



Central Utah Project Completion Act

Mission

The purpose of this program is to carry out the Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA) in a cost-effective, environmentally sound, and timely manner.

Budget Overview

The 2026 Budget for CUPCA activities is \$17.0 million. The Budget supports continuing construction of the Utah Lake Drainage Basin Water Delivery System, the final component of the Central Utah Project; allows for development and implementation of water conservation projects to extend limited water supplies; and provides support for associated fish and wildlife conservation measures.

As authorized, the completion of the Utah Lake System pipelines will deliver an additional 60,000 acre-feet of municipal and industrial water to Salt Lake and Utah Counties, expanding the water supply to one of the fastest growing regions of the State. The completed project will provide increased water security and reliability.

The request provides funding for the construction of the Spanish Fork–Santaquin Pipeline component of the Utah Lake System; implementation of water conservation projects; and implementation of mitigation efforts for impacts to fish, wildlife, and recreation. Funding also supports activities of the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission,



An angler sets off on a kayak at the Provo River Delta Restoration Project boat ramp.

CUPCA Photo.

which includes operation and maintenance of the recently constructed Provo River Delta Restoration Project. The Spanish Fork–Santaquin Pipeline, which is under construction, is estimated to be completed in 2027. The Santaquin–Mona Pipeline, the next and last pipeline, is estimated to be completed by 2035.

The 2026 Budget includes \$13.0 million for the Central Utah Water Conservancy District to administer planning and project construction activities of the Utah Lake System and implement water conservation measures under the Water Management Improvement Program; for Interior to meet fish and wildlife obligations associated with project construction and operation; and for program administration and oversight by Interior. In addition, the Budget includes \$4.0 million for mitigation and conservation activities funded through the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission.

The Mitigation Commission account funding in the 2026 Budget request will support the Provo River Delta Restoration

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACT Facts



- The CUPCA was enacted in 1992.
- CUPCA distributes responsibility for the completion of the Central Utah Project (CUP) among its stakeholders.
- The local Central Utah Water Conservancy District is responsible for the construction of the remainder of the CUP.
- The Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission is responsible for mitigating the environmental effects of the CUP.
- The Department of the Interior is responsible for oversight of the project.
- The program will provide 137,000 acre-feet of water for municipal and industrial purposes and 54,000 acre-feet of water for irrigation of more than 30,000 acres, meeting the needs of more than 500,000 people.

Project, which diverts the majority of the lower Provo River's flow into nearly 300 acres of braided waterways and wetlands flowing into Utah Lake. The project provides enhanced fish and wildlife habitat and provides facilities to support recreational opportunities, including trails, restrooms, nonmotorized-boat launches, and fishing and wildlife viewing platforms for nearby urban populations. Mitigation Commission account funding will also support ongoing restoration

work along the Middle Strawberry River, an area significantly affected by recent wildfires.

Workforce Restructure

The 2026 Budget supports the Administration's priority to streamline government and will continue efforts to unify and optimize administrative services across the Department to increase effectiveness and efficiency for the benefit of American taxpayers.



Spanish Fork-Santaquin Pipeline fusion of 42-inch high-density polyethylene sections.

CUPCA Photo.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2026 Request with 2025 CR

	2025 CR	2026 Request
Current		
Central Utah Project Completion Account	18,350	13,000
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account	4,650	4,000
Subtotal, Current	23,000	17,000
Permanent		
Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account	3,342	3,421
Subtotal, Permanent	3,342	3,421
Total, Central Utah Project Completion Account	26,342	20,421

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation

APPROPRIATION: Central Utah Project Completion Account

	2024 Actual	2025 CR ^{1/}	2026 Request
Transfer to Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account (P.L. 113-235)	[-4,650]	[-4,650]	[-4,000]
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	18,350	18,350	13,000

^{1/} The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

APPROPRIATION: Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account

	2024 Actual	2025 CR ^{1/}	2026 Request
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	4,650	4,650	4,000

^{1/} The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

