



30 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

31 ENACTS:

32 **79-2-407**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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34 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35 Section 1. Section **79-2-407** is enacted to read:

36 **79-2-407. Utah Water Ways.**

37 (1) As used in this section:

38 (a) "Partnership" means the nonprofit, statewide partnership described in Subsections  
39 (2) and (3).

40 (b) "Water supply entity" means an entity supplying either culinary or irrigation water  
41 to a water user.

42 (2) The department shall oversee:

43 (a) the creation of a nonprofit, statewide partnership in accordance with this section;  
44 and

45 (b) the state's participation in the partnership.

46 (3) The partnership shall:

47 (a) be known as "Utah Water Ways";

48 (b) have as core purposes to:

49 (i) facilitate coordination of efforts to optimize the use of water by:

50 (A) sponsoring policy discussions about the state's water supply;

51 (B) engaging the private sector to help support efforts to optimize the use of water and  
52 related activities;

53 (C) coordinating with the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Department of  
54 Environmental Quality on water related issues;

55 (D) maintaining communication among partners in the partnership;

56 (E) providing a line of communication from partners to state leaders; and

57 (F) promoting coordination of grants, rebate programs, or sponsorships that support the

58 optimal use of water; and  
59 (ii) encourage residents of the state to make changes to optimize the use of water and  
60 care for the state's water supply by:  
61 (A) providing public education and public awareness campaigns and helping  
62 consolidate campaigns about the state's water supply, water quality, and water use; and  
63 (B) providing residents of the state with tools to understand what can be done to  
64 optimize the use of water; and  
65 (c) seek grants, gifts, donations, devises, and bequests.  
66 (4) The board of directors for the partnership shall:  
67 (a) consist of 13 individuals as follows:  
68 (i) the executive director of the department, or the executive director's designee;  
69 (ii) the director of the Division of Water Resources, or the director's designee;  
70 (iii) the executive director of the Department of Environmental Quality, or the  
71 executive director's designee;  
72 (iv) the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Food, or the  
73 commissioner's designee;  
74 (v) a representative of rural Utah selected jointly by the governor, the speaker of the  
75 House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate;  
76 (vi) the general managers for four water conservancy districts selected jointly by the  
77 governor, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate; and  
78 (vii) four members of the business community selected jointly by the governor, the  
79 speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate;  
80 (b) hire an executive director by August 1, 2023, who shall serve for an initial term of  
81 four years; and  
82 (c) adopt policies concerning the board of directors' internal organization and  
83 procedures.  
84 (5) The partnership may, consistent with this section, receive a grant, gift, donation,  
85 devise, or bequest.

86           (6) The partnership shall annually report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and  
87 Environment Interim Committee.

88           (7) Notwithstanding the creation of the partnership, a water supply entity may maintain  
89 an important role with water supply users to encourage the optimized use of water such as  
90 through localized messaging, rebate programs, or other activities.

91           Section 2. **Appropriation.**

92           The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
93 2023, and ending June 30, 2024. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for  
94 fiscal year 2024. Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures  
95 Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts  
96 indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

97           ITEM 1

98           To Department of Natural Resources -- Water Resources

99           From General Fund 1,000,000

100           From General Fund, One-time 2,000,000

101           Schedule of Programs:

102                   Planning 3,000,000

103           Section 3. **Effective date.**

104           This bill takes effect on July 1, 2023.