

Great Salt Lake Tech Team

August 20, 2013

In attendance:

Brian Cottam

Laura Vernon

Tanna Fullenkamp

Jodi Gardberg

Susan Zarekarizi

Lynn DeFreitas

John Luft

Chris Cline

Gertrudys Adkins

Wayne Wurtsbaugh

Sarah Null

Lynn De Freitas

Bassam Usta

Eric Klotz

Ramesh Goel

Mike Bradley

Kelly Payne

Cory Angeroth

Andrew Rupke

Corey Milne

Don Silva

Craig Miller

Wally Gusy

Andrea Nelson

Joe Havasi

Welcome: 9:00 am

Laura Vernon welcomed all and went over the Agenda.

Updates:

Laura gave an update on the Great Salt Lake Advisory Council. They met on August 7, 2013. The Advisory Council is pursuing the completion of the Integrated Water Model. They are supporting FFSL in requesting funding for the project in the upcoming legislative session. Other State agencies are encouraged to participate/fund the modeling effort. The GSL AC would also like to be a part of the Governor's Water Summit Conference and would like them to consider the GSL as a resource when considering water issues throughout the state.

Laura also gave an update on Tech Team Grants. There were eight applications with \$200,000 to allocate to these grants. Four projects were chosen. Two were follow-up projects from the previous year (USGS, Angeroth and USU, Kettenring). The grant award projects for FY2014 are:

1. "How do changes to the causeway in Utah's Great Salt Lake affect water and salt flow in Gilbert and Gunnison Bays?" USU, Sarah Null.
2. "A snapshot of salt balance and dynamic salt movement during water year 2013 in Great Salt Lake, Utah." USGS, Angeroth.

3. "Assessing Phragmites Harvest for Bird Habitat Management." USU, Kettering.
4. Mercury and methylmercury sources, transfer pathways, hotspots and toxicity to biota at the Great Salt Lake and the novel use of stable mercury isotopic ratios." UofU, Johnson.

Phragmites report was also given by Laura Vernon. FFSL realizes that it is a problem and would like to make a difference. Karin Kettering is putting together a 5 year priority plan that will be done this fall. FFSL is waiting for her report before diving in. They have been working with Division of Wildlife Resources. 750 acres will be treated aerially at Farmington and Ogden Bays this month. They are currently considering options to get the stands down after spraying. DWR at Farmington Bay has had much success grazing the phrag with cattle. The cows like it when it is green. There is discussion about increasing grazing in these areas, however they do realize that it comes with other issues. FFSL is working to put together a phragmites coordinator that will work with all interested stakeholders to come up with a plan for funding and treatment.

Presentations:

Joe Havasi	Update on Great Salt Lake Minerals
Dr. Ramesh Goel	The Role of Bacteria in Wetland Functionality and Sustainability
Jodi Gardberg	Protecting Great Salt Lake: Strategic Monitoring and Research

Next meeting set for November 19, 2013. Same time, same place.

Meeting adjourned: 11:00 am