From: Briefer, Laura <Laura.Briefer@slcgov.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 2:05 PM

To: John Bennett <JoBennett@slco.org>
Cc: Dea H. Theodore <DHTheodore@slco.org>

Subject: RE: (EXTERNAL) Water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Good afternoon, John and Councilmember Theodore:

Thank you for reaching out to me. I have addressed your questions, below.

- 1. Salt Lake City has water supply contracts based on our water rights with individual residents and water companies in the Cottonwood Canyons. However, we do not own, manage, or operate the individual water systems in the canyons, and these systems are not within Salt Lake City's designated water service area. Because of this we cannot answer your questions about year-round, emergency, or the regulatory compliance status of these water systems. Some systems may be defined and regulated as Public Water Systems by UDEQ, Division of Drinking Water, which could be another place you could look.
- 2. Salt Lake City does not manage fire hydrants or water systems in the Cottonwood Canyons. Unified Fire Authority and/or the Towns of Brighton and Alta may have more information.
- 3. Pinetree Water Company owns, manages, and operates its own water system. I suggest you contact Pinetree Water Company for the detailed system information you are requesting.
- 4. Residential water supply permits typically involve springs that meet the terms of the City's ordinance. We do not permit residential water diversions from a stream or a shallow well within the designated watershed area. We are not aware of residents hauling water to their homes.
- 5. Salt Lake City does not have prohibitions in the watersheds associated with forest/vegetation management for wildfire mitigation purposes. If you would like to review it, Salt Lake City's watershed ordinance can be found at <a href="https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/saltlakecityut/latest/saltlakecity\_ut/o-o-o-5763">https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/saltlakecityut/latest/saltlakecity\_ut/o-o-o-5763</a>
  9. You may also want to review Salt Lake County's land use ordinances, including the Foothill Canyon Overlay Zone, for more specific information. Tree thinning and forest management activities in the watersheds often take place on National Forest System lands, and given USFS jurisdiction, the work goes through the standard USFS review process pursuant to the active Forest Plan in place and the National Environmental Policy Act.

If you are seeking specific records, please file a records request. Directions for filing a records request with Salt Lake City can be found at this link.

Thanks, Laura LAURA BRIEFER, MPA | (She/Her/Hers) DIRECTOR

Department of Public Utilities | Salt Lake City Corporation

Office: (801) 483-6741 Cell: (385) 252-9379

Email: Laura.Briefer@slcgov.com

www.slc.gov/utilities

www.slc.gov

From: John Bennett <JoBennett@slco.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:22 PM

**To:** Briefer, Laura <Laura.Briefer@slcgov.com> **Cc:** Dea H. Theodore <DHTheodore@slco.org>

Subject: (EXTERNAL) Water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

**Caution:** This is an external email. Please be cautious when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Laura,

Councilmember Theodore recently received a letter from several constituents asking a number of pointed questions regarding water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons. These canyons are in Councilmember Theodore's District.

Salt Lake City has extraterritorial jurisdiction over the watershed in these canyons. The City also has a canyons ordinance that is designed to implement that extraterritorial jurisdiction. Salt Lake City Public Utilities Department, which you run, may have information that can help us to answer the questions. Please provide any information you have that might help answer these questions.

Please review the following questions and provide your answers to me by Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Sincerely,

John Bennett

The questions are as follows,

- 1. **Year-round residents.** Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code?
- 2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

We understand that many of the fire hydrants in Big Cottonwood Canyon often lack the necessary water pressure and flow required to put out fires. Although there are requirements for fire hydrant flow tests and inspections, we have been unable to locate records or proof of these inspections. We would like to see fire hydrant reports and maps showing which hydrants are operational and for what months out of the year and the inspection, water flow, and pressure reports for each hydrant, etc.

