

1                   **UTAH LAKE AND GREAT SALT LAKE STUDY AMENDMENTS**

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble**

House Sponsor: Keven J. Stratton

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3   **LONG TITLE**

4   **General Description:**

5       This bill addresses the study of Utah Lake.

6   **Highlighted Provisions:**

7       This bill:

8           ▸ requires the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (division) to conduct a study  
9 meeting certain requirements;

10          ▸ requires reporting;

11          ▸ provides a sunset date; and

12          ▸ makes technical changes.

13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

14 This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2024:

15          ▸ to Department of Natural Resources - Forestry, Fire, and State Lands - Project Management  
16 as a one-time appropriation:

17           • from the General Fund, One-time, \$1,500,000

18          ▸ to Transfers to Unrestricted Funds - General Fund as a one-time appropriation:

19           • from Nonlapsing Balances, \$1,500,000

20 **Other Special Clauses:**

21       None

22 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

23 AMENDS:

24       **63I-1-265**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 154

25 ENACTS:

26       **65A-10-5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

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

30 **63I-1-265 . Repeal dates: Title 65A.**

31 (1) Section 65A-8-306, which creates the Heritage Trees Advisory Committee, is repealed  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

33 (2) Section 65A-10-5, related to a Utah Lake study, is repealed July 1, 2027.

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

35 **65A-10-5 . Utah Lake study.**

36 (1) The division shall conduct a study to determine how to enhance the following benefits  
37 associated with Utah Lake in a manner consistent with the division's management  
38 authority over sovereign lands under Section 65A-10-1:

39 (a) improving the clarity and quality of the water in Utah Lake;

40 (b) conserving water resources in and around Utah Lake;

41 (c) removing invasive plant and animal species, including phragmites and carp, from  
42 Utah Lake;

43 (d) restoring and improving littoral zone and other plant communities in and around  
44 Utah Lake;

45 (e) restoring and conserving native fish and other aquatic species in Utah Lake,  
46 including Bonneville cutthroat trout and June Sucker;

47 (f) increasing the suitability of Utah Lake and its surrounding areas for shore birds,  
48 waterfowl, and other avian species;

49 (g) maximizing, enhancing, and ensuring recreational access and opportunities on Utah  
50 Lake;

51 (h) otherwise improving the use of Utah Lake for residents and visitors;

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

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

54 (2) To begin the study, the division shall review available information, literature, and data  
55 concerning improving Utah Lake, and assess the scientific, technical, measurement, and  
56 other informational needs for determining methods to enhance Utah Lake.

57 (3) (a) After complying with Subsection (2), the division shall study the needs identified  
58 under Subsection (2) that help to inform and improve discussions about Utah Lake  
59 and the enhancement of Utah Lake.

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

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

62 storage, or delivery and projects for water collection, storage, or delivery  
 63 associated with Utah Lake; and  
 64 (ii) consult with the state engineer to identify conditions associated with Utah Lake  
 65 that may affect the state's ability to deliver water from Utah Lake to the Great Salt  
 66 Lake under an approved instream flow change application described in Subsection  
 67 73-3-30(2).

68 (4) The division shall consult with other state agencies and a wide range of stakeholders  
 69 with diverse interests to assist the division in conducting the study under this section.

70 (5) The division shall complete the study under this section by no later than November 1,  
 71 2025.

72 (6) The division shall report the findings of the study and a proposed plan to implement the  
 73 findings to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by  
 74 no later than the November 2025 interim meeting of that committee.

75 (7) This section may not be interpreted to override, supersede, or modify any water right  
 76 within the state, or the role and authority of the state engineer.

77 **Section 3. FY 2024 Appropriation.**

78 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
 79 2023, and ending June 30, 2024. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated  
 80 for fiscal year 2024.

81 **Subsection 3(a) Operating and Capital Budgets**

82 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the  
 83 Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts  
 84 indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

85	ITEM 1 To Department of Natural Resources - Forestry, Fire, and State Lands	
86	From General Fund, One-time	\$1,500,000
87	Schedule of Programs:	
88	Project Management	\$1,500,000

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

92 **Subsection 3(b) Transfers to Unrestricted Funds**

93 The Legislature authorizes the State Division of Finance to transfer the following  
 94 amounts to the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund,  
 95 as indicated, from the restricted funds or accounts indicated. Expenditures and outlays

96 from the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund must be authorized  
97 by an appropriation.

98 ITEM 2 To General Fund

99 From Nonlapsing Balances - Department of Natural

100 Resources - DNR Pass Through \$1,500,000

101 Schedule of Programs:

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

103 Section 4. **Effective date.**

104 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.