



Great Salt Lake Contributions - January to October 2024

Over the past four years, the state of Utah has made significant changes to water law and investments in conservation for the long-term health of the Great Salt Lake. Additionally, water users across the Great Salt Lake Basin have begun to conserve and dedicate water to help the lake. The Office of the Great Salt Lake Commissioner is working on a 2034 Plan for a Healthy Great Salt Lake that will identify baseline targets for the amount of water that needs to be voluntarily conserved, dedicated, and delivered to the lake to reverse the long-term downward trend of lake elevation levels. The key to the lake's long-term health is having everyone working together to get enough water to the lake in balance with other water uses in the basin.

Table 1 - Great Salt Lake Contributions Jan. to Oct. 2024		
Transaction Type	Acre-Feet	Total Acre-Feet by Transaction Type ^c
Permanent		21,311.09
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* ^{a, b}	20,650.23	
Other ^b	660.86	
Compass Minerals ^d	0-156,000	
Multi-Year		34,862.77
Rio Tinto Kennecott* ^{a, b, c}	18,386.77	
Central Utah Water Conservancy District* ^{a, b}	2,927	
Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District* ^{a, b}	12,049	
Ogden City (15 years)	1,500	
Annual		13,168.87
Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District* ^{a, b} & Welby Jacob Water Users Company	5,300 3,000	
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* ^{a, b}	1,700	
Weber Basin Water Conservancy District* and Others	3,168.87	
TOTAL Water Transactions - January-October 2024		69,342.86

Trust Transactions **HB453** Office of the Great Salt Lake Commissioner

a Donation

b Diversion basis

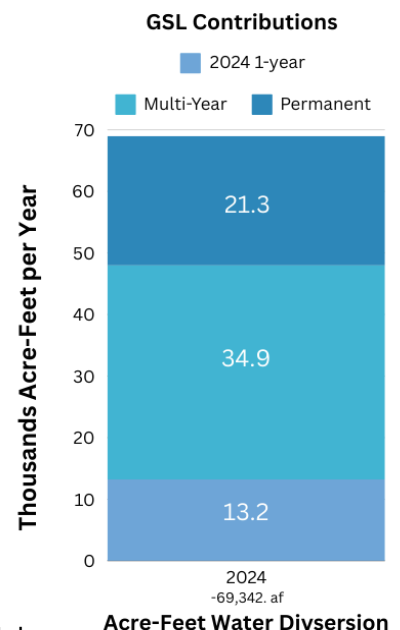
c Final water delivery reporting for 2024 not yet available

d Range will vary between 0-156,000 acre-feet based on the lake's health, including a 50% decrease at 4,195 ft.



The Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust (Trust) and/or its managers,¹ working in partnership with many organizations, including the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands and the Division of Wildlife Resources, have facilitated or funded water transactions for Great Salt Lake and its wetlands of nearly 68,000 acre-feet on a diversion basis for the period of January to October of 2024. Other major Trust partners* are listed in Table 1. The Trust continues to advance new voluntary water transactions for the period January to October 2024.

¹ The Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust is jointly managed by National Audubon Society's Saline Lakes Program and The Nature Conservancy in Utah.



HB 453

The Utah Legislature passed [HB 453](#) Great Salt Lake Revisions in 2024, which provides a tax incentive for companies to voluntarily reduce their water use based on the health of the lake through an agreement with the state.

This bill, coupled with the willingness of companies to enter into an agreement with the state, will result in less water being directly diverted and depleted from the Great Salt Lake. Reducing water depletion from the lake will help the lake reach and be sustained at a healthy range more quickly.

Through HB 453, mineral companies can continue extracting critical minerals from the lake while ensuring that the state receives fair compensation for using its minerals.

The Office of the Great Salt Lake Commissioner

Under SB 18 (2024), water rights holders can sell, lease, or send water downstream to the Great Salt Lake without fear of losing their water rights. The Commissioner's Office is working with those interested across the Great Salt Lake Basin to arrange voluntary water transactions that will then be reviewed by the Division of Water Rights.