

**Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative/
Utah Partners for Conservation and Development
Southern Region Utah Partners for Conservation and Development
(SRUPCD)
Charter**

BACKGROUND

The SRUPCD is an ad hoc team formed in 2003 for the purpose of planning and implementing watershed restoration projects within the boundary of the UDWR Southern Region (see map). SRUPCD is one of five such regional teams in Utah implementing the goals and objectives of Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative, a Utah Partner's for Conservation and Development (Utah PCD) sponsored initiative.

MISSION

The SRUPCD will work together and take cooperative action as partners with federal, state and local agencies, tribal governments, non-governmental organizations, private livestock operations and other affected private landowners, communities, and stakeholders to define common visions and goals as they relate to ecosystem restoration. The SRUPCD will work to coordinate and leverage technical and financial resources, set priorities for management and restoration, strengthen efforts for monitoring and assessment, develop innovative approaches to problem solving and develop and implement outreach and educational efforts.

VISION

Water quality, water quantity, and biodiversity are maintained and improved across the landscape through active and passive science-based ecosystem restoration and management. The goal of SRUPCD is to maintain and improve habitat for Utah's Species of Greatest Conservation Need (as defined in Utah's Wildlife Action Plan) and high interest game species. SRUPCD habitat management actions will support sustainable agriculture and will maintain public value added incentives, such as visual resource management, recreational opportunities, and open space at a landscape level.

OBJECTIVES

1. Provide coordinated leadership in natural resource management and public service in cooperation with property owners/users for the long-term sustainability of Utah's natural resources to meet the needs of current and future generations.
2. Act as a point of coordination for funding and cooperation.
3. Strive to work within focus areas, as designated by SRUPCD partners. Focus areas may be re-assessed annually and adjusted on an as-needed basis.
4. Conduct science-based ecosystem restoration through physical and mechanical habitat manipulation such as seeding, reconstruction, vegetation management, species transplants and other means. Such projects will:
 - a. Think cross-boundary, multi-species, multi-use.
 - b. Be developed collaboratively.
 - c. Utilize management plans, best available science and a Five Step Planning (multi-
entity/partner/interests) process:

- i. Develop measurable ***long-term*** goals and objectives that meet values and watershed/focus area goals and objectives.
 - ii. Determine strengths/weaknesses/opportunities/threats through analysis by all interested parties
 - iii. Develop a long-term strategic implementation plan that includes all current and foreseeable future needs of the project (includes long-term monitoring strategy/timeline)
 - iv. Implement projects through cooperating agencies, groups, and individuals
 - v. Conduct monitoring/assessment/evaluations that include effects to project related fish and wildlife species as well as vegetation and other ecological resources.
5. Facilitate communication and team building among the public, stakeholders and the UPCD to promote a better understanding of the risks to natural resources and values, and to improve cooperation and problem solving across boundaries.

MEMBERSHIP

The SRUPCD is:

1. Composed of representatives from the following organizations who are signatories to the statewide Utah PCD Memorandum of Understanding:
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Utah State University Extension Service
 - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Utah Association 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 (no longer active)
 - U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 - National Park 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
2. Composed of other representatives who share the vision and mission of UPCD and the SRUPCD, including, but not limited to cities, counties, sportsmen, private landowners, conservation organizations and other non-profit and for profit entities.

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Voting opportunities include two tiers: 1) General administration (including office elections), proposal review, focus areas and charter changes; and 2) Project ranking performed by a ranking sub-committee.

- **Tier one** – General administration (including officer elections) proposal review, focus areas and charter changes.
 - In order to qualify for voting membership, each member is required to attend and participate in at least half of the meetings during the year.
 - Tier-one activities require a simple majority vote.
 - Changes to the charter require a 2/3 majority vote.
- **Tier two** – Project ranking by a ranking sub-committee
 - Ranking will be conducted following the ranking criteria template provided by UWRI.
 - Members of the ranking sub-committee will be composed of a core group from signatory entities, as well as up to five “member at large” representatives who share the vision and mission of UPCD and the SRUPCD.
 - The core group of the ranking sub-committee will be composed of no more than one representative per signatory entity.
 - The “member at large component” of the ranking sub-committee may consist of up to five members representing larger stake holder groups active in SRUPCD, including sportsmen organizations, private landowners, conservation organizations and local governments. Sportsmen organizations, private landowners and conservation organizations may each have one representative, while local governments may have two representatives. “Member at large” representatives should be representative of their larger stakeholder group and agreed upon by the core group of the ranking subcommittee.
 - To be eligible for ranking subcommittee assignment, a signatory entity or “member at large” representative must become familiar with the project proposals in the UWRI database and the UWRI ranking criteria.
 - To be eligible to participate in the ranking process, a signatory entity or “member at large” representative must also attend the ranking committee meeting, or designate a capable substitute who meets the criteria outlined above.
 - Disagreements on the ranking committee will be resolved through a simple majority vote.

ADMINISTRATION

The SRUPCD is governed by a chair, vice-chair and secretary. Such positions may be held by voting and non-voting representatives who are active in the local SRUPCD Chapter.

- The **Chair** is responsible for distributing information to all SRUPCD representatives and acts as the liaison with the statewide UPCD. The Chair is responsible for scheduling meetings and developing required correspondence to meet the objectives of SRUPCD and UPCD.
- The **Vice-chair** serves to support the chair in developing agendas and facilitating SRUPCD meetings, attending other group meetings where SRUPCD representation is required, and assists with other duties critical to meeting SRUPCD objectives.
- The **Secretary** is responsible for taking minutes at all SRUPCD meetings, and in providing additional support to the chair and vice-chair as requested. Minutes should be distributed to all representatives within 10 days following any SRUPCD meeting.

- If the chair position is vacated, the vice-chair shall assume the role of chair. All other vacancies will be filled by nomination and representative vote at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- A new vice-chair and secretary will be elected at the **FALL** meeting of each year. The term of the appointment for the secretary shall be one year. The term of appointment for the vice-chair is 2 years. The term for the vice-chair shall be one year as vice-chair and one year as chair, with the current vice-chair, rotating into the chair position.

ANNUAL TIMELINE

The SRUPCD is committed to holding quarterly meetings, and other meetings as designated by the chair and vice-chair.

- For meeting and decision-making purposes, a quorum shall consist of at least five individuals present from the voting signatory representatives.
- Sub-committees may be assigned as needed.
- The **Fall** meeting will be devoted to reviewing focus areas and in recommending changes needed in the governance of the SRUPCD chapter (ranking, etc.). Additionally, current information for project ranking will be distributed at the Fall meeting, in preparation for the winter meeting project presentations. Yearly elections will also occur at the Fall meeting, as indicated in Administration (above).
- The **Winter** meeting will be devoted to presenting and ranking projects to be submitted to the statewide UPCD.
- The **Spring** meeting is designated by the statewide WRI administration and may not occur yearly. All members are encouraged to attend, as necessary.
- The **Summer** meeting may consist of a field tour to showcase restoration projects, as deemed necessary by the chartered members.
- All quarterly meetings will be held in Cedar City, Utah unless further designated by the chair.

Charter reviewed. Modified and approved by the ranking subcommittee at the February 16, 2017 project ranking meeting. Charter reviewed by Tier 1 voting membership via email from March 7 – March 19 2017. Charter approved April 4, 2017.

 4/4/2017
Mike Golden - Chairman

 4/4/17
Rhett Boswell, Vice-Chairman