Sevier County General Plan Update
WATER USE + CONSERVATION

Every development has a hydrologic cost, and every community has a hydrologic budget. Sevier County's plan considers new land uses in the context of their impact on existing networks, fiscal sustainability, and critically, the impact on the water supply. As the area grows, balancing development needs with water resource management becomes increasingly crucial.

Note that for this chapter of the general plan, citations to state statute are included for easy reference and compliance review.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose and Scope

The Sevier County Water Use and Preservation Element is a response to the requirements established in Utah Code 17-79-403, which mandates counties develop a water use and preservation element as part of their general plan. This element addresses the relationship between land use decisions and water resources within county boundaries. Recognizing that while Sevier County does not directly provide water services, it plays an essential role in land use decisions that impact water resources through its planning authority.

Water is essential for supporting residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural, and recreational needs as emphasized in the existing General Plan that states, "*It is essential to have both adequate quality and quantity to maintain the current status of residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural, and recreational needs and for future development*."

1.2 State Requirements

Utah Code 17-79-403(2)(a)(v) requires counties to address water use and preservation in their general plans. Specifically, this element fulfills requirements to address:

- The effect of permitted development or patterns of development on water demand and water infrastructure as required by statute.
- Methods of reducing water demand and per capita water use for existing and future development as mandated in the code.
- Modifications that can be made to county operations to reduce and eliminate wasteful water practices per statutory requirements.
- How regional water conservation goals will be achieved in accordance with state law
- Documentation of consultations with water providers and state agencies as outlined in the requirements.

The county utilized technical guidance from the Division of Water Resources, including the state's water budget methodology training video, to ensure comprehensive water budget analysis.

1.3 Relationship to Other Plan Elements

This element complements and integrates with other elements of the Sevier County General Plan, particularly the land use elements and Resource Management Plan. The existing General Plan recognizes that "water resource policy encompasses the policy-making processes that affect the collection, preparation, use and disposal of water to support human uses and protect environmental quality in the Sevier County area." This element expands on existing policies while ensuring compliance with new state requirements.

1.4 Water Provision Background

Utah water law establishes that water belongs to the State, with the state determining diversion rights and beneficial uses. Water delivery in Sevier County operates through multiple systems: municipal culinary water systems, irrigation companies serving agricultural users, and individual wells for domestic and stock watering.

Water rights throughout the Sevier River Basin have been fully adjudicated through Utah's legal water adjudication process. This means that all water rights within the basin have been legally determined, quantified, and prioritized through court proceedings. The adjudicated status provides certainty regarding existing water entitlements while establishing that no unappropriated water remains available for new rights. New water uses must therefore rely on transfers of existing rights, development of alternative sources, or water conservation measures to create additional supply.

The county's water budget consists of surface water from the Sevier River system, groundwater from local aquifers, and stored water in reservoirs. Unlike northern Utah counties, Sevier County water use does not impact Great Salt Lake levels, as the county lies outside the Great Salt Lake watershed.

2. EXISTING CONDITIONS

2.1 Water Service Providers and Infrastructure

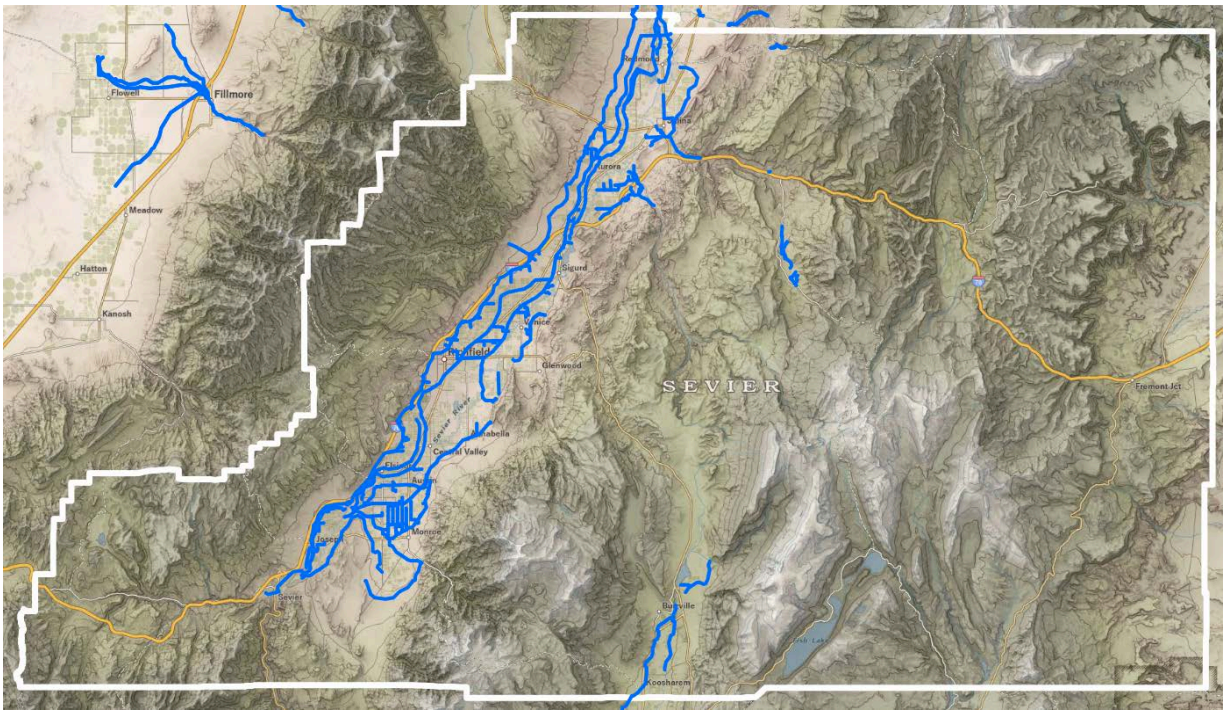
Sevier County does not directly provide water services to residents. According to Utah Division of Water Rights records, there are 44 canal companies that operate in Sevier County.

