



State of Utah

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Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Tim Davis
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DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Director

Water Quality Board
James Webb, Chair
Trevor Heaton, Vice Chair
Jeannie Simmonds
Robert Fehr
Michela Harris
Joseph Havasi
Jill Jones
Tim Davis
Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Executive Secretary

Utah Water Quality Board Meeting
MASOB (Board Room)
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
And
[Google Meet](#)

May 27, 2026
Board Meeting Begins at 8:30 AM

AGENDA

Water Quality Board Meeting Call to Order & Roll Call **James Webb**

Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for April 22, 2026
Water Quality Board Meeting **James Webb**

Executive Secretary Report **Candice A. Hasenyager**

Wastewater Certification Program:

1. Presentation of the Utah Wastewater Operator
Certification Program 2025 Annual Report **Tessa Scheuer & Chad Burrell**

Compliance & Enforcement:

1. Request for Approval of Settlement Docket No. I25-01
for Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC **Eric Castejon**

Other:

1. Requests for Designated Use and Antidegradation Reclassifications:
Weber River, Middle Provo River & Deer Creek Reservoir **Jake Vander Laan**

Public Comment Period

Meeting Adjournment **James Webb**

Next Meeting
June 24, 2026, at 8:30 am
MASOB & Via [Google Meet](#)
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116



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MINUTES

**UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
UTAH WATER QUALITY BOARD**

MASOB

and

Via [Google Meet](#)

April 22, 2026

8:30 am Board Meeting

UTAH WATER QUALITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

James Webb	Tim Davis
Michela Harris	Rob Fehr
Jill Jones	
Joe Havasi	
Jeannie Simmonds	

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY STAFF MEMBERS' PRESENT

Candice A. Hasenyager	Emily Cantón
Clanci Hawks	Christa Hutchison
Deidre Beck	Dave Pierson
Sandy Wingert	Leanna Littler-Woolf
Jacob Ridgway	Lonnie Shull
Samuel Taylor	Alex Heppner
Linsey Shafer	
Danielle Lenz	

OTHERS PRESENT

Colin Ricks	Mathew Myers
Nunjot Nesson	Soren Simonsen
Joel Thompson	Ashley Peck
John Gallaglos	Phillip Heck
Ryan Morrill	Liz Harris
Sarah Clancy	Justin Elsner
Eric Dixon	Leland Myers

Mr. Webb called the Meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Webb took roll call for the members of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 25, 2026, Meeting

Motion: Ms. Jones moved to approve the meeting minutes.
Mr. Havasi seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT:

Mrs. Hasenyager addressed the Board with the following updates:

- Western States Water Council Meeting: Participated in Congressional meet-and-greet alongside state water officials to discuss statewide water issues.
- Bear River Commission Meetings: Held productive interstate discussion in Pocatello. Secured commitment for Idaho & Wyoming to collaborate on Utah's Bear Lake Protection Plan.
- Bear Lake Infrastructure: Reported that a sewer project funding application was prioritized by Congressman Moore's office, with a response pending from Senator Curtis' office. A regional density study is also planned. Our primary focus remains the necessity of sewer installation on the east side to ensure the long-term protection of Bear Lake.
- Water Environment Association of Utah: DWQ had many successful presentations during the April 13-17, 2026, conference.
- Utah Lake Science Panel: Pivoted the project focus from strict numeric criteria toward targets and a holistic watershed approach. We are making good progress in this area.
- DEQ Abundance Accelerator Update: DWQ staff are continuing to work on the comprehensive internal review of all division rules, statutes and workflows to improve efficiency.
- EPA Submission: DWQ submitted the Integrated Report to the EPA for review and approval.
- Federal Permits: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers posted a Notice of Solicitation of Input on Potential Future Changes to Nationwide Permits (NWPs). NWPs are General Dredge and Fill (Section 404) permits. The posting doesn't identify potential changes but instead identifies topics in which they are soliciting feedback. The DWQ is evaluating and assessing whether they will issue comments in coordination with the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO).

- Personnel: Announcement of the departure of Engineering Section Manager Ken Hoffman. He has moved on to join the Division of Drinking Water and recruitment for his replacement is underway.

FUNDING:

Request for JH Land & Livestock, LLC, Interest Rate Buy Down:

Ms. Cantón introduced a funding request for JH Land & Livestock, LLC. The company holds an ARDL Loan of \$735,000 (15-year term, 2.75% full interest rate) approved by the UCC on March 3, 2026. ARDL staff requested a \$75,000 interest rate buy-down to reduce the rate to 1.375% and waive the 1% administrative fee.

Motion: Ms. Jones moved to approve the interest rate buy down with a new dollar amount of \$82,586.64 that includes the staff recommendations that JH Land and Livestock, LLC must adhere to the developed nutrient management plan and the final project report be submitted to DWQ within 90 days of project completion.
Ms. Harris seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

RULE MAKING:

Initiate Rule Making for the Addendum to the Jordan River Watershed *E. coli* TMDL:

Mr. Taylor presented information on the Jordan River Watershed *E. coli* TMDL and requested approval to initiate rulemaking.

Motion: Mr. Havasi moved to initiate rulemaking to adopt the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) by reference into R317-1-7 for the Jordan River Watershed *E. Coli* TMDL: 2026 Addendum.
Ms. Jones seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER:

1. Unified Water Infrastructure Plan (UWIP) Board Presentation- Presented by UWIP Team
2. Wastewater Treatment Plant Challenges FAS in Biosolids Presentation – Presented by Wasatch Front Water Quality Council (WFWQC)
3. Request to Initiate Informal Rulemaking: Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) & Biosolids. – Presented by Leanna Littler-Woolf

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Soren Simonsen, the Executive Director of the Jordan River Commission Watershed Council, thanked the Division of Water Quality with their efforts to help with the rulemaking for the *E. coli* TMDL Addendum. He also thanked everyone that is helping to make improvements along the Jordan River to address those contaminations.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ms. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting.
Mr. Havasi seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.

The full recording of April 22, 2026, Water Quality Board Meeting may be viewed here [Google Meet](#)

Next Meeting – May 27, 2026
Meeting begins at 8:30 am

In-Person
MASOB
195 North 1950 West
Board Room 1015
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

James Webb, Chair
Utah Water Quality Board



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Quality Board

THROUGH: Candice A. Hasenyager
Division Director

FROM: Tess Scheuer
Wastewater Certification Program Coordinator

DATE: May 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Presentation of the Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Program 2025
Annual Report to the Water Quality Board

The Water Quality Board has requested a yearly report of the Wastewater Operator Certification Program Activities. The Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Program 2025 Annual Report is being presented by Mr. Chad Burrell, who currently serves as Vice Chair of the Wastewater Operator Certification Council. The information contained within the attached report is for 2025 calendar year.

Enclosure: Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council 2025 Annual Report

P:\WQ\CERTIFICATION\OPCERTANNUALREPORTS\2025ARPT\WWOC2025ANNUALREPORTMEMOTOWQB.DOCX
FILE: WWOCC/ANNUAL REPORT 2025



UTAH DEPARTMENT of
**ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY**

Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Program 2025 Annual Report

Drone Footage from South Valley Water Reclamation Facility



Photo courtesy of Spencer Parkinson

Prepared by
The Division of Water Quality

May 2026

UTAH WASTEWATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by

Tessa Scheuer

Wastewater Operator Certification Program Coordinators

Utah Department of Environmental Quality

Division of Water Quality

195 North 1950 West

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Presented to the Water Quality Board on May 27, 2026

by the Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council

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Introduction

In March of 1991, following over 20 years of voluntary certification, wastewater works operator certification became mandatory. Wastewater operator certification is administered by the Division of Water Quality under rules adopted by the Utah Water Quality Board. The Board established the Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council to provide guidance and stakeholder involvement in the program. During 2014, the Board adopted major revisions to Rule R317-10 that incorporated changes required by Senate Bill 21 (2012 General Session) which changed the duties and responsibilities of the environmental boards, their executive secretaries, and division directors. In response to those changes, the Board approved a revision of the rule that organizes the Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council with members appointed by the Board to work in an advisory capacity to the director of the Division of Water Quality for the certification program.

