

Meeting Minutes

Jordan River Watershed Council and Stakeholder Meeting for Water Quality Stewardship Plan Update



Tuesday, July 19th, 2016 – 10:00-12:30am
Salt Lake County Building Room N3-930

Attendees:

Chris Haight – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration Program
Marian Rice – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration Program
Lynn Berni --Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration Program
Sandy Wingert --Utah Division of Water Quality
Gene Drake --Salt Lake City Conservation District
Dan Potts-- Salt Lake County Fish & Game Assoc.
Julie Howe – Stantec
David Gardner – Water Pro
Eric McCulley – River Restoration Group
Jeff Salt – Great Salt Lake keeper
Heather McCormick – Environmental health SLCo
Karan Bridge – Environmental health SLCo
Karri Smith – K.A. Smith Consulting
Brian Minchey - SSLC
Larry Laserda – Salt Lake City
Adam Ginsberg – Cottonwood heights
Pat Shea- University of Utah
Ana Paz – South Jordan City
Alane Boyd- Desert Rose environmental consultant
Karen Nichols – HDR
Chris Cline- U.S Fish and Wildlife service
Jesse Stewart – Salt Lake City Public Works
Laura Hanson – Jordan River Commission
Mike Auger – Utah open lands
Jon Hilbert – Jordan Valley WCD
Brian Tonetti – Seven Canyons Trust
Garland Mayne - SVSD
Theron Miller
Tom Beasly

I. Welcome and Introductions

(Start Time 10:02 AM)

- Welcome provided by Chris Haight
- Room Introductions

II. Heather McCormick presentation

Earth day Community Clean up

- Heather McCormick
 - Thank you for allowing me to be here
 - I am an inspector in sanitation and development in environmental health
 - Things we do for the county: Cosmetology inspections, body art inspections and we have a community clean up every Thursday my coworker goes out and finds transient camps
 - Large homeless population in SLC
 - Generally like to live by the Jordan River (JR)
 - Where they deposited debris and trash and other items
 - Homeless tend to keep items and deposit them next to the river
 - Earth day clean up every year
 - Very grateful for this year's clean up volunteers
 - This year's clean up happened on April 2nd
 - Pictures of us moving debris
 - This is my supervisor Carey Kramer
 - As you can see there are a lot of random things
 - Recently I talked with someone recovering from meth addiction
 - I was told they keep everything because they think they can make something out of it and make a million dollars
 - Had to separate trash and hazardous waste from clean up area i.e. GAS CANS and ELECTRONICS
 - Interesting clean up this time
 - Rented a dumpster but it was placed in the wrong area so we had to transport trash to the dumpster
 - Made it difficult clean up
 - Here is a good example of what we found, clothing, blankets, stuff from church giveaways, tires and electronics
 - It's very important to wear gloves and protective equipment and encourage more handling with tools rather than hands for fear of needle pricks
 - Picture of the group w/ us helping clean up
- Lynn
- This is all from one site
- Laura
- Yes and there was a lot more that didn't get picked up

Heather

- Still had some debris left at the end
- This location is 33rd south and 5th west
- County parks and rec have gone through the area and removed trees and debris and leveled the ground
- Created an open space so less homeless can hide in here
- Just want to thank everyone who came out
- Are there any questions

Laura

- Just a clarification you mentioned that parks and rec came out to clear the area to make fewer hiding places having a good under story is critical to the wildlife in there
- The stuff removed was all invasive and West Valley City applied for ZAP funding so there might be 3 million dollars going towards restoration of this site
- The area cleared is just a dirt field that is about to become weed infested so reseeding is critical to further enhancement
- Really appreciate this clean up

Heather

- Thanks for the info

Dan

- Just to curtail what Laura said, let's not deceive ourselves the transients don't care where they live or what plants are native or invasive we are still going to be dealing with these issues. This is a Band-Aid approach to the problem

Heather

- We have had a lot of clean ups on transient sites
- It ramps up during summer during July and August
- We post the camps and give them time to remove items then we go in and clean up
- We also did a cleanup w/ inmates under a bridge and it was an amazing clean
- Please keep an eye out when on the JR if you see big camps give us a call