Major water resources in the county consist of the Sevier River and its tributaries, as well as a number of reservoirs, streams, wells, and springs located throughout the county. The Sevier River meanders through the center of the county providing the most prominent water source.

According to Utah Division of Drinking Water (DDW) records, there are 24 public water systems within Sevier County boundaries, with 1 of these systems currently inactive. The remaining 23 active systems, along with numerous smaller community systems and private wells, serve the county's culinary water needs.

Recent outreach to local water service providers confirmed the diversity of water system operations within the county. Of the systems surveyed, half operate their own water sources (wells and springs) with significant production and storage capacity, while the other half purchase water from municipalities. Systems with independent sources reported a combined production capacity of 570 gallons per minute and storage capacity of 920,000 gallons.

Exhibit 2.1.1 Sevier County Canals



Sevier County area canal locations in 2025. Source: Utah Geospatial Resource Center.
(click for source information)

2.1.2 Agricultural Protection Areas

Agriculture Protection Areas (APA) are approved by the county in which they are located, and catalogued by Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. APAs are areas that represent working agricultural lands with established water rights, provide legal protection for agricultural land uses and activities, and also provide notice to neighboring landowners that they border an APA that they should expect normal agricultural activities to take place. Sanpete and Sevier Counties have created APAs, but they are currently not included in the state's GIS dataset (as of early 2026). The County will coordinate with agricultural landowners to optimize water efficiency while preserving agricultural operations.

2.2 Current Water Use and Patterns

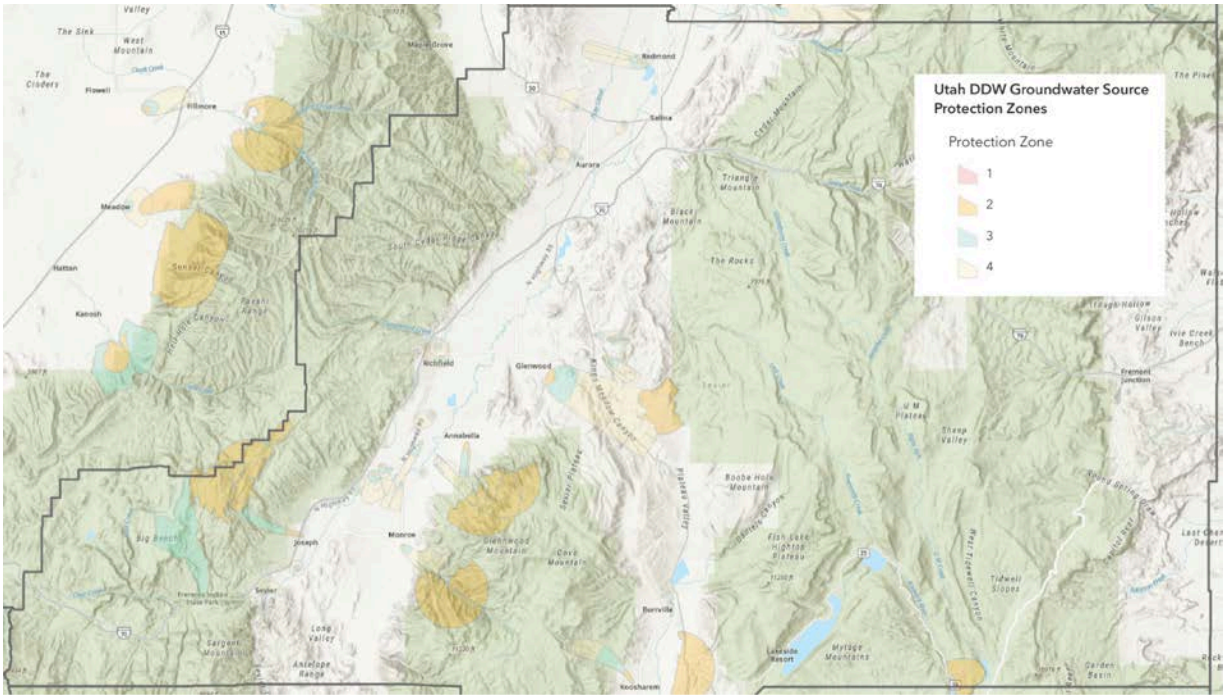
Most of Sevier County receives nine to 39 inches of annual precipitation. Spring snow-melt runoff is stored in several reservoirs to provide irrigation water throughout the growing season. Springs and wells also supplement irrigation needs.