THE UTAH WASTEWATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION COUNCIL

On January 31, 2025, the terms of three council members expired. During the January 2025 Utah Water Quality Board meeting, the Board approved appointment of Jonathan Gubler, Matt Goodrich, and Spencer Parkinson to fill the vacancies for the next 3-year term. In January 2025, Rob Jaterka III left the council mid-term, and the Board approved appointment of Kyle Dean to complete his 3-year term. The Council members serving during 2025 were:

Jonathan Gubler, Chair, represented certified wastewater collection operators. He is employed as the Operators Supervisor for Cottonwood Improvement District and is certified as a Grade IV Collection Operator. His term expires January 31, 2028.

Kyle Dean, Vice-Chair, represented certified wastewater collection operators. He took over Rob Jaterka's position when he abdicated his seat mid-term. He is employed as the Wastewater Maintenance Division Manager for Granger-Hunter Improvement District and is certified as a Grade IV Collection Operator. His term expires January 31, 2027.

Matt Goodrich represented the management of municipal wastewater systems. He is employed as the Assistant Superintendent for Ash Creek Special Service District and is certified as both a Grade IV Wastewater Treatment Operator and Grade IV Collection Operator. His term expires January 31, 2028.

Spencer Parkinson represented certified wastewater treatment operators. He is employed as the Pretreatment Director for South Valley Water Reclamation Facility and is certified as both a Grade IV Wastewater Treatment Operator and Grade IV Collection Operator. His term expires January 31, 2028.

Chad Burrell represented certified wastewater treatment operators. He is the Operations and Safety Manager for Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District and is certified as both a Grade IV Wastewater Treatment Operator and Grade IV Collection Operator. His term expires January 31, 2027.

Phil Harold represented vocational training. He is the wastewater circuit rider for the Rural Water Association of Utah and is certified as both restricted Grade II Collection Operator and restricted Small Lagoon System Operator. His term expires January 31, 2026.

Dr. Ben Willardson represented Utah universities. He teaches the water-related courses at Utah Valley University. His term expires January 31, 2026.

The council held three meetings during the year to evaluate requests for continuing education courses, consider reciprocity requests, plan for administering exams, review exam scores and comment forms, and discuss ways to improve the certification program. All meetings continued to include participants using teleconferencing platforms, and most communications with the program coordinator were done virtually, striving for majority consensus before any actions were taken.

Examinations

The Division of Water Quality continued to maintain membership as a certifying authority with Water Professionals International (WPI), formerly the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC). Since 1972, Water Professionals International has been the central water industry authority that ensures that women and men in the industry are prepared to meet the standards that their communities can trust in through testing and certification services headquartered in Urbandale, Iowa. The role of WPI is to provide examination services to the Utah Wastewater Operator Certification program, which includes exam development, scoring, and compilation of exam results. A contract for exam services between WPI (ABC) and the Division of Water Quality is in effect for state fiscal years 2024-28. This contract includes computer-based exams as well as paper-based exams

Paper-based exams were offered in conjunction with the Rural Water Association of Utah's Annual and Fall Conferences in St. George and Layton, respectively.

On April 1st, 2024, the Division of Water Quality also began offering computer-based exams administered through PSI. In November 2024, computer-based exams were expanded to include Live Remote Proctoring exams. Onsite computer-based exams were administered at 5 different testing locations in Utah—Orem, Salt Lake City, Cedar City, Ogden, and St. George—as well as various testing centers in the United States.

The registration and attendance of the 2025 paper-based and computer-based exam sessions are shown in Table 1. These totals include the traditional mandatory exams, as well as the voluntary ones that are available and provided by WPI but are not required by Utah’s wastewater operator certification program.

Table 1 - 2025 Exam Registration and Attendance (Voluntary and Mandatory)

Locations	Paper-Based Exam Sessions		Computer-Based Exam Sessions
	March	August	January-December
	St. George (in conjunction with RWAU Annual Conference)	Layton (in conjunction with RWAU Fall Conference)	Various
Applications Received	84	65	444
Total Scored*	83	62	423

* Some individuals did not show up to take the exams at that time but may have rescheduled for a future session.

EXAMINATION PROCEDURES

Paper exam sessions were proctored by members of DWQ staff and current Council members. Computer exam sessions were proctored by PSI and PSI’s approved testing centers’ staff.

All examinations, regardless of grade, consist of 100 scored questions using a multiple-choice format. Answer sheets for PBT format are shipped to WPI for scoring. WPI compiles the results for each session and returns them to DWQ by electronic format for recording in the database and dissemination to the examinees. Each examinee is provided an individual statistical report, and variations of summary reports showing the cumulative results of the general areas detailed in the need-to-know criteria for all Utah examinees taking the same test during that session. Current WPI exams use a cut score of 70 scaled scoring units for passing an exam.

EXAM CONTENT

The exams administered in 2025 were compiled from WPI's data bank, including the Small Lagoon System exam, which is a customized exam using questions from WPI's data bank. Utah Division of Water Quality staff Tessa Scheuer and Judy Etherington reviewed the data bank and chose a variety of questions that represented the needs of Small Lagoon System operators. Staff recommendations were reviewed by the council and approved. The 2025 Small Lagoon Exam began circulating in October 2025.

The wastewater treatment and collection exams were updated from the "WPI 2019 standardized" exams to the "WPI 2025 standardized" exams in August 2025. These exams meet ISO 17024 standard to ensure the validity, reliability, and legal defensibility of the certification exams. Exam questions are reviewed by WPI's technical committees on a regular basis to ensure applicability to current wastewater technologies and processes. The Collection and Wastewater Treatment exams also have ten unscored, unidentified questions that are being pre-tested to see whether they would be good questions to use in future exams. Utah's participation in the pre-testing of potential questions allows our operators' knowledge, skills, and abilities to be included in the evaluation of applicability for future exams.

WPI's 2025 standardized exams were graded using scaled scoring instead of raw scoring. Scaled scoring transforms raw scores to a standardized scale to account for differences in exam difficulty across exam versions. This change to scaled scoring accounts for the difficulty of the questions answered and converts scores based on the level of difficulty achieved by the examinee.

Cumulative Totals for the 2025 mandatory wastewater exam classifications are shown in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2 - Cumulative January 2025 – July 2025 Exam Scores (Mandatory)

Exam-Grade	Total Examinees	High Score	Low Score	#Pass (≥70)	Pass %
C-I	22	88	61	15	68%
C-II	65	91	51	29	45%
C-III	22	83	45	8	36%
C-IV	77	87	42	23	30%
SLS-I	13	85	48	7	54%
T-I	36	88	27	7	19%
T-II	41	79	39	12	29%
T-III	22	75	39	1	5%
T-IV	64	79	46	21	33%
Totals	362			123	34%

Table 3 - Cumulative August 2025 – December 2025 Exam Scores (Mandatory)

Exam-Grade	Total Examinees	High Score	Low Score	#Pass (≥70)	Pass %
C-I	17	92.18	63	14	82%
C-II	36	87	48.97	20	56%
C-III	8	78.29	67	7	88%
C-IV	42	87.53	60.38	32	76%
SLS-I	4	74	62	1	25%
T-I	20	85.56	51.16	16	80%
T-II	24	83	62	16	67%
T-III	12	91.91	64	7	58%
T-IV	25	85.47	60	21	84%
Totals	188			134	71%

Three voluntary classifications of wastewater-related certifications were again offered in 2025. They include Biosolids Land Applier Grades I - II, Wastewater Laboratory Analyst Grades I - IV, and Plant Maintenance Technologist Grades I - III. Mandatory exams include Collections Grades I - IV, Wastewater Treatment Grade I - IV, and Small Lagoons System Grade I.

