

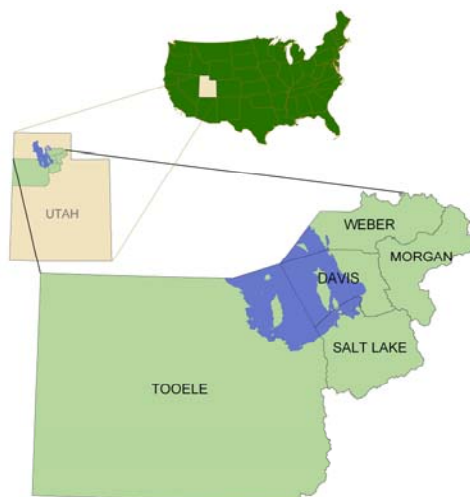
Great Salt Lake Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council Inc.



2006 Annual Report

Vision: The Great Salt Lake RC&D will promote conservation, development and stewardship of natural and human resources; promote sustainable economies; and enhance the quality of life.

Mission: Promote partnerships that improve and protect communities and the environment.



The Great Salt Lake RC&D Council is a locally led 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving Tooele, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber, and Morgan counties that connects resources with needs and opportunities.

The Great Salt Lake Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. works with individuals, municipalities, agencies, businesses, and philanthropic organizations to address issues and challenges facing Tooele, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber and Morgan counties in Utah. This area comprises a majority of the Wasatch Front with a population of over 1.4 million residents in 2003 and covers an area of 9,156 square miles. Tooele and Morgan counties can be characterized as more geographically expansive but experiencing both positive and negative impacts from development pressure. Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber counties are, in general, more densely populated. It serves as a major transportation hub for the Intermountain West with the Salt Lake City International Airport, extensive rail service, light rail (TRAX), cross roads for east/west and north/south Interstates (I-15, I-80, and I-84), serves as a major location of commerce, and home to universities, world class skiing, arts and cultural events.



Accomplishments:

1. Sponsored four open houses for Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) in Eden, Ogden, Farmington, and Salt Lake City through February 2006.
2. Completed implementation of APHIS grant using bio-control methods.
3. Completed Myrtle Spurge mapping and control project using US Forest Service grant for \$6,000.
4. Awarded \$5,000 NRCS Grant that educates the public about the threat from Myrtle Spurge and provides an exchange program for land owners.
5. Renewed Directors and Officers Liability Insurance, April 2006.
6. Acquired General Liability Insurance to cover sponsored projects, i.e. People's Market, August 2006.
7. Community fire plan for Bierdnau submitted to Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands for approval and implementation.
8. Reviewed and discussed USDA and NRCS Civil Rights Policy Statements, Great Salt Lake RC&D meeting May 26, 2006.
9. Adopted People's Market, serving the West Side of Salt Lake City focusing on low-income and diverse populations, June 2, 2006
10. In cooperation with Utah State University, Brigham Young University, and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, completed the second field season completed for Sensitive Wildlife species assessment in Deep Creek Watershed near Ibapah, Utah.
11. Awarded \$15,000 NRCS grant to address noxious weed control and restoration in Tooele County.
12. Attended and made presentation to National Association of RC&Ds in Savannah, GA June 2006.
13. Notified communities in Salt Lake and Tooele Counties about severe flood threat from high snow pack in surrounding mountains.
14. Reviewed Financial Management Handbook from NARCDC and implemented voucher and other financial procedures.
15. Completed Leafy Spurge Mapping, Control and Education project phase III for "Pulling Together Initiative" from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in cooperation with the Bonneville CWMA, 2006.
16. Facilitated control of Myrtle or Donkey tail spurge by acting as fiscal agent for US Forest Service grant for \$6,000
17. Implemented control of Dalmatian Toadflax by acting as fiscal agent for APHIS grants for \$4,000.
18. Increased capacity of Council through training sessions and participation in National RC&D Conference in Savannah, GA, also made Success Story presentation.
19. Adopted outreach effort to educate potentially impacted entities about the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program.
20. Updated and coordinated website maintenance: www.greatsaltlakercd.org.
21. Published four quarterly newsletters, The Lake Effect.
22. Annual Plan of Work adopted.
23. Participated in PRATT meetings and activities and drafted a letter of support.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

