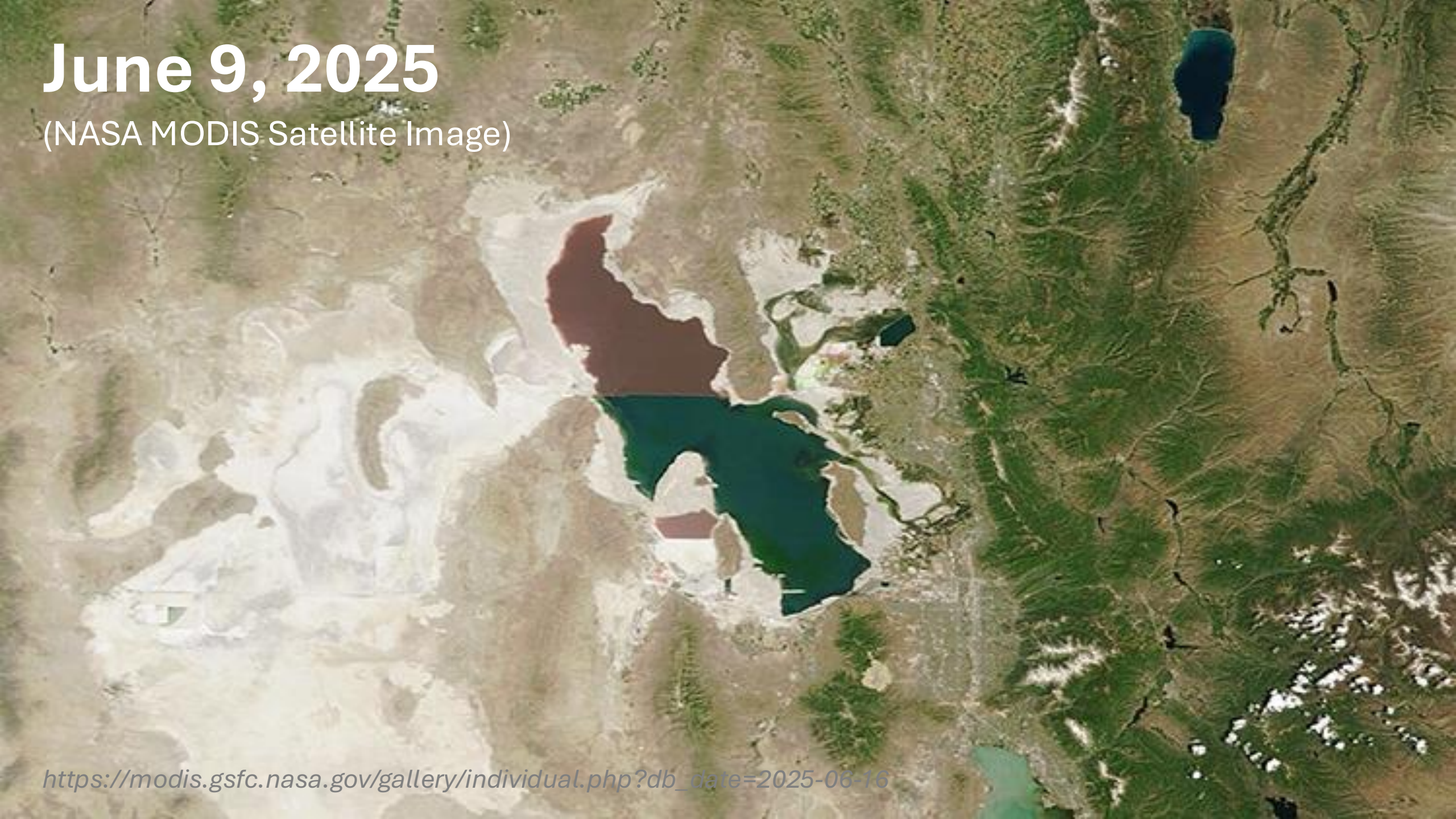
Great Salt Lake 2026:

Where We Are and Where We Are Going

Great Salt Lake Commissioners Office

June 9, 2025

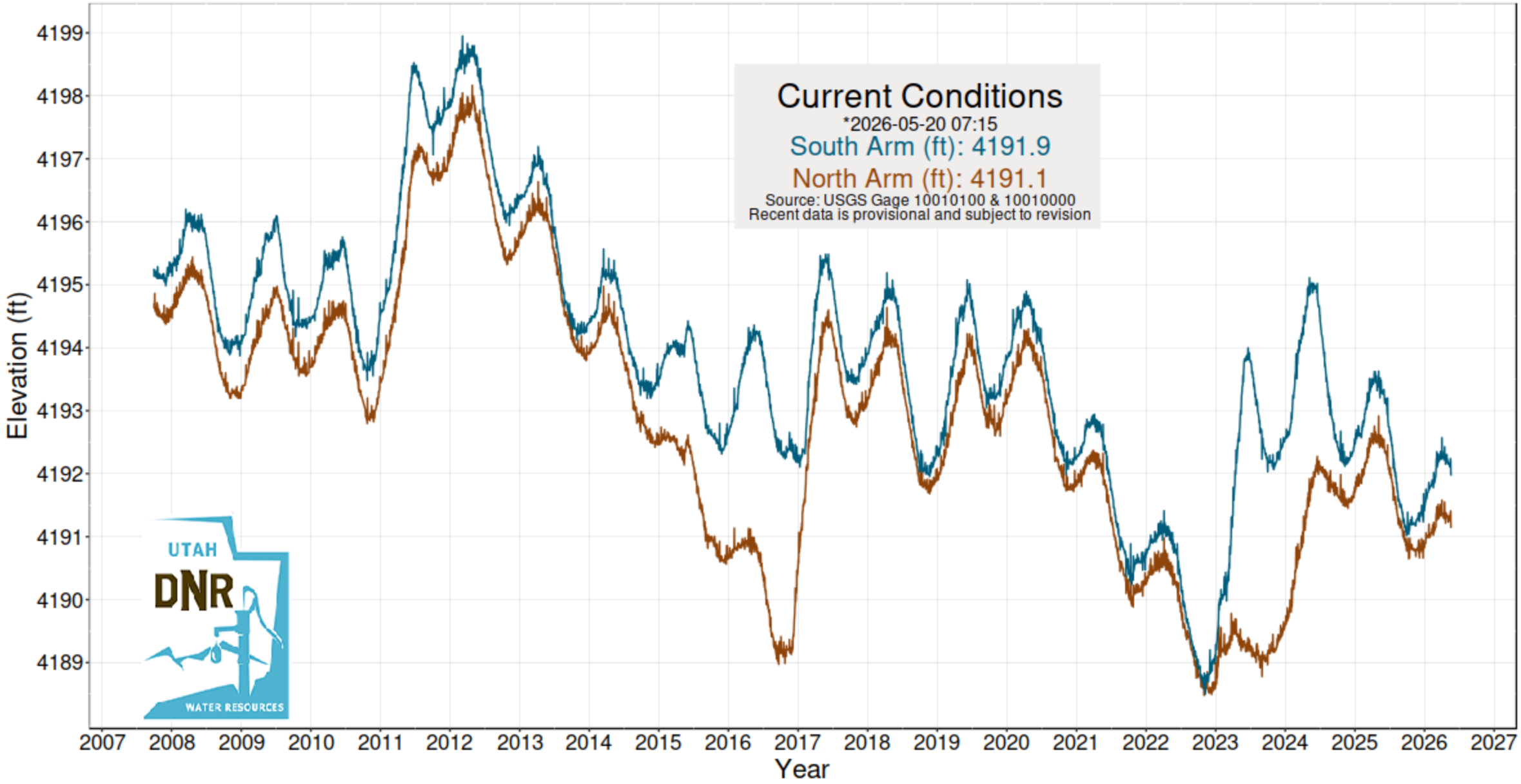
(NASA MODIS Satellite Image)



