



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE

June 25, 2009

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WQ Board allocates \$4 million in Stimulus for 9 water projects

Salt Lake City, Utah – Water quality improvements to popular waterways in the state will move forward as part of \$4 million made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Water Quality Board on Wednesday authorized funding for nine “green” projects that met the criteria for federal stimulus funding.

The Board received applications for 87 projects totaling \$102 million. Priorities were given to projects that improved energy efficiency, reduced pollution to the waters of the state and assisted with public outreach and water quality education.

“There were so many great projects it was difficult to prioritize them, but in the end much needed waterways will be improved as a result of the funding,” said Walt Baker, director of the Division of Water Quality.

The following projects the Board funded are:

- Ogden River, \$1 million to restore the river’s channel as part of a major redevelopment.
- Cutler Reservoir, \$500,000 to reduce the phosphorus in Logan’s wastewater lagoons by harvesting the algae to convert into biofuels that would power the city’s garbage trucks.
- Sevier River, \$206,000 for stream restoration to remove phosphorus.
- Utah Lake, \$251,600 to remove 1.2 million pounds of carp using commercial seines.
- Jordan River, \$577,500 and \$484,200 to remove sediment and restore the stream channel. Another \$150,000 will be used to help build a storm water biofilter to treat runoff from a new “green” education building before it enters the Jordan River
- Strawberry Reservoir, \$520,788 to restore the stream and remove phosphorus.
- East Canyon, \$300,000 to remove sediment and phosphorus.

The Board in April awarded \$40 million in ARRA funds for much needed wastewater project improvements. Summaries of the projects are contained in the Water Quality Board Packet at: http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/WQBoard/2009_06-24_WQB_Packet.pdf.

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