Senator **Curtis S. Bramble** proposes the following substitute bill:

1 # UTAH LAKE AND GREAT SALT LAKE STUDY
2 # AMENDMENTS
3 ### 2024 GENERAL SESSION
4 ### STATE OF UTAH
5 ## Chief Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble
6 House Sponsor: _____

8 **LONG TITLE**
9 **General Description:**
10 This bill addresses the study of Utah Lake.
11 **Highlighted Provisions:**
12 This bill:
13 ‣ requires the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (division) to conduct a study
14 meeting certain requirements;
15 ‣ requires reporting;
16 ‣ provides a sunset date; and
17 ‣ makes technical changes.
18 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**
19 This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2024:
20 ‣ to Department of Natural Resources - Forestry, Fire, and State Lands - Project
21 Management as a one-time appropriation:
22 • from the General Fund, One-time, $1,500,000
23 ‣ to Transfers to Unrestricted Funds - General Fund as a one-time appropriation:
24 • from Nonlapsing Balances, $1,500,000
25 **Other Special Clauses:**

26   None
27   **Utah Code Sections Affected:**
28   AMENDS:
29   **63I-1-265**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 154
30   ENACTS:
31   **65A-10-5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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33   *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*
34   Section 1. Section **63I-1-265** is amended to read:
35   **63I-1-265.   Repeal dates: Title 65A.**
36   (1) Section 65A-8-306, which creates the Heritage Trees Advisory Committee, is
37   repealed July 1, 2026.
38   (2) Section 65A-10-5, related to a Utah Lake study, is repealed July 1, 2027.
39   Section 2. Section **65A-10-5** is enacted to read:
40   **65A-10-5.   Utah Lake study.**
41   (1) The division shall conduct a study to determine how to enhance the following
42   benefits associated with Utah Lake in a manner consistent with the division's management
43   authority over sovereign lands under Section 65A-10-1:
44   (a) improving the clarity and quality of the water in Utah Lake;
45   (b) conserving water resources in and around Utah Lake;
46   (c) removing invasive plant and animal species, including phragmites and carp, from
47   Utah Lake;
48   (d) restoring and improving littoral zone and other plant communities in and around
49   Utah Lake;
50   (e) restoring and conserving native fish and other aquatic species in Utah Lake,
51   including Bonneville cutthroat trout and June Sucker;
52   (f) increasing the suitability of Utah Lake and its surrounding areas for shore birds,
53   waterfowl, and other avian species;
54   (g) maximizing, enhancing, and ensuring recreational access and opportunities on Utah
55   Lake;
56   (h) otherwise improving the use of Utah Lake for residents and visitors;

57   (i) substantially accommodating an existing use on land in or around Utah Lake; and

58   (j) providing any other benefits identified by the division.

59   (2) To begin the study, the division shall review available information, literature, and

60   data concerning improving Utah Lake, and assess the scientific, technical, measurement, and

61   other informational needs for determining methods to enhance Utah Lake.

62   (3) (a) After complying with Subsection (2), the division shall study the needs

63   identified under Subsection (2) that help to inform and improve discussions about Utah Lake

64   and the enhancement of Utah Lake.

65   (b) As part of the study under this Subsection (3), the division shall:

66   (i) respect the need to preserve water rights and interests related to water collection,

67   storage, or delivery and projects for water collection, storage, or delivery associated with Utah

68   Lake; and

69   (ii) consult with the state engineer to identify conditions associated with Utah Lake that

70   may affect the state's ability to deliver water from Utah Lake to the Great Salt Lake under an

71   approved instream flow change application described in Subsection 73-3-30(2).

72   (4) The division shall consult with other state agencies and a wide range of

73   stakeholders with diverse interests to assist the division in conducting the study under this

74   section.

75   (5) The division shall complete the study under this section by no later than November

76   1, 2025.

77   (6) The division shall report the findings of the study and a proposed plan to implement

78   the findings to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by no

79   later than the November 2025 interim meeting of that committee.

80   (7) This section may not be interpreted to override, supersede, or modify any water

81   right within the state, or the role and authority of the state engineer.

82   Section 3. **FY 2024 Appropriation.**

83   The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,

84   2023, and ending June 30, 2024. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for

85   fiscal year 2024.

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

87   Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the

88   Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for

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

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

91   From General Fund, One-time $1,500,000

92   Schedule of Programs:

93   Project Management $1,500,000

94   Under the terms of Section 63J-1-603, the Legislature intends that the $1,500,000 one-time

95   General Fund appropriation provided by this item for the studying of Utah Lake does not lapse

96   at the close of FY 2024.

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

98   The Legislature authorizes the State Division of Finance to transfer the following

99   amounts to the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund, as

100   indicated, from the restricted funds or accounts indicated. Expenditures and outlays from the

101   General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund must be authorized by an

102   appropriation.

103   ITEM 2   To General Fund

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

105   Schedule of Programs:

106   General Fund, One-time $1,500,000

107   Section 4. **Effective date.**

108   This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.