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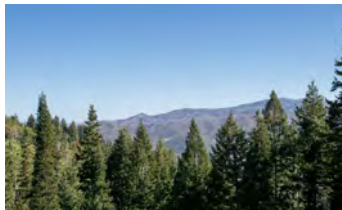
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FROM THE FIELD

*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 provides a snapshot of current department initiatives, developments and trends impacting Utah.*

Over 18,000 acres selected by Forest Service for preservation as part of Forest Legacy Program



The US Forest Service will invest \$14.4 million to preserve 18,648 acres of private forested lands in Utah as a part of the Forest Legacy Program. Funding for the projects comes from the Inflation Reduction Act, and the investment will ensure these forestlands will continue to benefit the public and surrounding communities.

Each project site is in an area considered highly developable, and this investment will keep these private lands as working forests that protect water resources for downstream users and provide critical wildlife habitat.

[Read more >>](#)

Echo State Park's new day-use area, cottage village now open



cutting ceremony on July 6! Visitors can now enjoy a wider (14') and longer (100') boat ramp, increased parking, improved beach areas and a more visitor-friendly entrance/exit. The park has also added a charming cottage village! The cottages have kitchenettes, complete bathrooms, cozy bedrooms and breathtaking views.

[Learn more >>](#)

50th anniversary of Endangered Species Act: A look at the recovery of 4 species



The Endangered Species Act was enacted in 1973 to establish protections for fish, wildlife and plants in the U.S. It has prevented the extinction of hundreds of imperiled species and promoted the recovery of many others. With the ESA now in its 50th year, here's a look at four fish species currently listed under the ESA and how several agencies are working to recover them.

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400,000 aerial images available in Utah Geological Survey database



The Utah Geological Survey Hazards Program recently surpassed 400,000 air photos and related items in the Utah Aerial Imagery Database. This photography is integral to many geologic projects such as geologic mapping, geologic-hazards investigations and land-use planning.

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executive tour



State, federal and local officials visited forest management projects to see how Utah's land managers are proactively addressing the wildfire crisis. Gov. Spencer Cox, via FFSL and PLPCO, hosted Deputy Chief Chris French and Intermountain

Regional Forester Mary Farnsworth with the U.S. Forest Service; Regional Conservationist Astor Boozer and State Conservationist Emily Fife with the Natural Resource Conservation Service; Utah State Legislators; and County Commissioners to show off the work being done through Shared Stewardship, WRI, and other land management initiatives. The tour provided a unique opportunity for executive leadership from across state and federal government to see and discuss the importance of active land management, and learn how they can continue to work together to ensure these programs continue to thrive.

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Division of Oil, Gas and Mining hosts legislative tour



The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, Utah Petroleum Association and Emery and Carbon counties hosted a legislative tour sponsored by Senator Hinkins on August 2 to educate legislators and elected officials

on the current status and opportunities of energy resources in the area. The trip included tours of the San Rafael Energy Research Center and Hunter Power Plant in Emery County. Additional presentations were provided by the division's Coal, Oil and Gas, and Abandoned Mine Reclamation programs.

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New stream gages help measure water going to Great Salt Lake



stream gages on tributaries to Great Salt Lake. These new gages allow water commissioners to see measurement data in real time and assist them in shepherding water to its intended destination.

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Antelope Island State Park takes aim with new archery range



The Antelope Island State Park archery range is open and ready for visitors! The new amenity features both traditional targets with ranges varying from 20-100 yards, as well as some 3D options. Access to the archery range is included in your entry to the park.

The park hosted a ceremony earlier this month where a professional archer used his bow and arrow to 'cut' a ribbon on the 70-yard lane, signifying its grand opening.

[Learn more >>](#)

Understanding water sources and water movement in Utah



Water has a long journey from the mountains and reservoirs before it reaches Utah homes! A better understanding of water sources and movement of water is key to ensuring a resilient supply in all of the state's regions.

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