



**CENTRAL  
WASATCH  
COMMISSION**

Central Wasatch Commission

Alta Town Council

Presentation

November 8, 2023



An aerial photograph of the Central Wasatch Mountains. The foreground shows a dense urban area, likely Salt Lake City, with a grid of streets and buildings. The middle ground features a valley with a river winding through it. The background is dominated by large, rugged mountains with some snow patches and low-hanging clouds. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

# The Central Wasatch Commission

A unique effort

Local governments and elected officials operating by consensus to address longstanding issues and aspirations for the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Convenes

Conflict resolution

Achieve cooperation

Assist State



# Member Jurisdictions

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# Member Jurisdiction Benefits

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Consensus approach to land and watershed protection and decision making

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Consensus-based transportation approach

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Short-Term improvements in the mountains

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The Visitor-Use Study

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The Environmental Dashboard

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Regional stakeholder involvement



### Ski Resorts and Economic Interests

**Amber Broadway**-- Solitude Mountain Resort  
**Mike Doyle** -- Brighton Ski Resort  
**Dave Fields** – Snowbird Ski Resort  
**Nathan Rafferty** – Ski Utah  
**Morgan Mingle** – Park City Chamber of Commerce

### Conservation Interests

**Carl Fisher** – Save Our Canyons  
**Pat Shea** -- Friends of Alta  
**Megan Nelson** – The Nature Conservancy  
**Joanna Wheelton** – Cottonwood Canyons Foundation  
**Caitlin Curry** – Wasatch Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

### Recreation Interests

**Serena Yau** – Salt Lake Climbers Alliance  
**John Knoblock** – Mt Olympus Community Council, Trails Utah  
**Sarah Bennett** – Trails Utah  
**Tom Diegel** – Wasatch Backcountry Alliance  
**Dennis Goreham** – Wasatch Mountain Club  
**Ian Hartley** – Mountain Trails

### Cultural & Educational Interests

**Stuart Derman** – Wasatch Mountain Arts  
**Maura Hahnenberger** – Salt Lake Community College  
**Hilary Lambert** – Wasatch Mountain Institute

### Community Councils and Homeowner Associations

**Kurt Hegmann** – Mill D Cabin Owners Association  
**Barbara Cameron** – Big Cottonwood Community Council, Brighton Resident  
**Del Draper** – Secret Lake Cabin Owners Association  
**Kirk Nichols** – Evergreen HOA, Professor of Outdoor Recreation, University of Utah

### Private Citizens

**Michael Marker** – Little Cottonwood Canyon Resident  
**Ed Marshall** – Log Haven Restaurant  
**Kelly Boardman** – Salt Lake City resident  
**Jennifer Eden** – Parley's Canyon resident  
**Dan Zalles** – Sandy City resident  
**Adam Lenkowski** – Cottonwood Heights resident  
**Linda Johnson** – Salt Lake City resident

### Transit & Transportation Interests

**Roger Borgenicht** – Utahns for Better Transportation  
**Mike Christensen** – Utah Rail Passengers Association  
**Danny Richardson** -- Salt Lake City resident

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# CWC Stakeholders

# CWC-led transit and traffic mitigation projects

## Ski Bus-Bypass Program

- The CWC has collaborated with Sandy City and UTA since 2021 to provide an escort for the UTA ski bus, starting from the UTA Park N' Ride lot on 9400 South to the base of Little Cottonwood Canyon.
- Since 2021, the CWC has contributed just under \$75,000 to Sandy City to provide this service and help incentivize public transit and mitigate ski traffic.

## Little Cottonwood Canyon Backcountry Ski Shuttle

- The CWC has funded this shuttle service through its Short-Term Projects grant program since 2022. This shuttle helps mitigate ski traffic on Wasatch Blvd and on SR210.



# 2023 Short-Term Projects

SUPPORT FOR A TRI-CANYON TRAIL DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND INVASIVE WEED CONTROL PROJECT

SUPPORT FOR A COTTONWOOD CANYON BACKCOUNTRY SKI SHUTTLE PROGRAM

MAINTENANCE OF UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE BATHROOMS AT TRAILHEADS LOCATED IN THE TRI-CANYONS

