

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

2005 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.

Accomplishments:

1. Outreach: The Great Salt Lake RC&D has had a wide array of guests and organizations attend Board and Council meetings, including the Great Salt Lake Keeper concerning methyl mercury. It also held an informational meeting with Davis County Commissioner Hansen.
2. Sponsored three open houses for Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) in January and February 2005.
3. Retained accountant and set up accounts and reporting mechanisms.
4. Acquired Directors and Officers Liability Insurance, April 2005.
5. Hosted Community Fire Plan Workshop in cooperation with Utah Forestry, Fire, and State Lands attended by 30 participants in Ogden, January 2005.
6. Facilitated two community fire plans for Bierdnau and Sunridge communities.
7. Reviewed and discussed USDA and NRCS Civil Rights Policy Statements, March 2005.
8. Received Rural Development Non-Construction Grant and installed bleachers in Ibapah in partnership with Tooele School District, April 2005.
9. Contracted with USU, BYU and Utah DWR to initiate field assessment of sensitive wildlife species in Deep Creek Watershed; completed first field season.
10. Facilitated the 3rd Annual “Celebrate the Jordan: Get into the River” festival, May 14, 2005 at the Workman Park in South Salt Lake City.
11. Participated in Davis SCD Field Day.
12. Notified communities in Salt Lake and Tooele Counties about severe flood threat from high snow pack in surrounding mountains.
13. Reviewed Financial Management Handbook from NARCDC and implemented voucher and other financial procedures.
14. Completed phase I and II for “Pulling Together Initiative” from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in cooperation with the Bonneville CWMA, 2005.
15. Facilitated control of Donkey tail spurge and Dalmatian Toadflax by acting as fiscal agent for US Forest Service and APHIS grants for \$10,000.
16. Solidified membership and instituted dues and billing schedule.
17. Stabilized financial condition, increased net worth by over 1,000%.
18. Fostered the development of the Utah Biodiesel Co-op and biodiesel fuel.
19. Investigated viability of project proposals for Hooper Slough pond, Parrish Creek Pond, and partnership with Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District for demonstration garden expansion.
20. Facilitated the Resource Assessment process for the five counties.
21. Designed and implemented website: www.greatsaltlakercd.org.
22. Published four quarterly newsletters, The Lake Effect.
23. Annual Plan of Work adopted.

Projects:

The Great Salt Lake RC&D continued its support of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) which links farmers with local customers and shareholders along the Wasatch Front. Through CSA, farmers reduce their marketing risk and obtain a price

closer to retail rather than wholesale. CSA allows them to take control of prices, thus increasing the viability of their operations. 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. The Great Salt Lake RC&D Council sponsored the third annual workshops in February 2005 in Salt Lake City, Ogden, and this year Huntsville. Farmers and local customers came together to share their interests and concerns. Over 125 persons attended these three sessions.

The Weber River Basin & Bonneville Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) were sponsored, in part, by the Great Salt Lake RC&D in 2005. By blurring administrative boundaries, these multi-county associations can more effectively focus on invasive plant species along the Wasatch Front. By leveraging the efforts of several counties together, more effective cost-matching was achieved. Specific projects for the Bonneville CWMA included created the strategic plan for the organization and administration of the Pulling Together Initiative grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Great Salt Lake RC&D agreed to act as fiscal agent for the Bonneville CWMA.

Jordan River Natural Areas Forum (JRNAF) is a voluntary group of municipalities, agencies, and organizations that work cooperatively to preserve, enhance, restore and educate the public about the Jordan River Corridor. The Great Salt Lake RC&D Council partnered with this group to address a wide range of conservation and development issues on an on-going basis. The Great Salt Lake RC&D sponsored the annual Get into the River: Celebrate the Jordan event for 2005 at Workman Park in South Salt Lake City, activities included: a 5 K fun run, canoeing, tours, displays and guided walks. Recently, trails issues have also come to the forefront and the Great Salt Lake RC&D has provided leadership.

Bonneville Shoreline Trail Coalition is another multiple agency and organization association concerned with the needs of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail along the Wasatch Front, which is sponsored, in part, by the Great Salt Lake RC&D Council. Internet and paper form mapping resources were issues addressed by this group. In addition, this group acts as an advocate for trails issues along the Wasatch Front.

Parley's Rails, Trails and Tunnels (PRATT) is an organization of individuals, groups, and agencies working to complete a bicycle and pedestrian link between the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and Jordan River Parkway Trail. The Great Salt Lake RC&D agreed to work with this organization to help realize ambitious and vital objectives by providing leadership and support roles for PRATT. It is unique in that it will constitute a walking/running/biking trail through the middle of an urban environment and provide not only recreation, but a useable non-motorized transportation corridor. Progress is being made on several fronts including the successful award of \$10.5 million Congressional earmarks for the Parley's trail construction, as well as negotiations with landowners from the mouth of Parley's Canyon to Little Dell reservoir.

Bleachers for Ibapah were found as a need when members of the Great Salt Lake RC&D visited the area in the fall of 2003. The Council sponsored a grant with the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities program for three sets of metal bleachers. The Council coordinated this effort with the Tooele County School District, which provided the 25% match for this effort. In April, 2005, members of the Great Salt Lake RC&D completed the purchase and installation of these bleachers. One week after the installation, the Goshute Tribe utilized them for a regional Pow-wow.

By: _____ Date: _____

(Frank J. Cumberland, Chair)

This Annual Report adopted at an official meeting of the Great Salt Lake RC&D Council, Inc. on October 14, 2005.

Attest: _____

(Avis Light, Second Vice Chair)