



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

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January 4, 1995

Dear Water User:

Enclosed is the final version of the ground-water management plan for the Bountiful sub-area of the East Shore area. In developing this plan, we have attempted to incorporate comments received at public meetings and in writing, the hydrologic data, and the water rights filings.

By way of clarification, I would like to elaborate on the items of the plan dealing with well spacing, new appropriations of water, and the reporting of well withdrawals.

Item 2 specifies that, under unconfined conditions, no well shall cause more than 15 feet of drawdown to occur in any other well with a senior priority date. The purpose of this item is to insure that well spacing is sufficient to minimize interference problems among water users. As future wells are planned, you need to consider this provision, and locate and size the well accordingly.

Item 3 states that no new large applications to appropriate water will be granted. I realize the hardship that this places on several communities in meeting their future water requirements; however, it is my opinion that the ground-water basin is over-appropriated, and it is not in the long-term interest of the user to approve new applications. To allow isolated homes to obtain water, we will allow one acre-foot per year applications for domestic purposes where no other source of culinary water is available; when another source of culinary water (i.e. public supply system) becomes available the well will be required to be sealed and the right abandoned. This provision will be accomplished through the use of fixed-time applications. Applications meeting the criteria will be approved for a specific period of time, i.e. twenty years. At the end of that period, the water user will be notified, and if a public supply system has not become available, the applicant may request that the application be extended. However, if in the meantime, the applicant has connected to a public supply system, the well will have to be sealed in accordance with existing regulations.

Item 6 sets forth the provision for the reporting of withdrawals by wells which divert, or potentially could divert, at least 100 acre-feet per year. This Division, in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey, conducts an annual water use survey of municipal and industrial diversions in the state. Every January, we send out



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a questionnaire to be filled out and returned by the water user; the information is used to monitor water use trends and in water resource planning. Most municipal and industrial users in the Bountiful sub-area already participate in this program. If you submit a water use questionnaire, it meets this reporting requirement. This requirement will take effect January 1, 1995, and the first data will be collected in January 1996.

I believe that the adoption of this plan will facilitate the development and use of the sub-area's ground-water resources in a manner consistent with state water law. We will periodically review data for the area and if changes to the management plan appear necessary, we would consider updating the plan after reviewing the matter with the local water users. If you have any questions regarding this management plan, or any of its items in particular, please feel free to call or write at the address on the letterhead. Again, I thank you for your assistance and participation in the development of the this management plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert L. Morgan".

Robert L. Morgan, P.E.
State Engineer

RLM:nj

Enclosure

January 4, 1995

GROUND-WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BOUNTIFUL SUB-AREA OF THE EAST SHORE AREA

Introduction/

This document sets forth the State Engineer's policy concerning the management and administration of ground water in the Bountiful sub-area of the East Shore Area. The objectives of this ground-water management plan are to guide future development, establish policy on new appropriations of water, protect the resource from over-utilization and preserve the water quality.

The Bountiful sub-area is described as follows: The southern boundary is the Davis-Salt Lake County line, the north boundary is the Centerville City-Farmington City line, the east boundary is the Wasatch Range, and the western boundary is the Jordan River and Farmington Bay.

Background/

The average annual recharge to the ground-water aquifer in the Bountiful sub-area is about 26,000 acre-feet per year. Discharge is estimated to be 30,000 acre-feet per year, with withdrawals by wells accounting for 14,000 acre-feet (1969 to 1985)

A review of the existing ground-water rights in the sub-area was made to determine the potential withdrawal that may occur. For perfected water rights it is estimated that the potential withdrawals are about 27,000 acre-feet per year. Under approved applications the potential withdrawals are 18,500 acre-feet per year and unapproved applications totalled 9,600 acre-feet. The total potential withdrawals for perfected water rights and approved applications are estimated to be about 45,000 acre-feet per year. From these figures it is apparent the ground-water basin is substantially over-appropriated.

Elements of Plan/

- 1) Limit annual withdrawals from wells to an average of 25,000 acre-feet per year, using a 5-year moving average. Maximum withdrawals in any one year shall not exceed 30,000 acre-feet.

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- 2) Wells shall be spaced so that under unconfined conditions they do not cause more than 15 feet of drawdown on any well with an earlier priority date. Users in a particular area may enter into an agreement to provide a variance from this requirement if it does not interfere with third party rights and also subject to approval by the State Engineer.
- 3) The Bountiful sub-area is closed to new applications to appropriate water, except for isolated domestic/stockwatering wells in non-subdivisions where water is not available from a public water system. Applications to appropriate water will be limited to 1.0 acre-foot annually. Applications will be approved subject to the condition that when a public water system becomes available the well will be sealed and the water right terminated.
- 4) Future change applications will be considered on their own individual merits. Transfers of rights involving large distances, or from shallow aquifers (<30 feet) to the principal aquifer will be critically reviewed.
- 5) Extension of time requests for applications to appropriate water will be critically reviewed as per Section 73-3-12. If the State Engineer finds unjustified delays or a lack of due diligence, the request may be granted in part, the priority date reduced, or the extension of time request denied.
- 6) All wells diverting, or which potentially could divert, 100 acre-feet per year or more, shall be equipped with a meter and the water user shall report the annual withdrawals to the State Engineer.
- 7) Water users are requested to submit copies of any water quality analysis performed to the State Engineer. As withdrawals approach the annual limit set forth above, additional restrictions may be imposed to protect the water quality of the aquifer, if data shows the quality is unreasonably affected.