

Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative
Southeastern Regional Team Charter
Finalized March 2, 2009
Updated November 9, 2011

Background: Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative (UWRI), a Utah Partners for Conservation and Development (Utah PCD) sponsored initiative, is a wide-view watershed restoration initiative formed in 2003 to leverage diverse interests including: government entities, Non-Government Organizations (NGO's), industry, citizens, and other like-minded organizations to mitigate and improve watershed health in Utah.

Mission: The purpose of the regional team(s) is to serve as a clearinghouse for coordinating and sharing participants' conservation concerns and priorities, discussing potential solutions and for cooperatively implementing conservation activities.

Vision: UWRI is a partnership-driven effort to restore and manage land health in priority areas across the state. The following Utah PCD values are implemented by UWRI:

- Protect and enhance wildlife and biological diversity
- Improve water quality and availability
- Promote the opportunity for sustainable agriculture
- Maintain quality of life through economic and social values of healthy watersheds

Goal: To provide cooperative mitigation of threats to land health through effective management and restoration actions on public and private lands in Utah.

Parameters: The regional teams are composed of restoration focused staff and representatives of the Utah PCD, as well as other local conservation minded organizations and stakeholders that reflect the ecologic, economic, and social demographics of that region. Each team is locally led and works cooperatively to plan and implement projects. Projects will be developed within the following context:

- Established watershed goals and objectives at the 8 digit hydrologic unit code, sub-basin level
- Focus areas are systematically adjusted to meet UWRI goals and objectives which are developed and approved by the SER UPCD quorum
- Conduct a risk analysis within the partnership to determine:
 - Who can contribute what resources and when; and,
 - What are the threats and risks to land health
- Strategic long-term implementation plan that support land use plans or other conservation plans
- Monitoring and evaluation plan for projects and/or focus areas
- Projects are prioritized by ranking criteria established by statewide guidance with the regional team providing local guidance

Membership and Administration:

Membership is:

- Open to anyone wishing to participate

Voting is:

- Composed of one voting representative from each of the Utah Partners for Conservation and Development members. Members include:
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Utah State University Extension Service
 - USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - Utah Associations of Conservation Districts
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - U.S. Farm Services Agency
 - Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
 - U.S. Forest Service
 - Utah Department of Environmental Quality
 - Utah RC&D Councils Association
 - U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 - National Parks Service
 - Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration
 - Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
 - Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands
 - Utah Division of Parks and Recreation
- Composed of no more than three invited conservation minded individuals that reflect the ecologic, economic, and social demographics of that region
- Composed of one county designated voting representative from each of the six counties in the Southeastern Region UPCD (San Juan, Grand, Emery, Carbon, Wayne and Garfield)
- A voting representative for a group must possess comprehensive knowledge of group issues and express the consensus or majority support of that group on those issues.
- Voting participation requires regular attendance of team meetings and familiarity with projects and/or issues
- A voting representative can only represent a single group during voting

Administration is:

- Governed by a Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary to serve concurrent two-year terms (such positions may be held by voting and non-voting members who are active in the regional team)
- The Chair is responsible for distributing information to all regional team members, scheduling meetings, and acting as the liaison with the Utah PCD and UWRI
- The Vice-chair serves to support the chair in developing agendas and facilitating regional team meetings, attending other group meetings where regional team

representation is required, and assisting with other duties critical to meeting regional team objectives

- The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes at all regional team meetings, and providing additional support to the chair and vice-chair as requested, including advertising or notifying interested parties about team meetings.
- If the chair position is vacated during the two-year term, the vice-chair shall assume the role of chair
- Quarterly meetings will be called by the Chair and other meetings as designated by the Chair or Vice-chair
- For meeting and voting purposes, a quorum shall consist of at least five individuals present from the voting representatives with one of the five from the private sector
- The private sector includes: Utah State University Extension Services, Utah Association of Conservation Districts, U.S. Farm Services agency, Utah RC&D Councils Association, Counties, NGOs, and selected conservation minded individuals
- Decisions are made by consensus or by simple majority of the voting representatives
- The fall meetings will be devoted to reviewing focus areas and in recommending changes needed in the governance of the regional team
- The winter meetings will be devoted to presenting and ranking projects to be submitted to the UWRI and Utah PCD. Attendance is mandatory for individuals representing each Utah PCD voting member as well as invited voting members.
- A ranking committee will rank proposals and the SER UPCD quorum will approve rankings by February 28
- A new chair, vice-chair and secretary will be elected at the Spring meeting of each odd year, with appointment beginning after the proposal ranking in the Spring.
- The Summer meeting may consist of a field tour to review projects, as deemed necessary by the chartered members
- Charter will be reviewed and modified annually as needed