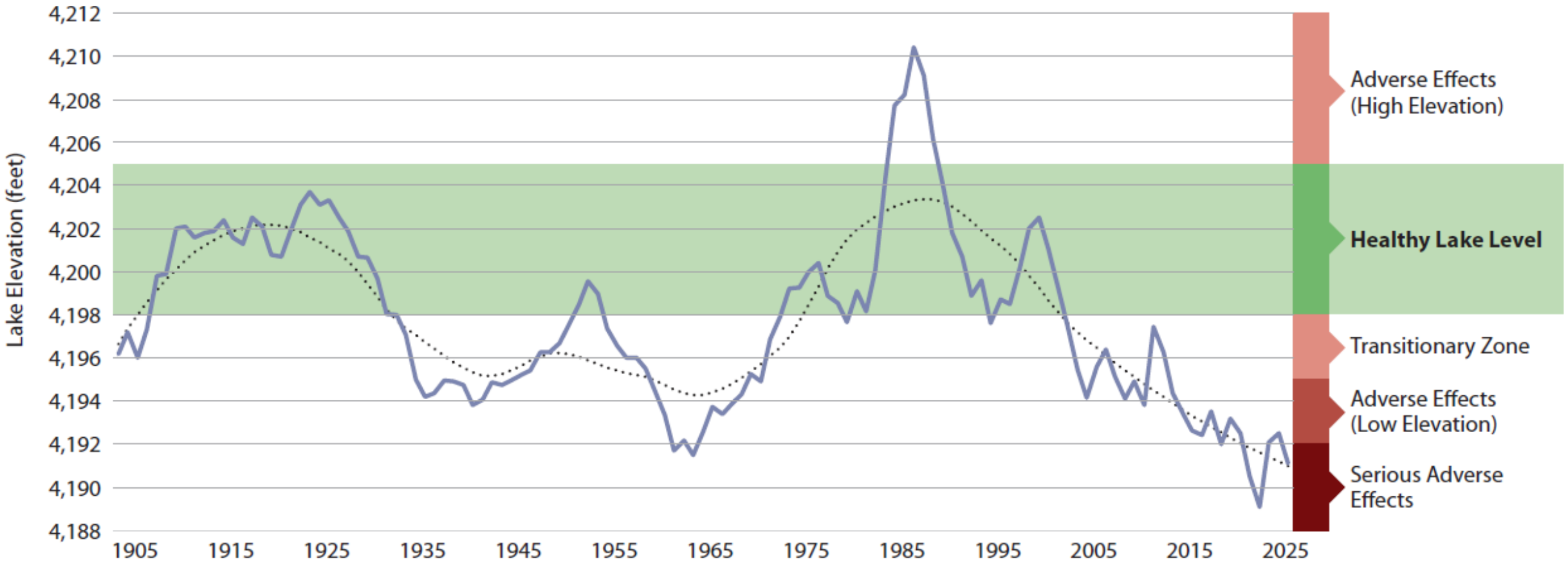
https://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/gallery/individual.php?db_date=2025-06-16

Great Salt Lake Elevations

Updated 05/20/2026



Elevation of Great Salt Lake South Arm, 1903-2025 Water-year-end Elevation



AWS Plot | SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN GREAT SALT LAKE

This page can auto-populate with URL encoded arguments. Click here for more information.

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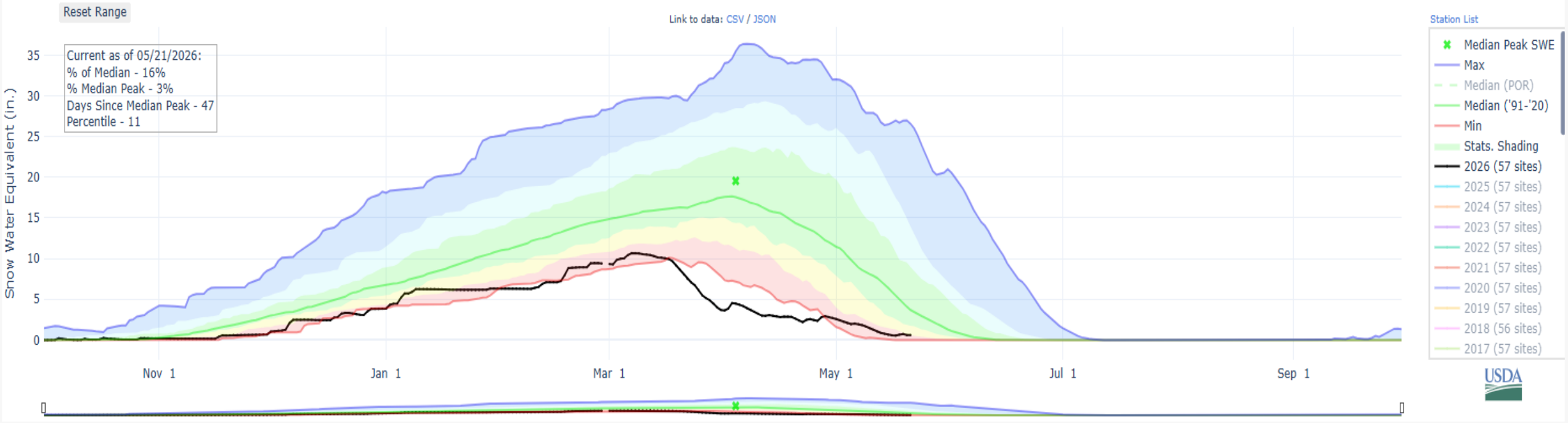
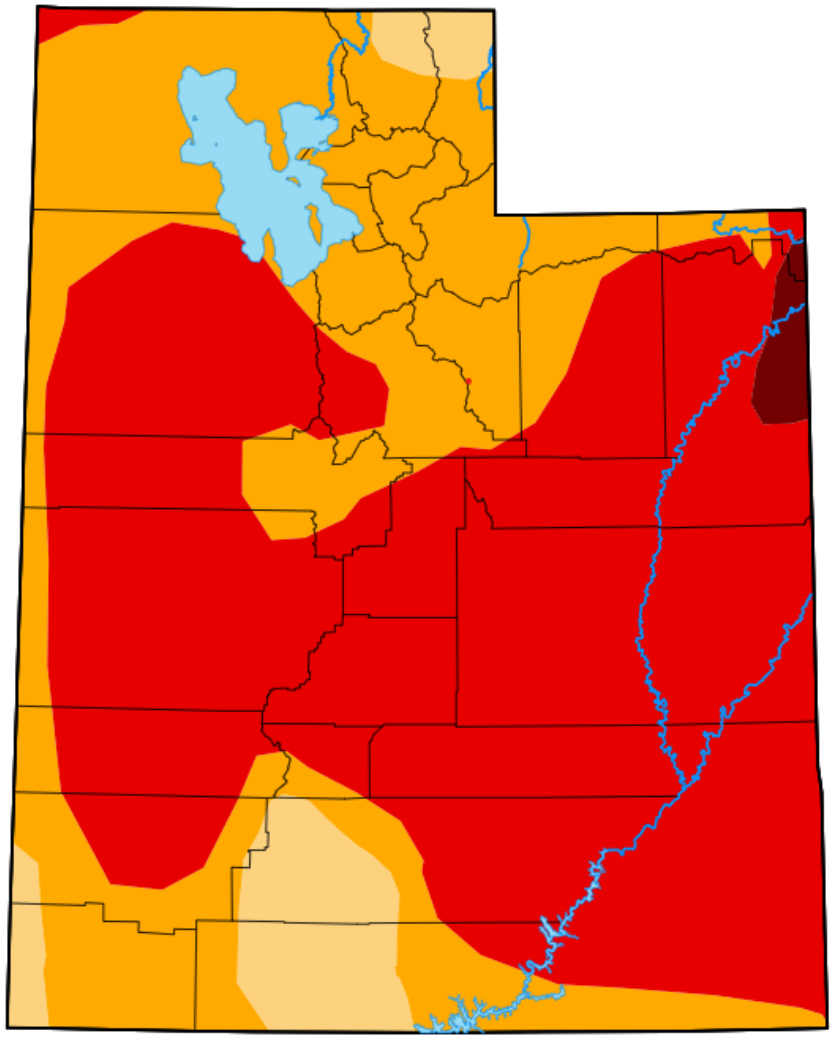