Agriculture represents the dominant water use in the county. According to the most recent available data from the Farm Service Agency, Sevier County had 29,073 acres classified as cropland, with approximately 27,720 acres (97 percent) under irrigation. The County will work with agricultural stakeholders to update these figures during the next comprehensive plan review.

The Sevier River and its tributaries are the main source of water for irrigation use in the Sevier Conservation District. Water for culinary use comes primarily from mountain springs or wells that are

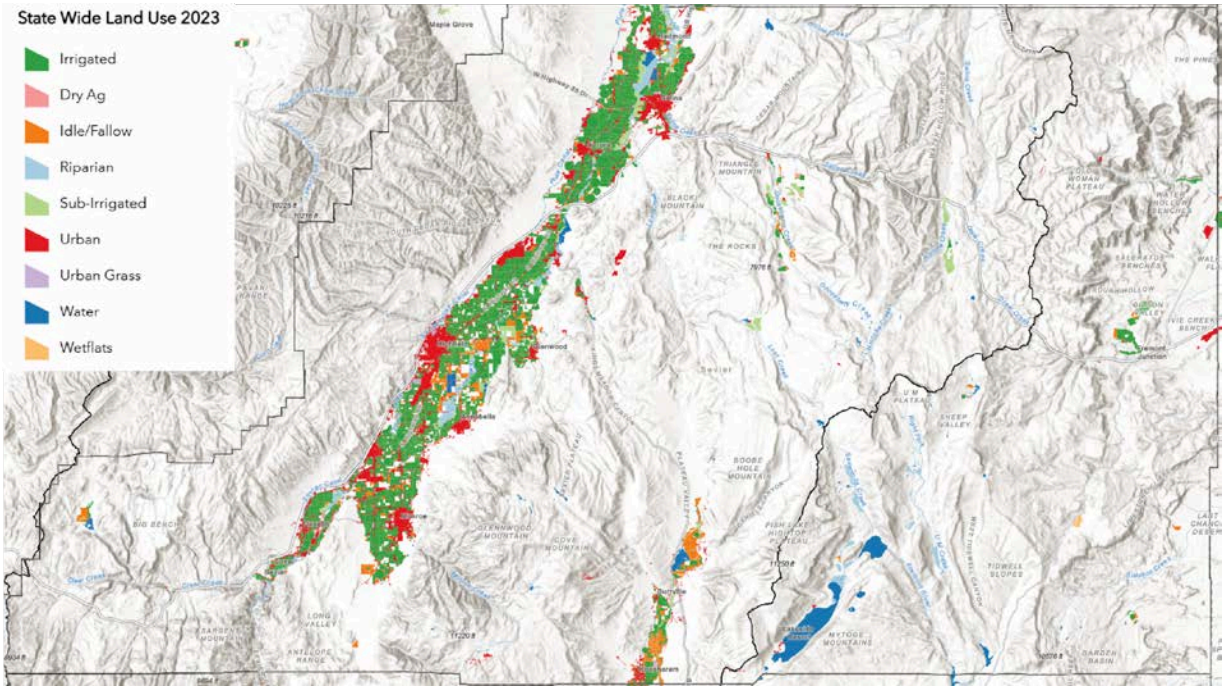
piped to town water systems. There are many perennial streams in the District. Ephemeral streams, ground water springs, and drilled wells furnish additional water to the District.

Exhibit 2.2.1 County Groundwater Protection Zones



Sevier County area groundwater protection areas. Source: Utah Department of Environmental Quality. (click for source information)

Exhibit 2.2.2 County Water-Related Land Uses



Sevier County area water-related land uses, 2023. Source: Utah Division of Water Resources.
(click for source information)

2.3 Water Budget

Water supply is a primary challenge in Sevier County as noted in the resource assessment: "*Water supply, especially during the later part of the growing season, is a concern of the district. Water use is limited by the lack of sufficient storage reservoirs to control runoff, low farm irrigation efficiencies, and inefficient delivery and distribution systems.*"

The Sevier County water budget consists of several interconnected components that collectively describe the hydrologic cycle within county boundaries:

2.3.1 Available Water Supply

- Surface Water: The Sevier River and its tributaries provide the primary source of surface water through the county, with flows varying significantly by season.
- Groundwater: County aquifers provide supplemental water supply through wells and springs distributed throughout the valley floors and upland areas.
- Storage: The county's major reservoirs, including Piute (66,785) and Otter Creek (52,700), provide approximately 120,000 acre-feet of combined storage capacity.
- Precipitation: Annual precipitation ranges from 9-39 inches, with an average of 12 inches in valley floors and 25 inches in mountain areas.

2.3.2 Current Water Demand

- **Agricultural Use**: Approximately 27,720 irrigated acres consume roughly 85% of total water use in the county with water rights typically requiring 3 acre-feet per irrigated acre annually (approximately 83,160 acre-feet annually).
- **Municipal Use**: Public water systems deliver approximately 165 acre-feet annually to residential and commercial users, with an average per capita use of approximately 325 gallons per day.
- **Industrial Use**: Industrial operations consume approximately 15 acre-feet annually.

