



State of Utah

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Department of  
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson  
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Brad T Johnson  
*Deputy Director*

L. Scott Baird  
*Deputy Director*

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**CONTACT**

Donna Kemp Spangler  
Communications Director  
Office: 801-536-4484  
Cell: 801-554-4944  
[dspangler@utah.gov](mailto:dspangler@utah.gov)

**MEDIA AVAILABILITY**

**DEQ & NOAA to Provide Tours of Twin Otter**

**What:** With the inversion under way, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will be flying over Salt Lake, Cache and Utah valleys this week to survey chemical conditions responsible for the formation of particulate pollution, known as PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

The media is invited to tour the Twin Otter, a specially-equipped aircraft used in the study.

**When:** 10 a.m. Wednesday, February 1, 2017

**Where:** Salt Lake International Airport, 535 North 2300 West. It is a TAC air hangar on the east side of the Salt Lake Airport.

**Why:** The “Utah Winter Fine Particulate Study” involves NOAA’s Twin Otter, along with multiple ground-based observation sites, to collect data during Utah’s typical inversion period – between January 17 and February 14, 2017. The Utah Legislature provided about \$130,000 as seed money to get the estimated \$2 million project going. NOAA, EPA, USDA and the Universities are donating equipment and expertise.

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**About DEQ**

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) mission is to safeguard and improve Utah’s air, land and water through balanced regulation. 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.