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*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.*

Colorado River states submit a consensus-based modeling alternative to Bureau of Reclamation



Six states sharing the Colorado River — Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming — jointly submitted a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation that outlines a consensus-based modeling alternative for evaluation and incorporation

into its development of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to revise current operating guidelines ('07 guidelines) for Glen Canyon Dam at Lake Powell and Hoover Dam at Lake Mead.

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Gov. Cox issues statement on gasoline prices

Over the last week, Utahns have seen gasoline prices increase again. Prices were just beginning to normalize when a Utah refinery closed for annual maintenance, which is taking longer than expected. A Colorado refinery also

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supply in the Rocky Mountain region. It is expected to be online in March.

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Utah Geological Survey releases 'Commonly Asked Questions about Great Salt Lake'



Did you know the Bonneville Salt Flats that extend west of Great Salt Lake to the Utah-Nevada border are dubbed the "flattest place on Earth?" Why is Great Salt Lake two colors, blue and red? Find answers and interesting facts in the second edition of 'Commonly Asked Questions about Great Salt Lake and Ancient Lake Bonneville' booklet released by the Utah Geological Survey.

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DWR implements emergency deer feeding in parts of northern Utah



Deep snow has made it difficult for deer to find food in parts of Rich and Summit counties, and recent health checks of big game in those areas show below average body fat conditions for the deer. As a result, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is taking a two-pronged approach to help the deer out in those areas: Biologists have implemented emergency deer feeding. Specially designed pellets will be distributed in specific areas. The pellets match the unique nutritional needs and digestive system of deer. Conservation officers are conducting additional

patrols to help reduce the repeated stress that people may be putting on deer in those areas.

Utah Division of State Parks names new Deputy Director of Operations

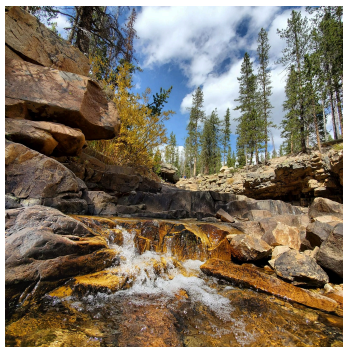


The Utah Division of State Parks is excited to announce that Laurie Backus has accepted a new role as the Deputy Director of Operations, adding to her already impressive 23-year career. Laurie fills the position left open by Dave Harris, who recently retired after over 30 years of service. The Deputy

Director of Operations serves on the division's core leadership team out of the Utah State Parks headquarters in Salt Lake City. This role is vital in ensuring Utah's state parks are managed effectively and efficiently.

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Over 150 years of legislation continues to shape Utah's water law



First as a territory, then as a state, the regulation of Utah's waters has been defined by the legislature. For more than 150 years, legislation has helped ensure the security of Utah's water resources. With "Water Week" coming to an end but plenty of work on water legislation still underway, here's a look back at some key decisions that have defined water law in Utah.

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Community science photo station installed at Bonneville Salt Flats

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to create crowd-sourced time-lapses that monitor the environment and engage communities in science. Utah Geological Survey staff hope it will be utilized as a trip-planning tool to protect the delicate salt flats.

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DWR, UDOT and other partners construct structures to help wildlife and fish safely migrate

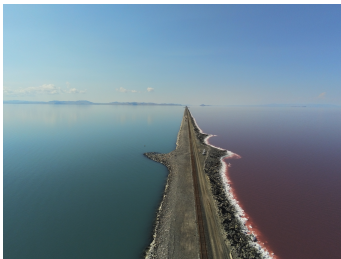


The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah Department of Transportation, as well as other partners, are working hard to reduce wildlife/vehicle collisions around the state and to make it easier for wildlife and fish to make important annual migrations.

In 2022, the agencies and other partners installed six structures to help fish and wildlife migrate in Utah.

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Gov. Cox issues executive order to raise Great Salt Lake causeway berm



Utah Gov. Spencer Cox has issued [Executive Order 2023-02](#) directing the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands to raise the Great Salt Lake causeway berm. "The Great Salt Lake is crucial to our environment, ecology and economy, and we must do everything we can to protect it," said Gov. Cox.

"We've been blessed with significant snowpack so far this winter, and this executive order will allow the state to move quickly to increase the lake level in the South Arm by capturing spring runoff. We don't want to miss this opportunity to safeguard the lake."

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