

# Great Salt Lake Basin Measurement Infrastructure Gap Analysis

Legislative Water Development Commission | May 14, 2024





Beth Neilson, Ph.D. | USU

Professor

Director, Logan River Observatory

Blake Bingham, P.E. | DWRi
Deputy State Engineer

## Gap Analysis | Objectives

- Water Data Access and Transparency. Additional measurement and gaging give broader access to water data and facilitate greater stakeholder transparency by providing more accurate and timely information about diversions, stream flows, and other hydrologic conditions.
- Enhanced Water Management and Distribution. It is critical to have sufficient data that enables the State Engineer to make informed decisions, facilitates flexibility for users to change elements of their water rights, and generally promotes wise stewardship of Utah's water resources.



## Gap Analysis | Process & Deliverables

- 1. Evaluate existing stream and diversion measurement infrastructure.
- 2. Solicit local stakeholder input to identify new/updated measurement infrastructure.
- 3. Create a prioritized list of measurement infrastructure necessary for Distribution & Delivery and Research & Planning.

Document existing measurement infrastructure

Solicit feedback from experts and stakeholders

> Identify Distribution/Delivery & Research/Planning Gaps

Develop
prioritized list of
measurement
infrastructure for
future
implementation



## Gap Analysis | Scope of Work

#### **Bear River Watershed**

- Upper Bear River (Rich County)
- Lower Bear River (Cache & Box Elder)
- Logan River
- Little Bear River
- Blacksmith Fork
- Summit Creek
- Cub River

#### **Weber River Watershed**

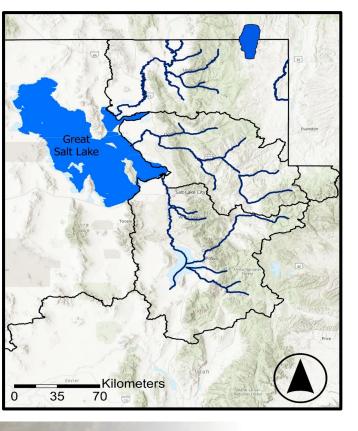
- Weber River
- Ogden River
- Chalk Creek
- Lost Creek
- East Canyon Creek

#### **Jordan River / Utah Lake Watershed**

- Provo River
- Spanish Fork River
- Jordan River
- Little Cottonwood Creek
- Big Cottonwood Creek
- Hobble Creek

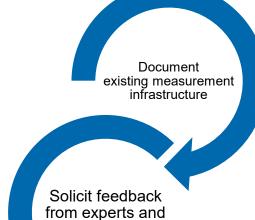
#### **Great Salt Lake**

- USFWS Bird Refuge
- Wildlife Management Areas
- Duck Clubs
- Mineral Extractors





