

Meeting Minutes



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

Thursday, April 9, 2015 – 9:00-10:30am
Salt Lake County Building Room S1-120

Attendees:

Arens, Hilary--Utah Div. of Water Quality
Berni, Lynn--Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration Program
Brehm, Michael--Univ. of Utah
Buehler, Christian--Univ. of Utah
Burgon, Steve--Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition
Chadwick, Matt--Bluffdale City
Condrat, Charles--US forest Service
Davenport, LaNiece--Wasatch Front Regional Council
Dibb, Andrew-- Salt Lake County Health Dept.
Dilley, Clint-- Epic Engineering
Drake, Gene--Salt Lake City Conservation District
Drumiler, Dan-- Salt Lake County Townships
Fasselin, Rosemary--HDR Inc.
Gardberg, Jodi--Utah Div. of Water Quality
Gardiner, Adam --Salt Lake County Council- Newton
Gray, Teresa--Salt Lake County Health Dept.
Halverson, Nikolai --Draper City
Holstrom, Tom-- Central Valley WRF
Howe, Julie--Stantec Consulting
Howell, Jory-- Herriman City
Kogan, Lewis--Salt Lake City Open Space
Larsen, Lynn-- Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation
Mayne, Garland-- South Valley Sewer District
McCulley, Eric--River Restoration
Moncur, Kade-- Salt Lake County Flood Control
Murphy, Hannah-- Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration Intern
Nelson, Patrick-- Salt Lake City Dept. of Public Utilities
Owens, Marie-- Jordan Valley Water Conservation District
Pollock, Terry-- Magna Water District
Potts, Dan-- Salt Lake County Fish & Game Assoc.
Riddle, Debora--Salt Lake County Townships
Salt, Jeff--Great Salt Lakekeeper
Stewart, Jesse-- Salt Lake City
Tonetti, Brian --Jordan River Commission
Urbanis, John-- US Army Corps of Engineers
Vernon, Laura-- Forestry Fire State Lands

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. 6-year Update to Salt Lake County Water Quality Stewardship Plan (WaQSP)

(Bob Thompson, SLCo Watershed, Karen Nichols, HDR)

- Timeline
 - Plan update: 2015
 - Public comment & final report, Jan-Mar 2016
- 5-year Program Evaluation, 2009-2014
 - Review the 15 Priority Implementation Tasks outlined in the 2009 WaQSP, and where we are today
 - *An online survey will be distributed* to stakeholders, soliciting feedback on how the 2009 Plan has been used and how it can be improved.
- The plan will include three Focused studies:
 - Little Cottonwood Creek Pilot Baseflow Study (Bob Thompson)

Discussed areas with most drastic quality changes being areas where the stream is dewatered. LCC flow study introduced to prevent further damage in the future. Management decisions will be made to prevent rather than to cure current issues.

Jeff Salt- Have we looked at the impact of stream alteration permits on flood damage?
-Where are the permits (stream alt & FC) being pulled and how are these affecting future damage to the stream?
-How much of the dewatering is potable water vs. irrigation needs?
Can we incorporate this into our analysis?
If we know we're never going to get the water back in the first place?

Karen Nichols- There are other ways to "make water" by installing more efficient diversion structures. (for example)

- Debris and Detention Pond Study (Karen Nichols)

Introduces debris basins at mouths of all major creeks, final assessment will be made within BCC or LCC. Analysis of how much material is being removed and what types are being removed. Questions we are asking include, how representative is the basin expected to be? How effective are the existing basins? How can we retrofit to make the basins more efficient to tie in with the JR TMDL? How we define efficiency is TBD, life cycle analysis.

Mike Brehm: How well can we extrapolate info from one or two basins to all other creeks in the county?

Karen Nichols: Not necessarily possible, may

Jeff Salt-What is the basic "philosophy" goal for the streams (clean streams,) that will be the guiding feature for the retrofit for the basins?

○ Westside Stream Restoration Planning Study (Karen Nichols)

Channelization of streams creates different and unstable behavior, contained and confined structures significantly alter streams and negatively affect natural flowing channels. Conceptual designs and templates introduced, funding provided from outside resources with Salt Lake County. Hope is to incorporate more planned NCD prescriptive and reactive approach.

Jeff Salt- What about Bingham Creek?

Bob- We have a project currently working with the UACD

Jeff Salt- What do we do about the main reach that is dewatered due to Kennecott withholding water to prevent contamination?

Karen Nichols- Other issues, nutrient issues- new standards, *E. Coli*

We'll meet again at the end of 2015 with stakeholders to present results of our analysis.

Jeff Salt- Under section 208 the planning requirement is to provide 20 year update for wastewater treatment.

Karen Nichols- 2005-2025 time frame was looked at during 2009 WaQSP

Jeff Salt- Prison relocation may require a new plant, what are we doing to identify geographically needs for new treatment plants?

Karen Nichols: This may call for an additional update to the WaQSP.