This is the first year using the 2025 version standardized exams that are based on the new need-to-know criteria. The overall passing rates rose when the new forms were introduced, but without any prerequisites for testing or comparisons for the new scaled scoring method, there is really no basis for comparison. Table 4 shows overall passing rates for mandatory exams for the past six years.

Table 4 - Passing Rate Comparison for Mandatory Exams for 2019 through 2025

Exam-Grade	2019 Pass %	2020 Pass %	2021 Pass %	2022 Pass %	2023 Pass %	2024 Pass %	2025 Pass % (New Exams)
C-I	62	59	48	66	57	58	74
C-II	46	35	43	36	46	47	49
C-III	24	21	5	30	26	29	50
C-IV	20	26	30	30	29	34	46
SLS-I	71	52	71	68	67	50	47
T-I	23	30	29	29	29	30	41
T-II	26	25	25	32	24	35	43
T-III	13	6	18	13	17	24	24
T-IV	19	13	12	12	21	28	47
Overall	29	27	27	30	31	37	47

EXAMINATION REVIEW

No further changes have been made to the certification rule since it was amended January 24, 2018, removing the option of a post-exam review of actual questions and answers by the examinees. The rule still provides the opportunity for the Council to review the questions, along with the WPI accepted answers, for any questions for which a comment form was submitted during the testing sessions. This provides an opportunity for the Council to respond directly to the examinees' comments and also evaluate whether a recommendation should be made to WPI regarding the validity of the question in future exams. Responses from the Council to the comments received are sent to the individuals following the review. In a few instances, the Council requested clarification or further

review of the question item by WPI. Each individual was previously provided a statistical breakdown of their proficiency in the areas of testing as described in the published need-to-know criteria. The examinees, as well as those assisting them in their exam preparations, are able to use those results to focus study efforts for future testing opportunities.

Training

COOPERATION WITH TRAINING PROVIDERS

During 2025, certification-related training classes offered through cooperative efforts with the Water Environment Association of Utah or the Rural Water Association of Utah increased in force. Division of Water Quality staff and Certification Council members participated as instructors and presenters at conferences, seminars, and training sessions which provided training to wastewater personnel. The objective of these training opportunities was to facilitate compliance with UPDES permits, review subject matter in preparation for operator examinations, and earn required continuing education credits for renewals.

Rural Water Association of Utah offered monthly in-depth wastewater training courses that were presented online at no cost to the trainee as well as many other online and in-person training opportunities. Water Environment Association of Utah continued to provide training through their Collections College classes as well as other training opportunities both in-person and virtually.

Some council members and staff also continued supporting the Utah Water and Wastewater Training Coalition providing a centralized calendar of seminars and training to make it easier for water and wastewater professionals to find local training and continuing education for their respective fields. The council continues to support participation in an “on-line” calendar format. This calendar has facilitated the communication and coordination between the members of the Coalition as well as the operators. Division of Water Quality staff and representatives of the member organizations maintain their respective calendar information. Members of the Coalition are Division of Drinking Water, Division of Water Quality, American Water Works Association, Water Environment Association of Utah, Rural Water Association of Utah, American Backflow Prevention Association, WaterOperator.org, Bridgerland Technical College, Environmental Finance Center Network, and Rural Community Assistance Corporation.

Individual wastewater facility owners and managers continued to provide updated training for their personnel either “in house” or using professional training and assistance providers, including U. S. Environmental Protection Agency resources. Training was often conducted through virtual meeting platforms, as well as in person, allowing interactive participation by all. Dedication and ingenuity were definitely observed while meeting compliance, certification, and safety requirements. The majority of those not renewing particular certifications were no longer in the industry due to retirement or change of employment or had advanced to a higher certification and no longer needed to maintain the lower certifications.

Renewal and Compliance

Wastewater Operator Certifications may be valid for up to three years. Certifications will expire on December 31st of the expiration year unless they have been renewed. Continuing education during the three-year period prior to the expiration date, in wastewater-related subject matter, is a prerequisite for renewal. The number of credits required is dependent upon the grade of certification being renewed. Reinstatement of the certificate is also allowed within the year following expiration, provided that the operator has earned the required training credits prior to the certificate's expiration. All publicly owned wastewater works are required to have adequately certified individuals "in charge" of both the wastewater treatment and collection systems as specified in Rule R317-10 Certification of Wastewater Works Operators. The statistics in Table 5 represent the certification actions taken during 2025 to comply with various aspects of the certification rule.

Table 5 - Certification Actions for 2025

Action	Number
Number of "new operators" added to wastewater certification database during 2025	134
Certificates expired 2024, reinstated prior to December 31, 2025 deadline	27
Certificates issued by "reciprocity" (equivalent certification from another state)	1
Issued Letter-of-Intent to issue certificate by "reciprocity"	0
Number of "reciprocity" requests denied in 2025	0
Number of "active" individuals in database (participated in certification within last 3 years)	1,883
Number of certified wastewater operators as of January 1, 2026 (all categories)	1,445
Number of certified "treatment" operators	560
WW Treatment Grade I	125
WW Treatment Grade II	164
WW Treatment Grade III	47
WW Treatment Grade IV	284
Number of certified "collection" operators	994
Collection Grade I	119
Collection Grade II	325
Collection Grade III	86
Collection Grade IV	531
Number of certified "small lagoon system" operators	121
Total number of current voluntary certifications (Biosolids Land Applier, WW Laboratory, Plant Maintenance)	102
Total number of publicly owned wastewater collection systems	139
Municipal Collection Class I systems	34
Municipal Collection Class II systems	50
Municipal Collection Class III systems	30
Municipal Collection Class IV systems	25
Total number of publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities	66
Municipal Treatment Class I facilities	13
Municipal Treatment Class II facilities	10
Municipal Treatment Class III facilities	21
Municipal Treatment Class IV facilities	22
Municipal Small Lagoon System I facilities (combination Treatment I & Collection I included in the above numbers)	64

As an alternative to employing a certified operator as Direct Responsible Charge (DRC), the owner of a municipal wastewater system may choose to contract with an individual or another entity with an appropriately certified operator to meet the certification requirement. Arches Special Service District, Canyon Land Improvement District, Henefer Town, Little Mountain Service Area, Mexican Hat Special Service District, North Village Special Service District, Powder Mountain Water and Sewer Improvement District, Strawberry Lakeview Special Service District, Twin Creeks Special Service District, and Wolf Creek Water and Sewer Improvement District contracted with certified operators and organizations to meet their operator certification needs.

The Wastewater Operator Certification Program began working more closely with the Division of Water Quality's Compliance and Enforcement team to help municipal wastewater facilities in compliance with state rule R317-10. *Certification of Wastewater Works Operators*. This collaboration helped encourage facilities to correct compliance issues in a more timely manner and provided the Wastewater Operator Certification Program with official channels for discipline of facilities who have been consistently out of compliance with operator certification requirements.

The Division of Water Quality also contracted a new operator certification database in collaboration with the Division of Drinking Water in 2025. The purpose of the new database is to help streamline the process of entering operator information, approving and accrediting wastewater CEUs to the correct operators, and upgrading operator certification reporting. As of December 2025, the Division of Water Quality and the Division of Drinking Water are meeting virtually 2-3 times per month with representatives from Gannett Peaks, the company building the new database. The database is expected to go live in Fall or Winter 2026.

