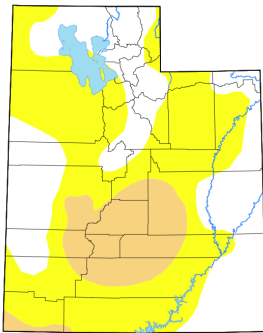




FROM THE FIELD

*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.*

Utah drought update



Mother Nature did her part in delivering a hearty helping of snow this winter. Last year 99% of the state was in "severe" drought. Today, none of Utah falls in the "severe" drought category, and just 14% is "moderately dry," and 37% isn't experiencing any drought. With the exception of large lakes and reservoirs like Strawberry, Great Salt Lake and Lake Powell, our reservoirs are expected to fill. Because reservoirs store water during wet years for use during dry years, intentional, ongoing water conservation — by everyone — is the most impactful tool in the toolbox for ensuring a secure water future.

[Read more >>](#)

Crane Day at Great Salt Lake State Park & Marina

The Great Salt Lake State Park & Marina hosted a "crane day" Tuesday, May 6, where 33 boats were lifted back into the marina. The marina and launch ramp

[Learn more >>](#)

Division of Outdoor Recreation awards over \$20M in grants



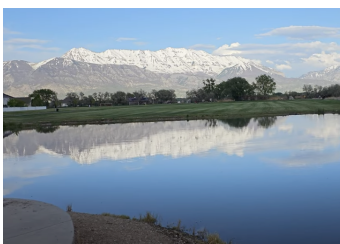
The Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation is awarding over \$20 million in grants to enhance outdoor recreation opportunities throughout Utah – the most to date awarded by the state. The division will award more than \$16 million in Utah Outdoor Recreation

Grant (UORG) funds to 90 outdoor recreation infrastructure [projects in 24 counties across Utah](#), and \$4.2 million in Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV)

Recreation grants to 51 OHV-related projects in 28 counties. In addition to infrastructure for water recreation, OHV use, climbing and other recreational activities, this year's grant funding will help restore nearly 800 miles of existing, multi-use trail and help build nearly 150 miles of new, multi-use trails throughout the state. The grants will benefit communities across Utah, from rural areas to urban centers. Since 2015, the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant has awarded over \$50 million to 489 projects for building or restoring outdoor recreation infrastructure across Utah. The OHV Recreation Grant has funded more than \$10 million to 270 projects since it was created in 2020.

[Read more >>](#)

Detention and debris basins help prevent flooding



Utah's detention and debris basins have been filling a crucial role this spring by helping to prevent excessive flooding. Still, many people don't realize they are more than just area parks. Learn more about detention and debris basins with Everett Taylor, Assistant State Engineer – Dam Safety and Stream

[Watch the video >>](#)

Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program protects public safety, preserves history



From 1997-2000, the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program safeguarded over 450 mines in the Silver Reef Mining District in Washington County. Silver Reef was a very unique mining town where mineable quantities of silver were found in the springdale

sandstone of the White and Buckeye reefs. The Silver Reef Museum and Ghost Town tells the history and stories of this unique mining town.

[Read more >>](#)

Mesozoic Terrestrial Ecosystems Conference brings ancient worlds to Salt Lake City



The Mesozoic Terrestrial Ecosystems Conference, an internationally acclaimed event, is being held in Salt Lake City on June 8 -10 at the Department of Natural Resources. This highly anticipated gathering will bring together leading paleontological experts, researchers and scientists from around the globe to

delve into the mysteries of Earth's prehistoric past.

[Read more >>](#)

Endangered Species Mitigation Fund allocates \$4.4M to fund 42 wildlife conservation projects

A total of \$4.4 million was allocated to dozens of wildlife-related projects at the recent annual Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Endangered Species



Endangered Species Act and to work toward downlisting or delisting species already listed under the Endangered Species Act.

[Learn more >>](#)

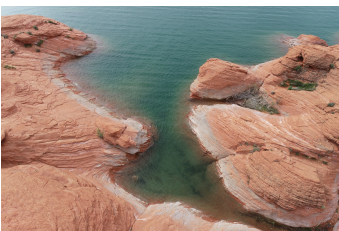
8,556 boats inspected for quagga mussels during Memorial Day weekend



Law enforcement officers and technicians with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and other agencies had a busy holiday weekend, working to inspect and decontaminate boats across the state. Their efforts focused on preventing the invasive quagga mussels in Lake Powell and in other states from spreading to other Utah waterbodies.

[Read more >>](#)

National Association of Counties Meeting



On May 17, St. George hosted the annual conference of the National Association of Counties' Western Region, with county officials from across the United States traveling to St. George to learn how county governments can better cope with drought, water shortages, population growth and other challenges facing southwestern Utah. Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Director Redge Johnson presented on how counties can better use county resource management plans to enhance coordination with federal land management agencies and improve outcomes for public lands. [Duchesne County showed a video](#) explaining the importance of active management of public lands. The video was produced with input from DNR and PLPCO, including footage of vegetation improvement projects from DWR and WRI. County officials from around the country came away impressed with Utah's stewardship of its resources and public lands.

Construction underway to renovate Red Fleet State Park



The Utah Division of State Parks is thrilled to announce that construction is now underway to renovate the day-use areas, completely redesign the campground and make more upgrades at Red Fleet State Park. The park hosted a groundbreaking last week to kick off the project.

[Watch the video >>](#)



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