



## Our Water. Our Future. Our Choice.

The purposes of the District include planning for and facilitating the long-term conservation, development, protection, distribution, management, and stabilization of water rights and water supplies for domestic, irrigation, power, manufacturing, municipal, recreational, and other beneficial uses, including the natural stream environment, in a cost-effective way to meet the needs of the residents and growing population of Cache County.  
[www.cachewaterdistrict.com](http://www.cachewaterdistrict.com)

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### CACHE WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES February 5, 2024

The Cache Water District Board of Trustees convened for a regular meeting on Feb. 5, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Cache County Historic Courthouse Council Chambers, 199 North Main Street, Logan, Utah.

#### **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jared Clawson – At-Large Position  
Jonathan Hardman – South Council District  
Kirt Lindley – At-Large Position  
Beth Neilson – Southeast Council District  
Jeff Ostermiller - Logan #2 Council District  
Max Pierce – North Council District  
Bret Randall – Northeast Council District  
Brett Roper – At Large Position  
Jeannie Simmonds – Logan #1 Council District  
Regan Wheeler – Agricultural Representative

#### **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD EXCUSED:**

Mark Anderson – Logan #3 Council District

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chairman Clawson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Tonight's agenda and the minutes from January 8, 2024 were approved.

**ACTION: Motion by Ms. Simmonds to approve the agenda and the minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Hardman with a minor correction. The motion was approved unanimously (9-0).**

**Yea: Clawson, Hardman, Lindley, Neilson, Ostermiller, Randall, Roper, Simmonds, Wheeler**

**Absent: Anderson, Pierce (excused for a few minutes)**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jaison Hardman with Sunrise Engineering is assisting with grant applications for three irrigation companies through the WaterSmart program and would like a letter of support from the Board. Mr. Hardman will provide the Board with more information.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Jeannie Simmonds reviewed the financial report.

Mr. Roper asked if cloud seeding was more than what was budgeted. Ms. Simmonds said in some cases the reimbursement is not received for a couple of months after the expense is incurred. Last year cloud seeding stopped in March and started in November. Mr. Daugs said he will research the bills and reimbursements.

Mr. Clawson asked if there was a need to begin leasing a vehicle because travel/mileage has increased. Ms. Simmonds said this category also includes travel for other Board members who attend training and are reimbursed for mileage. Mr. Daugs suggested possible moving to a yearly vehicle stipend, which is a little higher than what the mileage has been, but lower than getting a vehicle. Ms. Simmonds can run a report that can show 2023 and 2024 budgets to review next month and further discuss.

## CALENDAR EVENTS

- Feb. 7 – Water Task Force @ 1:30 p.m. – has been cancelled
- Mar. 1 – Ag. Water Optimization
- Feb. 19 – APO Meeting @ 5:30 p.m. (Public Outreach)
- Feb. 27 – Mar. 1 – Rural Water – St. George, UT
- Mar. 13 – Great Salt Lake Advisory – Farmington Bay Education Center
- Mar. 18-20 – Utah Water Users
- Mar. 26 – Northern Utah Water Conference 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

### Funding for Well Mappings

The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) is being reviewed/finalized by the County Legal Department and then the students will get started.

### Update on PL 566 Applications

No changes, waiting for NOI (Notice of Intent) to be approved and published.

### Legislative Update

H.B. 453 Great Salt Lake Revisions (Sponsor Rep. Snider) was initially geared toward mineral industry, however, Tim Hawkes – Great Salt Lake Advisory Council, asked him to insert language to incorporate the watershed councils and turn the Great Salt Lake Advisory Council into the Great Salt Lake Watershed Council. Mr. Daugs met with Rep. Snider who is willing to remove that. The Bear River Watershed Council has come up with language to take the two other bills and add them to this bill.

H.B. 280 Water Related Changes (Sponsor Rep. Snider) is being re-written.

H.B. 275 Water Amendments (Sponsor Rep. Snider) went through.

S.B. 18 Water Modification (Sponsor Sen. Sandall, Floor Sponsor Rep. Snider) – Mr. Roper said this bill seems to be the one that many people will be watching. It allows

water to stay with the landowner, which is good. Mr. Daugs said the sponsors have been working with Teresa Wilhelmsen (Utah State Water Engineer).

Mr. Daugs said there was a request for ~\$500,000 by Rep. Owens which will ultimately go to USU to study if the State were to fund a water leasing program (split season leasing) how it would work.