Eric

- Do you know where they moved to because it seems like most of these folks just went to 3700 south on the west side

Heather

- Yes there is a lot there, the site is very hard to get to

Eric

- Its private land

Heather

- Yea it's on private land and the property owners are supposed to be responsible for that
- It's a hard area to clean because of the fences and getting equipment in there

Laura

- We are working with Taylorsville in the acquisition of that property so we can preserve and protect this property under an easement

Heather

- Unfortunately you are correct the homeless will just relocate it's a constant problem

Larry

- Just want to point out in our watershed (WS) areas we have had to call unified police to help deal with and remove transients and their stuff, this time of the year they can be a cause of fire, they can also be possessive and combative, they have threatened some of our guys

Heather

- We have had problems with that to, the homeless are starting to get more violent and starting to threaten police with needles
- Any other questions
- Thanks again

Chris

- One other thing I forgot to mention I am recording this meeting in audio for minutes

III. Jeff Salt Presentation Watershed Councils

Jeff

- My name is Jeff Salt, great salt lake keeper
- I have been involved with the Jordan River Watershed Council (JRWC) since 1999
- Seen lots of changes and ebbs and flows
- My presentation is meant to motivate thought and discussion about what we are doing? Is that what thither councils do? Can we do more?
- We meet 4 times a year
- Over the years I have done different projects
- Part of my interest and curiosity is looking at watershed groups around the western states
- I will have an introductions to Watershed councils (WSC) and what they are and the elements to a successful WSC and the look at ours and see how we are organized and compare ours with 3 westerns state WSC that have resemblance to ours
- The governance and functional model of these WSC is really thought provoking and dynamic
- Then we can open for discussion
- The first wat to look at WSC is to first look at their WS
- What is a WSC, there are a lot of definitions, the EPA has some guidance
- I have brought some definitions from stats that I did my analysis of
- The Oregon WS enhancement board
- Says that WSC are groups of local people who organize themselves to take care of the WS
- There made up of people that live in the WS or have some other stakes in the WS or a user group
- It should be made up of a balanced group of stakeholders so all interests are represented

- In Oregon a WSC is formed by an order or designation by local government groups, no state gov. approval required
- Oregon basically said it is a local decision to create a watershed council
- Montana they basically form WSC around TMDL's
- WSC vary from state to state
- We do not have a statewide definition of WSC in our statues but we do in our county ordnance
- What are the elements of an effective WSC, basically it's about involving local people, stakeholders and users because they are the ones that know the WS more intimal, they have more passion, investment in the WS and they have connections in the WS they can use to bring in resources to the table
- Usually people who live in local communities work better together
- WSC w. citizens and user groups have the advantage of not being blocked with bureaucracy or regulations
- Not bound by the rules of the games between agencies or jealousy that can happen or lack of communication between agencies
- Locals are better and setting goals, priorities and objectives and strategies for WS plans
- Legal requirements and authority
- Is there a federal regulation requirement or authority that WSC stem from
- Yes there is, nothing specific to a WSC but here is a requirement on the federal lever to require an area wide WQ plan and that's how our WSC has been formed on section 208 of the clean water act
- Often gets ignored because it was a funding section
- A lot of states and agencies abandon their reliance on section 208, but look at the act there are still elements that require states to have the area wide WQ management plan including setting up agencies to manage
- Different states, different requirements
- Our authority and base for our WSC comes from county ordinance 17.06
- Nice thing about a study like this is you get to see a variety and compare them and ask questions
- JRW example county ordinance 17.06
- Allows for the development of the JR sub-basin watershed management council, we are not named the JRWC
- It also spells out the duties of the WSC
- The council should be preparing an end of year Annual report
- Membership and how they are appointed to the WSC is different then what's on website
- According to website it is strictly agencies that are part of the JRWC
- This stems from the 208 planning era in the 1970's
- We might have to talk to the county council to re-write the ordinance