- 3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream? Is Salt Lake City Public Utilities in compliance with the terms of the water rights that provide water to Pinetree? Please provide a copy of water rights that provide this water.
- 4. **Hauling water.** Are any residents in the Cottonwood Canyons hauling water to their homes for culinary purposes? If yes, who and why? Also, are residents drawing water from streams, shallow wells, etc., for their homes? If so, who, how many, why, and do they have water rights to draw such water?
- 5. **Tree thinning.** Do Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City ordinances prohibit cutting or thinning trees in the Wasatch/Cottonwood Canyons for wildfire prevention? If yes, what exceptions occur to allow the cutting of trees in Parley's Canyon, Chipper Days, etc.? Is there draft language at Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City to address this prohibitive ordinance that seems to interfere with public safety?

From: Catherine Kanter < CKanter@slco.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 1:43 PM
To: John Bennett < JoBennett@slco.org>
Cc: Dea H. Theodore < DHTheodore@slco.org>

**Subject:** RE: Water and Wildfire Risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Hi John. Thanks for your inquiry. I have looked into these questions and have attempted to answer based on the knowledge of our Regional Operations Portfolio team (see comments below). As you will see, these questions seem to be more appropriate for other agencies, e.g., SLCo Health Department, Unified Fire Authority (UFA), the local water provider, the District Attorney's office, etc. And if any of these questions relate to an active enforcement action in unincorporated SLCo, you might want to reach out to the Municipal Services District and/or the DA's office, although I'm not sure to what extent they will be at liberty to specifically address.

I'd be happy to schedule a phone call if you have any follow-up questions once you consult with those folks.

Warm regards,

Catherine

1. **Year-round residents.** Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code? If yes, does this comply with county land use ordinances?

These questions are best directed to the SLCo Health Department or the local water provider (for culinary water issues) and the local fire authority who provides fire services (I assume that's the UFA) for emergency water service.

2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

We understand that many of the fire hydrants in Big Cottonwood Canyon often lack the necessary water pressure and flow required to put out fires. Although there are requirements for fire hydrant flow tests and inspections, we have been unable to locate records or proof of these inspections. We would like to see fire hydrant reports and maps showing which hydrants are operational and for what months out of the year and the inspection, water flow, and pressure reports for each hydrant, etc.

## These questions are best directed to the UFA.

3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream?

I'm not sure who to direct you to on these questions other than the Pinetree Water Company. Perhaps, the SLCo HD, the UFA or the State Division of Drinking Water?

4. **Hauling water.** Are any residents in the Cottonwood Canyons hauling water to their homes for culinary purposes? If yes, who and why? Also, are residents drawing water from streams, shallow wells, etc., for their homes? If so, who, how many, why, and do they have water rights to draw such water?

We are not aware of any residents hauling water for culinary purposes. As noted above, if this is the subject of a violation enforcement or community complaint, the MSD (or the DA's office) might be the best place to start.

5. **Tree thinning.** Do Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City ordinances prohibit cutting or thinning trees in the Wasatch/Cottonwood Canyons for wildfire prevention? If yes, what exceptions occur to allow the cutting of trees in Parley's Canyon, Chipper Days, etc.? Is there draft language at Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City to address this prohibitive ordinance that seems to interfere with public safety?

I think it would be best for you to consult with the DA's office on these questions regarding County ordinances. It is my understanding that discussions are taking place regarding potential changes to county ordinance regarding FCOZ and the State's Wildland Urban Interface Code, but the DA's office should be able to provide a status report on that. We are not aware of any current work on this subject with respect to Salt Lake City ordinances. I suggest you check with them on that request.

Catherine M. Kanter
Deputy Mayor of Regional Operations
Office of the Mayor
2001 South State Street, Suite N2-100
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4575
Cell 385.214.7603

From: John Bennett < JoBennett@slco.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:55 PM

To: Catherine Kanter < CKanter@slco.org >

Cc: Dea H. Theodore < DHTheodore@slco.org >

Subject: Water and Wildfire Risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Dear Catherine,

Councilmember Theodore recently received a letter from several constituents asking a number of pointed questions about water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons. As you know, these canyons are in Councilmember Theodore's District.

