



Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan

The Division of Water Resources is leading a collaborative effort to develop a Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan. When implemented, this action plan will ensure a resilient water supply for Great Salt Lake and its watershed.

Need for an Integrated Plan

Declining water levels in our reservoirs, rivers and Great Salt Lake emphasize that water supply is limited. Continued growth places additional demands on an already declining water supply due to drought and climate change.

Furthermore, water resource management in the Great Salt Lake Basin is complex. Collective impacts from upstream activities need further study. We must take action to reduce water supply risks, minimize costs to future generations and preserve ecosystems vital to our quality of life.

Elements of the Integrated Plan

The first-ever integrated water resources plan for the entire Great Salt Lake Basin will coordinate projects, research, data, models, tools and ideas at an unprecedented scale. Water users and policymakers at all levels will gain a comprehensive foundation for making decisions as well as a better understanding of their impacts within the watershed.

Funding Sources

The plan will combine funding and efforts from 3 primary sources:

- Utah HB 429 (2022) - Great Salt Lake Watershed Integrated Assessment
- USBR WaterSMART Basin Study Grant
- UGS/USGS Great Salt Lake Basin Groundwater Study

Schedule



Workplan Objectives

1. Lay out the approach for completing the integrated plan
2. Identify parallel efforts to eliminate redundancies and capitalize on opportunities
3. Engage stakeholders and build consensus
4. Catalog previous projects
5. Describe remaining questions
6. Identify and prioritize necessary studies, schedules and costs



The integrated plan will:

Assess current surface and groundwater supply in the Great Salt Lake Basin

Forecast future water demands

Investigate potential benefits of forest management and watershed restoration

Coordinate efforts to quantify and incorporate demand into the water supply and demand model

Identify and evaluate best management practices to provide a reliable water supply

Analyze the trade-offs in relation to impacts on water users throughout the basin and avoid deterioration of agriculture, industry and ecosystems

Recommend actionable strategies to the holistic management of water resources



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water.utah.gov/gsl-basin-integrated-plan | gslbasinplanning@utah.gov





Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan

Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan Framework

Present Condition

What is our present water supply?

How much water do people need?

How much water does Great Salt Lake need?

How much water does our environment need?

How does water use affect our water quality?

How does groundwater affect our water?

Future Condition

What is our future water supply?

How much water will people need?

How much water will Great Salt Lake need?

How much water will our environment need?

How will water use affect our water quality?

Identify Actionable Strategies

Test the Strategies

Trade-Off Analyses

Action Plan

- Communication & Education
- Operational Actions
- Research & Monitoring
- Infrastructure
- Organizational
- Legal & Policy



Ensuring a resilient water supply for Great Salt Lake and its watershed

Partners

Water Suppliers

Bear River Canal Company
 Bear River Water Conservancy District
 Central Utah Water Conservancy District
 Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
 Metro. Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy
 Ogden River Water Users' Association
 Provo River Water Users Association
 Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities
 Weber Basin Water Conservancy District

Federal Agencies

US Bureau of Reclamation
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 US Geological Survey

State Agencies

Idaho Department of Water Resources
 Utah
 Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
 Utah
 Division of Water Quality
 Utah Division of Water Resources
 Utah Division of Water Rights
 Utah Geological Survey
 Wyoming Office of State Engineer

Environmental Non-Profits

Audubon Society
 FRIENDS of Great Salt Lake
 The Nature Conservancy

Academic and Advising

Great Salt Lake Advisory Council
 University of Utah
 Utah State University

Consultants: Jacobs | Langdon Group | Clyde Snow | Hansen, Allen & Luce

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