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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.*

## Provo River diverted into new delta



The Provo River Delta Restoration project broke ground in June 2020, and on March 2, the project reached another major milestone — the Provo River was diverted into the channels and ponds constructed over the past three years, connecting the river with a restored delta and with Utah Lake. Project staff, crews and volunteers took time Thursday afternoon to celebrate and watch the diversion, but work to construct the project's recreational amenities will continue.

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## Utah Growing Water Smart workshop application period now open

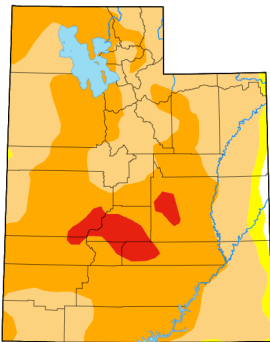
The Growing Water Smart workshop brings together community staff and decision-makers on water and land use planning to build a more sustainable water future. The workshop uses a range of public engagement, planning,

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smart growth, watershed health and water resiliency goals. The next workshop is June 6-8, 2023 on the Utah State University campus. This event focuses on counties and municipalities in northern Utah located in the Great Salt lake watershed.

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## Utah drought update



According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service in their latest report, Utah is now guaranteed to have an above-normal snowpack! From now until the onset of snowmelt, every additional inch of snow will push the state farther above normal. In order to take full advantage of our plentiful snowpack, we must continue to use our water wisely. One good snow year won't pull the state out of drought. And by using less water, we will become more drought resilient.

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## 3 recent cases where DWR K-9 officers made the difference



When people think of Utah Division of Wildlife Resources conservation officers, K-9 officers may not be the first thing that comes to mind. But in fact, five of DWR's 55 field officers located throughout Utah serve as K-9 officers. While the DWR K-9 officers always do good work, here are three recent cases of note.

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## Invasive phragmites management success on Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake



The ongoing work of controlling the spread and mitigating the impact of an invasive plant species, *Phragmites australis*, on the shoreline of Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake continued to see success in 2022. This invasive grass reduces water availability for Great Salt Lake wetlands, decimates bird habitat and impedes access to the lake. In the last year, a total of 6,312 acres of phragmites-infested shoreline were treated by the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands and partners.

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## Guide to fossils in Utah



Explore Utah's unique and expansive fossil record with an online collection of fossil localities. The interactive maps provided by Utah Geological Survey feature track sites, museums, quarries, a scenic byway, and invertebrate fossil collecting sites. Visitors can select a point to view exhibit information, website links, photos and other details like hiking requirements and seasonal hours. Scroll, zoom and pan the map to find sites in your area.

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## 2 new conservation projects funded by Utah Cutthroat Slam to benefit native trout



Two new conservation projects geared toward helping Utah's native cutthroat trout were announced during a recent annual Utah Cutthroat Slam meeting. The projects were selected by the Utah

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## Happy bison at Antelope Island during record winter



Utah has been receiving a lot of snow in the recent weeks. This has led to some asking the question, "How are the bison at Antelope Island dealing with this weather?" KSL TV visited the island earlier this week to help share that message. The bison are doing just fine, and are built to deal with this kind of weather. Their coat, horns and muscles help them stay warm and find food beneath the snow.

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## State agency grant writing assistance



The Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) has entered into a five-year contract with LSI to provide grant writing services. PLPCO intends to utilize this new contract to provide grant writing assistance and grant training to staff at the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture and Food and the Department of Environmental Quality to help coordinate, promote and implement Utah's public land priorities. Division and department directors (or their designee) should contact Dillon Hoyt at [dillonhoyt@utah.gov](mailto:dillonhoyt@utah.gov) for more information and to obtain a link to the Grant Request Form from PLPCO. Each Grant Request Form will be reviewed by the staff at PLPCO and must be approved by the Executive Director at PLPCO prior to working with LSI.

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