Statistical shading percentiles are calculated from period of record (POR) data, excluding the current water year. Percentile categories range from: minimum to 10th percentile , 10th - 30th , 30th - 70th , 70th - 90th , and 90th - maximum.

For more information visit: 30-Year Hydroclimatic Normals

Updated: Thursday, May 21, 2026 09 AM CST

Utah



Map released: Thurs. May 14, 2026

Data valid: May 12, 2026 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

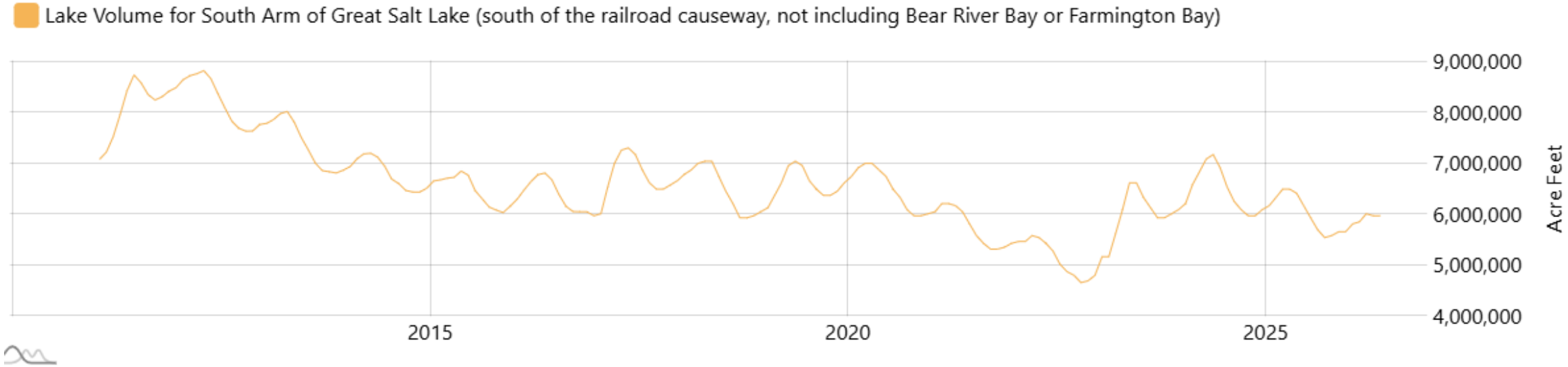
Authors

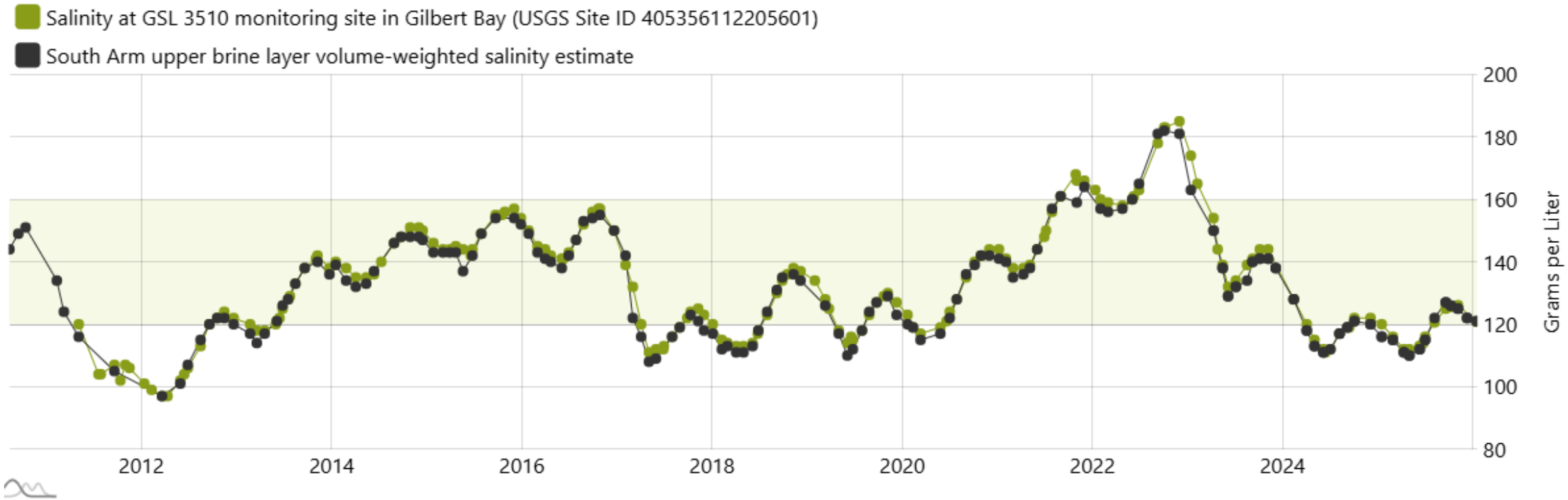
United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

