



*Utah residents' quality of life relies on the active management and protection of diverse natural resources. The **From the Field** newsletter by the Department of Natural Resources will keep you informed on current department initiatives, developments and trends impacting Utah.*

DNR names new deputy director

Redge Johnson has been named as a deputy director of the Utah Department of Natural Resources. Johnson also serves as the executive director of the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office and will continue to serve in that capacity while taking on additional DNR responsibilities. “Redge brings a wealth of experience in public lands, natural resources, planning, policy and leadership,” said Joel Ferry, DNR’s acting executive director. “He will be an asset in this dual role and will provide rural outreach and coordination on federal issues.”

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Hunting hidden giants: Searching for Utah’s biggest trees in backyards and backcountry

Ryan Johnson had already hiked for almost six hours by the time his goal was in sight – a towering ponderosa pine rising more than 120 feet above the ground in a remote corner of Zion National Park.

UGS excavates new fault trench on the West Valley fault zone

The Utah Geological Survey recently excavated a trench in Salt Lake City, exposing a cross-sectional view of the West Valley fault zone. Due to extensive urbanization in the Salt Lake Valley, this is one of the last available sites to study the fault.

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DWR proposes increases in license and permit fees due to inflation

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is proposing a fee increase for hunting and fishing licenses and permits — for both residents and non-residents — in an effort to keep up with increasing inflation. The last substantive fee increase for resident licenses was in 2014, and the last fee increase for non-resident licenses was in 2020. The DWR is also proposing some other minor rule changes and is asking for the public's feedback on all the recommendations.

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Division of Outdoor Recreation outdoor review

The newest member of the Division of Outdoor Recreation team, Austin Isbell, provides a recap of July's Summit Meetup Series events, including a biathlon at Heber Valley's Soldier Hollow and paddling a beautiful stretch of the Jordan River thanks to the Jordan River Commission. Also, registration is now open for the Utah Outdoor Recreation Summit, on Sept. 12 and 13, at the DeJoria Center in Kamas.

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Historic dam failures helped shape Utah's dam safety program

Each of the nearly 200 high-hazard dams in Utah serves an essential role to their community, but the failure of any of these dams has the potential for significant cost to life and property. The Dam Safety section of the Division of Water Rights inspects each of these dams annually to ensure they will continue to serve their important purpose safely. But this wasn't always the case. A series of serious dam failures in the 70s and 80s led to the modern iteration of dam safety in Utah.

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Board authorizes \$285 million for secondary meters

The Board of Water Resources authorized \$285 million in grant funds during a record-setting meeting Aug. 4. Seventy applications for an estimated 114,000 secondary water meters were approved, and when installed, will conserve almost 54,000 acre-feet of water (about the size of East Canyon Reservoir)!

Funding summary:

- Grant funds – \$190 million
- Board loans – \$50.5 million
- Federal/other – \$5.5 million
- Local – \$39 million

Total funding – \$285 million

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Listen to the Wild podcast!

Subscribe to the Division of Wildlife Resources' Wild podcast to learn more about Utah's different fish and wildlife species — as well as a behind-the-scenes look at all the work that goes into managing them.



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