

# Utah Division of Parks and Recreation

## ► Fred Hayes, Director

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# Utah Division of Parks and Recreation

The Division of State Parks and Recreation preserves and provides natural, cultural and recreational resources for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

# Programs

- ▶ 43 AMAZING State Parks
- ▶ Statewide Boating Program
- ▶ Statewide Off-highway Vehicle Program
- ▶ Statewide Trails Program
- ▶ 4 Golf Courses
- ▶ ROCKIN' Utah!
- ▶ Miscellaneous Grants in aid to communities/agencies

Something for Everyone



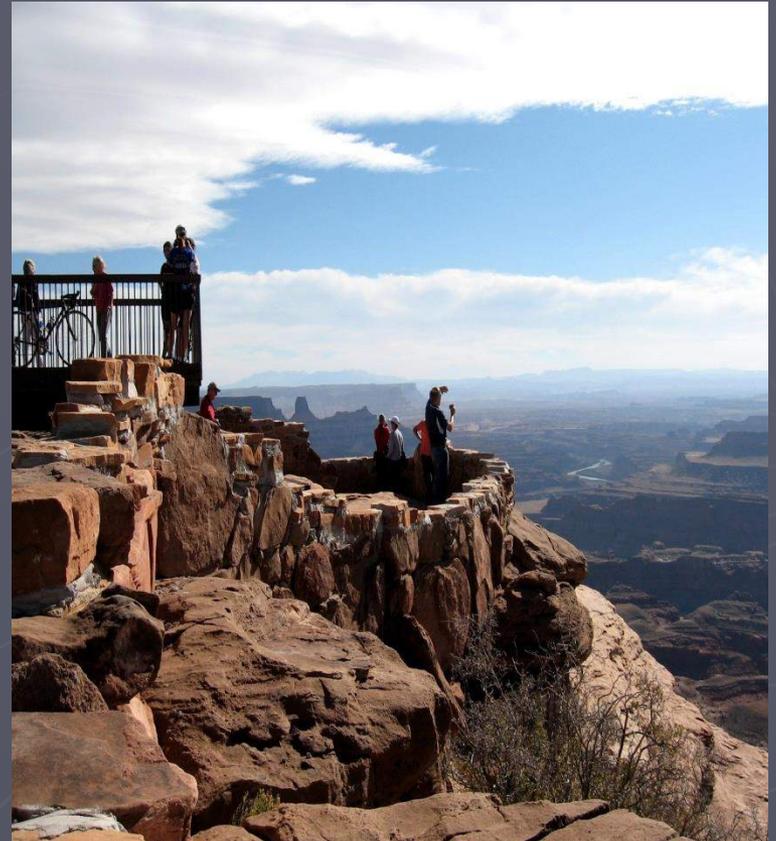
# Our Philosophy

We aim to provide clean, safe, friendly, fun and affordable recreation destinations and opportunities

We value and support safe and responsible access to our public lands and waters

We maintain that wholesome recreation builds strong families and healthy communities

We believe that we all need our “dirt time”



# A Look Back...

# In 2010

## Performance Audit of the Division of Parks and Recreation

Utah's state park system could become more self-sufficient and less reliant on the state's general fund. First, the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation (division) needs to develop a more business focused operation to improve park system efficiency. Second, budget reductions and improved park efficiency can be achieved through staffing modifications. Staffing expenses represent 60 percent of the division's total costs and the division needs to evaluate the necessity of some positions if it is to become less reliant on the general fund. Third, some parks should reduce services by aligning operations more closely to public demand; other parks, however, may need to close. Finally, the Legislature could consider privatization of some Utah state parks. If the Legislature decides to pursue privatization, a pilot program should be implemented first to gauge success.

# Specific Issues:

1. Too much General Fund reliance
2. Many operational inefficiencies
3. Overstaffing
4. Lack of “business-like” mindset
5. Perceived unwillingness to change
6. Bloating in the Agency

# Changes

1. General Fund appropriation reduced from \$12M prior to the Audit to \$4M today;
2. Eliminated ~30 full-time positions;
3. Expenditures were aligned to revenues;
4. Park offerings/pricing became market driven;
5. Most Parks have become profitable;
6. Utah's State Park system is healthy and profitable, and generating excess revenue!

# Credit?

187 of the best employees in the world, and an untold number of amazing seasonal employees and volunteers, who hit the ground running everyday, working to make the Utah State Park system the most efficient organization in the world.

# Utah Division of Parks and Recreation

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Adventure Tykes



Adventure Times































# Utah Division of Parks and Recreation

- ▶ Off-highway Vehicle Program
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# Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) Program

- ▶ It is the policy of this state to promote safety and protection for person, property, and the environment connected with the use, operation, and equipment of off-highway vehicles, to promote uniformity of laws, to adopt and pursue a safety education, and to *develop trails and other facilities* for the use of these vehicles.

# *Develop trails and other facilities*

## ► Technical assistance

- GIS – identifying potential trail opportunities
- Staff expertise
- Equipment
- Creating partnerships

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



# Develop trails and other facilities

## ► Financial Assistance

- State OHV Grants
- One time funding

## ► Examples

- Eagle Mountain City
- Steinaker State Park
- Sheep Creek Connector



# EAGLE MOUNTAIN



# STEINAKER



# SHEEP CREEK

