



**iUTAH**  
research brings  
natural scientists,  
engineers, and  
social scientists  
together to  
examine  
Utah's vital  
water issues

### OUR THREE AREAS OF RESEARCH

- 1 Examining the relationship between water and ecosystems
- 2 Assessing the human and engineered aspects of water use and decisions
- 3 Developing computer models coupling the scope of human-natural systems

Researchers with backgrounds in the natural and physical sciences, engineering, and social science work together to better understand how Utah's relationship with water will likely play out in the coming decades.

## iUTAH stands for innovative Urban Transitions and Arid-region Hydro-sustainability

The project is a university-community collaboration integrating research, training, and education to strengthen science for Utah's water future. This five-year project is funded under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The purpose of iUTAH is to build capacity for addressing water, population growth, and climate change issues in Utah.

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# SCIENCE FOR UTAH'S WATER FUTURE



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## CULTIVATING STATEWIDE COLLABORATIONS

iUTAH works with scientists and stakeholders collaborating on research and educational projects to inspire and train the next generation of scientists and informed citizens. Our community of educators and researchers extends beyond traditional academic boundaries and campus locations to over 80 partner institutions and organizations across the state and the nation. We draw on this capacity to understand how human actions affect our environment and to strengthen our state's water sustainability in a comprehensive and societally relevant way.



### iUTAH IN ACTION

#### *Education, Outreach & Diversity*

iUTAH directs or sponsors numerous initiatives to train and diversify Utah's next generation STEM workforce. Programs such as the Summer Institute, iFellows undergraduate research experience, and WaterGirls connect students K-20 with a network of scientific data and practitioners to help them learn about and find science-based solutions to water issues facing the state.

Utah's population is becoming more diverse. iUTAH has worked hard to reach out to under-represented groups. We have directed many public outreach activities to

women and members of racial and ethnic minorities, such as partnering with Utah State University's Native American STEM Mentorship Program. Our workforce development programs have focused on encouraging these groups to pursue careers in water science and engineering.

#### *Integrated Socio-Environmental Observatory*

iUTAH brings together social scientists and students at institutions across the state. It involves stakeholders and the public in surveys, interviews, and participatory modeling exercises addressing water-related issues with a human viewpoint in mind. The results provide useful information about how residents use water and feel about its quality, availability, and conservation.

#### *Stormwater/Green Infrastructure*

Engineers and city/environmental planners are using iUTAH's data on streams and canals in cities and towns to explore new approaches to stormwater management and green infrastructure development in hopes of reducing water runoff carrying pollutants into our waterways.

#### *Sharing Data and Research Results*

The iUTAH Data Repository was established as a digital data library. It stores, manages, distributes, and visualizes scientific data collected by a network of environmental sensors called GAMUT (Gradients Along Mountain to Urban Transitions) and our researchers. The repository includes archival, file-based results for each site in the GAMUT network and each project in the iUTAH research portfolio. It is an open-access resource with datasets available for public viewing and use.



### STATEWIDE PROJECTS & PARTNERS

- Museum displays at The Leonardo, Natural History Museum of Utah, and Southern Utah University
- Support for citizen science with Utah Water Watch to help people understand their local watershed
- The Utah Dept. of Environmental Quality, the Salt Lake Dept. of Public Utilities, and Logan City use our data and analyses to better understand water availability

### iUTAH'S HIGHER ED PARTNERS

iUTAH is actively engaged with students and faculty from all ten higher education institutions across the state