Certification Council Meetings

There were three Council meetings held during 2025. The following items may be of special note:

- Jonathan Gubler was elected as the chair of the Council for 2025. He presented the 2024 Annual Report to the Board in May 2025.
- The council discussed the increased passing rates for the mandatory wastewater exams created by WPI. The council credits the computer-based exam option that was implemented in 2024 as well as the new standardized WPI exams and scaled scoring that were implemented in 2025 for the score increases.
- The Council continued to have ongoing discussions regarding computer-based testing centers and exam violations. There was one examinee violation in which an operator wore a smart watch into an exam. The violation was determined to be an accident. The PSI-affiliated testing center in Orem suddenly shut down in Fall 2025, and a new PSI-affiliated testing center in Ogden opened to the examinees in Fall 2025.
- There were 550 mandatory exams administered during the year.
- One application was received from an operator requesting reciprocal certificates. Their previous certificate was issued from Arizona. The request was approved and a certificate was issued.
- The Council discussed the new WPI 2025 standardized exams. Staff introduced the new scaled scoring system, and the council had the opportunity to review the new exam questions before they went live to Utah examinees. Council members also had the opportunity to review the new 2025 Small Lagoon System exam that DWQ staff created using WPI's data bank. Council members requested a stronger focus on the Secondary Treatment Process for the Small Lagoon System exam, so the exam now includes more treatment questions. The council approved all exams.
- The Council reviewed comments from examinees regarding specific test questions. One exam question was sent to WPI for review for being outdated. WPI has not yet updated the question on the exam as of December 2025.
- The Council meetings were conducted both in person and virtually to accommodate council members' schedules. It allowed for discussion of the necessary agenda items but also reduced travel for the participants. There was a quorum present at each meeting.
- The Council voted on and approved the decision to give half credit for CEUs requested relating to cross-connection control. The council also discussed whether conference attendees should be given CEUs for exhibit time. The Council decided that only exhibits that allow attendees to scan in and out of sessions will be eligible for credit.



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James Webb, Chair
Vacant Vice Chair
Jill Jones

Michela Harris
Joseph Havasi
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Tim Davis

Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Executive Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Quality Board

THROUGH: Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E., Director

THROUGH: Samantha Heusser, Compliance and Enforcement Manager

FROM: Eric Castejon, Environmental Scientist III

DATE: May 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of Settlement Docket No. I25-01 for Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC

The Utah Water Quality Act, Utah Code Section 19-5-104(3)(g) requires that any settlement negotiated by the Director with a civil penalty of \$25,000 or more must be reviewed and approved or disapproved by the Utah Water Quality Board (“Board”). The Division is requesting Board approval of a settlement with Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC (“RLW”). RLW signed the settlement on March 25, 2026.

RLW is a domestic limited liability company doing business in Draper, UT and is legally responsible for the operation of the construction project ‘Salt Lake City International Airport – Terminal Redevelopment Program’ located at 4051 W. Terminal Drive Salt Lake City, UT (“Project Site”). RLW held a Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Construction Dewatering and Hydrostatic Testing Permit (Permit No. UTG071765) issued by the Director on October 21, 2024.

The settlement agreement resolves violations of Permit No. UTG071765, including effluent limit exceedances, failure to monitor discharges, and reporting requirements.

In response to the violations, the Director issued Notice of Violation and Compliance Order (“NOV/CO”), Docket No. I25-01, to RLW on August 04, 2025 (enclosed). RLW has timely complied with the requirements in the issued NOV/CO.

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The total negotiated civil penalty is **\$48,785.75**. The partially signed stipulated compliance order (“SCO”) can be accessed [here](#).

The public comment period for the SCO ran from March 30, 2026, to April 29, 2026 and no comments were received.

The SCO represents what the Division believes to be a fair and reasonable settlement. It is the Division’s recommendation that this settlement be granted Board approval for execution by the Director.

Attachments: I25-01 Notice of Violation and Compliance Order (DWQ-2025-005630)

DWQ-2026-002561

EQ_docs\Compliance and Enforcement\Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC\2025 NOV I25-01 SLC Airport

**UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction
Company, LLC
4051 West Terminal Drive
Salt Lake City, Utah 84122

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Docket No. I25-01

This Stipulation and Consent Order (“Order”) is entered into voluntarily by and between the Director (“Director”) of the Utah Division of Water Quality (“Division”) Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC (“RLW”), jointly referred to hereinafter as “the Parties.”

By entering into this Order, the Parties wish, without further administrative or judicial proceedings, to establish compliance requirements and stipulate to civil penalties arising out of alleged violations of the Utah Water Quality Act, Utah Code §§ 19-5-101 *et. seq.* (the “Act”), and corresponding regulations in the Utah Admin. Code R317-1-1 *et. seq.* (the “Water Quality Rules”).

I. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

1. The Director has authority to administer the Act pursuant to Utah Code § 19-1-105(1)(e), and to enforce the Water Quality Rules in Utah Admin. Code R317 through the issuance of orders, as specified in Utah Code §§ 19-5-106(2)(d) and -111. The Director also has authority to settle any civil action initiated to compel compliance with the Act and implementing regulations pursuant to Utah Code § 19-5-106(2)(k).

II. FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. RLW is a “person” as defined in Utah Code § 19-1-103(4) and is subject to all applicable provisions of the Act and the Water Quality Rules.
2. RLW is the operator responsible for the operation of the Terminal Redevelopment Program project located at the Salt Lake City International Airport (“Facility”).
3. For the purposes of this Order, the Parties stipulate to the findings and violations identified in the August 04, 2025 Notice of Violation and Compliance Order (“NOV/CO”), Docket No. I25-01, and to the findings described below.
4. On August 27, 2025 RLW submitted a request for an extension of the 30-calendar day deadline for the reports required by the NOV/CO Order (paragraphs E.3. and E.4.), due

September 3, 2025. On September 10, 2025, RLW requested a second extension for submission of these reports. The extension requests were approved by the Director through the office of Attorney General on August 27, 2025 and September 10, 2025. In response to the NOV/CO, RLW submitted a report titled, “Utah Department of Environmental Quality” (“Report”) on September 26, 2025.

- The analytical results included in the Report indicate additional effluent limit exceedances that were not reported in previously submitted Discharge Monitoring reports (“DMR”). These exceedances are summarized in Table 1:

Table 1: RLW Effluent Limit Exceedances January 2024 – April 2025

Monitoring Period (Month Ending)	Outfall	Parameter	Permit Limit mg/L	Result mg/L	Percent Exceedance
Permit effective February 1, 2020 (expired May 31, 2024)					
1/31/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>108</u>	54%
1/31/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>108</u>	209%
02/29/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>124</u>	77%
02/29/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>272</u>	289%
02/29/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>90</u>	29%
02/29/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>198</u>	466%
02/29/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>90</u>	157%
02/29/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>115</u>	64%
02/29/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>302</u>	302%
02/29/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>115</u>	229%
02/29/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>302</u>	763%
03/31/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>74</u>	6%
03/31/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>74</u>	111%
05/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>298</u>	326%
05/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>298</u>	751%
05/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>102</u>	308%
Permit effective June 10, 2024 (expires June 10, 2029)					

06/30/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>83</u>	19%
06/30/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>53</u>	51%
06/30/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>36</u>	44%
06/30/2024	Outfall 5	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>334</u>	377%
06/30/2024	Outfall 5	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>334</u>	854%
06/30/2024	Outfall 5	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>170</u>	580%
07/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>101</u>	44%
07/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>101</u>	189%
07/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>53</u>	112%
08/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>146</u>	109%
08/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>146</u>	317%
08/31/2024	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>46</u>	84%
08/31/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>32</u>	28%
09/30/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>322</u>	820%
09/30/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>322</u>	1188%
09/30/2024	Outfall 5	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>46</u>	31%
09/30/2024	Outfall 5	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>46</u>	84%
11/30/2024	Outfall 2	pH Daily Min	6.5	<u>6.2</u>	0.3*
11/30/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>136</u>	360%
11/30/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>45</u>	29%
11/30/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>136</u>	289%
11/30/2024	Outfall 2	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>52</u>	108%
11/30/2024	Outfall 4	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>68</u>	94%
11/30/2024	Outfall 4	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>50</u>	43%

11/30/2024	Outfall 4	Total Suspended Solids Average Monthly	25	<u>59</u>	136%
02/28/2025	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>61</u>	74%
04/31/2025	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Daily Max	70	<u>76</u>	9%
04/31/2025	Outfall 1	Total Suspended Solids Average Weekly	35	<u>76</u>	117%

Note. Values in **bold and italics** indicate a Permit limit exceedance.