2.3.3 Projected Future Demand Analysis

Sevier County has developed water demand projections using actual operational data from local water systems rather than theoretical estimates. This methodology ensures realistic planning based on current service delivery patterns and documented growth trends.

- **Methodology:** The county analyzed historical connection data, population data, and service area projections for water systems serving unincorporated areas. Each system's actual water usage data, as reported annually to the Division of Water Rights, provides the foundation for demand calculations rather than relying on code-based assumptions.
- **Current Service Baseline (2020-2024 Average):**
    - Total connections served: 222 connections
    - Total equivalent residential connections (ERCs): 281 ERCs
    - Annual water production: 228.17 acre-feet from sources
    - Annual retail water use: 189.77 acre-feet
    - System efficiency: 82.85% (17.15% loss rate)
- Historical water production and usage data for these systems demonstrates consistent operational patterns over the five-year analysis period:

Source Summary - Sevier County Sources

Year	Total From Sources (ac-ft)	Total Retail Use (ac-ft)	Est. Water Loss (ac-ft)	Est. Water Loss (%)
2024	207.58	178.79	28.79	13.87%
2023	193.9	150.44	43.46	22.41%
2022	223.63	174.7	48.93	21.88%
2021	249.89	211.59	38.30	15.33%
2020	265.87	233.31	32.56	12.25%
AVG	**228.17**	**189.77**	**38.41**	**17.15%**

- **Connection Type Distribution:**
    - Residential: 211 connections (1.00 ERC value, 0.67 acre-feet per connection annually)
    - Commercial: 7 connections (6.54 average ERC value, 4.76 acre-feet per connection annually)

    - Industrial: 3 connections (7.39 average ERC value, 5.10 acre-feet per connection annually)
    - Institutional: 1 connection (1.99 ERC value, 0.00 acre-feet per connection annually)
- **Growth Projections**: Historical connection data indicates steady growth in both residential and commercial connections. The County recognizes that future water demand will increase alongside population and economic growth, requiring careful coordination with water providers to ensure adequate supply. Applying historical growth trends over a 20-year planning horizon provides the foundation for infrastructure planning and development review.
- **Population Growth**: The county's population is projected to increase by approximately 0.8% annually over the next 20 years, potentially increasing municipal demand by 20% by 2045.
- **Agricultural Projection**: While irrigated acreage is not expected to increase significantly, changes in crop types and climate conditions may increase per-acre water requirements by 5-10%.
- **Development Impact**: Each new residential unit adds approximately 0.92 acre-feet of annual demand to the water system.
- **Conservation Potential**: The County recognizes opportunities to extend existing water supplies through conservation measures across all sectors. Implementation of efficiency improvements in agricultural irrigation systems, reduction of system losses in municipal infrastructure, and promotion of water-wise practices in residential development can collectively reduce pressure on limited water resources while accommodating reasonable growth.

2.3.4 Reliable Water Supply Analysis

- Water systems serving unincorporated areas of Sevier County maintain adequate infrastructure to support current demand and near-term growth. Independent systems operating wells and springs possess sufficient production capacity and storage to serve existing customers reliably. The systems that purchase water from municipalities benefit from the larger infrastructure investments made by those cities.
- Current system efficiency presents opportunities for improvement. Reducing water losses through infrastructure upgrades and leak detection programs could increase available supply without requiring new source development. The County will support the work of water providers to identify cost-effective efficiency improvements that extend system capacity.
- Infrastructure capacity planning indicates that existing systems can accommodate anticipated growth in the near term. As development continues, the County will coordinate with water providers to ensure adequate capacity exists before approving major projects. This coordination protects both existing customers and future development by ensuring sustainable service delivery.

2.3.5 Future Development Water Demand Projections

Each new residential connection adds an average of 0.67 acre-feet of annual demand based on actual usage data from existing systems. Commercial and industrial development creates significantly higher per-connection demands:

