



STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

SPENCER J. COX
GOVERNOR

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Nov. 4, 2021

Representative Blake Moore
1320 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Moore,

Thank you for your work to develop and introduce the *Saline Lake Ecosystems in the Great Basin States Program Act*. Many people take for granted the remarkable role that the Great Salt Lake plays in Utah, including its environmental, recreational, and economic benefits, and the problems resulting from decreased water and increased salinity.

Your bill helps us take a step back and assess the needs of the Great Salt Lake and related saline ecosystems. It would wisely task the U.S. Geological Survey with evaluating the challenge and coordinating with other federal agencies and states, tribes, universities, non-profits, and other stakeholders to develop a solution.

The legislation dovetails well with our efforts to increase water conservation through a variety of strategies, including secondary water metering, optimizing agricultural use of water, eliminating municipal requirements for grass on parking strips, and a turf grass buyback program. I hope these strategies and the water they conserve will allow us to preserve the extraordinary benefits of the Great Salt Lake, even during an extended drought.

Thanks again for your good work and attention to Utah's unique needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Spencer J. Cox".

Spencer J. Cox