* Exceedance expressed in pH units

6. The Report submitted by RLW indicates that the DMR certified and submitted for the September 2024 and October 2024 monitoring period erroneously identified an exceedance of the permitted Total Suspended Solids (“TSS”) Daily Max limitation for Outfall 001.
7. The Report submitted by RLW also indicates that TSS concentrations were not monitored in the Facility’s effluent between January 2024 through September 2024 on nine occasions. The Permit requires RLW to monitor TSS concentrations of the Facility’s effluent on a weekly basis.
8. The Parties voluntarily enter into this Settlement to resolve the violations identified both in the NOV/CO as well as this Settlement without the necessity of further administrative or judicial proceedings.

III. STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Parties have negotiated this Order in good faith and now wish to fully resolve NOV/CO No. I25-01 without additional administrative or judicial proceedings.

1. In accordance with Utah Admin. Code R317-1-8. Penalty Criteria for Civil Settlement Negotiations, RLW shall pay a penalty of \$48,785.75.
2. In addition to payment of the above-referenced penalty and in full settlement of the violations alleged in NOV/CO No. I25-01, RLW shall complete the following:
 - a. Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this Order, demonstrate to the Division that applicable DMRs have been corrected and resubmitted. Specifically, ensure submitted DMRs adequately reflect laboratory analytical results for all samples taken during the monitoring period of January 2024 through April 2025, for all applicable Outfalls. At minimum, demonstrate that correct monitoring data has been submitted for the outfalls and constituents identified in Table 2:

Table 2: *DMR corrections required for January 2024 – April 2025*

Monitoring Period (Month Ending)	Outfall	Correction
01/31/2024	Outfall 2	Include additional violations to comments section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Daily Max violation 01/03/2024 • TSS Weekly Ave violation 01/07/2024 • Missed Monitoring week ending 01/21/2024
02/29/2024	Outfall 1	Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of February. Correct entries for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave Include additional violations to comments section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Daily Max violation 02/05/2024 • TSS Daily Max violation 02/08/2024 • TSS Daily Max violation 02/19/2024 • TSS Weekly Ave violation 02/11/2024 • TSS Weekly Ave violation 02/25/2024 • Missed Monitoring week ending 02/18/2024
02/29/2024	Outfall 2	Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of February. Correct entries for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave Include additional violations to comments section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Daily Max violation 02/19/2024 • TSS Daily Max violation 02/28/2024 • TSS Weekly Ave violation 02/25/2024 • TSS Weekly Ave violation 03/03/2024
03/31/2024	Outfall 2	Correct entries for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Daily Max • TSS Weekly Ave
04/30/2024	Outfall 2	Include additional violations to comments section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missed Monitoring week ending 04/07/2024 • Missed Monitoring week ending 04/28/2024
05/31/2024	Outfall 1	Include additional violations to comments section: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missed Monitoring week ending 05/19/2024 • Missed Monitoring week ending 05/26/2024

06/30/2024	Outfall 1	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of June.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave <p>Include additional violations to comments section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missed Monitoring week ending 06/02/2024 • Missed Monitoring week ending 06/16/2024
08/31/2024	Outfall 1	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of August.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave
08/31/2024	Outfall 2	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of August.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave
09/31/2024	Outfall 1	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of September.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave <p>Include additional violations to comments section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missed Monitoring week ending 09/29/2024
09/31/2024	Outfall 5	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of September.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave

11/30/2024	Outfall 2	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of November.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave <p>Include additional violations to comments section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave violation 11/14/2024
02/29/2025	Outfall 1	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of February.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave • TSS Monthly Ave <p>Include additional violations to comments section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave violation 02/13/2025
04/30/2025	Outfall 1	<p>Edit the DMR entry for TSS Daily max to reflect the highest value attained from TSS monitoring in the month of April.</p> <p>Correct entries for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSS Weekly Ave

3. Payment in the amount of **\$48,785.75** is to be made within thirty (30) calendar days of the Effective Date of this Order, using one of the following options:
 - a. CHECK – Payable to the Division. The payment shall be sent to:

Division of Water Quality
P.O. Box 144870
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870
 - b. ELECTRIC CHECK PAYMENT – [Online Payment Portal](https://secured.utah.gov/dwq/Forms/Page/dwq-market/dwq-market/):
<https://secured.utah.gov/dwq/Forms/Page/dwq-market/dwq-market/>
 - c. OTHER – For other available payment options, please contact the Division’s finance staff at eqwqfinance@utah.gov.

4. If, for any reason, RLW fails to pay the penalty within thirty (30) calendar days and thereby defaults, the Director reserves the right to request the Water Quality Board (“Board”) rescind its approval of this Order under Utah Code § 19-5-104(4)(a).
 - a. Prior to requesting that the Board rescind its approval of this Order, the Director shall provide written notice to RLW of its default and will provide fourteen (14) calendar

days to cure the default by remitting payment. If payment is not received within the fourteen (14) calendar day cure period and, following Board action, the Director is authorized, without providing further written notice to RLW, to begin a civil action for all appropriate relief provided under the Act, including seeking the full penalty amount of \$10,000 per violation per day, as authorized under the Act.

IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The Parties recognize that this Order has been negotiated in good faith and nothing herein constitutes an admission by any Party. RLW does not admit to, and retains the right to controvert in any subsequent proceedings other than proceedings to implement or enforce this Order, the validity of the facts and violations alleged in the NOV/CO. RLW further agrees it will not contest the basis or validity of this Order or its terms.
2. The violations described herein will constitute part of RLW's compliance history where consideration of such history is relevant, including any subsequent violations. RLW understands and agrees that this Order is not and cannot be raised as a defense to any other action to enforce any federal, state, or local law.
3. RLW agrees to the terms, conditions, and requirements of this Order. By signing this Order, RLW understands, acknowledges, and agrees that it waives: (1) the opportunity for an administrative hearing pursuant to Utah Code § 19-1-301; (2) the right to contest the findings in the NOV/CO; and (3) the opportunity for judicial review.
4. This Order is subject to a public notice and comment period of at least thirty (30) days, in accordance with Utah Admin. Code R317-8-1.9. The Parties each reserve the right to withdraw from this Order if comments received during the notice and comment period render this Order inappropriate, improper, or inadequate.
5. The "Effective Date" shall be the date this Order is executed by the Director. The Director will not sign this Order until after the Division has provided public notice of the proposed Order and has solicited and reviewed any public comments received.
6. This Order includes a civil penalty in excess of \$25,000 and therefore must be presented to, reviewed by, and approved or disapproved by the Board in accordance with Utah Code § 19-5-104(3)(h). Final execution of this Order by the Director shall not occur until it is approved by the Board. The Order will be presented to the Board for final action after the Division has provided public notice of the proposed Order and has solicited and reviewed any public comments received. All public comments, and the Director's responses, shall be provided to the Board in connection with the Director's request for final action.
7. The dates set forth in the Stipulation and Consent Order section of this Order may be extended in writing by the Director, in the Director's sole discretion, based on RLW's showing of good cause. Good cause for an extension generally means events outside of the reasonable control of RLW, such as force majeure, inclement weather, contractor or supplier delays, and similar circumstances. However, the Director expects RLW to employ reasonable

means to limit and prevent foreseeable causes of delay. The timeliness of RLW's request for an extension shall constitute an important factor in the Director's evaluation.

8. Nothing in this Order shall preclude the Director from taking actions, including additional penalties against RLW, for future violations of State or Federal law.
9. The Parties acknowledge that neither the Director nor the Board has jurisdiction regarding natural resource damage claims, causes of action, or demands. Therefore, such matters are outside the scope of this Order.
10. This Order is binding upon each of the Parties and their respective heirs, successors, and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate or legal status, including but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter the status or responsibilities of the Parties under this Order.
11. This Order may be amended in writing if signed by both Parties.

V. COMPLIANCE AND PENALTY NOTICE

As of the Effective Date, this Order shall constitute a final administrative order. Compliance with the provisions of this Order is mandatory. All violations of the Act, the Water Quality Rules, and this Order will be strictly enforced during the time that this Order remains in effect. Utah Code § 19-5-115, provides that any person who violates a rule or order made or issued pursuant to the Act may be subject, in a civil proceeding, to a state district court judge imposing a civil penalty per day of violation.