Lynn

- Not sure when the council went away from what the ordinance calls for but it might have been during the original planning for the WQSP, we now that it is not following

the pattern but you are right it doesn't incorporate the local stakeholders and different non-profits at all it just gov. agencies so we decide to or when we realized that we decided to keep it the way it is going with the JRWC

Jeff

- Good point Lynn because there have been different ebbs and flows in our WSC since 1975 here is the history
- Website and council and 208 plan don't agree

Lynn

- WQSP form 2009 is the 208 plan

Jeff

- But it doesn't follow the text from the 208 plan about history
- In the beginning it was the Salt Lake County Council of Governments
- In 75-78 they wrote the 208 plan by the county, Gov. Matheson designated the agency the WQ planning agency recognized by the state
- After 7 years it went to the county Health Dept.
- The WQ planning went to the county commission
- In 1997 it transferred to SLCo Dept. of Public Works
- Look at the history of the plan and today's plan as parallel histories originally we had our 208 plan 3 years they did a lot of surveys and studies including the WS and WQ
- Update in 82 put no evidence of it being updated again until 2009 with the WQSP
- Long history why that came about
- The County didn't fully understand that they have a 208 obligation
- Until the sewer plant in Riverton came up
- A group of people that I was involved with sued and brought to the county's attention they were not following the 2087 because the sewer plant had never been listed in the plan on the 20 year plan
- Then all hell broke loose
- They amended the plan to include the sewer plant
- Then the council relived we needed to update 208 plan and that's how we came up with the WQSP

Lynn

- It is actually called the Salt Lake County WQSP

Jeff

- Now we're going through an update and Chris informed me that we should be getting a draft of it in a few weeks for public comment
- WSC history, function for 20 years then became inactive
- In 1999 I remember going to the JRWC meeting and it was just mayors who feel asleep
- Then they went into a phase of not meeting or functioning, uncertain what happened
- Revived the council started making committees and core council
- Fell apart again, evolved into the meetings we have now

Lynn

- That was related to the WQSP process Natalie Reese expanded it away from the other

Jeff

- We tried to make it into a real WSC at the time
- I was on a couple of committees but we had a problem with core council and who was going to be on it
- It was supported by ordinance
- It faded because the groups never did much
- Core group doesn't meet, but we meet
- So what is this meeting
- It counts as a WSC meeting
- But what are we doing here? Are we making decisions are we making plans, are we doing the annual report? Approving restoration budgets?

Laura

- The symposium is part of SLCo not part of the WSC we do count it as a meeting

Jeff

- In the past it was all agencies
- No public stakeholder groups then tried to include 8 special interest groups
- Here is the model
- Here is our current mission
- Our purpose is really what do we do in the WS

Lynn

- That is the purpose and mission of SLCo's watershed planning and restoration dept.
- It's not the councils its two different things

Jeff

- Well maybe this should be our purpose
- Where do the boundaries end and begin right
- You guys are sort of the core of our council in the public works dept. you organize the meetings, have WS coordinators
- How do we tie this into the WSC and make it more formal, we have 4 meetings a year and all we do is info sharing as far as I can tell
- Let's look
- Boise river
- We have parallel history with Boise
- We were all involved in development along the rivers at the same time
- Boise has one of the most impressive greenway parkway with over 1000 users a day
- People of Boise have done is created / divided their WS into sections
- A lot of pollutant inputs
- This WS group manages 1200 square miles with 64 miles of river
- Growing population
- Gone through boom and bust cycles
- Organize council in 1992 incorporated in 1994
- Non-profit 501 (c) (3)
- Responsible for WQ plan for WS

- Formed council in partnership with Idaho DEQ
- They are subsidiaries to larger basin groups
- Involved with the bigger picture / drainage into snake river which they are a sub watershed
- Board of directors made up of different categories
- More than one local government
- But not dominated by local government
- 3 AG interests, industry, Environmental and a part time contracted facilitator
- They do a lot of WQ monitoring and assessment
- Create reports
- Focused on 3219 projects and funding
- Work with USGS to monitor WQ in WS
- They do not do any restoration work
- Hope to expand what they do
- Don't have a full time executive director
- they meet ten times a year
- TAC advisory process only covers when needed
- Special committee forums on an ADHOC bases

