

JORDAN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
Core Council
December 14, 2006 Meeting

Attendance: Jim Harris; Utah Division of Water Quality
Merritt Frey; Utah Rivers Council
Ken Short; South Jordan City
Adam Ginsberg; CHC
Dennis Pay; South Salt Lake
Margaret Brady; Community Council Advisory Group
Katie McCarthy; Salt Lake County Council
Barry Tripp; Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Julie Howe; Stantec Consulting
Reed N. Fisher; Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility
Terry Way; Salt Lake County Engineering Division
Karen Nichols; Salt Lake County Engineering Division
Tracie Kirkham; Salt Lake City Public Utilities
Jeff Snelling; Salt Lake City Public Utilities
Rhonda Thiele; Salt Lake Valley Health Department
Florence Reynolds; Salt Lake City Public Utilities
Jeff DenBleyker; CH2M Hill
Jeff Salt; Great Salt Lake Keeper
Natalie Rees; Salt Lake County Engineering Division

Jordan River TMDL Update – Eric Duffin of Cirrus Ecological

- A powerpoint presentation was given by Eric Duffin of Cirrus Ecological to review the expanded Element 1 of the Jordan River TMDL (See Attached PDF).
- Comments from the TMDL presentation included:
 - o There is typically more aquatic life in the Jordan River in August – may be impacting DO and E. Coli levels.
 - o A Microbial Source Tracking (MST) study may be necessary to determine the source of E. Coli in the Jordan River.
 - o Steve Jensen of Salt Lake County has been working with the University of Utah to establish a local MST library. This library may be useful in the Jordan River.
 - o As the TMDL progresses, it is anticipated that habitat impairments of the Jordan River will be examined.

Jordan River Corridor Planning in Utah County – Jeff DenBleyker of CH2M Hill

- Jeff DenBleyker of CH2M Hill has been working on a Jordan River corridor study for the Utah County section of the River over the past year (See attached PDF).

- This project was funded by Saratoga Springs and focused on the development of an Erosion Hazard Zone (EHZ) for this section of the River.
- The study examined the River from the outlet of Utah Lake to 9600 North. The scope of the analysis was established by Saratoga Springs and did not extend to the Salt Lake County boundary due to jurisdictional boundary limits.
- CH2M Hill is finalizing the study this month. Saratoga Springs will then move toward formally adopting the identified Erosion Hazard Zone.
- Some notable comments included:
 - o Nephi is not participating in this study.
 - o Utah County has let planning and jurisdiction to local governments.
 - o The average slope of the River in this section is ~0.6°.
 - o The River was dredged following the 1983 floods.

Jordan River DVD Presentation – Jeff Salt Great Salt Lake Keeper

- Jeff Salt of the Great Salt Lake Keeper showed a video documentary of the Jordan River that was created by Spy Hop Productions; a “youth media center specializing in educational solutions through the multimedia arts” (www.spyhop.org).
- In the video, numerous politicians were interviewed in regard to their local efforts to clean the Jordan River.

Update of the Water Quality Stewardship Plan (WaQSP) – Natalie Rees Salt Lake County Engineering Division and Karen Nichols of Stantec Consulting

- A review was provided of the Water Quality Stewardship Plan (WaQSP):
 - o Watershed Functions
 - o Six (6) Strategic Targets
- Since the Jordan River Watershed Council Visioning Session, several items of the WaQSP have moved forward. These items include:
 - o Development of the Ecosystem Health Index (EHI) and the Watershed Function Index (WFI). The EHI will characterize the ecological health of rivers and streams in Salt Lake County. The WFI was created to accommodate social and recreational as an overall watershed functional value.
 - The EHI will assess the habitat, hydrologic conveyance, and water quality of streams/rivers in Salt Lake County.

- The WFI will add social, aesthetic, and recreational components into the EHI to provide an overall score that depicts how well a given planning unit is attaining optimal watershed function.
- Wastewater Planning
 - Sub-contractor Brown & Caldwell has compiled a Technical Memorandum 1 that reviews existing wastewater treatment facilities in Salt Lake County in terms of capacity and technology. Additionally, this TM 1 provides a review of emerging trends in wastewater technology.
 - Two (2) workshops have been held to discuss the TM 1 and provide a review of the existing planning and permitting process for wastewater.
 - The next step for the wastewater element of the WaQSP is to provide a needs assessment and further clarification of the planning/permitting process.
- What's next?
 - Over the next year, 2007, Salt Lake County will be developing the WaQSP document. A final draft of the WaQSP is anticipated by the end of 2007.
 - In 2008, Salt Lake County anticipates an extensive public involvement/buy-in process for the WaQSP.
 - It is anticipated that implementation of WaQSP projects will begin in 2009.

Next Meeting

The Jordan River Watershed Council Core Group determined that they would set a schedule for 2007 meetings. However, it is understood that if issues arise outside of those scheduled meetings, an additional meeting may be scheduled. Therefore, the next meeting will be held February 15, 2007. Details will be distributed closer to this meeting date.