### **Conflict of Interest Form/ Ethical Conduct Form**

The annual broad risk assessment addressed these issues and whether a Conduct Form is signed by members each year. He will email the forms and information for the Board to review.

### **Great Salt Lake Insights Study – Beth Neilson**

**[-See Attachment 1-](#)**

### **INTERVIEWS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION**

The Board interviewed candidates for the open Administrative Assistant position.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board closed the public meeting portion to convene to review the applicants for the Administrative Assistant position.

### **OTHER**

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



# Great Salt Lake Data and Insights Summary

Presented by the Great Salt Lake Strike Team, a collaboration of Utah's Research Universities and Utah state agencies

January 10, 2024



## Key Findings

**Impact of the 2023 Water Year**

**Reservoir Storage and Salinity**

**Runoff Efficiency**

**Future Water Availability**

**Conservation Strategies**

**Water Shepherding**

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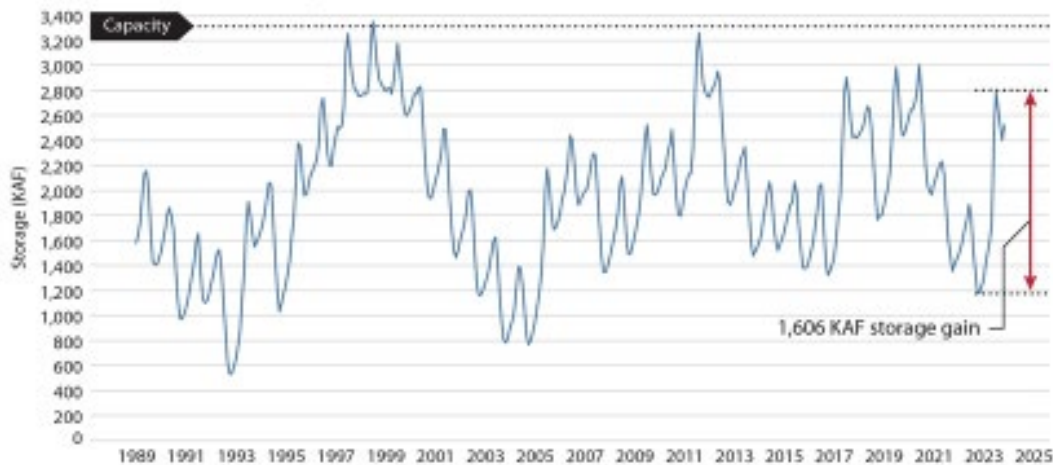
## Elevation of Great Salt Lake North and South Arms, 1903-2023



Source: US Geological Survey Historical Development of Great Salt Lake, UT.

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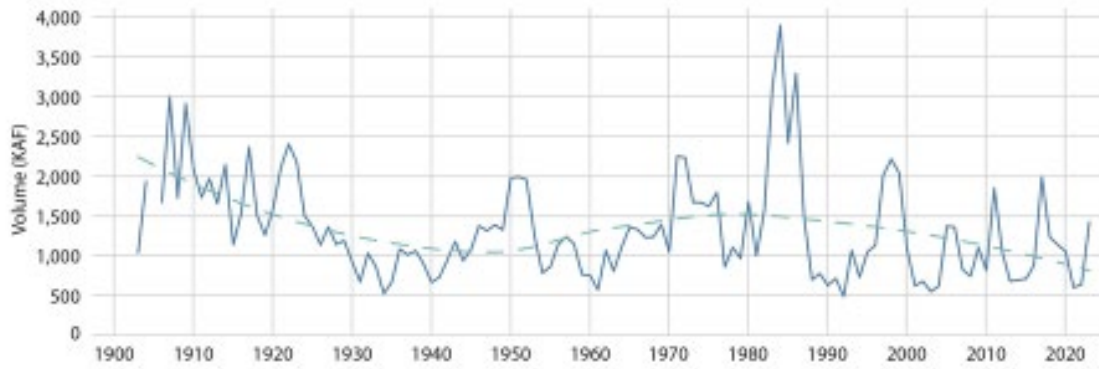
## Reservoir Storage in Great Salt Lake Basin, 1989-2023