Pat Shea

- They are having serious fights with the irrigation association because of the over subscription of the Boise river

Jeff

- Oh yea those kinds of fights are all over the west
- Oregon has had classic battles over irrigation
- The next watershed I will focus on is in Portland actually southeast of metro Portland
- This is where I came from, worked on the Clackamas River as a deck hand
- Portland area people are progressive and really care about their streams and rivers
- Clackamas River is unique because it is about 90% rural and 2% urban
- The water supplies drinking Water and other uses for 400,000 people
- Shipped to lake Oswego , Tigard and Oregon city
- Upper watershed is forest service and BLM land, lower Watershed has towns Ascidia and Gladstone
- Most water from this watershed is extracted in the lower few miles of the river
- This WS starts at Mt. hood goes NW to the Willamette River. Part of the Colombia river basin
- This WS is 1000 Sq. miles
- Last significant fun for late winter COHO
- Oregon has the most amazing system of WS based on trying to prevent Salmon being listed as an endangered species
- Setup the Oregon plan and created agency called Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
- Get their funding for the lottery

- The goal to not let Oregon fall into the hands of the federal government and control their water resources because of salmon problems (passage)
- If you look at their model there is no reference to the 208 plan in Oregon, in fact if you talk to the DEQ people on Or. They have never heard of it
- Oregon has basically said we will do this ourselves
- In Oregon you can do more than what the feds do unlike Utah who constitutionally can't do anything more regulatory than the federal gov.
- Made it a state wide mandate to create WSC as part of the Oregon Plan
- Over 90 WSC in Oregon a lot of them are highly functional
- Base support for Clackamas River Basin Council (CRBC) is from OWEB, as well as grants and grant management
- They get grants administer contracts and the Gov. entities take a back seat and let the WSC do the work
- The ability to cut through a lot of bureaucracy
- This WSC doesn't have to play by those rules but still gets the job done
- The CRBC is a 501 (c) (3) with 42 board members
- The CRBS was dubbed a council by the county gov. the county commissioner made then include certain user groups and specified the amount of people from each group
- 21 user groups on the board with 2 positions for each group
- Their mission is to foster partnerships for clean water and to improve fish habitat and to provide recreational WQ values for their residents
- They do monitoring, assessments, restoration
- They focus on shading with their restoration plans
- In stream restoration as well with habitat restoration focusing on fish barrier removal
- Public education and outreach
- Salmon carcass toss, life cycles of fish

David Gardner

- You said they are funded by the lottery do they have ES funding also?

Jeff

- They have a lot of different funding sources
- They main source is getting grants from OWEB
- They have very strict guidelines for these grants

?

- do other Agencies rely on the CRBC for restoration work

Jeff

- Yes they all do some of their own projects and work in partnerships
- The WSC gets to be the leads
- They have monthly meetings excepts for two months
- The meetings are well attended and board members are active, which is unheard of in the non-profit world
- The last WS which is the most amazing story of all is the Big Hole Watershed (BHWS)
- One of the most pristine undeveloped in the western U.S.

- No dams, 153 miles long, world class fly fishing and a lot of ranches and forest service
- Located between Dillion and Butte and Salmon Idaho
- Part of the upper Missouri WS
- Only has 2000 people in it
- It is a ranching WS with some wilderness areas
- Started in 1995
- Because water right holders and land owners were threatened by the state and federal gov. saying we have drought crisis and you have dewatered the river now we will come in and manage it for you
- The ranchers said take a hike we will take care of this ourselves
- Fed Gov. came in and said because of drought and other factors, the arctic grayling is going to be listed on the ES list so we are going to manage the river
- They said the same thing to the feds
- They formed their WSC and got the gov. agencies to back off
- No gov. agencies were allowed on the commission
- They are only allowed to act as technical advisors
- This WSC is one of the most successful councils in Montana
- Including managing water levels during drought
- Also most successful WSC to get the most restrictive and protective rules of any waterway in Montana
- They use a principle called, “shared sacrifice, Shared Success”
- All the land owners voluntary participate in
- There is an incentive program that provides money to landowners to work on WS projects on their property
- They meet every month except two months a year
- 20 board members and steering committee of 6, not one board member is a state or federal agent
- I brought these models to give food for thought for this group, because these are very clever ideas that we can look at as WSC and see if there are any lessons we can learn or incorporate
- I would like to see us become more dynamic more active
- I would like to see these people become board members
- Any questions
- No questions / responses

