



State of Utah

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SPENCER J. COX  
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Department of  
Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith  
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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Scott Baird Appointed Legislative and Government Affairs Director**

SALT LAKE CITY — Amanda Smith, executive director of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), announced today the appointment of Scott Baird as the Director of Legislative and Government Affairs for the Department.

Baird, who comes from Governor Herbert's Office of Management and Budget, will work closely with Smith and DEQ's executive team to act as liaison with elected officials, coordinate agency priorities and monitor the status of legislative initiatives. This is a new position created to support the Executive Director's office as well as provide additional support for DEQ.

"Scott is well-positioned to help DEQ navigate the complex issues and needs of our state's environmental issues," said Smith. "He brings a passion for collaboration, understanding and achieving positive results that complements our mission and goals at DEQ."

Baird has worked in the Governor's Office of Management and Budget as an operational excellence consultant, where he provided several state agencies—including DEQ—with training and guidance on the Governor's SUCCESS initiative and assisted in improving operations.

"I am thrilled to be joining such a great team and working with the many capable professionals at DEQ," said Baird. "I look forward to the significant work ahead to help ensure that the important issues facing Utah's environment are addressed appropriately."

Before joining Governor Herbert's office, Scott worked in Washington State's Governor's Office of Financial Management where he helped agencies learn and implement principles, tools and techniques of continuous improvement.

Baird earned his bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University, his Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and his law degree from Syracuse University.

Baird will assume his new position Sept. 15, 2014.

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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 ([utahdeq](https://www.facebook.com/utahdeq)) and Twitter ([UtahDEQ](https://twitter.com/UtahDEQ)), or call 1-800-458-0145.