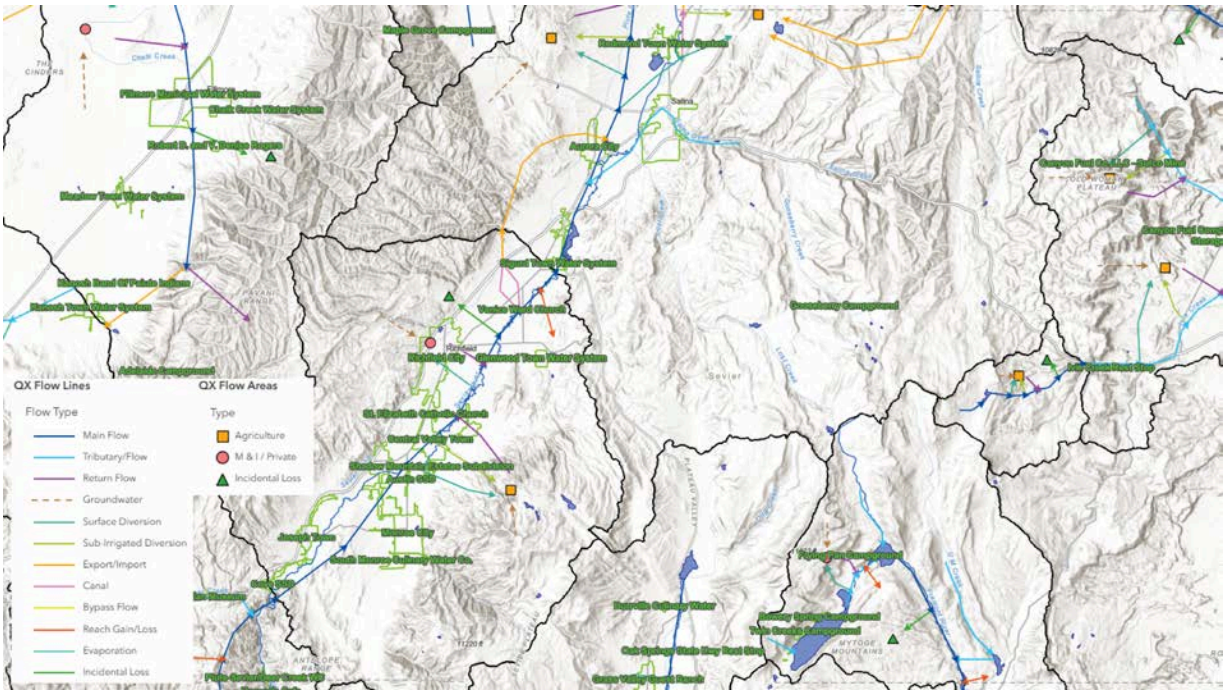
- **Per-Connection Demand Factors**: New residential connections generate the baseline water demand for the county's water systems. Commercial and industrial development creates significantly higher per-connection demands due to operational needs, employee facilities, and landscaping requirements. Understanding these demand differences allows the County to evaluate development applications appropriately.

- **Development Review and System Efficiency Considerations:** The County will establish development review thresholds that trigger coordination with water service providers to verify adequate system capacity. Projects that would significantly increase demand on existing infrastructure require demonstration of adequate supply and delivery capacity before approval. Current system inefficiencies indicate that infrastructure improvements could accommodate additional growth. Reducing water losses through system upgrades provides a cost-effective method to extend capacity. The County encourages water providers to prioritize efficiency improvements as part of their capital improvement planning.

2.3.6 Water Budget Challenges

- **Seasonal Variability**: Spring runoff provides the majority of annual water supply, requiring significant storage capacity to meet year-round needs.
- **Climate Uncertainty**: Historical hydrologic patterns may not accurately predict future conditions, with potential for extended drought periods.
- **Infrastructure Efficiency**: Current delivery systems experience transmission losses, representing conservation potential.
- **Water Rights Allocation**: The Sevier River is fully appropriated, with complex water rights structures affecting management decisions.
- **Growth in Demand**: The current demand for agricultural, municipal, and industrial uses are anticipated to increase over time.

2.3.7 Water Budget Flow Map



This map visualizes water flows throughout the Sevier River Basin, which includes Sevier County. Flow lines represent the movement of water, while colored flow areas show water use aggregations across municipalities and agricultural areas. Source: Utah Division of Water Resources. (*click for source information*)

2.3.8 Water System Capacity Analysis

Detailed analysis of water systems serving unincorporated Sevier County areas provides the technical foundation for development planning and infrastructure coordination.

- **Independent System Infrastructure:**
    - Cove Special Service District: 400 GPM production (Wells #1 and #3), 450,000 gallons storage
    - Austin Community SSD: 170 GPM production (well and spring), 470,000 gallons storage
    - Combined independent capacity: 570 GPM production, 920,000 gallons storage
- **Water Purchase Systems**: Brooklyn SSD (formerly known as Brooklyn TapLine Company) and South Monroe Culinary purchase water from municipalities, representing alternative service delivery models that reduce demand on independent local sources while maintaining service to unincorporated areas. It should be noted that Brooklyn SSD is currently working on plans to develop a culinary well, but all water is currently purchased from Elsinore Town.

2.3.9 ERC Summary

The following table summarizes the equivalent residential connection (ERC) analysis for water systems serving unincorporated areas:

Type	Connections	ERCs	Avg ERC Value per Connection	Avg Ac-ft per Connection per Year
Residential	211	211.00	1.00	0.67
Commercial	7	45.80	6.54	4.76
Industrial	3	22.16	7.39	5.10
Institutional	1	1.99	1.99	0.00
Total	**222**	**281**		

2.4 Planning Challenges

Sevier County faces several water planning challenges including: "Water supply, especially during the later part of the growing season. Water use is limited by the lack of sufficient storage reservoirs to control runoff, low farm irrigation efficiencies, and inefficient delivery and distribution systems."

Additional challenges include:

- Coordination with multiple water providers each with their own governance structure and planning processes.
- Limited water availability in an arid climate.
- Balancing agricultural needs with growing municipal demands.
- Managing flood risks and storm water.
- Protecting water quality, as sediment and phosphorus have been identified as primary sources of water pollution coming from irrigated lands, rangelands, and stream banks.

Storage capacity represents a critical infrastructure need for Sevier County. The seasonal nature of water supply—with spring runoff providing the majority of annual flows—requires adequate reservoir and tank storage to meet year-round demands. Limited storage capacity restricts the County's ability to fully capture and utilize available water during high-flow periods, leaving water resources unutilized that could otherwise support agricultural, municipal, and industrial needs. Expanding storage infrastructure remains a priority for optimizing use of the County's water budget and supporting sustainable growth.