## System Analysis

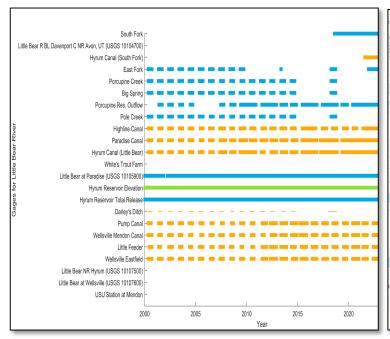


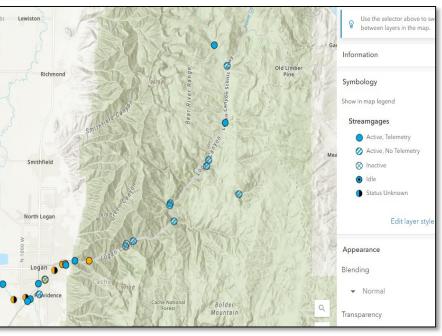
stakeholders

Identify
Distribution/Delivery &
Research/Planning
Gaps







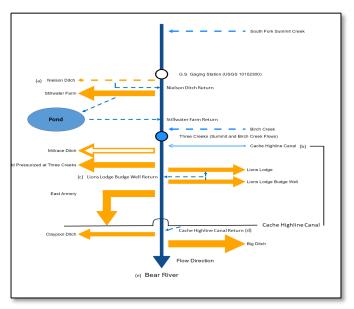


#### Historical Operations Interval

_				
	Diversion Questionnaire	FID		
l	Common or local name of the gaging / measurement		LOGAN AND NORTHERN AND LOGAN	CACHE HIGHLINE CANAL
L	station?	NAME	HOLLOW (BELOW FIRST DAM)	(USGS)
L	Other names or identifiers for the station?	NAME_ALT	Logan Island Pipeline/Logan Hollow	USGS gage 10108400
	Name of the diversion/canal being measured?	ID	Logan and Northern and Logan Hollow	Cache Highline Canal
	Division of Water Rights Station_ID? (if none leave blank)	DWRi_ID	17	9840
	What is the approximate distance (in feet) between			
	the diversion point on the stream and the		2000	500
	gaging/measurement station on the canal/diversion?		2000	300
		DIST		
	Between the diversion point on the stream and the			
	gaging/measurement station, is the diversion/canal		Piped	Piped
L	lined, unlined, or piped?	LINE_ST		
	Is the entire diversion/canal system following this			
	station mostly lined, unlined or piped?	LINE		
0	If lined or piped, what year did this occur?	LINE_YR		
1	Northing of station? (Please provide as UTM Zone 12 NAD83)	NOR	4621224.064	4621540.08
Г	Easting of station? (Please provide as UTM Zone 12	EAST	433812.223	436638.228
2	NAD83)	LAST	433612.223	430038.228
3	Owner of the gaging or measurement station?	OWN	Cache Highline Irrigation Company	USGS
	Operator / maintenance entity responsible for			
	maintaining the gaging or measurement station (if			
4	different from the owner)?	MAIN		
	Type and description of current measurement device			
	or gage (Pressure transducer/Bubbler/Parshall		Ultrasonic Flow Meter	
	flume/Ultrasonic Flow Meter / Propeller		ordasonic riow mater	
5	Meter/etc)?	MEAS		

#### Measurement Information Worksheet

#### ArcOnline Map Interface



Flow Balance Diagrams

## DWRi Gap Analysis DRAFT Summit Creek Flow Balance Diagram





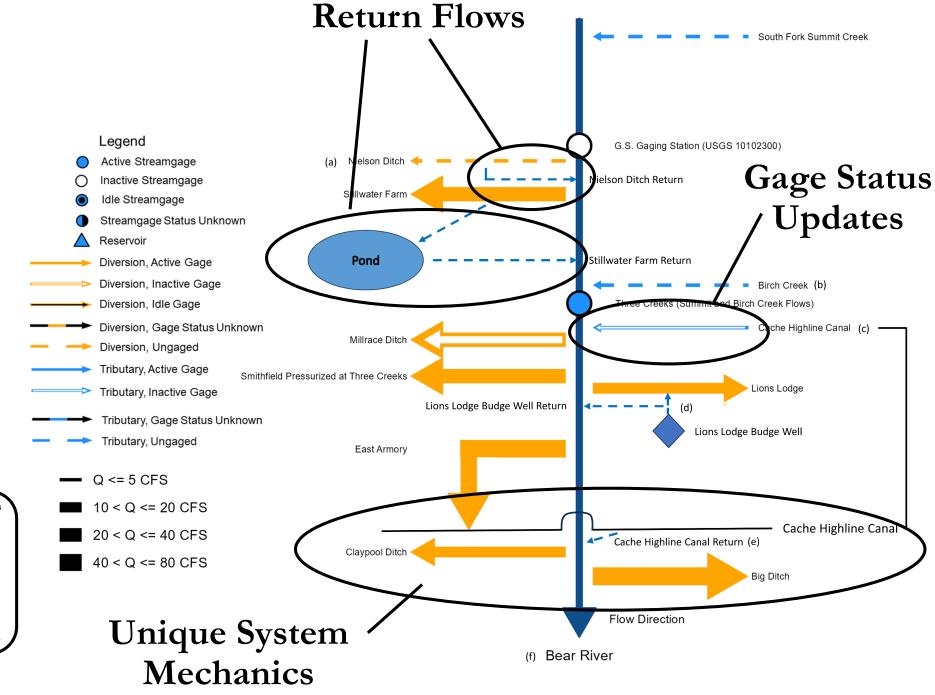
## Local Expert Insights

Figure Description:

Flow Balance Diagram of Summit Creek.