Lynn

- This came up a couple of years ago, about if this was working and if people are happy
- So we sent out a survey and it seemed like the general consensus was everyone was happy, we can do it again

Jeff

- I think it will be worth wild
- And maybe if people can get info materials out with it
- So people can see what other groups are doing

Lynn

- A lot of things you listed are being accomplished by SLCO WS. The JR commission and others, but yes not by the council. Things are happening but in different ways

Laura

- There is plenty of work to be done and there is a lot of room for lots of organizations to do the same work

Jeff

- On other thought about these states most of them have other WSC support groups
- We don't have anything like this

Sandy

- We do have Utah Watershed Council , state wide WSC we meet three times a year and do one tanning every summer

Jeff

- I used to be the co-chair of that

Sandy

- Well that is still going on so there is one

Jeff

- I as talking ab out non profits

Chris H

- Ok we are going to let Alane come up and present now
- Thank you Jeff

Alane Boyd

- Good Morning
- I am a WQ consultant for Wasatch County
- I have small company called Desert Rose Environmental consulting
- I work with the Provo River Watershed Council (PRWSC)
- And the DEQ
- Today I will go over the PRWSC
- Not as formalized and all voluntary, no real organization char t
- A little history of the PRWSC
- Started in 1979
- Gov. Matheson sent a letter to the EPA saying the state would do a deer creek water management to mitigate things happening from Jordanelle dam
- A political organization was formed to make sure we meet all the requirements
- In 1981 the Jordanelle technical advisory (JTAC) was formed because Deer Creek had a horrible blue green algae blooms
- The group started an intensive sampling and testing program including completing an annual report
- In 2005 changed our name to the PRWSC
- Our mission is to support and promote BMP in the WS
- We focused on everyone on the WS

- Our biggest issue at this time is all the conversions of AG land to commercial / resident use
- We have a few funding agencies
- Primarily drinking water entities
- Every year we sit down and discuss what new projects and ideas are coming up
- We have now changed that

Sandy

- Yea we have through a change
- Changed our business model we were kind of more info showing, yea we have an annual budget of \$350,000 a lot of this goes into monitoring
- We have decided to develop a board
- The board voting member are the funding members and Wasatch county
- DWQ and DWR and drinking water sit on the board but are non-voting members
- Total of 8 people that direct where they money will be spent

Alane

- I will talk about those programs
- We have been pretty ADHOC up until just recently when this new board was created

Jeff

- Are you thinking about coming a 501 (c) (3)

Alane

- Maybe , I don't know
- The drinking water agencies have a strong reason to help direct the council to what is going on
- Don't know if they want to see a separate 501 built
- It is working the way it is now
- We get grant money but we go through our partners

Pat Shea

- Who puts in the \$350,000

Alane

- The drinking water agencies

Sandy

- It is all the agencies we mentioned earlier

Pat

- Does it pass through federal gov.?

Sandy

- No it is all through the state gov.

