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NEWS RELEASE

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## Willard Bay Mitigation Projects Selected

*Settlement Agreement Will Fund Projects that Enhance and Protect Utah Waterways*

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH — The Division of Water Quality (DWQ) announced at today's Water Quality Board meeting that it had chosen 15 projects for funding under Chevron's \$3.1 million Settlement Agreement for the Willard Bay diesel spill.

A three-member team from DWQ reviewed over 80 proposals totaling almost \$31 million. Each proposal was scored and ranked on the basis of the criteria outlined in the January 2014 Requests for Proposals (RFP). Project criteria included the enhancement of wildlife, habitat, native vegetation, or water quality and improved recreational opportunities, environmental benefits, and educational opportunities for Utah residents.

Successful projects must now submit a detailed work plan and budget to DWQ for final approval. As outlined in the Settlement Agreement, all project work must be completed by January 28, 2018.

"We were a bit surprised by the total number of project proposals submitted," said Walt Baker, director of DWQ. "While we received a lot of good proposals, we were only able to fund the projects that best fit the criteria outlined in the RFP."

Baker emphasizes the important contribution these projects will make to Utah waterways.

"We believe that these projects will provide us with a unique opportunity to improve our state's water quality and environment."

A complete listing of the proposals received, including those selected for full or partial funding, is available on DEQ's [Willard Bay Mitigation Fund](#) web page.

[www.deq.utah.gov/locations/G/greatsaltlake/willardbay/mitigationsfunds.htm](http://www.deq.utah.gov/locations/G/greatsaltlake/willardbay/mitigationsfunds.htm)

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**About DEQ:** Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment. DEQ implements state and federal environmental laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah's air, land and water. For more information, visit [www.deq.utah.gov](http://www.deq.utah.gov), follow DEQ on Facebook ([newseq](#)) and Twitter ([@UTDEQ](#)), or call 1-800-458-0145.