Jeff Salt: What we learned from the past sewer plant process, we don't want to make same decision during a crisis...want to have significant project in the plan. The Riverton city plant was a fiasco and the citizens didn't want it. Representing the state for the prison relocation project, one is in the northwest corner of SLC.

III. Round Robin Updates

Forestry Fire and State Lands (Laura Vernon)

- Two year project that just started standing on a comprehensive management plan for the Jordan River identifying stakeholders and lots of opportunity for publications; will have smaller task groups. Bank to bank analysis addressing areas of concern, hope to include county involvement.
- Received money from legislature to control phragmites...hope to gain additional funding and partnerships
- Integrated water resources model for GSL. Study how lake levels can be impacted by instream flows.

Salt Lake County Health Dept. (Teresa Gray)

- Want expanding partnerships...steering committee is underway. Contact Teresa if interested

Salt Lake County Fish and Game Assoc. (Dan Potts)

- Northern pike was introduced into Utah Lake (sport fish?) Potential to travel downstream through Jordan River and proceeding duck clubs. High level predator, anticipate problems and/or changes. Beneficial in that it reduces the Eurasian Common Carp

Salt Lake County Parks & Rec. (Lynn Larsen)

- Jordan River Parkway Trail improvement on three locations(partnership Jordan River Watershed Council District)
- 159th-165th S Complete
- 144th-150th S Drawings in progress

- 144th-146th S Late summer, early fall
- 2nd S-Temple A couple of years out

Wasatch Front Regional Council (LaNiece Davenport)

- Received funding from legislature for resource management plan, \$100K for each county in the state.

River Restoration (Eric McCulley)

- Big Bend on Jordan River (West Jordan City) 70-acre parcel between 90th-8th S at super fund site, talking about moving part of the river across the site, all or none. No alternatives will affect the trail, 45-acres of restored habitat for neotropical birds.
- Section of the lower Jordan River (into Davis County) A Salt Lake City project including many landowners and FFSL to plant 700 riparian plants/vegetation. Located at 500 North through to the Legacy Nature Preserve, 3-year plan.
- Improving a stormwater pond in West Valley City

Jordan River Commission (Brian Tonetti)

- May 1st- Jordan River Commission training

Salt Lake County Open Space (Lewis Kogan)

- Large vegetative restoration project at Wasatch Hollow 1700 S on Emigration
- Blaine Hollow at 1700 S on Emigration: restoration project
- Parleys Historic Nature Park: installing a couple of rock weirs into stream
- Will continue work on the four SLC Chevron restoration sites- to help establishment
- Also Natural Lands Management Plan- baseline study of all SLC Open Space lands

Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition (Dan Drumiler)

- Low impact dev. Seminar on June 10th
- Increase compliance stormwater permit regulations reaching out to co-permittees on compliance
- Just hired a new IDDD inspector for dry weather screenings, outfall inventory, etc.
- Required to verify and inspect appx. 180 outfalls
- Coalition meets on the third Wednesday of each month in Gov't Center, Rm N-3110.

US Forest Service (Charlie Condrat)

- Pipeline replacement along I-80 (Questar)
- Culverts replaced in Millcreek

Univ. of Utah (Mike Brehm)

- Planning for future TMDL
- Red Butte Riparian committee is starting to meet
- Real interest in ratcheting up restoration efforts in the RBC corridor
- Sediment removal project in RBG

Salt Lake City (Jesse Stewart)

- Completing Parleys Creek
- Similar MS4 program on SLC

South Valley Sewer Dist. (Garland Mayne)

- Started operation July 2012, peak up 7 million gal./day
- Quality is good! <2DOD, <1TSS

DWQ (Hilary Arens)

- Phase 2 of Jordan River TMDL
 - Will start to work towards allocating loads (working with their TAC)
 - Hope to submit 2nd phase in April 2018 with the allocation #'s
- Utah Lake Work Plan has begun
 - Utah Lake needs to be fixed, continuing research and data collection in Utah Lake and tributaries
- Looking at a clustered system of approximately nine homes in Emigration Canyon for septic systems working with the EMC Improvement district.
- LCC (at ALTA and Snowbird) impaired for Zinc
 - Pilot scale project was very successful
 - Next step is to UPSCALE
 - ALTA and Snowbird are totally on board and financially supportive!
- Carp removal in Utah Lake continued...

Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration Program (Bob Thompson & Lynn Berni)

- Stream Restoration Projects
 - Murray/Taylorville (4800S-5200S) update
 - Surveying continues, revegetation plan in progress
 - Winchester Bridge update
 - Jeff Salt- concerned that he was not contacted about design process or permits. Feels that the boating community was not respected, has concerns with the boat ramp design, and that this project is going against the water trail plan
- New SLCo handbook, *Stream Care Guide: A Handbook for Salt Lake County Residents*
 - Books are printed and will be mailed to all residents who live along streams
 - The mailing is planned for later this spring
- Next Salt Lake County Watershed Symposium, Nov 18-20, 2015