Rocky Bilotta, NOAA/NCEI

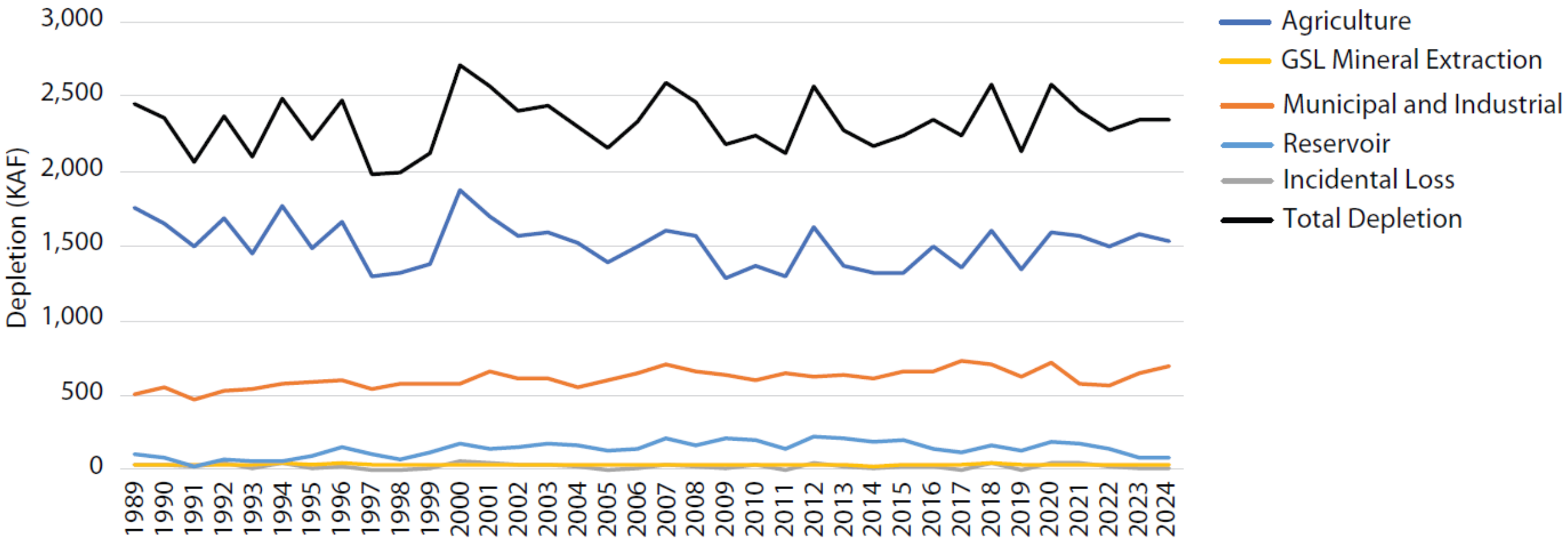
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

Tsegaye Tadesse, National Drought Mitigation Center


Lake Volume for South Arm of Great Salt Lake (south of the railroad causeway, not including Bear River Bay or Farmington Bay)
9,000,000
8,000,000
7,000,000
6,000,000
5,000,000
4,000,000
Acre Feet
2015
2020
2025

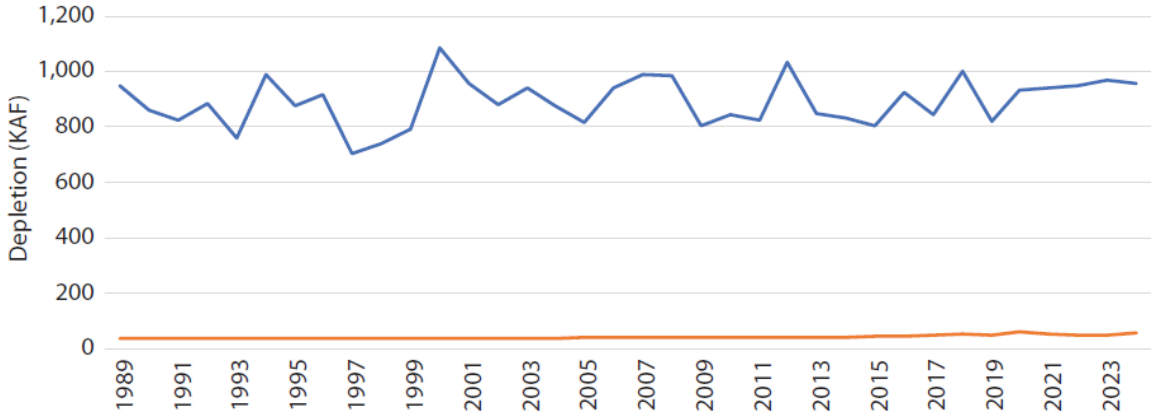

Salinity at GSL 3510 monitoring site in Gilbert Bay (USGS Site ID 405356112205601)
South Arm upper brine layer volume-weighted salinity estimate
200
180
160
140
120
100
80
Grams per Liter
2012
2014
2016
2018
2020
2022
2024