Diversion arrows are sized to represent the maximum measured flow for the full period of record. Tibutary arrows are sized to represent the median flow in July and August for the full period of record. Tributary arrow reflects status of gage nearest to the confluence with the mainstem. Tributaries with asterisks (\*) indicate nearest stream gage is greater than 1 km from confluence with mainstem.

- Nielson ditch is only active during high water. River Commissioner estimates a maximum diversion of 3 CFS.
- In very dry years, Birch Creek doesn't run. When it does, it is usually dry by June or July.
- Gage closest to canal confluence with mainstem (USGS 10103010) is inactive, but there is a DWRi gage farther up the canal that is active.
- d) Lion's Lodge Budge Well is a source of imported water and generally only feeds Lion's Lodge diversion. It can occasionally contribute to the mainstem during flood/high runoff events.
- e) Cache Highline Canal contributes to the mainstem during flood/high runoff events
- Summit Creek should terminate as a tributary to the Bear River but hasn't in recent years. This is attributed to major groundwater losses below Big Ditch.



### DWRi Gap Analysis - **DRAFT Great Salt Lake:** Harold Crane WMA Flow Balance Diagram

#### Legend

- Active Streamgage
- Inactive Streamgage
- Idle Streamgage
- Streamgage Status Unknown



Diversion, Active Gage

Diversion, Inactive Gage

Diversion, Idle Gage

Diversion, Gage Status Unknown

Diversion, Ungaged

Tributary, Active Gage

Tributary, Inactive Gage

Tributary, Idle Gage

Tributary, Gage Status Unknown

Tributary, Ungaged

Dike

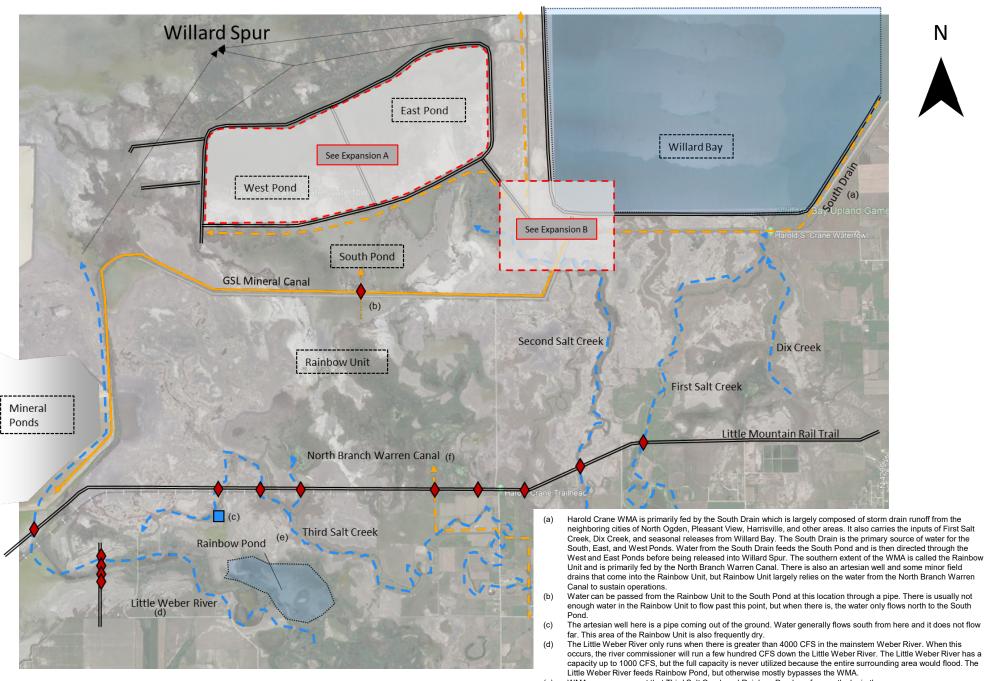
Artesian Well

Water Control Structure

**Active Diversion** Measurement Station







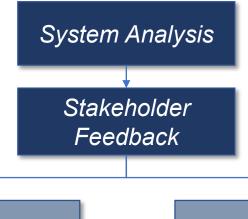
WMA managers report that Third Salt Creek and Rainbow Pond are frequently dry in the summer.

