



Great Salt Lake
Resource Conservation
and Development
(RC&D) Council, Inc.

1030 West 5370 South
Murray, UT 84123

Phone: 801-263-3204, 104
Fax: 801-263-3667

E-mail: jeff.williams@ut.usda.gov

**Rooted in Our Past,
Reaching into the
Future!**

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WWW.GREATSALTAKERCD.ORG

The Great Salt Lake RC&D Council is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Great Salt Lake Resource Conservation and Development:

Promoting partnerships that improve and protect communities and the environment.



The GSLRC&D recently took tours of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JWWCD) Demonstration Gardens and the Farnsworth Peak and Coon Canyon area on Kennecott property. **Left:** An example of a High Mountain Desert Landscape using water wise plants. **Right:** GSLRC&D member Gene Drake watches Ann Neville, Senior Advisor of Biological Resources for Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation, call for elk.



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The Lake Effect



Volume 2, Issue 1

Winter 2006

Pulling Together Initiative Grant—Completed!

Calendar of Events:

- January 10th: Bonneville Shoreline Trail Coalition Meeting at 10:00 at 28 S. State Street, Farmington, UT 84025
- January 11th: JRNAF meeting at 10:00 am at the West Valley City Multi-Purpose Hall, 3600 S. Constitution Blvd (2700 W)
- January 13th: GSLRC&D Council Meeting at the USU Botanical Center at 10:00 am. 725 South Sego Lily Drive, Kaysville, UT 84037
- January 13th: Closing date for statewide Farm Bill Sign-ups
- January 12th: Bonneville CWMA meeting at the NRCS Murray Office at 9:00am
- February: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Open Houses. The GSLRC&D will be sponsoring CSA info sessions in Salt Lake, Ogden, Huntsville, and Davis Counties. Call 801-263-3204, 104 for exact times and locations.
- Morgan SCD Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Morgan County Courthouse (48 W. Young Street).

The Great Salt Lake RC&D and the Bonneville Coordinated Weed Management Area (CWMA), in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake Soil Conservation District, Salt Lake County, and Utah Department of Transportation, have completed the Pulling Together Initiative (PTI) grant. "Leafy Spurge Mapping, Control, and Education Project."

The project addressed the unknown impacts of Leafy Spurge within the BCWMA area and identified leafy spurge along the I-15 and I-215 corridors and the Jordan River. The project surveyed and mapped Leafy Spurge, controlled infestations, and increased public awareness through education and outreach. In addition, a strategic management plan was developed for the newly formed Bonneville CWMA.

In January 2005, the Bonneville CWMA began meeting monthly to

develop the strategic management plan. The final version was adopted in March of 2005.

The surveying and mapping of leafy spurge began in April 2005. Approximately 120 acres were mapped and approximately 35 acres were identified of Leafy Spurge infestations.

Twenty-eight of the 35 acres were controlled in 2005 using recommended chemical applications. In most instances, the Salt Lake County Weed Department provided the labor and the recommended herbicide free of charge to landowners.

The education component of the PTI grant was developed in November 2005. A series of postcards, direct mailers, and posters were created to highlight Leafy Spurge. An educational display was also created to use at fairs and other events.

The PTI project has developed part-



Top: A field of Leafy Spurge in Sandy. **Bottom:** Control of Leafy Spurge near Winchester Road in SLC, UT.

nerships, created tracking and management systems, and controlled over 80% of the identified Leafy Spurge sites. The GSLRC&D is proud to have given their resources and assistance to this project.

Great Salt Lake RC&D Council Meeting, January 13th

The next Council meeting for the Great Salt Lake RC&D will be on Friday, January 13th.

Council member Harris Adams (of the Davis SCD) has arranged for the meeting to be at the USU Botanical Center at 10:00 am in Davis County. Following the meeting, there will be a free tour of the Utah House, USU's

sustainable building demonstration and learning center that educates the public about ways of building homes and landscapes that promote the sustainable use of resources. For directions to the gardens, please call Alison Rogers at the GSLRC&D office (801-263-3204, 104).

Agenda items for the meeting include: a presentation from Scott Paxman of the Weber Water Conservancy District about the Wolf Creek water treatment. The Council will also hear an update from Parley's Rails Trails and Tunnels (PRATT).

We hope to see you there!

The 2006 Annual Plan of Work

The 2006 Annual Plan of Work was adopted at the October Council meeting. The Annual Plan of Work is a guiding document for the GSLRC&D that identifies needs, opportunities, goals and objectives that will lead the Council in its work for the upcoming year.

The Annual Plan of Work has seven goals, each with their own objectives and strategies. These goals are:

1. Assist other organizations and groups fulfill objectives that are consistent with the GSLRC&D Mission and Vi-

sion.

2. Promote surface and ground-water protections efforts.
3. Promote the improvement of natural ecosystems, wildlife habitat, local agriculture production and rangeland health.
4. Make the RC&D program available to under-served communities.
5. Ensure that at-risk communities are aware of resources and education to create defensible space and ways they mitigate wildlife threats to property and life.

6. Increase the Effectiveness of the GSLRC&D Council, Coordinator, and Administrative Assistant by participation in applicable state, regional, and national meetings and trainings.
7. Improve the GSLRC&D's economic viability through fund raising efforts that generate the capital needed to implement the objectives of the Area Plan.

To learn about the objectives and strategies the GSLRC&D has planned to accomplish these goals, contact the GSLRC&D chair, Frank Cumberland, at 801-745-8757.

