Bear River Development Project
Providing Northern Utah’s Future Water Supply
Why Are We Planning for the Bear River Project?

- Utah’s population will double by 2060
- We need additional water for that population
- This will require **three strategies** to be successful:

  - **Conservation**
    - Education
    - Rates
  
  - **Optimization**
    - Reuse
    - Infrastructure modernization
    - Agricultural conversions
  
  - **Expansion**
    - Bear River Development Project
    - Lake Powell Pipeline Project
Bear River Project Participants

- State of Utah Division of Water Resources
- Participating Agencies
  - Bear River Water Conservancy District
  - Cache County
  - Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
  - Weber Basin Water Conservancy District
- Study Team
  - Bowen Collins, HDR, Gerhart Cole
Bear River Compact

- Agreement between Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming in 1958
- Amended in 1980
- Allocates water between the three states
“The Division shall develop the surface waters of the Bear River and its tributaries through the planning and construction of reservoirs and associated facilities as authorized and funded by the Legislature; own and operate the facilities constructed; and market the developed waters”
Total project water rights: 220,000 ac-ft

- **BRWCD (Box Elder)**
- **Cache County**
- **JVWCD**
- **WBWCD**
Previous Studies

- Studies on the Bear River began in the 1960s by USBR
- State of Utah has studied project since 1970s
  - Various reservoir sites in the basin
- JVWCD and WBWCD
  - Routing studies on pipelines from state project to their service areas
  - Purchase of right-of-way
- Ongoing State of Utah studies
  - Bear River water quality sampling, 1996-present
  - Bear River Project preliminary studies, since 2006-2014
Water Supply Development

Firm Water Supply Versus Total Storage Volume

Firm Water Supply (acre-feet)

Total Storage Volume (acre-feet)

Bear River Development Project. August 2014. All information subject to change.
Potential Reservoir Sites in the Basin

Bear River Development Project. August 2014. All information subject to change.
Current Project Study Areas

- Storage is required to develop the 220,000 ac-ft
- Project has examined numerous storage sites within the Bear River Basin
- State of Utah studied Washakie site in 2006
- Project has shortlisted six other potential reservoir sites for further study:
  - Whites Valley
  - Above Cutler
  - Cub River
  - Temple Fork
  - Fielding
  - Weber Bay
Multiple reservoirs

Diversions from the Bear River

Cache County delivery

Raw water pipelines to West Haven WTP

Box Elder County delivery facilities

Finished water pipeline/storage reservoir/pump stations to Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake Counties
Study Activities

- Perform site investigations at six potential reservoir locations
- Further refine overall project facilities
- Prepare updated cost estimates
- Begin environmental permitting process
- Agency coordination
Conceptual Design

- Seven shortlisted reservoir sites
- Raw water pipeline system to West Haven WTP
- Finished water pipeline from West Haven to Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake Counties
- Cache County delivery facilities
### Preliminary Project Investment

**Bear River Project Costs by Phase**

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Investment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Initial storage and pipeline to Box Elder County</td>
<td>$197,012,613</td>
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<td>Additional storage and pipeline to West Haven WTP</td>
<td>$918,025,455</td>
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<td>Cache County storage and delivery facilities</td>
<td>$217,343,665</td>
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<td>Project completion</td>
<td>$149,913,500</td>
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Total investment over four phases: $1.5 billion
## Preliminary Project Schedule
*(Based on First Water Needed by 2035)*

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*Bear River Development Project. August 2014. All information subject to change.*
Marisa Egbert, Division of Water Resources, Project Manager

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