Div. of Wildlife Resources):
  - City Creek has 3 test pilots. Baseline surveys. Trying to get funding for City Creek and Salt Lake City utilities. Wants to work with Volunteers.

- Florence Reynolds (Salt Lake City Utilities):
  - Has a Bird Survey and Weed Pull opportunities for volunteers. There is also a volunteer calendar on the City's website.
- Arthur Morris (Utah Open Lands):
  - There seems to be a need for a consistent Vegetation and Bird Survey methodology along the Jordan River. Eric McCulley (SWCA) and Arthur have been working on this effort. If anyone would like to help, please contact them.
- Carolina Roa (Utah Div. of Wildlife Resources):
  - There is a bird protocol. They are pulling the City Creek methodology from the Div's statewide data.
- Eric McCulley (SWCA):
  - Wants to get mitigation sites along Jordan River mapped.
- Lynn Larsen (SLCo Parks & Rec):
  - Worked with Bio-West to create a "Natural Areas Land Management Plan Standards and Operations Manual" which addresses Open Space. Available on SLCo Parks & Rec website.
- Florence Reynolds (Salt Lake City Utilities):
  - Reminder that planting/restoration protocols have already been developed by various entities. Maybe we need to work together and look at existing protocols, decide which to use, instead of reinventing the wheel.
- Jeff Salt (Jordan River Restoration Network):
  - It seems we don't have too many watershed council meetings.
- Marian Hubbard (SLCo):
  - The next council meeting is scheduled for the Symposium, and from there we can decide if we would like to have meetings more frequently, maybe quarterly. Let Marian know if you would like us to coordinate a meeting, we just need enough time to reserve a room that is big enough.
- Dan Drumiler (SLCo):
  - Update on Salt Lake County flow gage sites: Over the last couple of years, SLCo has installed four concrete flumes, with one more planned. The flumes will serve as a measuring device. Automatic sampling devices will hopefully be installed by the end of 2011.
- Florence Reynolds (Salt Lake City Utilities):
  - Reminder that House Bill 400 (Regulation of Mining Operations) is going through legislature and it is an important bill because it would allow mining activities on state and federal properties and takes away local landuse and zoning authority.