GSLRC&D 2005

Accomplishments

- Sponsored three Community Supported Agriculture open houses.
- Hosted Community Fire Plan Workshop attended by 30 participants.
- Received Rural Development Non-Construction Grant and installed bleachers in Ibapah.
- Notified Tooele and Salt Lake Counties about severe flood threat from high snow pack.
- Facilitated the 3rd Annual 'Celebrate the Jordan: Get into the River' festival.
- Substantially increased the fiscal resources of the GSLRC&D.

The 2005 Annual Report

At the October Council meeting, the Great Salt Lake RC&D Council approved two important documents: the 2005 Annual Report and the 2006 Annual Plan of Work. Both can be viewed on the web at www.greatsaltlakercd.org.

The 2005 Annual Report details all of the accomplishments the GSLRC&D has achieved over the past year. This year's report lists twenty-three accomplishments (see sidebar for examples) and details six of the GSLRC&D's pro-

jects, including: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), the Bonneville and Weber Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA), the Jordan River Natural Areas Forum (JRNAF), the Bonneville Shoreline Trail Coalition (BSTC), Parley's Rails, Trails and Tunnels (PRATT), and installing bleachers at Ibapah Elementary School.

Top: Ibapah, UT—a rural community where many GSLRC&D projects take place. **Bottom:** a CSA share of fresh, locally grown vegetables.



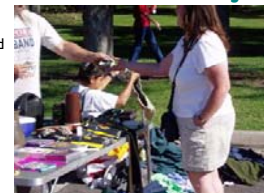
West Side People's Market—A New GSLRC&D Project

Kyle Malfa and the GSLRC&D have partnered to create a new public market called the West Side People's Market.

The West Side People's Market will be an opportunity for residents, local growers, and consumers to come together at a local park to find good food and great bargains. The West Side People's Market address three pressing issues: First, to get fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables in the hands of low-income people at a lower price. Second, to enable residents

to increase their incomes through the sale of second-hand goods and garden produce alongside farmers. Third, to cultivate neighborly bonds and cultural respect within the surrounding area. A successful People's Market will build a more robust food system, small scale entrepreneurship, and community.

The People's Market takes place in a public park, also home to the celebrated International Peace Gardens. Salt Lake City's west



The West Side People's Market will have second-hand goods and locally grown food.

side has a reputation as a low-income section of the city. The Market will improve the quality of life for this diverse section of Salt Lake City.

Devils' Gate Clean up Project

On August 13th, 20th, and 27th there was an exceptional effort by three Eagle Scout recipients to clean up the Devil's Gate area of the Weber Canyon.

Devil's Gate is a historically significant area connected to the delay in the journey of the ill-fated Donner-Reed Party. Due to improvements made to I-84, the horseshoe bend of Devil's gate became a popular site for illegal dumping of household trash and discarded, non-biodegradable, targets from recreational shooters. The concept of cleaning this area was presented last Spring to the Bonne-

ville Boy Scout Council.

This effort yielded three enthusiastic scouts wanting to clean the area as an Eagle Scout project.

A lot of trash was collected by these scouts and their volunteers over three consecutive weekends; the trash was later picked up by UDOT. The efforts of these scouts equaled 243 volunteer hours. The State of Utah recognizes volunteer hours as having a dollar value of \$18.83/hour. In total, there was \$4,575.69



The combined efforts of these youth volunteers totals 243 hours of volunteer work!

worth of volunteer work! There is still much work needed in cleaning up this area, but this was a great start.

By Darrell Eddington, USU Morgan County Extension Agent.

Salt Lake County Resource Assessment Results

The Resource Assessment report was sponsored by the NRCS and local Soil Conservation Districts. It has gathered and displayed information specific to each county in Utah by highlighting the natural and social resources and detailing specific concerns. The statewide report can be found at: www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/nri/index.html. Individual county reports will be available shortly.

Respondents of the Salt Lake County Resource Assessment questionnaire

listed water conservation and supply as their top concern, followed by water quality, open space, land conversion to development, and loss of agricultural land, as the five most pressing natural resource concerns. Nearly half of respondents thought that air quality, agricultural sustainability, urban use, energy conservation and supply, and invasive species concerns should be addressed immediately.

These results reflect the changing landscape of Salt Lake County.

There are 16 incorporated cities and almost one million people within the 764 square miles of SL County. 75% of the land has been developed, and only 9% of the land is used for crops and/or pasture.

The assessment also reported that overgrazing has reduced soil and water quality and that farm ground purchased for future development often goes unused, making the control of invasive pests and weeds increasingly problematic.

Therese Meyer, GSLRC&D Treasurer

Therese Meyer grew up in the Bay Area of California (Lafayette). She graduated from U.C. Davis as an agricultural major and worked as a vegetable breeder in both Davis, CA and Miami, FL, where her husband, Larry, went to medical school.

The Meyers moved to Utah in 1982 for Larry's job at the U of U Medical Center and because of their interest in Utah's spectacular wild country. Since moving to Utah, they have raised two daughters.

While in Utah, Therese has shifted her botanical interest to Utah native plants. She worked for ten years at Red Butte Garden and Arboretum,

growing many federally listed species of Utah in the greenhouse. She has been extremely active in Utah Native Plant Society and has had a garden design business that helps people switch from high-water-use to water-conserving native plant gardens.

Upon completing a Masters degree, she began work for Utah Division of Wildlife Resources in Ephraim at the Great Basin Research Center. The Great Basin Native Plant Selection and Increase Project is a joint Forest Service, BLM, and Division program that develops seed production of native



forbs and grasses for restoration of fire- and weed infested wildlands.

Therese became interested in the GSLRC&D because of their ability to facilitate many different resource and community projects. She has been involved with the GSLRC&D from the beginning and has just been re-elected to the GSLRC&D Board as the treasurer.

If you would like to submit an article for the GSLRC&D newsletter, please contact

Alison Rogers at 801-263-

3204, 104