The County has a particular interest in the feasibility of a dam/reservoir on Salina Creek just above where Meadow Creek merges with Salina Creek.

3. COORDINATION

3.1 Regional Water Conservation Goals

The Utah's Regional M&I Water Conservation Goals report estimates that achieving the conservation goals will require significant investment. For the set of conservation policies selected for inclusion in the regional goals, estimated capital costs are approximately $1.4 billion statewide through the year 2030. Sevier County recognizes that implementing water conservation measures will require financial resources and will work with state and local partners to identify funding sources for these initiatives.

Key strategies for achieving regional water conservation goals include:

1. Require hydraulic modeling reports with any applications for large-scale zoning or rezoning of unincorporated areas of Sevier County that will demonstrate how the water will be supplied for proposed uses.
2. Support "implementing additional protection measures to better sustain the existing conditions and future planned conditions of watershed areas."
3. Encourage "actions by individuals, groups, and local governments that are aimed at improving water quality and supporting the hydrology of the county."

3.2 Great Salt Lake Watershed Considerations

Sevier County lies outside the Great Salt Lake watershed; therefore, county water management decisions do not directly impact Great Salt Lake levels.

3.3 State Coordination and Consultation

The county consulted with the Division of Water Resources, the Division of Drinking Water, and the Department of Agriculture and Food through email, phone calls, meetings, or planning comments.

The county will provide the Division of Water Resources a final general plan water element as it is updated over time.

If the county receives funding specifically related to coordinated planning, the county will provide the Division of Water Resources a report on how funding was used to support coordinated planning for a general plan's integrated land and water use element.

3.4 Public Water System Regionalization

As required by UCA 17-79-403(2)(d)(iv), the planning commission has considered the potential opportunities and benefits of planning for regionalization of public water systems. Given the current mix of independent water systems and water purchase arrangements, regionalization opportunities may include:

- Coordinated emergency response and mutual aid agreements.
- Shared technical resources and expertise among smaller systems.
- Potential for bulk water purchase agreements to achieve economies of scale.
- Coordinated conservation programs and public education efforts.

The County will continue to evaluate regionalization opportunities as part of ongoing coordination with water service providers.

4. GOALS AND POLICIES

4.1 Methods to Reduce Water Demand in Existing Development

Goal 1: Reduce water demand in existing development.

Policies:

1.1 Support water provider conservation education and outreach programs.

1.2 Promote water conservation to intelligently use the water that is available in the county (as supported in the 2018 General Plan).

1.3 Support implementation of conservation efforts including "improved irrigation efficiencies and improved range health" as identified in the county resource management plan.

1.4 Encourage efficient on-farm irrigation systems, such as sprinklers, gated pipes, etc. to reduce water use in agricultural operations.

1.5 Support the development, adoption, and implementation of water storage, distribution, and conservation plans by irrigation companies, industrial users, and municipalities.

4.2 Methods to Reduce Water Demand in Future Development

Goal 2: Ensure new development considers water efficiency.

Policies:

2.1 Generally require that each development shall also provide an approved source of culinary water and an approved waste water discharge system, neither of which shall compromise nor encroach upon existing water rights or drainage systems.

2.2 Ensure that residential and commercial growth must accommodate and protect irrigation systems.

2.3 Protect water rights and the associated conveyance systems during development.

2.4 Seek to ensure that approval of each development in the unincorporated areas of Sevier County shall include the requirement to maintain established irrigation water rights-of-way and drainage ditches or canal systems.

2.5 Consider implementing water-efficient irrigation practices both on the farm and within the irrigation water delivery systems that support regional water conservation goals as identified in state requirements.

2.6 Promote water-efficient landscaping that emphasizes native, drought-tolerant plants and efficient irrigation systems in all new development.

4.3 Operational Improvements to Reduce Waste

Goal 3: Improve county operations to eliminate wasteful water practices.

Policies:

3.1 Support projects and policies that maintain and improve soil ecology and vegetative cover in uplands to enhance water retention and reduce runoff.

3.2 Support efforts to reduce loading to surface water from constituents that are not meeting Division of Water Quality numerical standards.

3.3 Support projects that benefit in-stream uses and protect current water right holders while improving water efficiency.

3.4 Evaluate and revise county operations that might compromise nor encroach upon existing water rights or drainage systems.

4.4 Protection of Water Resources and Quality

Goal 4: Preserve and protect water quality and sensitive areas.

Policies:

4.1 Protect floodplains by ensuring that floodplain detention basins and flash-flood channels shall be protected from new structures and development, and shall be well-maintained.

4.2 Continue to "participate in watershed management on public and private lands to optimize quality and quantity of water" as established in the county's resource management plan.

4.3 Protect groundwater and surface water resources through appropriate land use decisions.

4.4 Support implementation of a water conservation district to conserve water resources and make these resources available for industrial or non-agricultural areas.

4.5 Review and evaluate new development projects and land use changes both inside and outside the county limits to protect the quality of the county's water resources as outlined in county policy.

4.5 Coordination with Water Providers

Goal 5: Establish effective coordination between Sevier County and water service providers.

