

The Division of Water Resources (Division) is one of seven agencies of the Utah Department of Natural Resources and is the water resources authority for the State of Utah. The Board of Water Resources (Board) is the policy-making body of the Division. Under their board legislative authority the Board and Division protect Utah's rights to interstate waters, provide comprehensive water planning and manage Utah's water resource project construction programs. The Divisions' mission statement and goals are listed below:

The Division of Water Resources plans, conserves, develops, and protects Utah's water resources.

- Implement water education/conservation programs that encourage wise municipal, industrial, agricultural, and environmental water use.
- Defend and protect Utah's rights to develop and use its entitlement to interstate streams.
- Continue state water planning activities to identify future water needs and assist water entities in meeting those needs.
- Provide technical and financial assistance to encourage the highest beneficial uses of water consistent with economic, social, and environmental consideration.
- Maintain accurate and current water supply and land use data for each hydrologic basin in the state.
- Promote cloud seeding operational projects and research.

The Division of Water Resources has authority to do planning, development and resource evaluation of the states water resources as provided in Title 73 Section 10 of the UCA. It has no regulatory authority over waters of the state including the Great Salt Lake. Although in relation to the GSL the Division has been involved in issue concerning volume/level, flooding, transportation, salinity, brine shrimp resource, migratory bird use, inflow and upstream development. The Division is directed by state statute to develop 220,000 acre feet of the flow of the Bear River a major tributary to the lake.

The Division continues to do computer modeling on lake levels and the impact of upstream development. It constructed the GSL Pumping Project and has continuing responsibility for the projects facilities.

The Divisions' operating budget comes about equally from general fund appropriations and restricted funds from its construction programs.