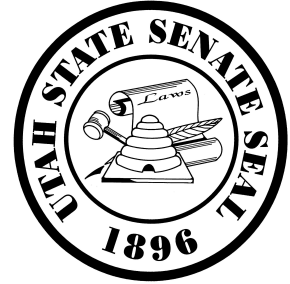




Performance Note
HB0166 - Watershed Councils
Sponsor: Rep. Hawkes, Timothy D.



Performance Note Report

Author: Jim Egbert

Agency: Department of Natural Resources

Funding For:

New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

Purpose: This bill identifies the Division of Water Resources as the host agency for watershed councils at both the state and local levels. It specifies that the division will provide staff and resources for this effort. Currently, projects within a watershed are conducted independently of one another. Projects typically work well addressing a single issue and all parties involved focus on resolving that issue. A broader perspective for projects or issues within a watershed is needed. A multi-interest watershed council would be instrumental in identifying added benefits that may be achieved above or below a specific project area. Conversely, the watershed council may be instrumental in avoiding unintended adverse effects as a result of a proposed project by taking into consideration the overall needs of the watershed. By coordinating the timing of projects within the watershed, savings could be achieved by minimizing the mobilization and demobilization of equipment, materials, and workers to a certain area in the watershed. Lastly, discussions through the watershed council setting could resolve conflicts early in the planning process.

Services: This legislation and funding would provide the means to establish and support the perpetual operation of state and regional watershed coordinating councils to minimize work within a common watershed area currently being conducted independently and without coordination.

Expected Outcome: The goal is improved coordination for projects and uses within a watershed area. This legislation will encourage sharing information to achieve broad application of lessons learned in one area. Funding would be used to organize and establish a state watersheds council and a regional watershed advisory council in each of twelve watersheds throughout the state. After the initial organization, funds would be used to support one program manager and meeting attendance of the State Council members.

Implementations and Resources: This legislation would require 1 FTE for a program manager to oversee the creation and organization of all watershed councils within the state. In addition to a program manager, an additional 0.25 FTE would be necessary for administrative support to assist this program.

How: One program manager will oversee the creation and organization of all watershed councils and will be able to apply lessons learned throughout the state to each subsequent watershed council. The program manager will also be a conduit for information between watershed councils and to the state

watershed council. Without this legislation, projects within watersheds throughout the state will continue to be managed independently of each other resulting in duplication of funding and effort. In the absence of coordination, improvements planned in a watershed may result in unintended negative impacts on other aspects of the watershed or may reverse work that was done earlier or make future work more difficult and costlier to accomplish. Coordinating efforts as outlined in this bill can minimize these potential conflicts in the planning phase before construction begins.

Performance Measures.....

Goal

Title: Watershed Council Performance Measures.

Description: To improve coordination for projects and uses within regional watershed areas through the development of a state and regional watershed council.

Collection Method: In order to assess the success of the watershed councils, targets have been set on establishing the number of regional councils developed over the next several years.

	2020	2021	2022
Target	0.00	1.00	3.00
Baseline	0.00	0.00	0.00

By rule, performance notes are provided by the governmental entity that will supervise the new agency or administer the new program. Performance notes are not written by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.