



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Division of Water Resources

CANDICE A. HASENYAGER
Division Director

The Honorable Mike Lee
U.S. Senate
363 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitt Romney
U.S. Senate
354 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Curtis
U.S. House of Representatives
2323 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chris Stewart
U.S. House of Representatives
166 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Burgess Owens
U.S. House of Representatives
309 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Blake Moore
U.S. House of Representatives
1131 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 25, 2023

Re: Support for the Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act (H.R. 4094/S. 1955)

Dear Utah Congressional Delegation,

I express my full support for the *Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act*. The Division of Water Resources' mission is to plan, conserve, develop and protect Utah's water resources. Great Salt Lake - the largest terminal lake in the Western Hemisphere - is facing significant threats as prolonged drought and increased demand for water plague the West. The state of Utah is confident that we can ameliorate the drought-stricken challenges within the Great Salt Lake watershed and the lake will continue to be a globally significant resource for tens of millions of migratory birds and support industries critical to the U.S. manufacturing, defense and farming. Federal funding to support these efforts is crucial as the task before us is challenging. We have prioritized three project areas to bring water to Great Salt Lake: water supply enhancement, water conservation and wetland ecosystem restoration.



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This legislation provides access to additional funding to increase water conservation efforts and augment water flows into the Great Salt Lake basin. Water conservation is a top priority, and this bill recognizes the importance of advancing projects that will help to replenish the Great Salt Lake.

The *Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act* will enhance access to federal funding for water conservation projects by adding a new provision to the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA - Public Law 102-575). This change allows the Secretary of Interior to reallocate unspent budget authorities within Title II of CUPCA and to put funds towards water conservation activities. Also, the bill expands the scope of the CUPCA water conservation program to include the Great Salt Lake basin, which will significantly benefit the lake. Finally, the CUPCA program enjoys annual funding support from Congress, providing a stable source of future funding for water conservation initiatives.

Thank you for introducing *Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act* and for your work in advancing it through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C.A. Hasenyager". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Director