VI. SIGNATORY

The undersigned, signing this Order on behalf of Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC represents and warrants that it is duly authorized and has legal capacity to legally bind Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC and agrees that the Director may rely on that representation.

Pursuant to the Utah Water Quality Act, Utah Code § 19-5-101 *et seq.*, and Utah Admin. Code R317, the Parties hereto mutually agree and consent to this Stipulation and Consent Order, as evidenced below:

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

IT IS SO AGREED AND ORDERED:

For the State of Utah, Department Of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality

Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Director

Date: _____

For Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC



Digitally signed by Brandon
Squire
DN:
E=bsquire@wadscoc.com,
CN=Brandon Squire,
OU=DRAPE, OU=STRLCO
- Users, DC=strio, DC=com
Date: 2026.03.25
11:53:01-0400'

[Name of Authorized Representative]
[Title] Brandon Squire, President

Date: 3/25/2026



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Tim Davis
Commissioner

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Director

Water Quality Board
James Webb, Chair
Trevor Heaton, Vice Chair
Jill Jones
Jeannie Simmonds
Michela Harris
Joseph Havasi
Robert Fehr
Tim Davis
Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E.
Executive Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Quality Board

THROUGH: Candice A. Hasenyager, P.E. Director

FROM: Jake Vander Laan, Water Quality Standards Coordinator

DATE: May 27, 2026

SUBJECT: Requests for designated use and antidegradation reclassifications: Weber River, Middle Provo River, and Deer Creek Reservoir

Summary

DWQ recently received two external requests to reclassify the designated uses or antidegradation categories of three waters of the state. Weber Basin Water Conservancy District (WBWCD) has requested the addition of a 1C domestic drinking water source designated use and reclassification of the antidegradation category from category 3 to category 2 on portions of the Weber River. The Provo River Watershed Council (PRWC) has requested reclassification of the antidegradation category from category 3 to category 2 for the Middle Provo River (between Jordanelle and Deer Creek Reservoirs) and Deer Creek Reservoir.

These reclassifications would result in increased protections for these waterbodies including the application of additional, and in some cases, more stringent criteria associated with the 1C use designation and restrictions on existing and future point sources under antidegradation category 2. DWQ is providing background to the Board and requesting feedback so the Board may consider rulemaking related to these requests.

Background

Water Quality Standards and Rulemaking

By statute (Section 19-5-104), the Board has the authority to amend Utah's water quality standards through the rulemaking process.

The process for changing water quality standards includes Board approval to perform rulemaking, filing with the Office of Administrative Rules, public notice and comment, a Board vote to adopt proposed changes, state Attorney General certification, and submittal for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approval.

Designated Uses

Beneficial use classifications are defined under R317-2-6 and designated to waters of the state under R317-2-13. Beneficial use classifications include domestic drinking water source, recreation, aquatic life, and agricultural uses. Numeric criteria are assigned to waterbodies through use designations.

Antidegradation Categories

Utah's antidegradation policy is defined in R317-2-3. The intent of the antidegradation policy is to maintain existing high-water quality unless it is determined that the lowering of water quality is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development. Waters of the state are categorized into one of three antidegradation categories with differing restrictions on point source discharges. Category 1 waters are those determined by the Board to be of exceptional recreational or ecological significance. New point source discharges are prohibited to category 1 waters, though discharges may be allowed where pollution will be temporary and limited. Category 2 waters are also considered to be of exceptional recreational or ecological significance. However, new point source discharges may be permitted provided that the discharge does not degrade existing water quality. In category 3 waters, point source discharges are allowed, and degradation of water quality may occur to accommodate important economic or social development, provided that the beneficial uses are protected and that appropriate review and permitting procedures are followed. Under the Clean Water Act, Utah is obligated to adopt and maintain an antidegradation policy and categorization system but has full discretion regarding the categorization of specific waterbodies.

Reclassification requests

Weber River

WBWCD is constructing a new drinking water treatment plant that will use an advanced treatment process to treat surface waters from the lower Weber River to supply public potable water. Because this will be a new surface water source, Division of Drinking Water rules (R309-605-9) require WBWCD to request that the WQ Board reclassify the Weber River as both use class 1C and antidegradation category 1 or 2. This change will affect 65 miles upstream from the proposed point of diversion at approximately 1200 S west of Ogden Utah. Specifically, WBWCD has requested the addition of the 1C use class to the lower Weber River from the point of diversion to the Stoddard Diversion below Morgan, Utah, and the recategorization of the Weber River from the point of diversion to just upstream of Echo Reservoir from antidegradation category 3 to category 2.

Middle Provo River and Deer Creek Reservoir

PRWC has requested recategorization of both the Middle Provo River (between Jordanelle and Deer Creek Reservoirs) and Deer Creek reservoir from antidegradation category 3 to category 2 to prevent water quality degradation in drinking water sources.



Hazen and Sawyer
10619 South Jordan Gateway, Suite 220
South Jordan, UT 84095 • 385.342.1081

May 19, 2026

Jake Vander Laan
Utah Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality

And

Candice Hasenyager
Director, Utah Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality

Re: Request to Initiate Rulemaking to Reclassify a Portion of the Lower Weber River to Include Class 1C (Drinking Water Source) and Antidegradation Category 2

Dear Jake and Director Hasenyager,

Weber Basin Water Conservancy District (WBWCD), through its consulting engineer Hazen and Sawyer, respectfully submits this letter requesting that the Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ) consider initiating rulemaking to reclassify a defined reach of the lower Weber River to include **Class 1C (protected for drinking water with treatment)** pursuant to **UAC R317-2**, and to designate the same reach as **Antidegradation Category 2** under **UAC R317-2-3.3**.

This request is submitted in support of WBWCD's **Weber West Water Campus (WWWC) Project**, and specifically the **Weber West Water Treatment Plant** which includes a new advanced surface water treatment plant utilizing flocculation, sedimentation, ultrafiltration (UF), reverse osmosis (RO), granular activated carbon (GAC), manganese removal filters, UV disinfection, and chlorine disinfection. This project reflects the intended and reasonable future use of the river as a long-term surface water source for public potable supply.

1. Requested Reach

WBWCD requests reclassification of the **Weber River to include Class 1C from the Gateway Canal Diversion (Stoddard Diversion) downstream to a point just downstream of the 12th street crossing in Marriott-Slaterville at approximately 41°14'45.1"N 112°02'09.3"W**, encompassing the proposed raw water intake for the Weber West Water Treatment Plant (WWWTP). Additionally, it is requested that the Weber River also be designated as Antidegradation Category 2 from just upstream of Echo Reservoir to the proposed new diversion. This is approximately a 65-mile reach of the Weber River to carry the Antidegradation Category 2 requirement that currently does not have that same requirement.

A map of the requested reach is included as Figures 1 and 2 and can be provided in GIS or other formats as requested.

2. Basis for Reclassification Under UAC R317-2

A. Existing and Planned Use as a Drinking Water Source

The WWTP is being designed and permitted as a new surface water treatment plant under UAC R309-605, R309-200 and R309-215, with raw water withdrawn directly from the Weber River within the requested reach. The plant will provide potable water to western Weber County, with an initial average capacity of approximately 5 mgd and planned expansion to 10 mgd, serving existing and future municipal demand.

Because the river segment will be used directly as a public drinking water source, designation of a **Class 1C beneficial use** should be considered to ensure long-term resource protection.

