



CENTRAL  
WASATCH  
COMMISSION



# Capacity Committee Meeting

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 2:00 – 3:00 pm



# Defining Capacity

The Interagency Visitor Use Management Council defines visitor capacity as...

- **A management tool and, in some cases, a legal requirement.**
- **A number.**
- **Based on desired conditions.**
- **A necessary precursor to making allocation decisions.**
- **Based on a variety of inputs.**

Visitor capacity includes consideration of the amounts and types of visitor use, including the timing and distribution of visitor activities and behaviors as they relate to desired conditions



# What Has Been Done Before?

## Central Wasatch Specific Resources:

- CWC Stakeholders Capacity Committee (2019-2020)
- CWC Visitor Use Study (Updated 2024)
- CWC Central Wasatch Dashboard
- USU Central Wasatch Visitor Use Study (2014-2015)

## General Capacity Resources:

- USDA Carrying Capacity: Maintaining Outdoor Recreation Quality (1971)
- Interagency Visitor Use Management Council: Visitor Capacity Guidebook (2019)





# Alternative Management Frameworks

- 2003 Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest Management Plan – U.S. Forest Service
- 2026 The Tri-Canyon Trails Plan – U.S. Forest Service & Salt Lake County
- 2023 Canyons Management Program – Salt Lake County Office of Regional Development
- 1999 Salt Lake City Watershed Management Plan – Salt Lake Public Utilities

# Committee Discussion Prompts

- What do we mean by “capacity” in the Central Wasatch?
- How would we measure it?
- What values go into its definition?
- Are there models or analogies to what we are looking for?
- Why are we interested in determining capacity, and what is the urgency?
- When we’re finished what does the product look like? A number? A formula? A rule?
- What mechanisms for enforcement exist for our end-product?

