

Where the sandal hits the sand – We need your input

I know that for most of you the Bear Lake experience is over for the year. Boats, jet skis and beach blankets are put away until spring, but the Utah sovereign lands planning process for Bear Lake will not be put on the shelf on the count of cool weather. Progress for the work group is going nicely and it is time to present the work and get more input from you at one of the two [public meetings](#) or via the [FFSL website](#). I believe these meetings are the most important of the three workshops. We have had several opportunities to highlight our concerns and issues, now it is time to come up with solutions.

Public Meetings

September 23 & 24

This is where the sandal hits the sand!

In order to make these meetings more effective or to be able to make useful comment, you'll need to know what has been done so far. For background on this effort see "[Back to the Future of Bear Lake](#)"> Since the June public meetings, the Work Group has created a draft [issues statement](#), compiled from the comments collected, and [proposed the goals](#) for the plan. It is important that you review them and determine if we are on the track and if there is anything we have over looked. These goals will be the basis of the entire management plan which will guide the agency's actions.

These goals, in conjunction with the contractor's environmental analyses, will be used, to direct the next step in the process, develop "management alternatives". These "alternatives" generally include extremes to highlight both ends of a spectrum, but also more moderate alternatives. The extremes at Bear Lake might be total preservation and no use on one end and total free-for-all, anything is allowed on the other. The logical middle ground would be to allow certain uses in specific areas best suited for that use and protect sensitive areas from uses that would be harmful or create unwanted impacts.

That is where we need your help, you've been there, and you've seen it firsthand. Review the issues and goals and come to one of the meetings with ideas and solutions.