

UTAH LAKE AND GREAT SALT LAKE STUDY

AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill addresses the study of Utah Lake.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (division) to conduct a study meeting certain requirements;
- ▶ requires the division to develop an implementation plan;
- ▶ requires reporting;
- ▶ provides a sunset date; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2024:

- ▶ to Department of Natural Resources - Forestry, Fire, and State Lands - Project Management as a one-time appropriation:
 - from the General Fund, One-time, \$1,500,000
- ▶ to Transfers to Unrestricted Funds - General Fund as a one-time appropriation:
 - from Nonlapsing Balances, \$1,500,000

Other Special Clauses:

None



28 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29 AMENDS:

30 **63I-1-265**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 154

31 ENACTS:

32 **65A-10-5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

35 Section 1. Section **63I-1-265** is amended to read:

36 **63I-1-265. Repeal dates: Title 65A.**

37 (1) Section **65A-8-306**, which creates the Heritage Trees Advisory Committee, is
38 repealed July 1, 2026.

39 (2) Section **65A-10-5**, related to a Utah Lake study, is repealed July 1, 2027.

40 Section 2. Section **65A-10-5** is enacted to read:

41 **65A-10-5. Utah Lake study -- Implementation plan.**

42 (1) The division shall conduct a study to determine how to enhance the following
43 benefits in a manner consistent with the division's management authority under Section
44 65A-10-1:

- 45 (a) restoring the clarity and quality of the water in Utah Lake;
- 46 (b) conserving water resources in and around Utah Lake;
- 47 (c) preserving the water storage and water supply functions of Utah Lake;
- 48 (d) removing invasive plant and animal species, including phragmites and carp, from
49 Utah Lake;
- 50 (e) restoring littoral zone and other plant communities in and around Utah Lake;
- 51 (f) restoring and conserving native fish and other aquatic species in Utah Lake,
52 including Bonneville cutthroat trout and June Sucker;
- 53 (g) increasing the suitability of Utah Lake and its surrounding areas for shore birds,
54 waterfowl, and other avian species;
- 55 (h) improving navigability of Utah Lake;
- 56 (i) maximizing, enhancing, and ensuring recreational access and opportunities on Utah
57 Lake;
- 58 (j) preserving current water rights related to water associated with Utah Lake;

- 59 (k) otherwise improving the use of Utah Lake for residents and visitors;
- 60 (l) substantially accommodating an existing use on land in or around Utah Lake; and
- 61 (m) providing any other benefits identified by the division.
- 62 (2) To begin the study, the division shall review available information, literature, and
- 63 data concerning restoring Utah Lake, and assess the scientific, technical, measurement, and
- 64 other informational needs for determining methods to restore Utah Lake.
- 65 (3) (a) After complying with Subsection (2), the division shall study the needs
- 66 identified under Subsection (2) that help to inform and improve discussions about Utah Lake
- 67 and the restoration of Utah Lake.
- 68 (b) As part of the study under this Subsection (3), the division shall address the state's
- 69 ability to improve water supply delivered from Utah Lake to the Great Salt Lake.
- 70 (4) The division may consult with other state agencies and a wide range of stakeholders
- 71 with diverse interests to assist the division in conducting the study under this section and
- 72 developing the implementation plan described in Subsection (6).
- 73 (5) The division shall complete the study under this section by no later than November
- 74 1, 2025.
- 75 (6) The division shall adopt an implementation plan to implement the findings of the
- 76 study by no later than July 1, 2026.
- 77 (7) (a) The division shall report the findings of the study to the Natural Resources,
- 78 Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by no later than the November 2025 interim
- 79 meeting of that committee.
- 80 (b) The division shall report the implementation plan to the Natural Resources,
- 81 Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by no later than the August 2026 interim
- 82 meeting of that committee.

83 Section 3. **FY 2024 Appropriation.**

84 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
85 2023, and ending June 30, 2024. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
86 fiscal year 2024.

87 Subsection 3(a). **Operating and Capital Budgets.**

88 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the
89 Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for

90 the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

91 ITEM 1 To Department of Natural Resources - Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

92 From General Fund, One-time \$1,500,000

93 Schedule of Programs:

94 Project Management \$1,500,000

95 Under the terms of Section 63J-1-603, the Legislature intends that the \$1,500,000 one-time
96 General Fund appropriation provided by this item for the studying of Utah Lake does not lapse
97 at the close of FY 2024.

98 Subsection 3(b). **Transfers to Unrestricted Funds.**

99 The Legislature authorizes the State Division of Finance to transfer the following
100 amounts to the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund, as
101 indicated, from the restricted funds or accounts indicated. Expenditures and outlays from the
102 General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund must be authorized by an
103 appropriation.

104 ITEM 2 To General Fund

105 From Nonlapsing Balances - Department of Natural Resources - \$1,500,000
106 DNR Pass Through

106 Schedule of Programs:

107 General Fund, One-time \$1,500,000

108 Section 4. **Effective date.**

109 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.