



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
669 South Highway 89 A
Kanab, UT 84741
<http://www.ut.blm.gov/monument>

July 14, 2014

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7240 (UT030)

James Harris, Section Manager
Engineering and Water Quality Branch, Monitoring Section
Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality
P.O. Box 144870
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870

Dear Mr. Harris:

We wish to comment on the 2012-2014 Integrated Report. We have reviewed the report posted on your website (<http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/WQAssess/currentIR.htm>) and offer the following comment.

In general the report seems very well done. We are happy to see the changes in monitoring and assessment you have made. We are very pleased to be able to access the original source data that was used in making the assessments, as well as all the summary data and tables. The narratives are quite clear.

We are concerned that the tables did not include previously listed impaired waters (waters not supporting designated uses) in the table for Category 5 (Not Supporting). We understand this was done to simplify the tables, but that was not made clear in the document. This led to confusion in our review, initially leading us to believe that four stream segments that had been listed in 2008 for benthic macroinvertebrate habitat had been removed, along with another stream segment listed in 2008 for temperature. The first group was confusing because they did not appear on the delisting table, the last because it was actually listed in the table for Category 1 (Supporting). We were able to clarify this by talking with your staff.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on this report. We also appreciate our partnership; we are grateful for the support of the Division in helping us monitor, assess and manage water quality on the Monument. If you have any questions, please direct them to Kevin H. Miller of my staff (khamiller@blm.gov; (435)644-1231).

Sincerely,

Sarah Schlanger
Acting Monument Manager
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument