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MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Quality Board

THROUGH: Walter L. Baker P.E.

FROM: Emilie Flemer
Jake Vander Laan

DATE: June 13, 2016

SUBJECT: Integrated Report FY2016

Every two years, the Division of Water Quality (DWQ) compiles all existing and readily available water quality data to assess the conditions of the surface waters within the State of Utah. These data are used to determine if the waterbody's designated beneficial uses are supported according to Utah's water quality standards. Beneficial uses assessed in this Report include potential sources of drinking water, primary and secondary contact recreation, aquatic life, and agriculture.

On June 10th, 2016 DWQ released the Draft 2016 Integrated Report (IR) for a 60 day public comment period. The Draft Integrated Report (and its accompanying information) is available on DWQ's Assessment Program's website, located here: http://www.deq.utah.gov/ProgramsServices/programs/water/wqmanagement/assessment/currentIR2016.htm

DWQ staff will be presenting the highlights of this report, including those summarized below, at the June Water Quality Board meeting.

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Assessment Results

Within the Draft 2016 Integrated Report (IR), DWQ reports on the condition of 750 River and Stream segments (15,583 River and Steam miles) and 142 Lakes and Reservoirs (1,467,222 Lake and Reservoir acres including the Great Salt Lake). A summary of this assessment is summarized below:

Assessment Status	Assessed Stream Segments	Assessed Stream Miles	Assessed Lakes	Assessed Lake Acres
Meeting Water Quality Standards	152	3,299 (21%)	58	57, 369 (4%)
Not Meeting Water Quality Standards	264	7,292 (47%)	61	288,580 (20%)
Insufficient Information to Assess (i.e., Follow up Monitoring Needed)	353	4,992 (32%)	23	1,121,274 (76%)*

- The Great Salt Lake accounts for 1,090,361 lake acres in the state.

San Juan River

The Division of Water Quality (DWQ) completed a full assessment of data collected on multiple dates from the San Juan River following the Gold King Mine release in Colorado on August 5, 2015. Data collected in fall 2015, during monsoonal storm events, resulted in DWQ listing two segments of the San Juan River as impaired for several metals.

Harmful Algal Blooms

DWQ's harmful algal bloom assessment (HAB) program made significant progress in 2015 including the development and application of an HAB assessment methodology for Utah waterbodies in the 2016 IR. Recreational use of one waterbody, Utah Lake, was identified as impaired for the occurrence of HABs due to blooms that occurred at three locations in the lake October 10-22, 2014. DWQ is working to increase monitoring and assessment of harmful algal bloom occurrence in important recreational and drinking water source waters statewide.

DWQ evaluated data related to harmful algal blooms that could pose a health risk to recreational users in Farmington Bay. Data were submitted to DWQ by the Central Davis Sewer District and Utah State University and were compared to indicators of human health risks for harmful algal blooms (HABs). In the Draft 2016 Integrated Report DWQ discusses the recreational uses of Farmington Bay, HAB indicators, and the results of the evaluation.

Data from Farmington Bay show frequent and extensive Harmful Algal Blooms that pose a risk to human health risk. UDWQ intends to fully assess recreational uses for Farmington Bay in the 2018 Integrated Report. In the interim, UDWQ will work with the Davis County Health Department to manage the public health risks posed by HABs in Farmington Bay while continuing to collect additional data and develop appropriate assessment methodologies.

Jordan River High Frequency Data Pilot Study

DWQ evaluated methods for assessing high frequency dissolved oxygen measurements collected by the Jordan River/Farmington Bay Water Quality Council. These data were collected from several fixed sites on the Jordan Rove from 3300 South downstream to Cudahy Lane Bridge. The analysis confirms that dissolved oxygen is a continuing problem on the lower Jordan River. DWQ now has a draft methodology for the future assessment of high frequency dissolved oxygen, which will be used on other sites where this type of data is readily available.

303(d) Vision

In 2016, DWQ adopted a new framework for implementing the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) Program. The new Program Vision enhances overall efficiency of the CWA 303(d) Program, focuses on priority waters, and provides flexibility in using alternative tools in addition to Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to restore and protect water quality. With the recognition that there is not a "one size fits all" approach to restoring and protecting water resources, Utah has developed tailored strategies to fulfill its responsibilities in the context of water quality goals.