

**Utah Lake Water Quality Study  
Steering Committee Call #4  
Call Summary  
May 26, 2020**

This document includes a list of future meetings, action items, and a brief summary of the discussions. Please review the action item list for tasks assigned to you and/or the Steering Committee in general. A list of attendees can be found at the end of the document.

Upcoming Meeting/Call	When & Where	Suggested Agenda Items
SC Call #5	June 4, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	○ Seek approval of selected research proposals
SC Call #6	June 30, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	○ Revisit management goals table
SC Call #7	July, TBD	○ Seek approval of selected research proposals (and endorse proposed candidates for other RFPs)

### I. Action Items

Meeting Summaries	Who	Due Date	Date Completed
1. Share draft Meeting Summary	Facilitation Team	June 2	June 2
2. Review and share comments on summary	SC Members	June 9	
3. Finalize summary and post to Dropbox	Facilitation Team	June 10	June 12
Management Goals Table	Who	Due Date	Date Completed
4. Provide references on management guidelines and/or criteria for aquatic organisms and wildlife	George Weekly and Chris Cline	June 5	
5. Review draft management goals document and provide comments to co-chairs	SC Members	June 10	
6. Revise draft management goals document (based on SC call and comments) and send out to SC	Co-chairs	June 17	

7. Review updated management goals table for key issues/questions to discuss on 6/30 SC call	SC Members	June 25	
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## II. Meeting Recording

A recording of the call (also available on the DWQ website in the near future) can be found at the following link: <http://resolv.adobeconnect.com/pn0yn0ayowyl/>, although only a portion of the call was successfully recorded. Please use the video scroll bar along the bottom of the recording window to find the appropriate time in the webinar recording for the session you would like to watch. There are bookmarks in the 'Events Index' on the left side of the screen identifying each session.

## III. Key Points of Discussion

### Welcome and Agenda Review

Meeting facilitator Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE, welcomed everyone to the call and asked the Steering Committee co-chairs to make opening remarks. Dr. Erica Gaddis, Division of Water Quality, welcomed everyone to the call and thanked the Steering Committee members for joining today's call, participating in the recent one-on-one calls with the co-chairs. Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission, also thanked the members for their time and their input during the one-on-one conversations. Mr. De Morgan then provided an overview of the agenda, in addition to ground rules for participation. He suggested that use of the chat box should be limited, as it is mainly there to supplement the discussion for Steering Committee members. He explained there are designated opportunities for public comment in the agenda and encouraged members of the public to wait for those designated times to make comments.

### Initial ULWQS Steering Committee Management Goals

Dr. Mike Paul, Tetra Tech, presented an overview of the Numeric Nutrient Criteria Framework document and a summary of the comments received from Steering Committee members following the March meeting. He thanked the Steering Committee members for providing detailed input and comments. Dr. Paul then went over the Framework and the approach identified for deriving numeric nutrient criteria, briefly describing that multiple lines of evidence had been selected. He explained that all of the comments received from the Steering Committee were compiled and grouped into editorial comments, technical overview comments, and technical detailed comments. He stated that comments on Part 1 of the document were minimal, but comments on Part 2 of the document were more substantial. Dr. Paul suggested that the use of examples may have caused concern and in hindsight they might have avoided using the examples. Dr. Paul explained the importance of management goals to the Framework and that the management goals approach was borrowed from risk assessment, as the majority of comments received were related to the management goals. He went over the construct of the framework and the connection between management goals, assessment endpoints, metrics, and targets.

Mr. Ellis then went over the main themes from the one-on-one management goal conversations between the co-chairs and each of the members of the Steering Committee. He mentioned that the members feel strongly that management goals are feasible and have economic benefits. Additionally, he indicated the other members pointed out that management goals are not mutually exclusive – in

achieving certain goals other goals may be achieved simultaneously. The main themes for management goals from the conversations were:

- The need for a recreation survey (could be incorporated in the Utah Lake Master Plan revision)
- June sucker management
- Tiered management goals/scenarios
- Recognize that water management and water level fluctuations are a challenge and are out of the control of the study
- Recognize that population growth is expected and that it will increase demands on the lake, thus requiring action just to maintain the current water quality of the lake
- Recognize that all Utah Lake water is allocated to different water rights
- Improve public perception of the lake to increase use of the lake

Dr. Gaddis then went over the draft Management Goals table developed following the one-on-one conversations. She explained the various column headers in the table and provided some background information for the information currently in the table. Specifically, she indicated the co-chairs are hoping that the Steering Committee members reach agreement on what the metrics should be (on the benefit side of the equation) for each management goal before the committee embarks on a cost-benefit analysis. Dr. Gaddis explained that the Steering Committee would be looking for the Science Panel to derive these metrics. For the targets, she explained that they would be developed later following a cost-benefit analysis.