Source: Utah Division of Water Resources, 2023

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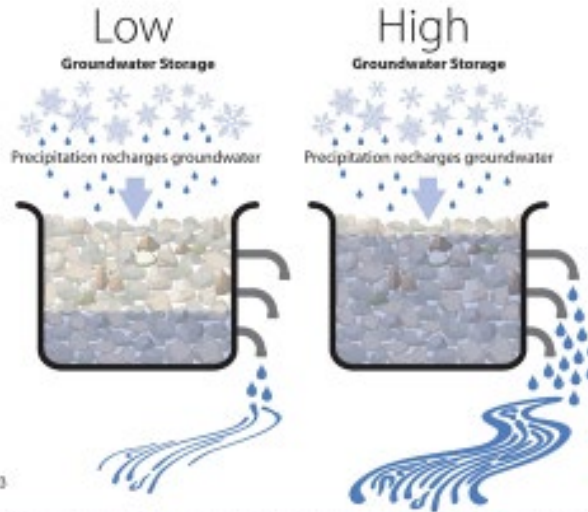
## Bear River Annual Streamflow, 1903–2023



Source: Bear River data from USGS gage 10120000 Bear river Near Corinne with missing data (1903-1940) derived from CRG gage 10118000 Bear River near Corinne (Analysis by David Tabor)

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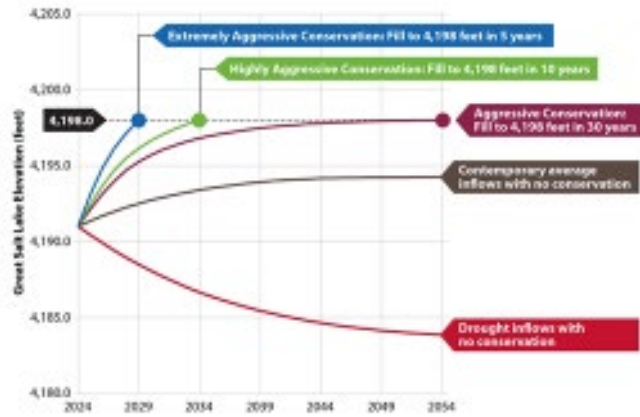
## Understanding Runoff Efficiency



Source: Great Salt Lake Strike Team, 2023

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## Projected Elevation of GSL with different Conservation Strategies



Additional Conservation Inflow Needed to Fill the Lake in 5, 10 and 30 Years (KAF/year)

Elevation (feet)	Extremely Aggressive Conservation: Five Years		Highly Aggressive Conservation: Ten Years		Aggressive Conservation: Thirty Years	
	Drought Streamflow	Average Streamflow	Drought Streamflow	Average Streamflow	Drought Streamflow	Average Streamflow
4,198	1,740	1,164	1,289	725	1,055	471

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### GREAT SALT LAKE: Lessons learned in 2023

This data and insights summary results from thousands of hours of work, including the synthesis of existing research, identification of knowledge and data gaps, development of new analyses, and evaluation of policy alternatives by a multidisciplinary team. The Great Salt Lake Strike Team identified six lessons learned in their analysis.

- No single solution is a cure for the lake**  
 In all investigations and discussions, no policy was identified as the sole solution for the lake. Instead, the lake needs "silver bullet(s)" a wide suite of policies implemented concurrently to bring more water to the lake.
  - Tradeoffs**  
 Great Salt Lake functions within a complex ecosystem and economy. Tradeoffs inevitably occur as decision-makers seek to balance human, ecological, and economic health. Decision-makers must grapple with these tradeoffs in making policy decisions.
  - Conserved water must make it to the lake**  
 Water conservation efforts are ineffective for Great Salt Lake if that conserved water does not reach it. Established efforts must be augmented to make residential, business, and agricultural conservation meaningful solutions.
  - Investments in observational and modeling infrastructure are essential**  
 Although the Strike Team continues to provide foundational data for lake levels, water flows, and conservation needs, a more extensive measuring network, more detailed models, and integrated data and modeling systems that advance knowledge, understanding, and collaboration are needed to support informed decision-making.
  - Short-, medium-, and long-term solutions**  
 Options for addressing lake levels immediately are limited by existing infrastructure. However, long-term solutions need to be addressed immediately to return the lake to healthy levels over time.
  - State leadership**  
 The governor, Legislature, and state decision-makers created the Great Salt Lake Coordinator's Office with broad support and alignment. Their ongoing support will be critical to bringing together once-disparate efforts to create cohesive and coordinated state policies that serve Utah's interests.
- These lessons broadly apply to other water challenges in the West and a variety of other natural resource issues. In addressing the challenges associated with Great Salt Lake, Utah will become a leader in water resource management—regionally, nationally, and globally.

Thank you!



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