Alane

- We fund labs that do various testing and analysis
- We fund Wasatch county that does development review and the annual report
- Some of the other funding goes to the drinking water agencies for programs
- We also have AG interests, Karen Nichols has worked with the council through the Wellsburg Project with the Wasatch conservation district
- One thing the council does is

- We have 848 samples we take at 49 sites we have 21 stream sites, 7 reservoirs, 3 point sources and 2 QA and QC sites
- Stream monitoring is a huge portion of this
- Most is done through Central Utah Water Conservancy district (CUWCD)
- We also do reservoir monitoring with CUWCD at Deer Creek and Jordanelle
- And ground water sampling with UEGE
- 5 or 6 sites decreases sites to add pharmaceutical testing
- We do our testing at a variety of state and local labs
- Vast majority of annual budget id for testing
- Tests for Nutrients, metals, E. Coli, algae, pharmaceuticals and the standard suite of chemistry
- Annual report is through Wasatch county
- Quarterly council meetings
- Provided technical and financial resources when there has been fires in the WS
- Long term monitoring with larger developments like the ones around Jordanelle
- Various education and outreach
- I go to schools and teach classes
- We do an annual PRWS festival
- There is so much I can talk about but I know your busy
- So if you have any questions please contact me or Sandy and Thank you

Chris H

- Does anyone have any questions

Dan Potts

- Because the mid Prove is reputed as a fly fishing reach, I didn't see any non-profits of fishing groups, environmental groups in the stakeholder involvement. Just curious how? You get my point.

Alane

- We open our meeting to anyone that would like to attend.
- The 1984 WQ implementation plan stated that the downstream WQ will be monitored for fisheries mostly

Sandy

- Let me see if I can interject

Dan

- Yea because she is not answering the question

Sandy

- They are but the anglers (John Schmulte) has been involved it been very hard getting them to the table
- They are not there every time

Alane

- It goes back to the volunteer aspect and time

Dan

- Because there is a fishing industry , that would be an obvious stakeholder group to be there

Alane

- We do work with them and invite them as well as others
- They know about the group
- It is open to everyone
- The other thing is if there is a critical condition we tend to move our efforts towards that

David

- Mentioned earlier there was a significant algae problem in deer Creek in the late 1970's since then the watershed has been urbanized significantly and increased the source of the algae what's the difference between then and now?

Dan

- Jordanelle reservoir

David

- That's is it, that is taking the algae

Sandy

- Not really
- Still a significant nutrient loads in the middle Provo
- That is one thing Wasatch county does
- have a consultant to do development review

Alane

- One of the problems we think now , don't know for a fact, that the urbanization and fertilizing of the area we are seeing nutrient loads from that more from AG now

David

- Was it from AG before

Alane

- Yes

Sandy

- There is naturally occurring high phosphates in the soils
- Conversion from AG to Urban has changed the source

Alane

- Now we are E. Coli
- The report tries to steer them to new problems

Dan

- Just to coattail on that
- Deer Creek TMDL in my opinion is the most successful ever done in the state of Utah
- BMP made a huge difference

Alane

- We let our loading reduce significantly which limited wastewater influences

Jeff

- Sandy said it is difficult to get user groups being a representative I think there is a catch 22
- Have to provide a user group the ability to feel like they are doing something also an incentive
- If there is something for us to do as user groups that would be an incentive
- Info sharing meetings are not motivational

David

- One question for this group
- What does this group think of the EPS's requirement to contain urban runoff seems like that may catch some of that nutrient load that runs off
- Just wondering

Chris H

- We can address that
- We have the room till 12:00 pm the agenda says we meet till 11:30
- Presentations ran over a little
- If you would like to stay for Q and A round robin you are more than welcome to
- We will answer your question and Ms. Cline has something as well

Sandy

- Also after this if anyone wants an update about algae blooms and monitoring we can do that after

Chris H

- We will send out the DEQ link as well

Sandy

- Perfect

Chris H

- If we can answer his questions then Chris can have a few minutes

Eric

- Seems like a good idea if they are maintained
- Great idea but have to think about maintenance
- Like grass growing then cutting and letting it wash back into the drains is not removing anything

Sandy

- Eric is right
- A lot of money for development and install
- But little to none for maintenance
- As a state agency we give you the money and walk away, sounds bad, we expect you to take care of maintenance
- Private land owners are a weak link in the chain

Marian Rice

- Another response now planning requires developers to have a monitoring plan with BMP's
- I agree with Eric that the operation and maintenance is important

