

Jordan River Commission Technical Advisory Committee

March 19, 2026 | 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Location

The meeting was conducted virtually online via Zoom, with an anchor location at the Jordan River Commission office.

Meeting Attendees

Technical Advisory Committee Members

Gina Grandpre, Chair, Senior Planner – Saratoga Springs
Cory Fralick, Vice Chair, Director of Public Services – West Jordan
Emily Andrea, Utah Lake & Jordan River Lands Program Manager – Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Ali Avery, Long Range Planner – North Salt Lake
Tom Beesley, Stormwater Manager – Riverton
Lynn Berni, Watershed Planner – Salt Lake County
Tori Bird, Community Impact Specialist – Utah's Hogle Zoo
Tim Brown, President & CEO – Tracy Aviary
Chris Cline, Retired Biologist
Bruce Holyoak, Park Superintendent – Murray
Heidi Hoven, Vice Chair, Jordan River Watershed Council, Director of Gilmore Sanctuary – Audubon Rockies
Elliot Mott, Community Recreation Advocate
Nathan Page, Grant Administrator – Riverton
Julie Peck-Dabbling, Associate Director of Parks & Recreation Planning – Salt Lake County
Dan Potts, Aquatic Ecologist – Salt Lake Fish & Game Foundation
Alex Stosich, Utah Lake Restoration Coordinator – Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Todd Taylor, Planner – Draper
Mike West, Planning Division Manager – Lehi

Commission Staff

Jens Ammon, Jordan River Restoration Coordinator
Rylee Babino, Professional Project Intern, University of Utah Graduate Student
Macall Clapman, Volunteer & Event Intern, University of Utah Student
Caroline Johnston, Event & Volunteer Coordinator
Rachel Lyn, Communications & Outreach Manager
Soren Simonsen, Executive Director & Secretary

Visitors and Guests

Zach Pacer, Restoration Coordinator – Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Katie Bussell, Planner – Lehi
Zachary Higgins, Land Manager and Coordinator – Gilmore Sanctuary

Meeting Minutes

Gina Grandpre called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM.

1. Welcome & Introductions

- a) Committee Roll Call & Other Introductions

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Presentations & Discussion – Weed Management & Restoration Focus

- a. Weed Management & Restoration Program Updates : (00:06:25 on audio recording)

Jens Ammon, Jordan River Restoration Coordinator with the Jordan River Commission and Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands, discussed recent and current weed management and restoration projects, initiatives, and deadlines. He shared challenges he is facing with various projects and invited survey feedback from the Committee on how to mitigate these issues. Jens also introduced new Division staff focused on related efforts across the Utah Lake and Jordan River watershed. Emily Andrea, who recently joined the Division, discussed her work on permitting of projects surrounding the Jordan River and Utah Lake. Alex Stosich discussed his work with Utah Lake Authority and his focus on invasive species control. Jens invited other to present some of their work in progress with weed management and riparian restoration projects.

Heidi Hoven and Zachary Higgins shared their work and knowledge about invasive species on the Jordan River Surplus Canal. They discussed their use of various grants to help with invasive species removal.

Dan Potts discussed his work with Salt Lake Fish and Game Foundation. He discussed urban fishing ponds in various neighborhoods and the importance of them as a habitat for wildlife.

Soren Simonsen noted that the Commission is coordinating some planning for various river access improvements and weed management around Inlet Park in Saratoga Springs, and around the Jordan River in Utah County, including Camp Williams.

- b. Riparian Toolkit : (00:43:00 on audio recording)

Rylee Babino, a University of Utah Graduate Student, gave a presentation and update about a program to develop a riparian toolkit for local governments. Rylee is doing this work as a capstone project for her Masters Degree. She has identified communities with various plans and development codes, and resources and best practices for other communities to preserve and improve the Jordan River and tributaries across the watershed. Soren Simonsen asked the committee to provide their feedback on Rylee's updates.

- c. Legislative Session Updates : (01:00:00 on audio recording)

Soren Simonsen provided an overview and update of the recently concluded 2026 General Session of the Utah Legislature, including highlights of significant bills and appropriations related to the Jordan River and watershed. He mentioned that there were a variety of bills across many different topics. He tracked a total of 121 bills during the session. Senate Bill 130, sponsored by Senator Lincoln Fillmore, was of particular importance to the Jordan River and the Commission. He also noted several resolutions and their potential impacts.

4. Committee Business

- a. February 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes

This item was postponed because the minutes are not yet completed.

- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings : (01:24:30 on audio recording)

Gina Grandpre provided an update on upcoming Committee Meetings. Soren discussed the upcoming field trip to the Jordan River Migratory Bird Reserve and how the Governing Board and Watershed Council were invited as well.

c. Committee Member Announcements & Updates

This item was skipped due to time constraints.

5. Commission Staff Reports

a. Commission Updates – Soren Simonsen, Executive Director

Soren Simonsen mentioned promoting and volunteer planning around the 9/11 Day of Service.

b. Communications & Outreach Updates – Rachel Lyn, Communications & Outreach Manager

Rachel Lyn provided a brief update regarding the technical resource library being updated on the website. She mentioned a survey that the committee member could take to provide their feedback regarding the updates.

6. Adjourn

Ali Avery moved to adjourn the meeting. Heidi Hoven seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 PM.

A meeting recording, presentation, handout materials, and meeting minutes are available at <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/1067255.html>

Meeting minutes prepared by Amelia Miller, and Soren Simonsen, Commission Secretary.

Meeting Minutes adopted June 18, 2026.