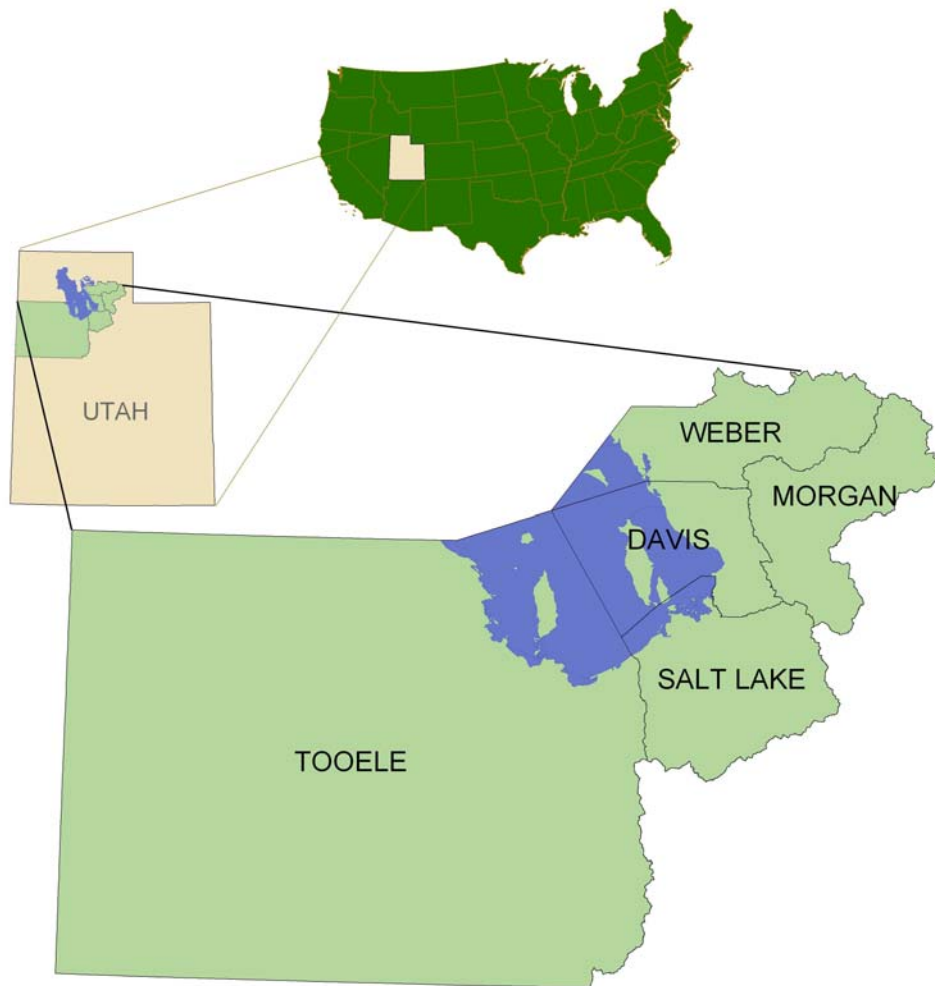




**Great Salt Lake
Resource Conservation and Development
(RC&D) Council Inc.
2008 Annual Report**

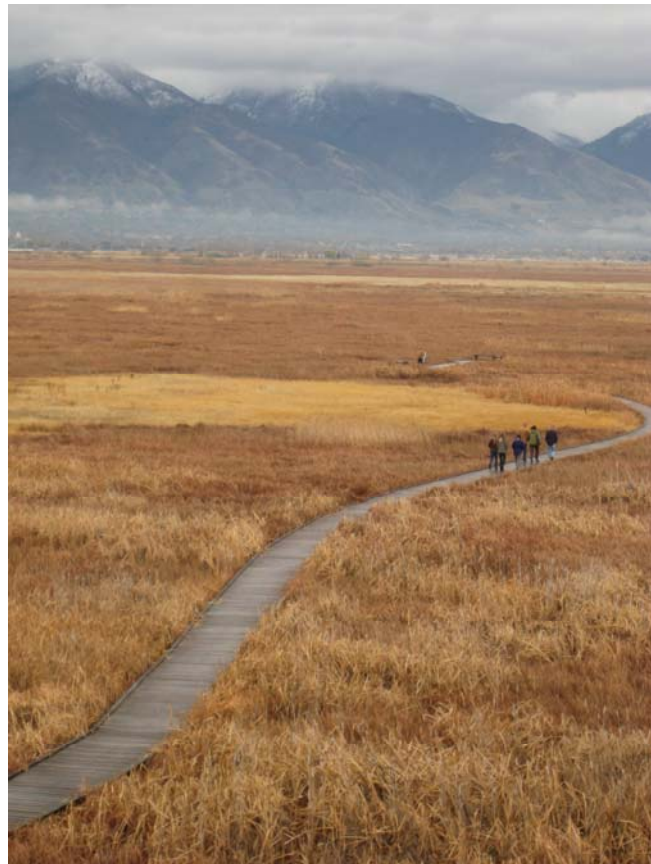


The Great Salt Lake RC&D Council is a locally led 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving Tooele, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber, and Morgan counties that connects resources with needs and opportunities.

