



UTAH

2026 STATE REPORT AND FACT SHEET



INFRASTRUCTURE RENOVATION COMPLETED AT BURTON DAM

On May 28, 2025, Ducks Unlimited completed a major restoration of Burton Dam, a critical structure that supports freshwater inflows to Great Salt Lake. This reconstruction, completed

in partnership with the New State Duck Club, modernizes a failing system that previously lost up to 7,000 acre-feet of water annually, undermining wetland health in the Farmington Arm of the lake.

The project includes a redesigned tilting weir and stoplog system to improve flow control, a retrofitted outflow structure to increase delivery to Farmington Bay, and new monitoring equipment to accurately track water movement through the system. These improvements strengthen habitat conditions across 3,600 acres of managed wetlands, supporting migratory waterfowl, enhancing sediment control, and limiting invasive species. Overall, the renovation restores a critical link in the lake's water delivery network and bolsters long-term ecological resilience.

CRITICAL JORDAN RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZED

Ducks Unlimited (DU) completed major upgrades to aging water delivery infrastructure that supports the Great Salt Lake's wetland system. The Jordan River, which historically supplied about 22% of the lake's freshwater, has long been impaired by dams, diversions, and floodplain loss. DU addressed these limitations by repairing Burnham Dam, improving its function where flows were split between the New State Duck Club and Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area (WMA), and by adding long needed monitoring equipment to ensure more reliable water distribution.

Because Farmington Bay WMA receives 90% of its water through the State Canal, DU replaced the obsolete 1930s canal structure with a new multi-bay gate design that improved flow capacity, reduced sediment issues, and allowed the system to safely handle high runoff years. These upgrades improved water delivery to thousands of acres of wetlands, helping curb invasive Phragmites, reduce dust from exposed lakebed, and improve estuarine habitat conditions.



FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR GREAT SALT LAKE INITIATIVE SURPASSED, NEW GOAL SET

Ducks Unlimited has surpassed its initial \$5 million fundraising goal for the Great Salt Lake Initiative three years early and is now launching an ambitious 10-year effort to raise \$100 million for large-scale conservation projects across Great Salt Lake.

Relaunched in 2022, the Initiative focuses on infrastructure solutions to boost lake inflows and enhance wetland function at a time when the lake reached its lowest levels in nearly 200 years. The campaign has reached \$5.44 million, helping DU leverage an additional \$17.6 million in state and federal funding through agencies such as NAWCA and the Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust.

In the next two years alone, DU has identified at least eight more projects, including stream restoration work along the Lower Bear River, the lake's primary source of inflow. DU credits the success of Great Salt Lake Initiative to more than 120 private philanthropists and numerous corporate and foundation partners committed to safeguarding this vital ecosystem.

DUCKS UNLIMITED SIGNS HISTORIC GREAT SALT LAKE CHARTER 2034

In a landmark step for wetland restoration, Ducks Unlimited has joined the State of Utah and a broad coalition of partners in signing the Great Salt Lake Charter 2034, a decadelong commitment to restore the lake and its surrounding wetlands. Announced on September 30, 2025, the charter outlines a coordinated plan backed by \$200 million in conservation and water management funding, with DU pledging to raise \$100 million toward identified conservation actions.

The Initiative responds to falling lake levels driven by drought and water diversion, threatening one of North America's most ecologically important wetland systems. DU emphasized that the Great Salt Lake is a vital habitat for millions of migratory birds along the Pacific Flyway and provides significant ecosystem services such as air quality regulation and climate stabilization. With decades of conservation experience in the basin, DU will continue its work to enhance water delivery, strengthen wetland resilience, and restore critical habitats.



**WESTERN
REGION**

ducks.org/utah



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MEMBERSHIP

Grand Total: 4,761

Members: 4,579

General Members: 4,111

Greenwings: 267

Legacy Greenwings: 34

Sponsor Members: 167

Major Sponsors: 182

Feather Society Members: 18

STATE FUNDRAISING

Total event income dollars raised:

\$1,135,943

Number of committees: **23**

Number of fundraising events: **85**

Local chapter volunteers: **348**

FALL FLIGHTS INVESTMENTS TO CANADIAN PROJECTS

Total Contributions: **\$200,000**

Location of projects: Alberta

US CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Total Acres Conserved in the state
(historically since FY1984): **42,900**

Total Acres of Conservation in the
state (FY2025): **1,165**

Amount spent on projects in the
state: **\$17,644,332**

Amount spent on projects in
PAC Flyway (through FY2025):
\$739,317,624

Primary waterfowl species:

Canada Goose; Mallard; Green-
Winged Teal; Northern Pintail;
Tundra Swan; Redhead; Cinnamon
Teal; Shoveler; Gadwall; Canvas-
back and American Wigeon.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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For Information on DU's Youth Engagement Programs:

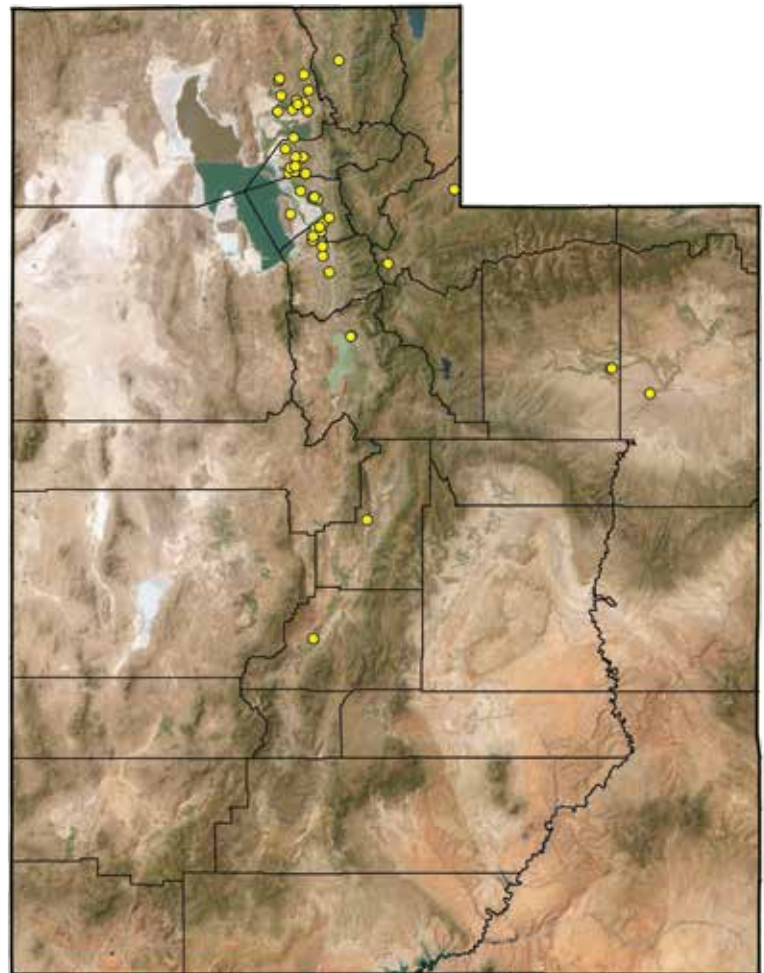
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Ducks Unlimited PROJECTS

● Completed Project(s)

Note: Project points may represent more than one project.

For a more detailed look at where DU works
in your state scan the QR code.



**WESTERN
REGION**

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For more information about
DU's work in your state visit

ducks.org/utah