Human Water Depletions in GSL Basin by Type, 1989-2024

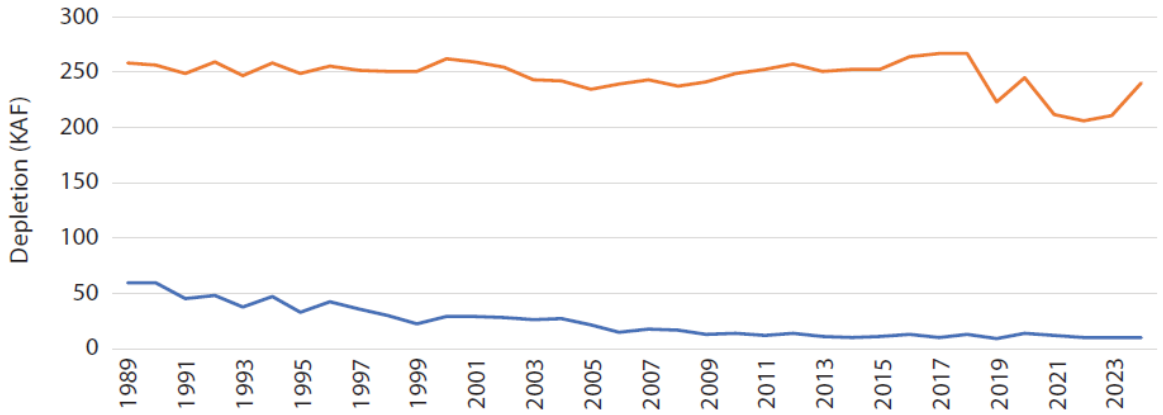


Agriculture and M&I Depletion in GSL Basin

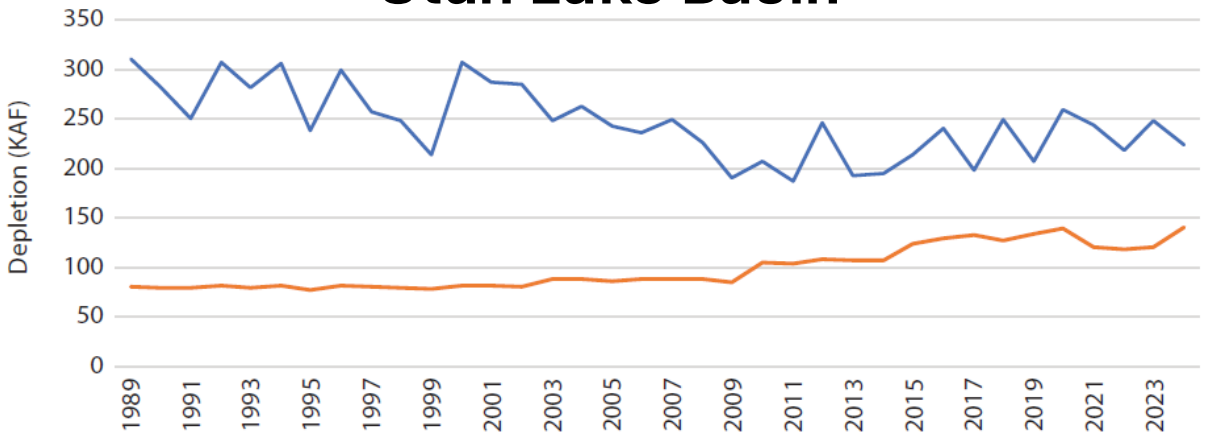
Bear River Basin



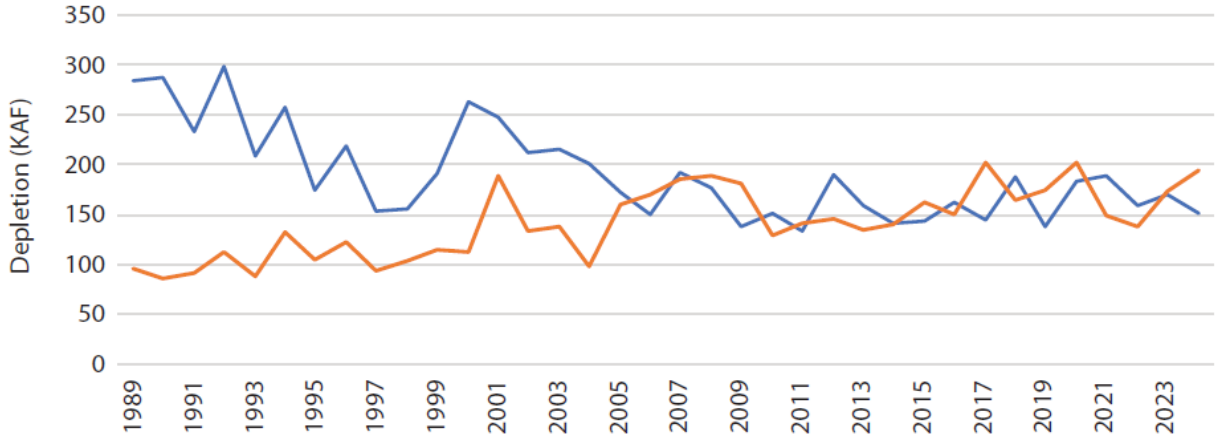
Jordan River Basin



Utah Lake Basin

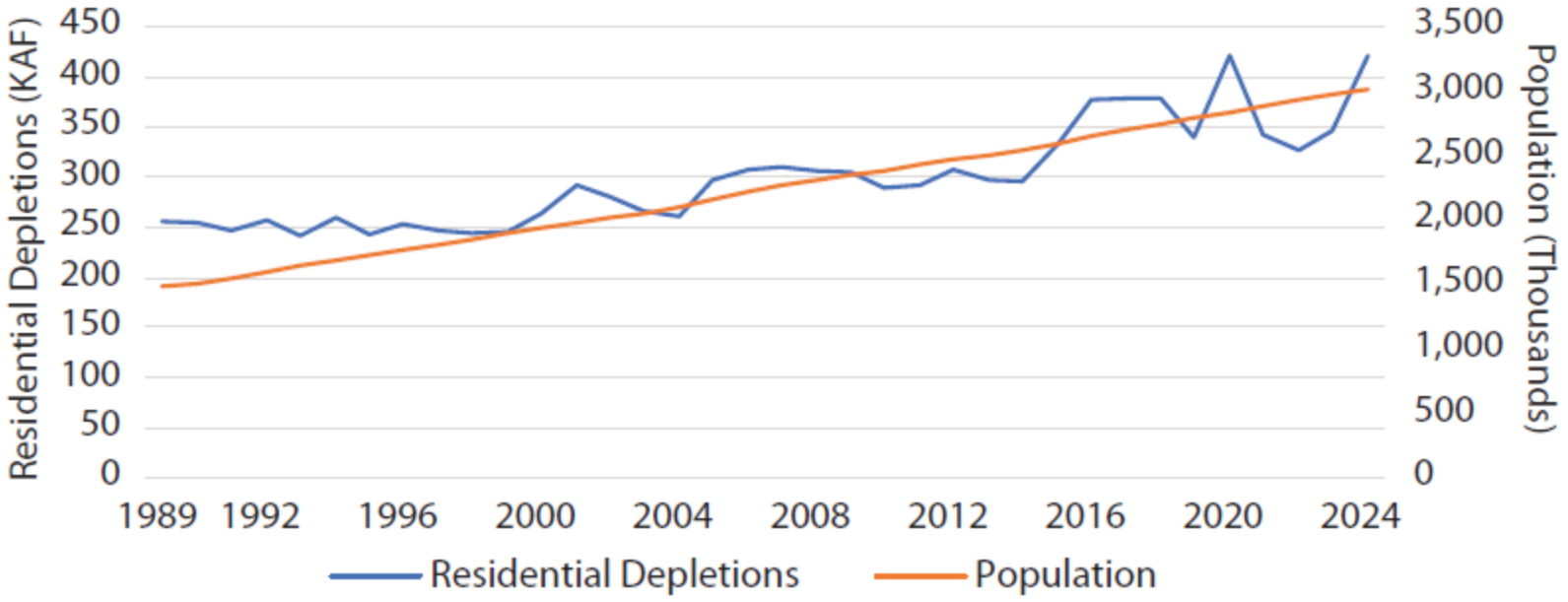


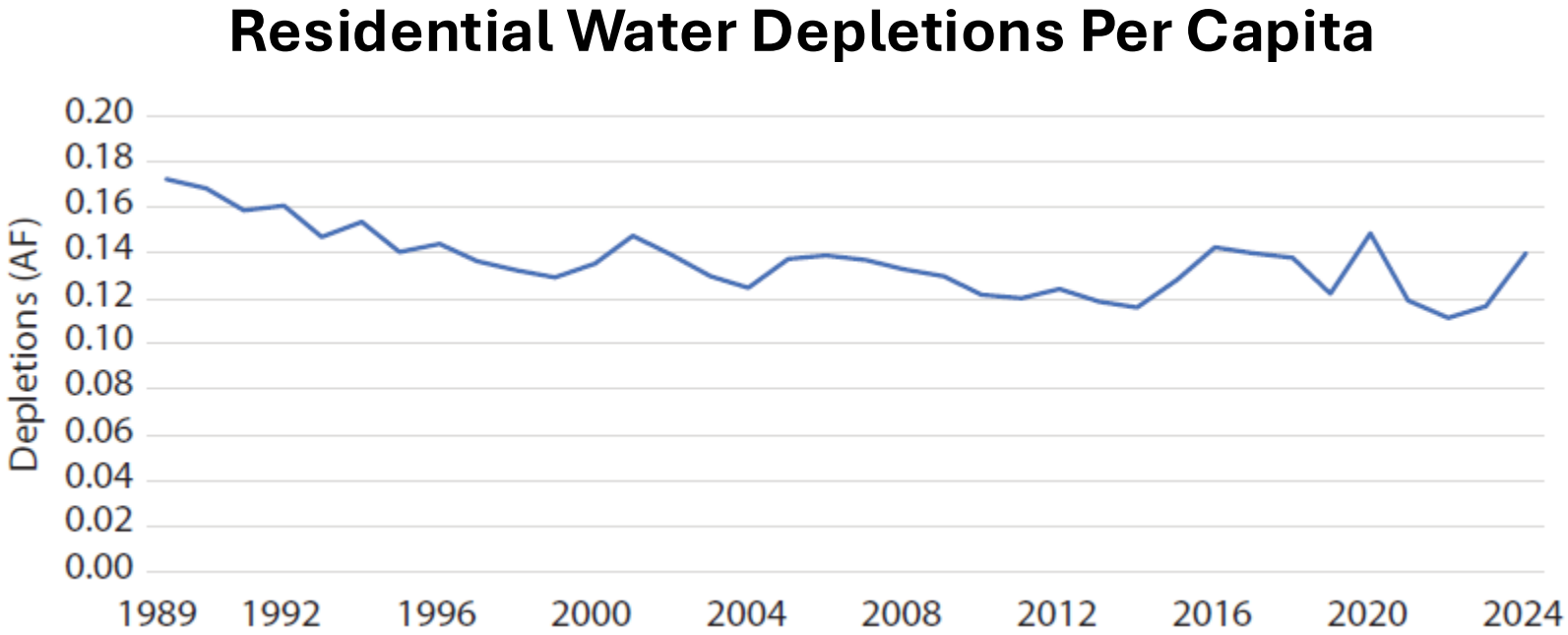
Weber River Basin



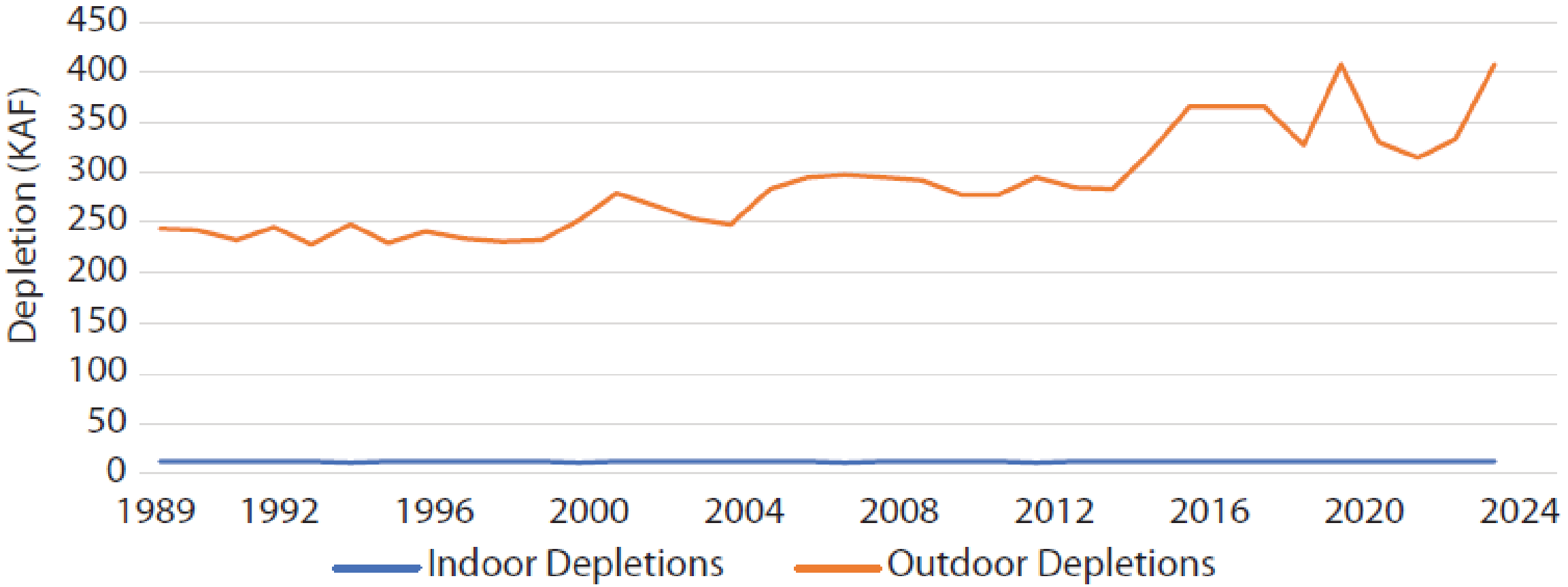
