Utah's Prioritization 2.0: Approach to Restoration and Protection Planning

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UTAH DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY WATER

Utah Division of Water Quality Watershed Protection Section

Assess Integrated Report





Plan

TMDLs/Watershed plans

Restore Nonpoint Source



Utah's Prioritization 2.0



PREPARED BY Utah Division of Water Quality Watershed Protection Section Staff April 2024



Prioritizing waters for restoration and

protection planning for the next 10 years

Types of Plans:

• TMDLs

- Nine-element Watershed Plans
- Advanced Restoration Plans
- Protection Plans
- Nonpoint Source Priority Areas



Recovery Potential Screening (RPS) Tool

- 19 Scenarios to address designated uses, environmental justice, climate change, tribal considerations, and protection
- Scenarios run for each hydrologic basin for better resolution

Objective	Scenario	Watershed Selection Criteria	Ecological Indicators	Stressor Indicators	Social Indicators
1. What pollutants pose the greatest risk to human health?	1A. What nutrient impaired AUs with agricultural land uses and increased population growth are within drinking water source protection areas?	Nutrient impairment	PHWA Watershed Health Index, State	 Nutrient Impaired Waters Count in HUC12 % Agriculture in HUC12 % Urban in HUC12 Livestock Density in HUC12 Population Density in HUC12 Manure Nitrogen Application in HUC12 Synthetic Fertilizer Nitrogen Application in HUC12 Manure Phosphorus Application in HUC12 Synthetic Fertilizer Phosphorus Application in HUC12 % Urban Change in HUC12 (2001-19) % Projected Change in Developed Cover in HUC12, SSP5 Scenario 	 % Drinking Water Source Protection Area in HUC12, Surface % Drinking Water Source Protection Area in HUC12, Ground Drinking Water Surface Intake Count in HUC12 Drinking Water Groundwater Intake Count in HUC12 Drinking Water Population Served in HUC12 Nutrient NPS Pollution Control Project Presence in HUC12

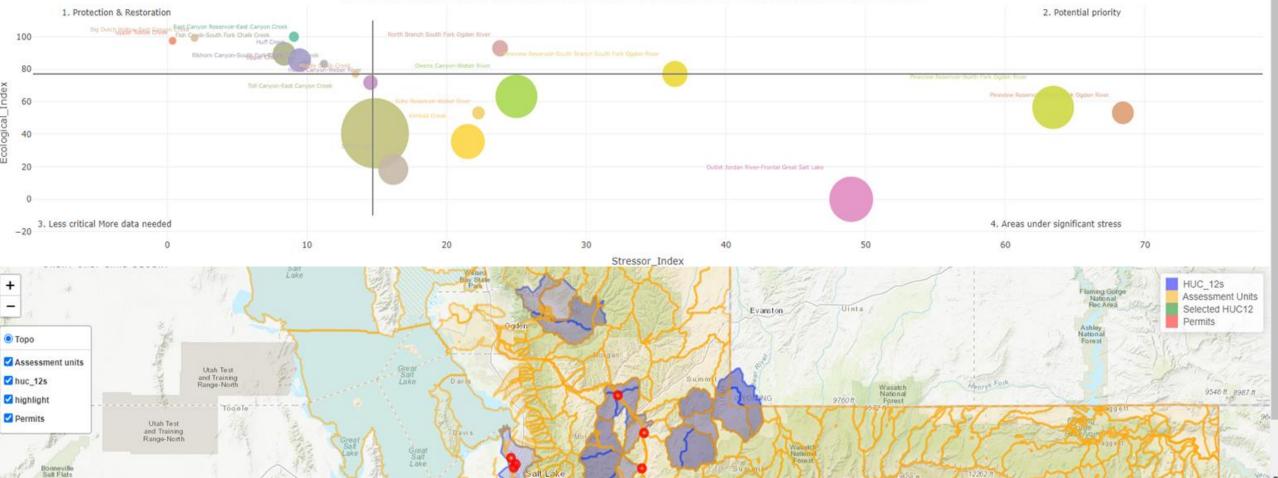
Select Basin

Weber River

Select Scenario

1A: What nutrient impaired AUs with agricultural land uses and increased population growth are vithin drinking water source protection areas?

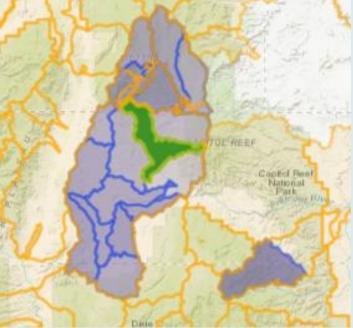
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1A: What nutrient impaired AUs with agricultural land uses and increased population growth are within drinking water source protection areas?

Recovery Potential Screening Tool Challenges

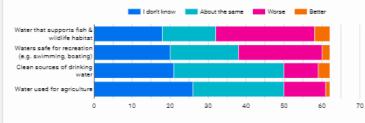
- Selecting Indicators Ensure that indicators weren't duplicative and had enough data to be meaningful
- Difference in boundaries between Utah's Assessment Units and HUCs
- Distilling the results



Stakeholder Survey



Compared to 10 years ago, how would you rate Utah's water quality in rivers, streams, lakes, and reservoirs?



How often have water quality issues limited your ability to

Are there any lakes, rivers, streams, or reservoirs near your home that you are concerned about where conditions could be improved with restoration?



Waterbody Record Count -1 Jordan River 2. Utah Lake З. Great Salt Lake Weber River 4. 5. Bear River 6. Mantua Reservoir 7. Mill Creek 8 Little Cottonwood Creek ٥ Salt Lake

Outreach

- For each basin, visit with watershed councils and stakeholder groups to gather input on the preliminary list
- Revise approach document with Prioritization list and release for public comment

Watershed Protection

What is a watershed?

Wherever you are, you're standing in a watershed. You may not realize the role watersheds play in making sure the water we use for drinking, irrigating crops, recreating, and supporting economic growth is reliable, affordable, and accessible.

Find more information on our website

What we do

The Watershed Protection Program ensures the health of Utah's watersheds through water quality data collection and analysis, planning, collaboration, education, and project funding.

Assess

We monitor water quality, analyze data, and identify waterways that are impaired. The Integrated Report guides our development of methods for reducing that pollution. water quality plans and restoration projects.

We develop reports and studies that identify sources of water quality pollution and

Check out plans and participate >>

Plan

Restore

We partner with stakeholders to protect and restore impaired waters through project funding.

Apply for funding and see success stories »

See the Integrated Report >>

Questions?

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