

- 26 65A-15-103, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 27 65A-15-201, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 28 65A-15-202, Utah Code Annotated 1953



30 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

31 Section 1. Section 65A-15-101 is enacted to read:

32 **CHAPTER 15. UTAH LAKE RESTORATION ACT**

33 **Part 1. General Provisions**

34 **65A-15-101. Title.**

35 This chapter is known as the "Utah Lake Restoration Act."

36 Section 2. Section 65A-15-102 is enacted to read:

37 **65A-15-102. Definitions.**

38 As used in this chapter:

39 (1) "Restoration project" means a project for the comprehensive restoration of Utah
40 Lake, as provided in this chapter.

41 (2) "Restoration proposal" means a proposal submitted to the division for
41a a restoration
42 project.

43 Section 3. Section 65A-15-103 is enacted to read:

44 **65A-15-103. Legislative findings.**

45 The Legislature finds that:

46 (1) Utah Lake currently faces serious challenges, including:

- 47 (a) fluctuating lake levels;
- 48 (b) uncontrolled, toxic algal blooms;
- 49 (c) loss of native vegetation;
- 50 (d) invasive fish and plant species;
- 51 (e) loss of littoral zone plants;
- 52 (f) suspended silt on the lake bottom;
- 53 (g) poor water clarity;
- 54 (h) heavy nutrient loading of lake sediments and within the water column; and
- 55 (i) high wind and wave action;
- 56 (2) initial conservation efforts are producing measurable results and demonstrate that

57 conservation solutions can produce restoration objective on Utah Lake;

58 (3) additional and significant conservation investments are needed to implement the
59 comprehensive solutions needed to fully restore Utah Lake and its water quality;

60 (4) there is not a reasonable public funding source to undertake the comprehensive
61 solutions needed to restore Utah Lake; and

62 (5) it is in the interest of the state to undertake a comprehensive restoration of Utah
63 Lake for the benefit of public trust uses on the lake.

64 Section 4. Section **65A-15-201** is enacted to read:

65 **Part 2. Utah Lake Restoration Project**

66 **65A-15-201. Division authority to dispose of sovereign land in exchange for Utah**
67 **Lake restoration project -- Criteria.**

68 **(1) ~~H~~→ [The] Subject to the [prior] approval of the Legislative Management Committee**
68a **[and the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee of the**
68b **Legislature] , the ~~H~~ division may dispose of appropriately available state land in and**
68c **around Utah**

69 **Lake as compensation for the comprehensive restoration of Utah Lake under a restoration**
70 **proposal if the division finds that the restoration project will:**

71 **(a) restore the clarity and quality of the water in Utah Lake;**

72 **(b) conserve water resources in and around Utah Lake;**

73 **(c) preserve the water storage and water supply functions of Utah Lake;**

74 **(d) remove invasive plant and animal species, including phragmites and carp, from**
75 **Utah Lake;**

76 **(e) restore littoral zone and other plant communities in and around Utah Lake;**

77 **(f) restore and conserve native fish and other aquatic species in Utah Lake, including**
78 **Bonneville cutthroat trout and June Sucker;**

79 **(g) increase the suitability of Utah Lake and its surrounding areas for shore birds,**
80 **waterfowl, and other avian species;**

81 **(h) improve navigability of Utah Lake;**

82 **(i) maximize, enhance, and ensure recreational access and opportunities on Utah Lake;**

83 **~~H~~→ [and]**

83a **(j) preserve current water rights related to water associated with Utah Lake; and**
84 **[(j)] (k) ~~H~~ otherwise improve the use of Utah Lake for residents and visitors.**

85 **(2) In determining whether to dispose of state land in exchange for the execution of a**
86 **restoration project, as provided in Subsection (1) and pursuant to a restoration proposal, the**
87 **division shall consider:**