

**Utah Lake Water Quality Study
Joint Steering Committee and Science Panel
Foundation-Setting Meeting
Agenda**

**Thursday, May 31
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**355 West University Parkway
Orem, UT 84058**

Adobe Connect Link: <https://resolv.adobeconnect.com/pdemorgan/>

Meeting Objectives:

- *Introduce the Science Panel and Steering Committee members;*
- *Increase the common knowledge of Utah Lake and the process of developing nutrient criteria; and*
- *Generate an initial list of key questions to be answered in the ULWQS process.*

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Agenda Review

- Greetings from the Co-Chairs and update on initial Science Panel meeting – *Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission, and Erica Gaddis, Utah Division of Water Quality (UDWQ)*
- Introductions
- Review the agenda and ground rules

9:15 – 9:45 Introduction to Conceptual Mapping

- Presentation – *Scott Daly, UDWQ*
 - Introduction to conceptual mapping and potential role in process
 - Share thoughts on how to use baseline map during remainder of day
- Questions and discussion

9:45 – 10:45 Establishing Nutrient Criteria in Lakes: Associated Vocabulary and Concepts

- Presentations – *Chris Bittner, UDWQ; Jeff Ostermiller, UDWQ; and Tina Laidlaw, USEPA [remotely]*
 - Vocabulary, terminology, and concepts
 - Methods used in development of nutrient criteria in Utah and other states
 - EPA's role in approving nutrient criteria and expectations
 - Initial thoughts on key questions the ULWQS effort might want to consider
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

10:45 – 11:00 **Break**

11:00 – 11:45 Water Management of Utah Lake

- Presentation – *Jared Manning, Utah Division of Water Rights*
 - Utah water law and Utah Lake senior water rights
 - Water rights-driven limitations of surface water elevations
 - Demands and expectations of downstream users (quantity and quality)

- Hydrology modifications in Utah Lake Watershed (dams, trans-basin water, flow control, etc.)
- Meeting increasing water demands (growth)
- Compacts, CUP, etc.
- Initial thoughts on key questions the ULWQS effort might want to consider
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

11:45 – 12:30 Public Health Issues Related to Utah Lake

- Presentation – *Nathan LaCross, Utah Department of Health*
 - Human health concerns associated with E. coli and HABs
 - General discussion of how uncertainty and risk is accounted for in public health decision making
 - The process of engaging the public while and after public health issues exist
 - Initial thoughts on key questions the ULWQS effort might want to consider
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

12:30 – 1:15 **Lunch**

1:15 – 2:15 Shallow Lake Ecology

- Presentation – *Soren Brothers, Utah State University*
 - Shallow lake limnology – how shallow lakes are unique and valuable
 - Nutrient cycling and turbidity in shallow lake ecology
 - Shallow lakes, regime shifts, and the importance of benthic processes
 - Lakes and reservoirs: understanding processes and interplay
 - A brief history of Utah Lake and its watershed
 - Understanding in-lake sediments and their relationship with current and future lake depth
 - How Utah Lake may have changed due to the regulation of the outflow to the Jordan River
 - Initial thoughts on key questions the ULWQS effort might want to consider
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

2:15 – 3:00 Applying the Principles of Shallow Lake Ecology to the Recovery of an Endangered Fish: a brief history of the June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program

- Presentation – *Chris Keleher, Utah Department of Natural Resources*
 - Description of June sucker life history, biology and ecology
 - June sucker listing history
 - Requirements of the Endangered Species Act – link to water development and operation
 - Transition from Species-focused Extinction Prevention to Ecosystem-based Approach to Recovery
 - Efforts to Restore Tributary Habitats
 - Discussion of Utah Lake Ecosystem Drivers – nutrients, lake fluctuation and common carp

- Results of Utah Lake Level Fluctuation Study (Thurin 2007)
- Influence of Common Carp on Utah Lake and Status of Carp Control Efforts
- Preliminary Results from Ecosystem Monitoring
- Initial thoughts on key questions the ULWQS effort might want to consider
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

3:00 – 3:15 **Break**

3:15 – 3:45 Recreation Value and Economic Impacts of Utah Lake

- Presentation – *Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission; and Nick von Stackelberg, UDWQ*
 - Overview of usage and visitation
 - Economic Impacts on HABs
 - Overview of UDWQ economic benefits for nutrient reduction on Utah Lake
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

3:45 – 4:15 Results and Implications of the Phase I ULWQS Report (Scott Daly)

- Presentation – *Scott Daly, UDWQ*
 - Overview of Phase I process and results
 - Main findings and recommendations
- SC discussion and identification of key questions related to the ULWQS emerging from presentation

4:15 – 4:45 Opportunity for Further Discussion of Prior Topics

- Share thoughts on prior topics, and linkages, as needed – *Science Panel members and Steering Committee members*

4:45 – 4:55 Public Comment

Members of the public will be given an opportunity to comment on the Utah Lake Water Quality Study efforts. The amount of time given to each individual will depend on the number of people wishing to provide comment. Additional comments can be submitted in writing to the Division of Water Quality.

4:55 – 5:00 Wrap-up

- Confirm action items and schedule
- Closing thoughts from the Co-Chairs

5:00 **Adjourn**