

Division of Outdoor Recreation Administrative Rule Proposal - Public Meeting
Administrative Rule Under Consideration: R650-307 Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Grant Program
April 2nd, 2026
9:00-9:30 AM
Meeting Minutes (below)

This meeting will be held in-person and virtually.

In-person: Utah Department of Natural Resources
1594 W North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84116
Trailhead Conference Room

Virtually: Zoom

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83171246224?pwd=N3dtOjM0bnVlK0p1aUJmQUJlZWZaQAMCcr6d6ZZ.1>

Meeting ID: 831 7124 6224

Passcode: email jvazquez@utah.gov to obtain the passcode.

AGENDA:

9:00-9:05 AM Welcome and introduction from the Division of Outdoor Recreation

9:05-9:10 AM Review proposed administrative rule

- Jorge Vazquez, Recreation Grant Analyst
[HB456](#) (2025 General Session) created the Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Grant and Board.
This rule is being proposed in accordance with 79-9-102, which requires the Division of Outdoor Recreation to administer an outdoor recreation mitigation grants program, and to make rules (in consultation with the Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Board created in Section 79-9-104) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act as necessary to perform the division's duties in Title 79, Chapter 9.

9:10-9:30 AM Open Public Comment Period

Adjourn

Please note: the Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Grant and Board ("Board") heard this proposed rule during a public hearing on March 13, 2026. More information (including meeting minutes and audio) can be found on the Public Notice Website: <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/1065643.html>.

The rule will also be posted in Administrative Rule Bulletin Issue No. 2026-07 (available 4/1/2026). Public comments will be accepted via the E-Rule site until 5/1/2026, and during this meeting.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodation during this meeting should notify India Nielsen at 385-268-2570 or indianielsen@utah.gov prior to the meeting.

Meeting Minutes: Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Grant Program

Date: April 14, 2026 **Subject:** Proposed Administrative Rule R650-307

(0:17) Deputy Director India Nielsen Barfuss called the public meeting to order.

(0:30) Introductions

- **India Nielsen Barfuss:** Deputy Director of Operations, Division of Outdoor Recreation
- **Patrick Morrison:** Recreation Program Director, Division of Outdoor Recreation
- **Jorge Vazquez:** Recreation Grant Analyst, Division of Outdoor Recreation

(0:49) **Review of Proposed Administrative Rule R650-307** This rule is proposed in accordance with **Utah Code 79-9-102**, passed during the 2025 legislative session. The statute mandates that the Division of Outdoor Recreation administer an outdoor recreation mitigation grants program.

(1:20) Rule Sections Overview (Presented by Jorge Vazquez)

- **Section I:** General authority of rulemaking.
- **Section II:** Key definitions, specifically focusing on eligible costs.
- **Section III:** Grant application requirements and submission procedures.
- **Section IV:** Eligible entities and allowable uses for funds (e.g., visitor-related safety and emergency costs).
- **Section V:** Formula for grant recipients and the prioritization matrix.
- **Section VI:** Reporting and reimbursement protocols; best practices for grant management.

(4:30) Deputy Director Barfuss noted that the bill establishing this rulemaking authority also created a formal board. This rule was previously discussed with the board during a public meeting on **March 13, 2026**. Records from that meeting will be linked for reference.

(5:20) The meeting was opened for public comment. The Division stood by for constituents attending in person or via the virtual meeting platform.

(28:28) Deputy Director Barfuss noted the time as 9:29 AM. No members of the public attended in person or online. It was noted that the recording may end abruptly due to technical settings. Jorge Vazquez confirmed that no public participants were present in the digital queue.

(29:39) With no public attendance, Deputy Director Barfuss moved to conclude the meeting. Jorge Vazquez thanked the team for their work and invited the public to contact him directly with any questions regarding the rule.

(30:28) Meeting adjourned.