B. Attainability of Class 1C Criteria

Significant data analysis of the water quality in the Weber River at the proposed diversion location has demonstrated that raw water quality within the requested reach is treatable to meet all drinking water standards using conventional and advanced treatment processes. The WWTP treatment train includes:

- Coagulation, flocculation, and sedimentation
- Ultrafiltration membrane treatment
- Side stream reverse osmosis treatment
- Granular activated carbon (GAC)
- Advanced manganese oxidation/filtration
- UV disinfection and chlorine disinfection

Finished water goals meet or exceed state and federal drinking water requirements, including turbidity, pathogen removal, manganese, total dissolved solids (TDS), and disinfection byproducts. The plant is designed to achieve **≥ 5.5 -log *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* removal** and **≥ 4 -log virus inactivation**, consistent with LT2ESWTR Bin 4 requirements. Polishing with RO and GAC provide effective barriers to multiple contaminants, including many contaminants that are proposed to be regulated in the future.

To meet the requirements of UAC R309-605-9 WBWCD officially would like to petition the Water Quality Board to consider rulemaking to reclassify the lower Weber River as a Class 1C beneficial use and Antidegradation Category 2 water.

3. Antidegradation Category 2 Justification

The requested river segment currently supports multiple existing uses and is not an unimpaired Category 1 water. However, it will qualify as **Category 2** under **UAC R317-2-3.3**, as it should be protected at existing water quality levels while allowing carefully reviewed, socially and economically necessary activities.

Designation as Category 2 will:

- Ensure that any future activities proposing to lower water quality are subject to **Level II Antidegradation Review**
- Protect the river as a **public drinking water supply source**
- Provide regulatory clarity for future permitting decisions

4. Relationship to Existing Discharges and Water Quality Controls

The existing discharges and proposed project-related discharges are carefully managed to comply with applicable standards:

- Treated effluent from the Weber West Renew Plant meets stringent nutrient and pathogen limits prior to discharge to the Willard Canal/Willard Bay system
- Reverse osmosis concentrate discharges to the Weber River have undergone blending analysis demonstrating that TDS concentrations remain below the existing Class 4 agricultural limit of 1,200 mg/L, consistent with **UAC R317-2-14**. Note that this discharge is to be downstream of the diversion and is not expected to be included in the area of the Weber River reclassification.
- DWQ has completed a WLA, ADR Level II, and is working to issue preliminary UPDES permits confirming feasibility of meeting numeric standards within applicable mixing zone requirements

Reclassification to include Class 1C will further strengthen protection without conflicting with demonstrated compliance pathways.

5. Request for Board Consideration

Pursuant to R309-605-9.1 it is requested that the Water Quality Board consider reclassifying the lower Weber River as outlined above. However, WBWCD is comfortable with the current classification due to the advanced treatment processes planned for the WWWTP. WBWCD is making this request to fulfill the Rule requirements and therefore respectfully requests that DWQ:

1. Accept this letter as a formal request for adding a Class 1C classification and Antidegradation Category 2 to the Weber River, and

2. Present the proposed reclassification to the **Utah Water Quality Board** for consideration at an upcoming meeting.

WBWCD understands that if the Water Quality Board decides to pursue reclassification, a regulatory impact analysis will likely be required as part of formal rulemaking. WBWCD is prepared to support DWQ staff in developing necessary technical and cost information.

6. Coordination and Next Steps

WBWCD and Hazen and Sawyer appreciate the opportunity to coordinate with DWQ staff and participate in the Water Quality Standards Workgroup to present this request and receive stakeholder feedback prior to Board action.

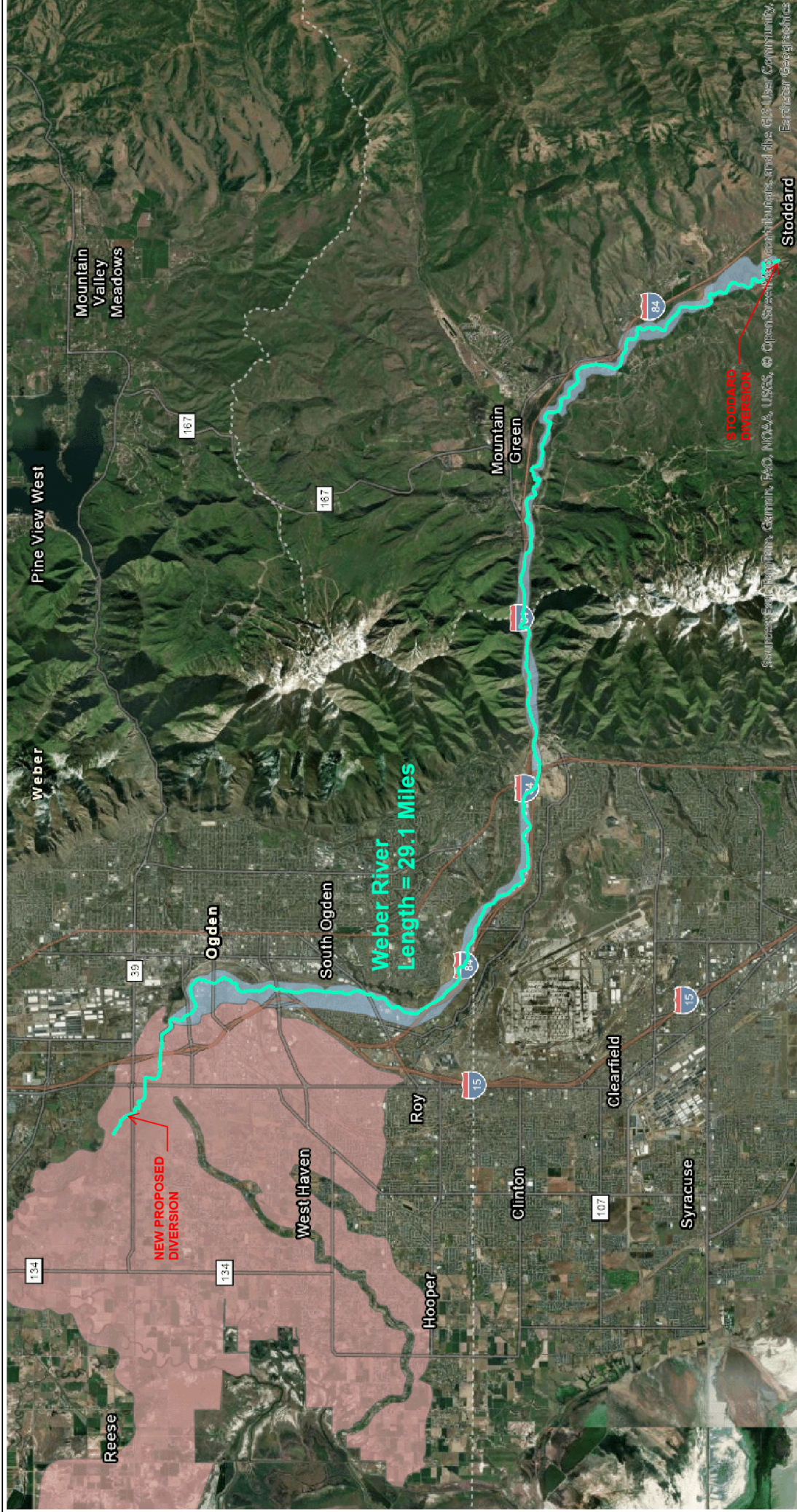
Please do not hesitate to contact me at posborn@hazenandsawyer.com or by phone at 801-372-4808 if additional information, figures, or analyses are needed.

