



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson
Executive Director

Brad T Johnson
Deputy Director

NEWS RELEASE

February 2, 2016

CONTACT

Donna Kemp Spangler
Communications Director
Office: 801-536-4484
Cell: 801-554-4944
dspangler@utah.gov

DEQ & University Researchers Unveil Preliminary Findings of Winter Inversion Study

WHO: Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) scientists, along with researchers from University of Utah (U of U), Utah State University (USU) and Weber State University (WSU) will unveil preliminary findings of a winter air study. Researchers include:

- Munkh Baasandorj Ph.D., environmental scientist with DEQ's Division of Air Quality (DAQ)
- John Lin Ph.D., Associate Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, U of U
- Sebastian Hoch, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, U of U
- Randy Martin Ph.D., Associate Research Professor of Environmental Engineering, USU
- John Sohl Ph.D., Professor of Physics, WSU
- Kerry Kelly, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering, U of U
- Ryan Bares, Research Analyst Utah Atmospheric Trace Gas and Air Quality Lab, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, U of U

WHAT: A collaborative study among several of Utah's universities to investigate the coupling of chemical and meteorological processes driving the particulate pollution episodes in Salt Lake Valley. The researchers are using an integrated approach combining ground based fixed and mobile observations with remote-sensed and aerostat-based vertical measurements of chemical and meteorological parameters to improve the scientific understanding of these pollution episodes. This study provides invaluable information on how the pollutants vary spatially and vertically, how they evolve with time and which pollutant (precursor) controls the particulate formation, and the role of meteorology in pollution episodes—i.e., the very information needed to formulate effective control strategies to reduce particulate levels.

WHEN: Media availability with researchers between noon and 2 p.m, Thursday, February 4

WHERE: Room 802 in the William Browning Building, University of Utah, 135 South 1460 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84112

WHY: The 2015 Utah Legislature appropriated \$200,000 to further the air quality research programs that the Legislature funded in 2014. These funding for these projects has been leveraged with local and state dollars and this is one of four projects that are or will be undertaken

-MORE-

using the 2015 funding.- All of these efforts are directed towards solutions to improve Utah's air quality.

###

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