Chris Cline

- I printed ten of these
- Please share
- This is willow creek a tributary to the JR it's in South Jordan and comes into the JR between 114 south and 106 south
- The first page is a vicinity map
- Blue line is the reach we are concerned about
- Next page is a map

- There is a complex of beaver dams going up through this reach
- Creating a nice wildlife habitat
- Mature riparian trees supporting nesting wood ducks which is unusual
- Supported by the beaver dams
- You can see the logs as you go up on image, you're going down stream and you can see the dams
- The lowest and biggest is opposite of the house
- The reach distance approx. 1 mile to ¾ mile
- Next image shows biggest pond and keystone dam for reach
- Habitat and riparian area there are issues with lawns going into the creek, AG on the other side
- Slated for development
- Would be nice if a buffer zone could be here for the WQ and habitat
- Next pic is looking up stream
- Water levels rise and fall
- Were concerned its being turned into a storm water tube
- So right now banks are pretty simple some have issues
- Pipe in the dam controls water levels , installed by property owner
- Can set water level
- Working well
- Shows upstream of the dam and woody material providing functional habitat
- The concerns is as we understand it is salt lake county flood control has decided that the dams have to go

Marian

- No. Let me give you more info a few years ago a property owner called and requested that flood control remove the dams
- So one property owner wants them out
- There also concerned because of all the dams break it would cause issues with the trash collector and cause significant flooding
- Trying to weight interest between property owners

Karri

- There are several property owners who want to keep them

Marian

- There is another one that came in
- Flood control just talked to them about removing the dams
- Also just to make it known we don't want to remove dams , but flood control has to prevent flooding

Karri

- This area has never flooded and they have been here for decades

Marian

- Again it is all about flooding if it breaks it can cause a lot of flooding

Chris Haight

- I do believe two of the dams have already failed and we are losing property around the other dam on the left side of the creek

Chris C

- I just want to bring this to everyone's attention

Marian

- I just want to make sure everyone knows that flood control was called and asked to remove these

Chris C

- As we move forward I hope the solution is considerate of everyone
- As the development goes in it would be good to have a buffer zone

Marian

- Totally agree

Chris C

- The stream is functional
- Not implying anyone is a bad guy here
- Just wanted people to be aware of the issue
- And also removing the dams is an endless endeavor
- They will always come back
- Karri came in and said we should manage for the beavers not against them
- There will always be issues

Marian

- Talking to flood control they are trying to work with everyone

Kerri

- If you look at this picture this area shows places losing land before the dam
- Since the dams have gone in 90% of the property has stabilized and regrown the riparian
- Raised the water table and stabilized the creek
- The one person with erosion issues was bringing in logs to feed the beaves
- Everyone else's property has had significant stabilization and building of their property along the streambanks

Chris C

- One last thing. If they do remove then we have significant concerns about erosion coming into other JR reserve

Marian

- I am not flood control, just speaking for them they have plans to simulate the dams with rocks. Some people are for this
- I see what you mean about the habitat

Chris C

- This is the most functional piece of willow creek
- Still opportunities even with development to maintain functionality
- Discussion amongst the group (inaudible)

Chris H

- We are open for discussion

Eric

- A couple projects I would like to talk about
- Big bend project
- Create and access road between river and RMP substation
- Got the right away
- Going into design for access road
- Land owned by RMP can put road as far away from the river as we want
- Can enhance river corridor
- Doing this through the end of the year
- Lower Jordan River Clean up / riparian restoration and public education
- Last 8 miles of the river
- Working with the city and county to remove Russian olives and replacing them with native species after the nesting season
- Putting in permit to plant to the edge of the river
- In interested in this part of the river we are trying to clean it up
- DWQ planted 85 trees last year

Laura

- And they would like to do it again

Eric

- Then we got NW middle school to adopt a reach of the river also
- Coming up with an action plan to improve conditions
- Getting ready to put in a pulling together initiative grant with a bunch of land owners , forest fire and state lands and others
- Improve the capacity of people doing restoration along the JR
- Would like to do a tanning at the WS symposium
- Would like to come up with best practices
- Want to take Laura's best practices docs and expand the noxious weed and habitat restoration to get stakeholders buy in
- Get buy in from the cities

