

Natural Resources and Environmental Issues

Volume 14 *Bear Lake Basin*

Article 6

2007

Organizations and agencies in Bear Lake management

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Recommended Citation

Palacios, Patsy; Luecke, Chris; and Robinson, Justin (2007) "Organizations and agencies in Bear Lake management," *Natural Resources and Environmental Issues*: Vol. 14 , Article 6.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/nrei/vol14/iss1/6>

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ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES IN BEAR LAKE MANAGEMENT

There are two major organized private interest groups in the Utah side of the Bear Lake area, Utah Power and Light Company and the Bear Lake Home Owners Association. Several agencies concerned with the water and the immediate land area around the lake exist at the federal level. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages the National Bird Refuge located in a swamp just north of Bear Lake. The Environmental Protection Agency is concerned with maintaining the water quality of the lake and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has jurisdiction with respect to construction below the 5924-foot elevation level of the lake. Utah State agencies involved with the lake include the State Parks and Recreation Division, Division of Wildlife Resources, Forestry, Fire and State Lands, State Land Planning Commission, and State Board of Health.

At the local level several county agencies have jurisdictions in the Bear Lake area as well as the towns near the lake. The Rich County Commission enumerates the requirements for building near the lake and controls the shoreline ordinances. The only 2 incorporated towns that are on the immediate shore, Garden City and Pickleville, have adopted these ordinances.

Regionally there exist several groups. The Bear Lake Regional Commission is a bi-state, bi-county organization that coordinates planning efforts in both Utah and Idaho states. The Commission was formed to address problems relating to preservation of the lake and provide orderly growth and development within the region. Designated by the Secretary of Agriculture October 15, 1966, the Bear River Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc., is a non-profit organization

that addresses conservation and development issues in Oneida, Caribou, Franklin, and Bear Lake Counties in Idaho as well as Box Elder, Cache, and Rich Counties in Utah. The Bear River RC&D area includes nearly the entire Bear River basin. Organized in 1994 and headed by Merlin Olsen, the Bear Lake Watch is a local group with the goal to assure that the interests of public are served and to protect and restore the environment and waters of Bear Lake.

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| Utah Power and Light Company | http://www.utahpower.net/ / http://www.pacificorp.com/ |
| Utah Division Wildlife Resources | http://wildlife.utah.gov/ |
| U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | http://www.fws.gov/ |
| Environmental Protection Agency | http://www.epa.gov/ |
| U.S. Army Corp or Engineers | http://www.usace.army.mil/ |
| Utah State Parks and Recreation | http://www.stateparks.utah.gov/ |
| Utah State Board of Health | http://www.health.utah.gov/ |
| Rich County Commission | http://www.richcountyut.org/index.html |
| Bear River RC and D Council | http://www.bearriverrcd.org/ |
| Bear Lake Regional Commission | http://www.bearlakeregionalcommission.org/ |
| Bear Lake Watch | http://www.bearlakewatch.com/ |

Table 3. Major Organizations in Bear Lake Management and Web Addresses.