



## **JORDAN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL**

**June 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 –10:00-11:30**  
**Salt Lake County Building Room N2003**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Attendance:**

Gary Bowen; Emigration Canyon Community Council (ECCC)  
Kris Hohenshelt; Emigration Canyon Community Council (ECCC)  
Karen Nichols; HDR  
Christina Osborn; JUB Engineers  
Amy Green; Salt Lake City  
Gene Drake; Salt Lake Conservation District  
Brent Beardall; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
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)  
Jenni Oman; Salt Lake County (SLCo)  
Shawn Gonzales; Salt Lake Valley Health Department (SLVHD)  
Ana M. Paz; South Jordan City  
Grace Sperry; Sugarhouse Community Council  
Sandy Wingert; Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ)  
Carl Adams; Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ)

Note: Please see accompanying slideshow titled "Emigration Creek Total Maximum Daily Load TMDL Study"

**I. Introductions & Sign In**

**II. Upper Emigration Creek Overview (Marian Hubbard; SLCo)**

- Data Collection started about 10 years ago
- TMDL study has been delegated to the State by the federal Government
- Salt Lake County is Area Wide Planning Agency
- Salt Lake Valley Health Department regulates septic tanks & waste disposal
- Upper Emigration Creek was listed as impaired in 2000

**III. Emigration Creek Data and Lading Review (Carl Adams; Utah DEQ)**

- The downstream extent of Upper Emigration subwatershed is Rotary Glen Park
- The Hogle Zoo is in lower watershed
- Designation 2B includes splashing and wading in water and not fully immersing yourself in water
- Water Quality Standards are applied state-wide
- Upper Emigration Creek is unique because we have a collected data for a longer period of time
- MPN = Most Probable Number (add to glossary of TMDL Document)
- There are acute and chronic standards for *E. coli*
- Rotary Park is the compliance point
- A "load" is the combination of the pollutant concentration and the stream flow, with units of mass/time
- The negative percent signs on the *E. coli* loading slides means that the measured *E. coli* loads are less than the capacity.
- (Referring to the Flow Regime Slide) 0%-10% flow regime refers to high flows. We only see *E. coli* exceed the load capacity during the mid-range to dry conditions.
- Seasonal loading represents the TMDL for the most part. LA = Load Allocation.
- Point Sources are permitted pollution sources, and non-point sources are everything else.
- July through September is the "problem" time for *E. coli* loading.
- BMP = Best Management Practices

**IV. Upper TMDL Study Timeline (Carl Adams; Utah DEQ)**

- We want comments from Stakeholders on the draft report by July 15th

**V. Comments, Questions:**

- (Q): What is the Problem and why should we care?
  - Problem has to do with health effects and we are not within compliance
- (Q) Does the Zoo Contribute?
  - (A) Yes, some of their drains contribute, parking lots, and sidewalks. But their large pools drain to the sewer.
- (Q) Why did you choose to sample at Mayfield Drive?
  - (A) Access
- (Q) Do we have until 2013 to be in compliance?
  - (A) Once we have a TMDL, there are no set dates, but there are lots of steps to take for the process
- (Q) NPR had a piece on an environmental study in Oregon where they thought water quality impairments were coming from a certain source, but what they found was that it was a result of fertilizer being applied to a marijuana farm. Should you be looking into other, not as obvious contributors to Emigration Creek's water quality?
  - (A) We try and look for other contributors, and we hope that if anyone else knows of studies like the one you mention, to let us know.

- (Q) Garrick Wilden's Thesis on Killyon's Canyon showed that there was a lot of *E. coli* from that reach, which is different than what this study is saying?
  - (A) This study looked at data from a much longer period of study than the Killyon's study
- (Q) On page 113, it says that Lower Emigration is piped underground until it hits the Jordan River. This should be clarified to say that it combines with other creeks (Red Butte, Parleys) and then reaches the Jordan.
- (Q) Have septic tanks being inspected?
  - (A) No, at least not mandatory inspections. There will be voluntary die studies in the future to trace possible pollutants and hopefully through the outreach and education aspect of the TMDL process, people will volunteer
  - (A) The ECCC has begun community outreach effort
  - (A) There are a lot of political issues since Upper Emigration Canyon is not part of Salt Lake City, and there has been a lot of finger pointing when it comes to where the pollutants are coming from.
- (Q) Why was Emigration split up between upper and lower basins?
  - (A) Because the Upper portion was first listed as the portion with water quality problems and because there has been a lot more data collected on the upper portion.