# State Resource Management Plan

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# Why does Utah have state and county resource management plans (RMPs)?

State Resource Management Plan - SRMP County Resource Management Plans - CRMPs First, the planning process allows the state and counties to assess natural resources that play important roles in the local, state and national economy and set goals, objectives, and policies for the protection and utilization of those resources.

Second, the plans provide federal land managers with local land use plans for coordination in the public planning processes to inform consistency between local and federal planning documents.

#### **Current Amendments**

- Access to Public Lands
- Renewable Energy
- Critical Minerals and Rare Earth Elements
- Utility Corridors
- Pipeline and Infrastructure

#### **Access to Public Lands**

The updated access to public lands content was incorporated into the existing Land Access section of the SRMP.

#### Goals (as proposed)

- Protect current and future access to, and use of lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and all other publicly owned areas of the State of Utah.
- Elevate federal agencies recognition of the state's legal access rights to and across federal lands.

- The January 2018 plan, and most county plans from 2017, focused primarily on public land "access" as it relates to RS 2477 rights-of-way.
- The proposed amendments are more inclusive of all public land types statewide and the wide array of multiple-use and sustainable yield activities that occur on public lands.

### Renewable Energy

The renewable energy content was incorporated into the existing **Energy Resources** section of the SRMP.

#### Goal

It is the goal of the State to ensure Utah's
continued economic development through access
to our own clean and low-cost energy resources.
This will allow the state to meet projected energy
growth demands by making balanced use of fossil
fuels and renewable resources in a market-driven,
cost effective, and environmentally-sustainable
way.

#### **Objectives and Policies**

• Incorporated general improvements related to the all-of-the-above energy policies, particularly on the topics of solar, geothermal, wind, hydroelectric, biomass, nuclear, and hydrogen opportunities in Utah.

#### Critical Minerals and Rare Earth Elements

The critical minerals content was incorporated into the existing **Minerals and Mining** section of the SRMP.

#### Goal

• Promote responsible and sustainable stewardship and development of Utah's mineral resources.

#### **Challenges**

- Utah has known sources of 28 of the 35 currently listed CM/REEs.
- The Federal CM/REE List is being updated.
  - Removing: Uranium, helium, potash, strontium, and rhenium
  - Adding:
    - Zinc and nickel

- Continue to protect access to public lands and access to mineral resources.
- Provide support for the expansion of critical mineral resources to promote a "green economy", as well as aerospace, defense, technology, and medical advances that promote national security and economic prosperity.

# **Utility Corridors**

#### Goal

 Proactively plan, coordinate, and provide for the maintenance of existing corridors and future development of new utility corridors across federal and state lands to meet projected state growth and demand.

#### Challenges

- Utility corridors are filling up quickly and don't always benefit Utah residents.
  - Plan 10+ years needed to plan for new corridors.
    - Not enough infrastructure for renewable energy opportunities.
- Single distribution routes (not resilient)

- Maintain access to public lands
- Maintain existing corridors
- Plan for and build new corridors
- Expedite the NEPA process whenever possible
- Work with utility providers to benefit citizens
- Become a more resilient and proactive State

<sup>\*</sup>Vegetation management needs to occur on and around utility corridors to mitigate fire risks.

## **Pipelines and Infrastructure**

#### Goal

• In light of Utah's arid environment and the world's changing climate conditions, the need for sufficient and reliable water, energy, and critical resources, the need for storage and related infrastructure is ever increasing. Therefore, to ensure Utah's ongoing drought resilience, energy security, and to provide for current and future needs, the State supports efforts to build and invest in necessary infrastructure, including additional pipelines, dams, reservoirs, above and below ground storage facilities, and other feasible infrastructure.

- Understand what currently exists statewide
- Determine where infrastructure is needed to become more resilient and adapt to population growth and climate concerns
- Strategically prioritize projects and funding
- Coordinate more meaningfully with a variety of stakeholders to leverage opportunities and reduce conflicts

# **Future Projects**

- 1) Recommended text was drafted and proposed to the Federalism Commission prior to the General Legislative Session.
- 2) Bio-West was contracted to assist with updates, research, and support drafting text.
- 3) ESRI is assisting PLPCO with creating a collection of StoryMaps for the SRMP that will be easier to keep updated and will be interactive.
- 4) ESRI is assisting PLPCO with creating an Open Data Portal.
- 5) PLPCO will work with all 29 county planners to make needed amendments to local plans.