Agriculture Municipal and Industrial

Residential Depletions and Population in GSL Basin, 1989-2024





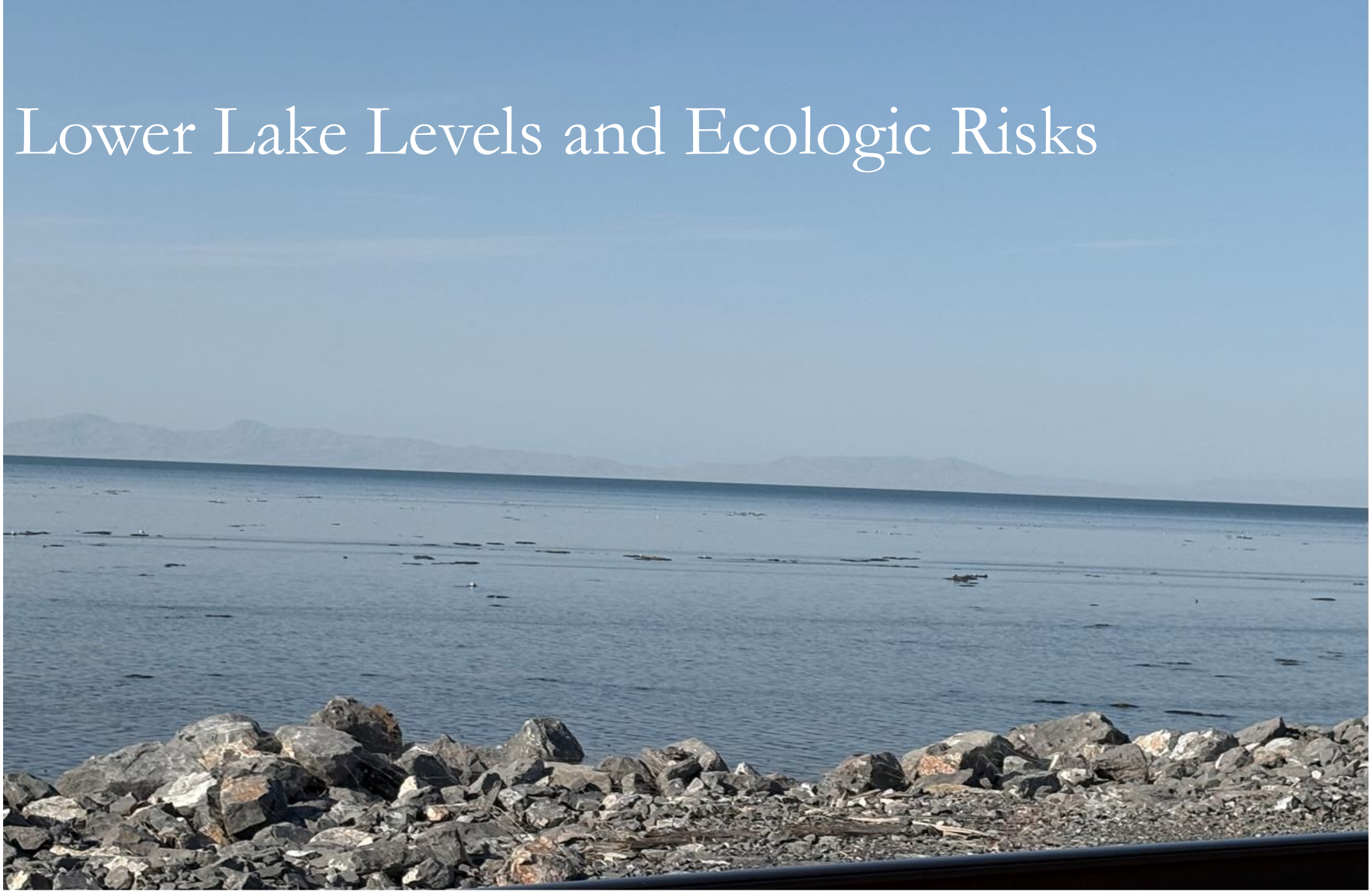
Residential Indoor and Outdoor Depletions in GSL Basin



Continuing Threats

Exposed Lakebed—Bear River

Lower Lake Levels and Ecologic Risks



ESA listing petition

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilson%27s_phalarope#/media/File:Wilson's_Phalarope,_Oregon_03_(cropped).jpg