The Great Salt Lake Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc. works with individuals, municipalities, agencies, businesses, and philanthropic organizations to address issues and challenges facing Tooele, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber and Morgan counties in Utah. This area comprises a majority of the Wasatch Front with a population of over 1.4 million residents in 2003 and covers an area of 9,156 square miles. Tooele and Morgan counties can be characterized as more geographically expansive but experiencing both positive and negative impacts from development pressure. Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber counties are, in general, more densely populated. It serves as a major transportation hub for the Intermountain West with the Salt Lake City International Airport, extensive rail service, light rail (TRAX), cross roads for east/west and north/south Interstates (I-15, I-80, and I-84), serves as a major location of commerce, and home to universities, world class skiing, arts and cultural events.

Vision: The Great Salt Lake RC&D will promote conservation, development and stewardship of natural and human resources; promote sustainable economies; and enhance the quality of life.

Mission: Promote partnerships that improve and protect communities and the environment.



Highlights of Annual Report, 2008

This year has been full of challenges and opportunities for the Great Salt Lake Resource Conservation and Development Council. Like many nonprofit organizations the GSL RC&D faces economic uncertainty that will require creative collaborations and a reassessment of priorities and available funding. Fortunately, this comes at a time when the Area Plan (five year strategic plan) will be updated.

The *Area Plan* effort will consume a large portion of the Council's energy in 2009. An aggressive and sustained public outreach effort will need to be carried out in the upcoming year working closely with traditional and emerging partnerships within Tooele, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber and Morgan counties. A short assessment form has been completed and made available on the GSL RC&D website.

The GSL RC&D celebrated their *fifth anniversary* in July. The Council continued to work closely with grass root organizations and local advocates on a number of issues, including: three Cooperative Weed Management Areas, trails issues and efforts, watershed plans, and community supported agriculture.

In addition, the Council faced the *closing of the Murray USDA Service Center* which the GSL RC&D called home. Although funding for this situation was not available the GSL RC&D has been able to make the best of this situation through a creative collaborative partnership with UACD. The Council has been able to maintain administrative information and hold meetings at their offices in Cottonwood Heights. Further, the GSL RC&D successfully passed the NRCS Quality Assurance Review in March.

The GSL RC&D continued their work in *Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)* in 2008 with public outreach events, advocating, and capacity building of farms along the Wasatch Front. Five CSA farms were created or expanded in 2008. The GSL RC&D was represented in an interview on KUTV News at Noon promoting local CSA in Utah. In 2008 the GSL RC&D received a grant from the Agriculture Marketing Service, Farmers Market Promotion Program to promote community supported agriculture along the Wasatch Front.

The Great Salt Lake RC&D had a full year of activities, projects, and accomplishments. Avis Light presented a *success story* at Western RC&D Association meeting at Las Cruces, New Mexico about the partnership and IRMP grant for the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation. A variety of grants, tours and projects were completed using State, Federal and other funds with the *Bonneville, South Shore and Weber Basin CWMA*s (Cooperative Weed Management Areas). The GSL RC&D coordinated with a variety of partners, including propagation of Cottam's Oaks, the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Programs, six area Conservation Districts and participation in local conferences, workshop and seminars. The GSL RC&D facilitated *Area wide planning and Local Work Group* efforts in the five counties they serve, which listed and prioritized natural resource concerns that will be used in ranking criteria for local conservation projects. The Council organized and hosted the *2008 Utah Association of RC&Ds Conference* in Layton, Utah. This year RC&D Councils participated in the meetings, presentations, tour, and dinner. Council members coordinated with other organizations advocating for *hen coops in urban settings as well as promoting water wise plants in parking strips*. The Council facilitated the Annual

Meeting for the Friends of the Great Salt Lake at Farmington Bay. The Council provided *input* into the Utah Food Council, Blueprint for the Jordan River process and the Yellow Fork and Rose Canyon land use planning effort. The volunteer Council *assured the proper operation* of the RC&D including, book keeping, D&O and general liability insurance, website maintenance, business license, etc.

The Great Salt Lake Council has accomplished many worthwhile projects, supported several fledgling efforts, and created productive sustainable partnerships that have addressed the local needs and opportunities for Tooele, Salt Lake, Davis, Weber and Morgan counties and looks forward to working with other optimistic individuals, organizations, nonprofit organizations, businesses and agencies to ensure significant progress continues into the future.

By: _____ Date: _____

(Therese Meyer, Chair)

This Annual Report adopted at an official meeting of the Great Salt Lake RC&D Council, Inc. on January 16, 2009.

Attest: _____

(Jerry Caldwell, Second Vice Chair)

For more information, please contact us at:

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