Heather M

- Quick question
- There is an opportunity for boy scouts eagle projects helping plant along the river

Eric

- Yes

Laura

- You can send them over to me
- A couple of updates
- Working with the DWQ for a flow experiment in lower JR
- See if there is a relationship between WQ and dissolve Oxygen and the water flow itself
- Took a year to get water rights
- Found all the water needed to do the study
- Donated by the JVVCD and riot into and leasing some from the LDS church

- Experiment will begin next year
- If it proves to help a very cost effective solution
- Creates greater model for interagency partnership
- Restoration project called little cottonwood pond in WVC had a grant for 50,00 dollars could use three time this
- Laying wetland sod and removed all the frag
- Seen a ton of birds using the area now and its looking real nice
- A lot of seeding still and work to still do

?

- Where did the grant come from

Laura

- EPA 5 star restoration grant administered through NFWF
- Working with Saratoga springs for a riparian corridor project ordinance
- 70 foot buffer
- Working with south Jordan on river friendly checklist to help guide developments
- Like a Leed checklist

Lynn

- Sent out reminder for abstracts for the WS symposium
- Hopefully everyone got that email if not let Chris H know
- Abstracts due Aug 5th

Dan

- Can I resubmit mine

Lynn

- You can submit anything you like

Dan

- Will I be more lucky

Paul miller

- Just wanted to introduce myself
- New service coordinator hydrologist at the Colorado basin river forecast center
- A lot of updates to our website
- All about decision support
- Do forecasting for the JR and real-time stream flow through out Utah
- Take a look at the web

Lynn

- Update to the WS plan will be sent to stakeholders for comment this week
- For 3 weeks then we will incorporate the comments the send it out to the public for comments by the end of August

Chris C

- How do we get a copy

Lynn

- We will send it out through the listserv

Sandy

- Want the info on the algal bloom
- Everyone is aware of the bloom
- Bloom occurred Sunday July 10th
- Got notice of it July 13th
- Looking at satellite data imagery its about 40 square miles
- 30% of the lake surface area
- First sampling Wednesday afternoon
- All info is on the website
- 4 matrix for toxins
- Low toxin count- caution
- Moderate Toxins – warning signs
- High toxins – over 10 million cell counts results in closure and is very dangerous
- Utah lake is currently closed
- Fridays samples returned results of 43 million cell counts in a single area

Lynn

- Can that become airborne

Sandy

- Yes, that is an exposure route
- First is contact
- It is a neurotoxin
- When the algae dies it releases the neurotoxin
- Monitoring the actual cell counts and the toxins

Lynn

- If the wind blows

Sandy

- Exactly because it was so windy it traveled fast
- Saturday sampled at the JR
- Levels at the outlet were 600,000 cells
- Little cottonwood / JR confluence had 1.1 million cells
- Big Cottonwood had 200,500 cell count
- No toxin data has yet to come in
- 100 dead ducks
- 2 dead goats

Marian

- What are they doing with the dead animals

Sandy

- Taking them to an approved lab
- Field vets go out first
- No info on webpage
- Collecting on Farmington bay
- Collecting on lower Jordan
- No results yet

- All data will be on the website
- Advisories posted along the JR
- 400 human cases have been called in
- Warnings issued for irrigation water and secondary water that comes from the lake or river
- It can harm this year's harvest

Dan

- 5 years in a drought
- Utah lake is below compromise level
- Last event occurred in the 1970's
- Last year was a warning call
- This is not rocket science
- High water levels, not summers, sorry meant low water level, no wind
- Seems to be the problem
- Phosphorous off the charts
- Only saving grace will be a large wind event to mix up the water
- Not there
- Just saying we are in a bad spot
- But here we are

Sandy

- One last thing we will be having an open house today at the DEQ at 2 pm

Chris Haight

- Thanks everyone for coming out have a great afternoon.

End Time 12:05