Litigation

https://mybestplace.com/uploads/2024/8/Mono-Lake-California-USA-COVER-1.jpg

The State Response

Great Salt Lake Strategic Plan—2024

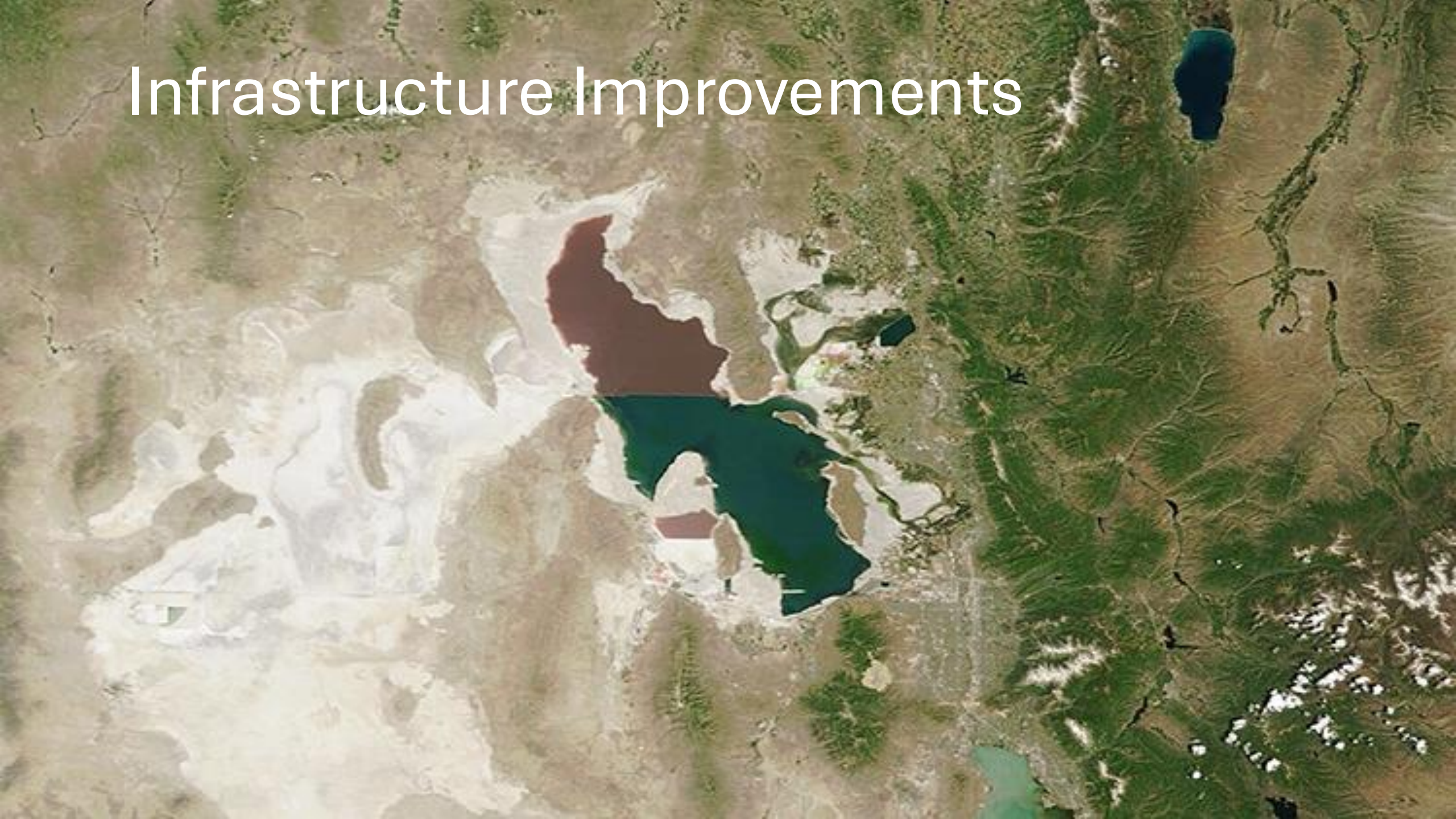
Better coordinating efforts

Best available science

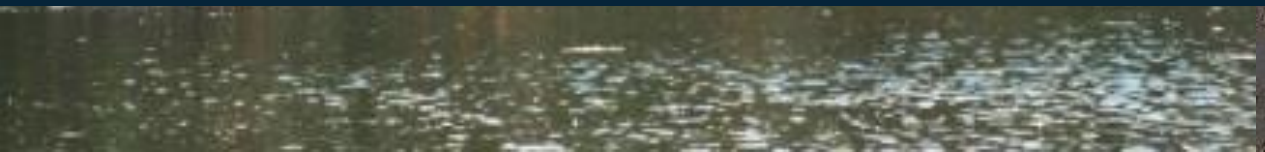
Getting more water to the lake

Managing salinity, dust, and water quality

Infrastructure Improvements



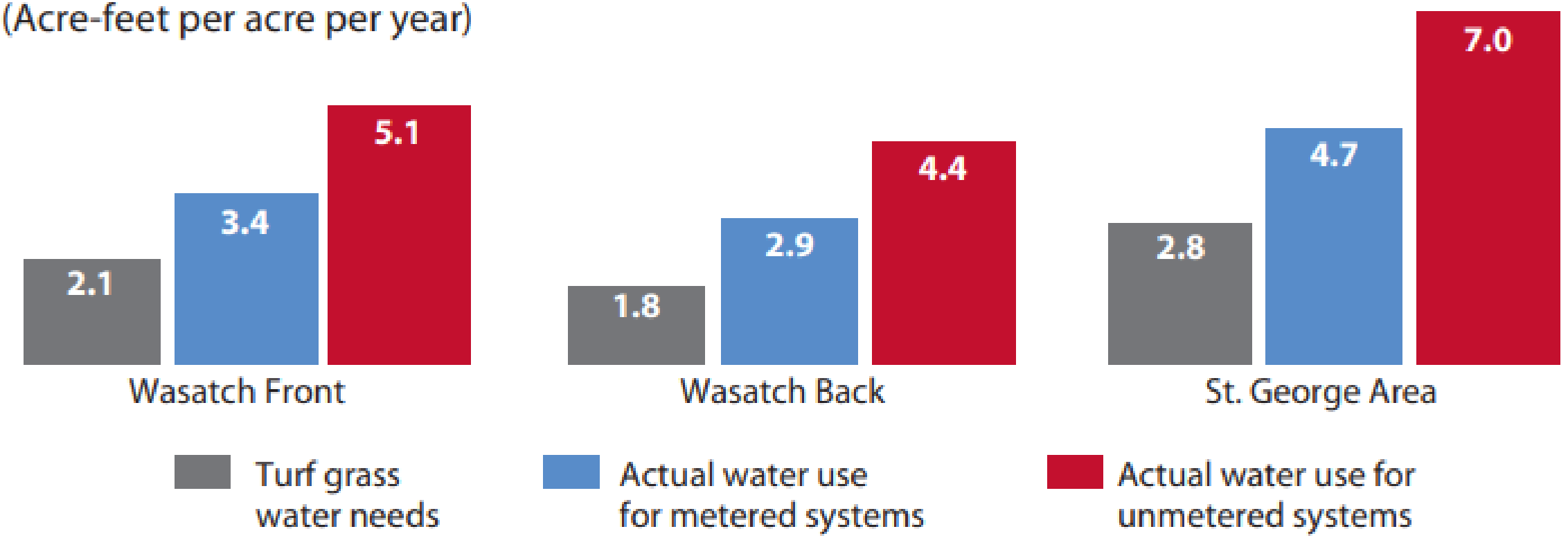