The North Branch Warren Canal is the primary source of water for the Rainbow Unit from mid-April to mid-October. It is visually estimated that 20-30 CFS typically comes through the North Branch Warren Canal.

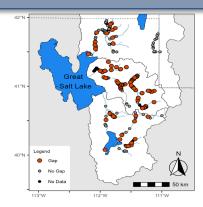
## Process Overview | Gap Categories





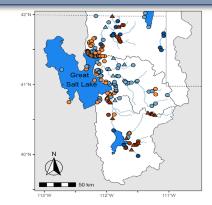


Existing Measurement Infrastructure Gaps



- Telemetry
- Condition
- Interval
- Consistency

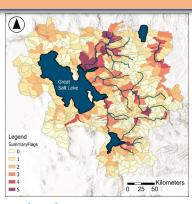
Stakeholder Identified Gaps



- New Infrastructure
- Requested Updates

Spatial Analysis

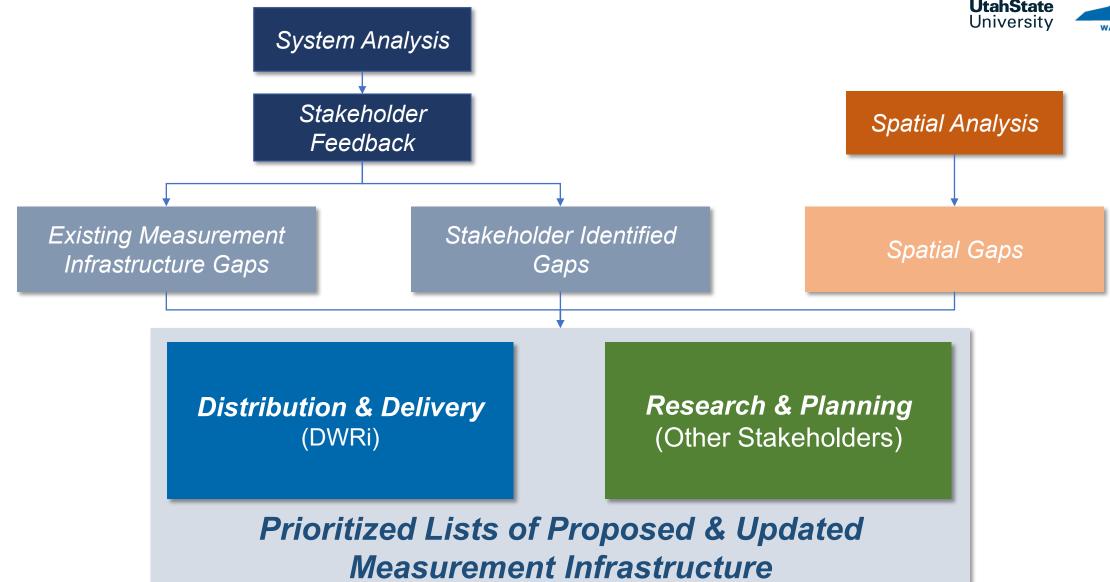
Spatial Gaps



- Ag Area
- Wetland Area
- Point Sources
- Ungaged Confluences
- Etc.

## Process Overview | Prioritized Lists





## Gap Analysis | Preliminary Findings

### **Bear River**

### **Existing Infrastructure**

• Diversion Gaps: 25

• Streamgage Gaps: 2

#### **New Infrastructure**

• Diversion Gaps: 13

• Streamgage Gaps: 22

### **Weber River**

### **Existing Infrastructure**

• Diversion Gaps: 96

Streamgage Gaps: 8

#### **New Infrastructure**

Diversion Gaps: 8

• Streamgage Gaps: 70

### **Utah Lake & Jordan River**

### **Existing Infrastructure**

• Diversion Gaps: 49

Streamgage Gaps: 4

#### **New Infrastructure**

• Diversion Gaps: 32

• Streamgage Gaps: 33

- Gap Analysis report to be finalized and published July 2024.
- Additional analysis for managed wetlands and mineral extractors to be completed in FY25 (Approximately 140 suggested gages around GSL).







# Thank You | Questions