SUPPORT OF UTAH OPEN LANDS' BONANZA FLAT TRAILHEAD TRANSIT PROGRAM, OR TRANSIT TO TRAILS SHUTTLE PROGRAM

SUPPORT OF THE BONANZA FLAT TRAILHEAD TRANSIT PROGRAM

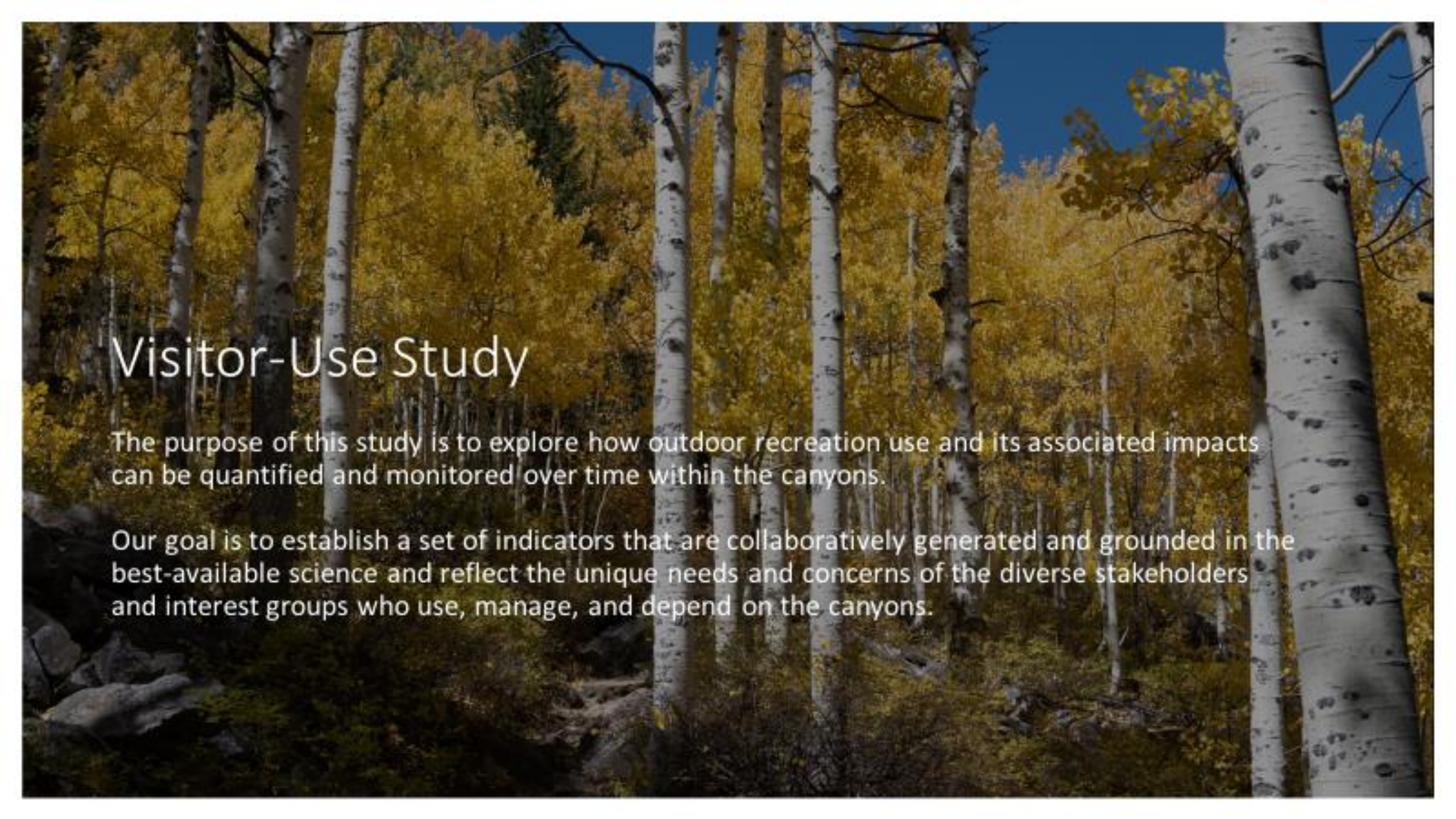
SUPPORT FOR THE FRIENDS OF ALTA EDUCATIONAL JUNIOR RANGER ACTIVITY PROGRAM

SUPPORT FOR THE SAVE OUR CANYONS WASATCH WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP AND EDUCATION PROJECT

SUPPORT OF RECYCLE UTAH'S DUMPSTER DAYS EVENTS, WHICH HELP DIVERT TOXIC MATERIALS FROM WATERWAYS

MAINTENANCE OF AGING FIXED ROCK ANCHOR HARDWARE ON CLIMBING ROUTES ACROSS THE CENTRAL WASATCH



A photograph of a forest of birch trees during autumn. The trees have white bark with dark lenticels and horizontal lenticels. The leaves are bright yellow, and the sky is a clear blue. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## Visitor-Use Study

The purpose of this study is to explore how outdoor recreation use and its associated impacts can be quantified and monitored over time within the canyons.

Our goal is to establish a set of indicators that are collaboratively generated and grounded in the best-available science and reflect the unique needs and concerns of the diverse stakeholders and interest groups who use, manage, and depend on the canyons.



The background of the slide is a photograph of a mountain range. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with some snow patches. The sky is a mix of light blue and soft orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. On the right side of the image, there is a large, semi-transparent circular graphic that frames the text.

# The Environmental Dashboard

The Environmental Dashboard is a tool for the public, land managers, policy makers and technical users to learn about the historic and current environmental conditions of the Central Wasatch.

The Dashboard contains five environmental elements: air quality and climate, geology and soil, vegetation communities, water, and wildlife, and existing data for each element has been gathered and presented for public access.

Access the Environmental Dashboard here:

<https://cwc.utah.gov/environmental-dashboard/>



# Thank you. Questions?

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*Central Wasatch Commission Director of Operations*

*Visit our website for more information: [cw.utah.gov](http://cw.utah.gov)*



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