Sincerely,



Parry Osborn, PE
Senior Associate

Enclosure
Maps of the area requested for reclassification
Existing permitted discharges into the Weber River



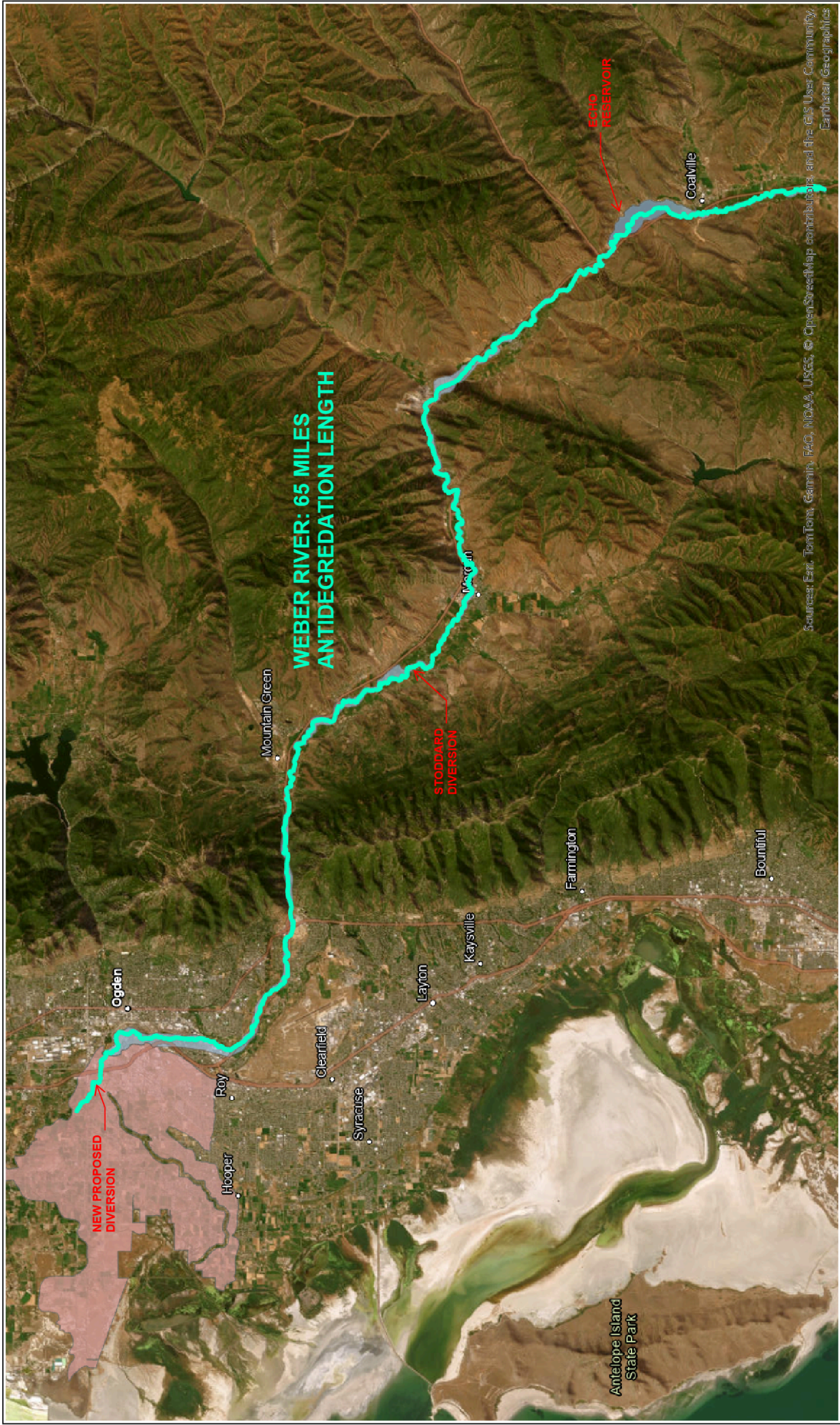
PROJECT NAME: WEBER WEST WATER CAMPUS

FIGURE NUMBER:
1

FIGURE TITLE: WEBER RIVER

10619 South Jordan
Gateway, Ste 130
South Jordan, UT 84095





Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, F40, NMEA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Earthstar Geographics

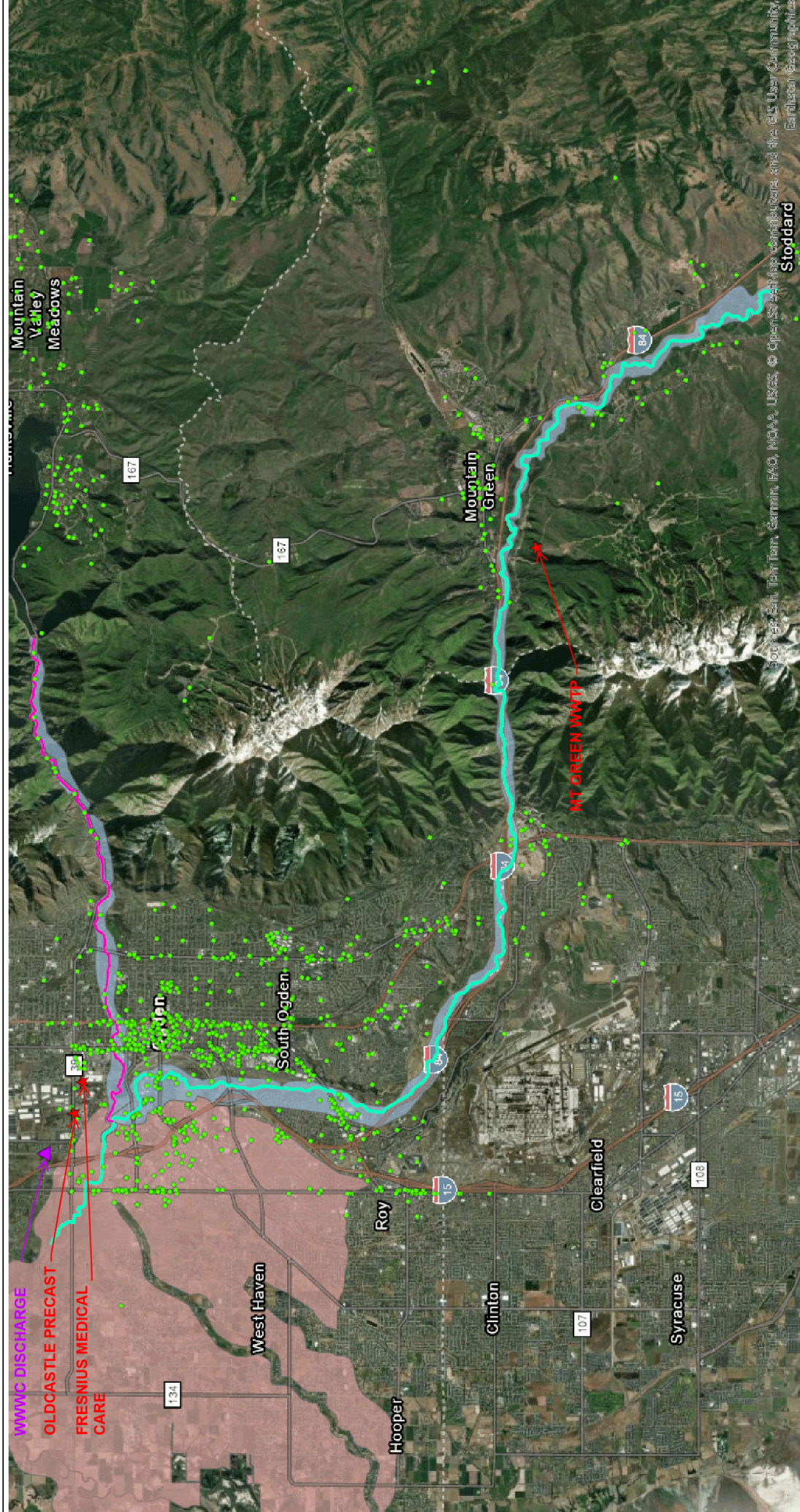


10619 South Jordan
Gateway, Ste 130
South Jordan, UT 84095

FIGURE TITLE: WEBER RIVER ANTIDEGREDATION LENGTH

FIGURE NUMBER:
2

PROJECT NAME: WEBER WEST WATER CAMPUS



- Potential Contamination Source (Per DWQ Water Source Protection Plan Requirements)
- ★ UPDES Permitted Discharges ▲ Proposed WWWC Discharge
- Weber River — Ogden River

PROJECT NAME: WEBER WEST WATER CAMPUS	FIGURE NUMBER: 3	FIGURE TITLE: RIVER CLASSIFICATION DATA	10619 South Jordan Gateway, Ste 130 South Jordan, UT 84095
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