

Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ)

Submitted and presented to the Great Salt Lake Advisory Council on 09/30/2008

What are your regulatory or administrative responsibilities to the lake?

Administer requirements of Utah's Water Quality Act (UCA 19-5) which incorporates meeting the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act (1972) to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nations' waters

Pertinent Aspects of the State and federal Water Quality Act Requirements:

- Identify **Beneficial Uses** for Water Bodies
 - Class 5 – Great Salt Lake – Protected for primary and secondary contact **recreation, waterfowl, shore birds and other water-oriented wildlife** including their **necessary aquatic organisms in their food chain**, and **mineral extraction**
- Identify **Water Quality Standards**- the maximum amount of pollutant a water body can carry and still maintain its **Beneficial Uses**. No numeric standards currently for GSL (selenium standard pending).
- Monitor and Assess the Water Quality of the GSL (ongoing monitoring)
- Submit a biennial 305(b) Report to the Environmental Protection Agency and Congress that identifies water quality status and any impairment in Utah's streams and lakes.
- Conduct Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies for waters that do not meet **Water Quality Standards** including identifying pollutant sources and reductions needed

Utah Water Quality Discharge Permits

Facilities that produce, treat, dispose of, or otherwise discharge waste water may need permits from the Division of Water Quality. (The Environmental Protection Agency has delegated authority to Utah to administer its own surface water quality regulatory program which EPA still runs in many other states.)

Permits needed include:

- Surface Water Discharge Permits- Discharging waste water to surface waters, including storm drains, requires a permit prior to beginning operations
- Groundwater Discharge Permits- Any facility that discharges or may discharge pollutants to ground water needs a permit.
- Underground Injection Control Permits – Facilities that inject fluids via wells into the ground need a UIC permit. Wells used to inject fluids associated with the production of oil and natural gas or fluids used for enhanced hydrocarbon recovery are regulated by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. All others are regulated by the Division of Water Quality.
- Operating Permits- Legislation was recently passed which authorized Operating Permits to be developed for all wastewater treatment systems, whether surface or underground, that are not operating under one of the other types of permits.

- Storm Water Permits – Construction and Industrial sites that disturb over 1 acre need a Storm Water Permit that requires site controls to minimize sediment and other pollution from leaving disturbed sites.

What statutory or regulatory rules do you abide by?

- Utah Water Quality Act (Title 19, Chapter 5, Utah Code)
- UAC R317 (Water Quality State Rules)
- Environmental Protection Agency – Clean Water Act

What are your revenue sources?

- Federal Grants (106 and 319 funds) = 60% of Total Funds
- State General Funds = 25% of Total Funds
- Collections and Fees from Permits = 8% of Total Funds
- Restricted Trust Funds - state sales tax revenue specifically to the State Revolving Fund (SRF) = 7% of Total Funds