Habitat Restoration and aggressive removal water-sucking invasive species



More conservation in municipal/industrial

Figure 14: Estimated Lawn Watering Use Compared to Plant Needs, 2018

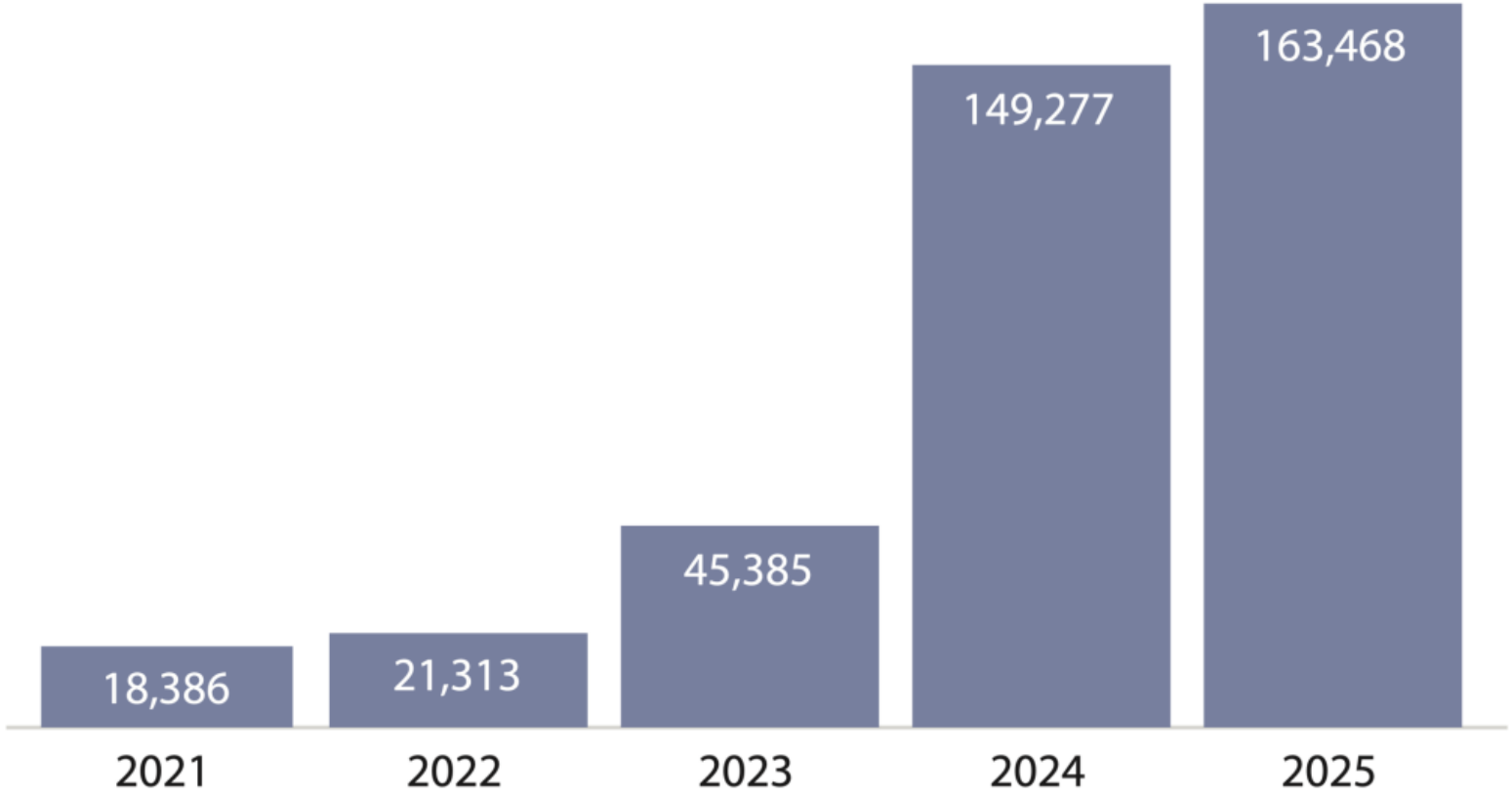
(Acre-feet per acre per year)



Source: Utah Department of Natural Resources - State of Utah Water Use Data Collection Program Report

Combined Efforts are Having a Positive Impact on the Lake

Water Dedicated and Delivered to Great Salt Lake in Acre-Feet



Questions