Policies:

5.1 Develop formal communication protocols with water service providers.

5.2 Include relevant water providers in development review processes for projects exceeding certain thresholds.

5.3 Document "consultations with a minimum of all community water systems within unincorporated areas of the county" as required by state law.

5.4 Recognize and support diverse water service delivery models, including systems that operate independent infrastructure and those that purchase water from municipalities, ensuring coordination approaches respect operational differences.

4.6 Drought Response and Adaptation

Goal 6: Develop a coordinated drought response approach.

Policies:

6.1 Work with water providers to establish a coordinated drought response framework that supports strategies for water supply diversification, prioritizes sufficient resources to support community growth during drought conditions, implements stormwater drainage improvements to capture and utilize precipitation, and develops contingency plans that distinguish between legal water rights and reliable water supply during various drought scenarios.

5. APPENDIX A: LAND USE AND WATER CONSIDERATIONS

Different land use patterns have varying impacts on water consumption and infrastructure. This section provides an analysis of how Sevier County's various land use types affect water demand and identifies strategic priorities for each.

5.1 Agricultural Zone

Water Consumption Impacts:

- Water is used primarily for crop irrigation.
- Efficiency varies significantly based on irrigation method.
- Essential for local economy and food production as agricultural lands should be left fundamentally intact, remain in agricultural production and continue to provide the open space which is vital to the human environment.

Strategic Priorities:

- Support agricultural water efficiency improvements; "Efficient irrigation systems also reduce sedimentation and nutrient and salinity impacts on water quality."
- Preserve irrigation infrastructure during development transitions; rights-of-way must be protected on all canals and rivers, and residential and commercial growth must accommodate and protect irrigation systems.
- Promote soil health practices that improve water retention by supporting projects and policies that maintain and improve soil ecology and vegetative cover in uplands.
- Protect water quality in agricultural areas by implementing BMPs to address sediment and phosphorus as the primary sources of water pollution coming from irrigated lands.

5.2 Residential-Agricultural Zone

Water Consumption Impacts:

- Moderately high water consumption in a zone in which the primary use of land is for dwelling purposes while maintaining some agricultural uses.
- Mix of agricultural and residential water use patterns.
- Important transitional zone for the orderly and timely conversion of certain open land areas within the county into residential districts as the need for such land occurs.

Strategic Priorities:

- Balance residential and agricultural water needs by ensuring each development shall also provide an approved source of culinary water and an approved waste water discharge system, neither of which shall compromise nor encroach upon existing water rights or drainage systems.
- Protect agricultural water infrastructure because rights-of-way must be protected on all canals and rivers.
- Consider water availability in development approvals by requiring water master plans to be required with any applications for zoning or rezoning of unincorporated areas of Sevier County.

5.3 Grazing, Recreation, and Forestry Zones

Water Consumption Impacts:

- Primarily natural water systems with limited infrastructure in a zone in which the primary use of the land is for grazing, recreational, forestry, and wildlife purposes.

- Important for watershed health and water quality because the seasonal melting of mountain snowpack produces runoff flows that recharge groundwater aquifers and refill reservoirs.
- Recreational impacts on water resources in an area which is occupied largely by grazing land, mountains, and canyons.

Strategic Priorities:

- Sevier County will participate in watershed management on public and private lands to optimize quality and quantity of water to protect natural watershed functions.
- Protect groundwater and surface water in order to maintain water quality for downstream users.
- Support sustainable grazing practices that protect water resources through improved range health.
- Review and evaluate new development projects and land use changes both inside and outside the county limits to protect the quality of the county's water resources to ensure recreational uses don't negatively impact water resources.

5.4 Commercial and Industrial Zones

Water Consumption Impacts:

- Varies significantly by specific use in zones.
- Can include high indoor water consumption for certain businesses.
- May include substantial landscaped areas.
- May include specialized water needs for manufacturing processes.

Strategic Priorities:

- Promote water-efficient commercial landscaping by implementing strategies for water supply diversification.
- Support business water audits and efficiency improvements.
- Consider water impacts when reviewing new commercial/industrial development by requiring water master plans to be required with any applications for zoning or rezoning of unincorporated areas of Sevier County.
- Ensure adequate infrastructure for commercial/industrial water needs through additional storage facilities to fully utilize its water resources.

6. APPENDIX: CONSULTATION DOCUMENTATION

Overview

This appendix documents the consultations with water providers and state agencies that occurred during the development of this Water Use and Preservation Element, as required by Utah Code 17-79-403(2)(g).

Local Water Provider Consultations

Consultation Process

Sevier County conducted comprehensive outreach to local water service providers through a structured survey process to gather insights on current operations, coordinate on regional water conservation goals, and establish frameworks for ongoing collaboration. The consultation process included:

- **Direct Outreach:** Contact with water system operators, irrigation companies, and municipal water providers throughout Sevier County.
- **Structured Information Gathering:** Use of a standardized survey instrument to collect consistent information about water system operations, capacity, and conservation opportunities.
- **Coordination on Regional Goals:** Discussion of state water conservation targets and strategies for local implementation.

Irrigation and Canal Company Notification

As required by UCA 17-79-403(2)(d)(vi), Sevier County notified irrigation and canal companies located in the county to ensure their involvement in protecting the integrity of delivery systems. According to Utah Division of Water Rights records, there are 44 irrigation/canal companies that operate in Sevier County.