The Great Salt Lake RC&D presented the 4th Annual Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) which links farmers with local customers or shareholders along the Wasatch Front. Farmers are able to reduce their marketing risk and obtain a price closer to retail rather than wholesale. CSA allows agriculture producers to take control of prices, thus increasing the viability of their operations and keeping farms as an important part of the local community character. Consumers have a unique opportunity to interact directly with the people and places where their food is grown. A diverse offering of food challenges shareholders to eat a more balanced and healthful diet while allowing them to directly support farmers and farms in their community. This effort is a good compliment to the National NRCS Strategic Plan – Market Base Strategy. The Great Salt Lake RC&D Council sponsored the third annual workshops in February 2006 in Salt Lake City, Ogden, Huntsville and this year Farmington. Farmers and local customers came together to share their interests and concerns. Over 140 persons attended these four sessions.



Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA)

In 2006, some of the early planning efforts and coordination by the Great Salt Lake RC&D Council started to take root and produce tangible results for many residents of Salt Lake and Tooele counties. The Leafy Spurge mapping, education and control project funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: Pulling Together Initiative grant, contributions by Salt Lake Soil Conservation District, Utah Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake County – Public Utilities, and others was completed and provided important information that will greatly facilitate the early detection and rapid response effort by the Bonneville CWMA. The US Forest Service funded a grant to map and control Leafy Spurge, as well as educated the public about the threat from this noxious weed, which also was jointly supported by other concerned entities in the area. APHIS provided monetary support to implement a project work that used insects to control Dalmatian Toad Flax. The Great Salt Lake RC&D was awarded two grants from the NRCS to address resource concerns from weed infestations, including a novel approach to educating the public to the problem of Leafy Spurge by sponsoring a Leafy Spurge for native plant exchange event and weed control and restoration effort in Tooele County. In addition, there have been discussions with residents of Salt Lake and Davis counties about creating a new CWMA, the South Shore CWMA, with especial interest in controlling Phragmites. This project is consistent with the NRCS Overarching Strategy of Cooperative Conservation.



The People's Market

A new group of local growers and vendors have planted roots at the Northwest Recreation Center in Rose Park on Sunday mornings to create the newest (and perhaps most ambitious) market. Encouraged by the past success of last year's West Side Swap and Sale, a small group of entrepreneurs and gardeners offer Salt Lake City and surrounding communities the opportunity to purchase locally grown produce and a variety of locally produced goods from aspiring craftsmen. Organized by Kyle LaMalfa, the People's Market has started from a humble beginning with a handful of participants. The market offers very reasonable rates for local producers. After a number of challenges including insurance and permit issues the People's Market was in full bloom with a full bouquet of goods and services for residents to eat, purchase and experience last summer. This intimate group of merchants already has their sights set on next year's market with even more ambitious plans to grow from the seeds of success of this year's efforts.



Deep Creek Sensitive Species Assessment: Conservation Partnership Initiative Grant

Working in cooperation with Utah State University, Brigham Young University, and Utah Division of Wildlife Resource, the Great Salt Lake RC&D is working to assess populations and habitat of the Greater Sage Grouse, Pygmy Rabbit, Columbia Spotted Frog and Least Chub in the Deep Creek Watershed in the western desert of Utah and Nevada. The second field season has provided valuable insight into the habitat, location and populations of these sensitive species. With the findings of these coordinated studies, the GSL RC&D will be able to better address the implementation needed to help these important wildlife species. This project is consistent with the NRCS Overarching Strategy of the Watershed Approach, as well as potentially addressing the NRCS Mission Goal of Healthy Plant and Animal Communities.



By: _____ Date: _____

(Therese Meyer, Chair)

This Annual Report adopted at an official meeting of the Great Salt Lake RC&D Council, Inc. on January 19, 2007.

Attest: _____

(Jim Lawrence, Second Vice Chair)

For more information, please contact us at:

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