

**Jordan River Watershed Council**  
March 16, 2006 Core Council Meeting

Attendees: Jim Harris; Division of Water Quality  
Merritt Frey; Utah Rivers Council  
Betsy Herrmann; US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Brian Bennion; Salt Lake Valley Health Department  
Florence Reynolds; Salt Lake City  
Danny Astill; Murray City  
Roger Payne; West Jordan City  
Reed N. Fisher; Central Valley Water  
Steve Burgon; Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition  
Natalie Rees; Salt Lake County Public Works Engineering

**Background Information**—A powerpoint presentation was provided that discussed: 1) Watershed Council updates (council composition, website, goals and objectives), 2) Water Quality (Alta Fen Pilot Project, Emigration Creek TMDL, Jordan River TMDL), 3) Regional Planning efforts (proposed amendment to the Area-Wide Water Quality Management Plan, Water Quality Stewardship Plan, West Bench Planning, and Jordan River Master Plan), and 4) Council logistics (topics, meeting locations/times/frequency).

**Comments and Concerns**

1. It was mentioned that members of the core council would like to see Utah County represented on the Watershed Council. Utah County will therefore be contacted and invited to our next meeting.
2. Subsequent to our discussion of Little Cottonwood Creek, it was mentioned that the initial Alta Fen design had some problems. After discussing this with Steve Jensen—Program Manager of the Salt Lake County Water Resources Planning and Restoration Program—it was determined that the problems with the original design were due to the alkalinity of the compost. Wetland plants typically prefer acidic soils and therefore had difficulties with establishment. Additionally, the north cell remained frozen long into the summer months. The expansion of the Fen may therefore include more alkaline topsoil.
3. Caffeine, acetaminophen, and human enteroviruses have been used to indicate human caused pathogen problems. It was asked if these methods have been or will be used in Emigration Creek. Although these methods have not been used yet, optic brightener tests were used by the USGS this past October to indicate human waste.
4. The consultant for the State Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is developing a waste load allocation model using Qual2K that will be used for the current TMDL study as well as future assessments.
5. DWQ anticipates that the water quality review for the Jordan River TMDL will be complete in April, 2006.
6. Reed Fisher (General Manager of Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility) mentioned that he would be willing to provide laboratory and analytical support for water quality assessments along the Jordan River.

7. It was mentioned that in the early 90's, the State commissioned a seining study of the Jordan River fish populations.
8. Brian Bennion of the Health Department mentioned that a dog park on 5300 South State Street in Taylorsville had a pond that was discharging directly into the Jordan River. This problem has recently been rectified. This discharge now goes to the sewage system.
9. Brown & Caldwell is assisting Kennecott Lands Company in the development of plans for infrastructure on the West Bench.
10. Betsy Hermann of the US Fish and Wildlife Service mentioned that wetlands using a 404 permit can't accommodate stormwater. However, if a wetland is purely constructed and not created for mitigation purposes, it can accommodate stormwater flow. Additionally, it was mentioned that due to intermittent flows in this arid region, it is difficult to maintain wetlands purely with stormwater discharge.
11. It was determined that the core council will meet on a quarterly basis and that it is important to review works that are in progress to assure that suggestions have been directed toward that right entity and incorporated into respective projects/tasks.
12. Steve Burgon provided an update of Stormwater Coalition activities which included:
  - a. Posting of "No Dumping" signs on all stream crossings throughout Salt Lake County, as well as signs naming the creeks.
  - b. A Water Fair will be held on May 10, 2006 at Hogle Zoo.
  - c. The Coalition's UPDES permit is up for renewal this year.
  - d. Recent development of Spanish translation brochures.
  - e. Commercials will air in August and next fall.
  - f. The State Division of Water Quality is providing construction permit training (ELTAP training). This training is focused on the oversight of construction sites.
  - g. It is the general philosophy of the Stormwater Coalition that education is more important and effective than treatment.
  - h. Information about the Stormwater Coalition can be found at [www.stormwatercoalition.org](http://www.stormwatercoalition.org).
13. Salt Lake City recently received a grant to create a dock on the Jordan River at North Temple. They would like to solicit input on the design and structure of this dock.
14. Salt Lake City Watershed, in conjunction with the Utah Society for Environmental Education (USEE), has recently completed their 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade supplement for water resources along the Wasatch Front.
15. The Health Department will be collecting household hazardous waste April through October.
16. The Health Department is also developing educational material in regard to reducing the disposal of pharmaceuticals.
17. A discussion in regard to the use of copper sulfate for algal growth control will be held March 16, 2006 at 12:30 PM. Members of the Salt Lake City Public Utilities Department will participate in this discussion.

18. Members of the Core Council expressed interest in reading the literature review that Salt Lake County recently compiled of Jordan River Plans. Therefore, this document is attached to the minutes.

**Next Meeting**

The Core Council determined that they will meet on a quarterly basis. Therefore, the next meeting will be held June 8, 2006 at 10:00. Details will be distributed closer to this meeting date.