Mr. De Morgan then briefly highlighted a few other aspects of the overarching draft Management Goals document (containing the management goals table presented by Dr. Gaddis) that had been shared with the Steering Committee. He pointed out the questions the Science Panel will be asked to answer in addition to the definitions of the column headers used in the management goals table. He then posed the question to the Steering Committee of whether the overall layout of the management goals table makes sense and if there are any other questions or concerns.

Several members of the Steering Committee then asked questions about the management goals table and several requests were made for modifications to the table or additional information related to the table. Dr. Gaddis responded to the various questions and comments and committed to taking action to research responses to the various questions and to update the table where possible to make the suggested changes to the table.

Specific comments or suggestions for the co-chairs to consider how to address included:

- Consider adding a "Current" measurement next to "Targets"
- Define the relationship/flexibility or existing targets and possibly additional information (are they minima/maxima values?)
- Add something to Target Source
- Follow-up on drinking water aspects of management goals
- Add "avoiding fish/bird kills" as a management goal
- Engage USFWS on endpoints/metrics/targets (using Target Sources)
- Develop a mock-up example of different phosphorus numeric criteria

#### **IV. Public Comments**

Dr. David Richards, Oreo Helix Ecological, provided the following comment (via chat box): Last Friday evening there was a major windstorm over Utah Lake and surrounding area that lasted perhaps 2 hours last Friday evening, with steady winds >50 mph and gusts higher. Visibility was < ½ mile with dust and sand sized particles blowing everywhere. I am guessing much more than 1 or 2 tons of nutrients fell on the lake during this storm and in all likelihood more nutrients fell on Utah Lake in 2 hours than did nutrients fall on Lake Tahoe in a year. Obviously, reliance on any regional atmospheric deposition (AD) model or Lake Tahoe as a surrogate for Utah Lake AD is nonsensical and very poor science.

Dr. Gaddis responded to the comment saying that no one is trying to convert Utah Lake into a deep, clear lake similar to Lake Tahoe.

#### **V. Wrap Up**

Mr. De Morgan concluded the meeting by thanking the Steering Committee for their participation and praised the quality of their participation in what ended up being a very productive and engaging call. He then went over a brief list of action items from the meeting (included in the action items table above). He then went over the meeting schedule moving forward. Finally, he addressed some of the challenges that members of the Steering Committee had in using their microphones during the call. He went over the steps required to enable microphones.

#### **VI. Participation**

##### **Members of the Steering Committee:**

- Scott Bird, Utah County Stormwater Association – Stormwater
- Gary Calder, Provo City – Municipal
- Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission – Co-Chair
- Erica Gaddis, Utah Division of Water Quality – Co-Chair
- Heidi Hoven, National Audubon Society – Conservation and Environment
- Rich Mickelson, Timpanogos Special Service District – POTW
- Jay Olsen, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food – Agriculture
- Dennis Shiozawa, Brigham Young University – Academia
- Brad Stapley, Springville City – Municipal
- Jesse Stewart, Utah Lake Water Users Association – Ag/Water Rights/Water Users
- George Weekley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Fish and Wildlife
- Neal Winterton, City of Orem – Municipal
- Gerard Yates, Central Utah Water Conservancy District – Water Management

##### **Alternate Members of the Steering Committee:**

- David Barlow, Timpanogos Special Service District – POTW
- Jamie Barnes, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands – Recreation, Fishing, Sovereign Lands
- Chris Cline, US Fish and Wildlife Service – Fish and Wildlife
- Juan Garrido, Springville City – Municipal
- Jon Hilbert, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District - Ag/Water Rights/Water Users
- Dave Norman, Lehi City - Municipal

- Cory Pierce, Spanish Fork City – Municipal
- Mike Rau, Central Utah Water Conservancy District – Water Management of Utah Lake

**Members of the ULWQS Science Panel**

- Mitch Hogsett, Forsgren Associates, ULWQS Science Panel (Chair)
- Mike Mills, June Sucker Recovery Program/Central Utah Water Conservancy District

**Members of the Public:**

- David Richards, Oreo Helix Ecological

**Utah Division of Water Quality Staff:**

- Scott Daly

**Tetra Tech**

- Mike Paul
- Kateri Salk-Gundersen

**Facilitation Team:**

- Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE
- Dave Epstein, SWCA