Survey Methodology

The County developed and distributed a standardized survey to water service providers focusing on:

- Contact information for ongoing coordination.
- Water source types and production capacities.
- Storage infrastructure and capacity.
- Operational characteristics and challenges.

Survey Results Summary

Response Overview:

- Total systems surveyed: 4 community water systems.
- Response rate: 100% of targeted systems.
- Systems with independent water sources: 2 (50%).
- Systems purchasing water from municipalities: 2 (50%).

Infrastructure Capacity Findings:

Independent Water Systems:

- **Cove Special Service District**: Two wells producing 400 GPM total (Well #1: 110 GPM, Well #3: 290 GPM); Storage capacity of 450,000 gallons in two tanks.
- **Austin Community SSD**: Combined well and spring sources producing 170 GPM (well: 120 GPM, spring: 50 GPM); Storage capacity of 470,000 gallons across three tanks

Water Purchase Systems:

- **Brooklyn SSD (formerly Brooklyn TapLine Company, Inc.)**: Purchases all water from Elsinore Town; working on developing culinary well, but no independent storage.
- **South Monroe Culinary**: Purchases all water from Monroe City; no independent sources or storage.

Combined System Capacity:

- Total independent production capacity: 970 gallons per minute.
- Total storage capacity: 1,370,000 gallons.
- Average storage per independent system: 685,000 gallons.

Key Topics Addressed

Through these consultations, the County solicited information on:

- **Current Operations:** Understanding of existing water system capacities, service areas, and operational challenges.
- **Infrastructure Capacity:** Documentation of production and storage capacity for drinking water systems within county boundaries.
- **Conservation Opportunities:** Identification of potential efficiency improvements and demand reduction strategies.
- **Coordination Needs:** Establishment of communication protocols and coordination frameworks for ongoing collaboration.
- **Development Review:** Discussion of processes for including water providers in review of significant development proposals.
- **Regional Goal Alignment:** Coordination on implementation of state water conservation targets at the local level.

Consultation Outcomes

The consultation process resulted in:

- **Enhanced Infrastructure Understanding:** Detailed documentation of water system production and storage capacities, revealing significant infrastructure investment in independent systems.
- **Service Model Clarity:** Clear identification of which systems operate independently versus those that purchase water, informing county coordination strategies.
- **Coordination Framework Development:** Establishment of contact protocols with each system for ongoing collaboration.

- **Policy Alignment:** Development of policies that reflect operational realities and diverse service delivery models.
- **Regional Goal Integration:** Alignment of local strategies with regional water conservation goals through provider-specific approaches.

State Agency Consultations

Consultation with state agency subject matter experts consisted of direct communication as well as leveraging materials posted on state websites.

Division of Water Resources

Consultation Issues:

- Regional water conservation goals and implementation strategies.
- Great Salt Lake watershed impact considerations.
- Technical resources for water demand analysis and projection methodologies.
- Grant funding requirements and compliance documentation.

Consultation Summary:

- **Verified non-applicability of Great Salt Lake watershed requirements.**
- Received technical guidance on water budget methodology through reference to state water budget video resources.
- Established ongoing reporting requirements for conservation progress tracking.

Division of Drinking Water

Consultation Issues:

- Public water system inventory and capacity documentation.
- Water quality protection strategies.
- Coordination on drinking water source planning and protection.
- Verification of active versus inactive system status.

Consultation Summary:

- Confirmed inventory of 33 public water systems within county boundaries.
- Verified active status of 2 systems with remaining 31 inactive.
- Established coordination protocols for source water protection planning.
- Received guidance on capacity documentation requirements for grant compliance.

Department of Agriculture and Food

Consultation Issues:

- Agricultural water use efficiency opportunities.
- Agricultural protection area boundaries.

- Coordination between municipal and agricultural water needs.
- Implementation of water-efficient irrigation practices.

Consultation Summary:

- Confirmed agricultural protection area boundaries and acreage totals.
- Established coordination protocols for agricultural water efficiency programs.
- Verified irrigation company inventory procedures.
- Received guidance on agricultural water conservation best practices.

Survey Instrument

Sevier County Water System Information Survey

Contact Information

1. Name of person completing the survey
2. What system do you represent?

Technical Information 3. What are your sources of water (well, spring, etc.) and their estimated production capacity (in gallons per minute)? 4. What is the approximate storage volume of water (in gallons) in your system?

Documentation of Specific Provider Information

System Name	Water Sources	Production Capacity	Storage Capacity
Brooklyn SSD	Purchases from Elsinore Town	N/A (purchased)	N/A (purchased)
South Monroe Culinary	Purchases from Monroe City	N/A (purchased)	N/A (purchased)
Cove Special Service District	Wells #1 and #3	400 GPM total	450,000 gallons
Austin Community SSD	Well and spring	170 GPM total	470,000 gallons

Future Consultation Schedule

Sevier County will maintain regular consultation with water providers and state agencies through:

- Annual coordination meetings with water service providers surveyed.
- Biennial updates to water system capacity and operational information.
- Development review coordination for projects exceeding 10 new connections.
- Regular communication with state agencies on implementation progress.
- Participation in regional water planning initiatives.