As Deputy Mayor, some of the County Departments you oversee may have information that could help us answer these questions. Please provide any information that you, or any of your departments might have about the questions below.

Please review the following questions and provide your answers to me by Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Sincerely,

John Bennett

The questions are as follows,

- 1. **Year-round residents.** Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code? If yes, does this comply with county land use ordinances?C
- 2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

We understand that many of the fire hydrants in Big Cottonwood Canyon often lack the necessary water pressure and flow required to put out fires. Although there are requirements for fire hydrant flow tests and inspections, we have been unable to locate records or proof of these inspections. We would like to see fire hydrant reports and maps showing which hydrants are operational and for what months out of the year and the inspection, water flow, and pressure reports for each hydrant, etc.

- 3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream?
- 4. **Hauling water.** Are any residents in the Cottonwood Canyons hauling water to their homes for culinary purposes? If yes, who and why? Also, are residents drawing water from streams, shallow wells, etc., for their homes? If so, who, how many, why, and do they have water rights to draw such water?

5. **Tree thinning.** Do Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City ordinances prohibit cutting or thinning trees in the Wasatch/Cottonwood Canyons for wildfire prevention? If yes, what exceptions occur to allow the cutting of trees in Parley's Canyon, Chipper Days, etc.? Is there draft language at Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City to address this prohibitive ordinance that seems to interfere with public safety?

From: Trent Sorensen <TSorensen@msd.utah.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 1:53 PM **To:** John Bennett < JoBennett@slco.org>

Cc: Marla Howard <MaHoward@msd.utah.gov>; Dea H. Theodore <DHTheodore@slco.org>

Subject: RE: Water and Wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Hello John,

The request for information about water management and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons was forwarded to me. Many of these questions are outside of the MSD's jurisdiction and regulation, but we have provided some feedback on the questions that will hopefully help direct you to the right entities that can help respond to the questions. Please feel free to reach out if any additional clarification is needed.

Thank you,

Trent

**1. Year-round residents.** Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code? If yes, are these residences in compliance with Salt Lake County, or town of Brighton ordinances?

It is our understanding that there are structures in Big Cottonwood Canyon that do not have year-round water. However, most (if not all) of those structures were built before zoning ordinances were being applied to the canyons (1972) and/or before the creation of the MSD. Prior to the creation of the Planning & Development Services department under the MSD in 2019, the County was responsible for providing planning and zoning in the canyons and therefore may have additional insight regarding year-round residents and water connections in the canyons, but they likely followed a similar process that we do. Currently, at the time of application for individual permits, the MSD requires verification of water rights through the Salt Lake County Health Department and the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities. The United Fire Authority must also approve each application for compliance with Fire Code, including emergency vehicle access as well as any fire suppression requirements. We do not have records of water service for pre-existing structures, nor do we regulate the various water providers

within the canyons. We enforce current zoning and building code for new construction and rely upon other agencies to verify compliance with water and fire protection requirements.

2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

We understand that many of the fire hydrants in Big Cottonwood Canyon often lack the necessary water pressure and flow required to put out fires. Although there are requirements for fire hydrant flow tests and inspections, we have been unable to locate records or proof of these inspections. We would like to see fire hydrant reports and maps showing which hydrants are operational and for what months out of the year and the inspection, water flow, and pressure reports for each hydrant, etc.

The MSD does not have access to maps of fire hydrant locations in the canyons, (nor any other of our service areas). The companies or service districts that supply water to the hydrants should have records (as well as the UFA). When applications for new construction (including building additions) are submitted, the location of the nearest fire hydrant and fire flow available in that hydrant are verified by Unified Fire as part of their review. Any exceptions to the standards of the International Fire Code must be approved by UFA. Based on the Wildland Urban Interface code, an analysis of fire risk for each structure is also conducted, and an Ignition Resistance ("IR") rating is assigned. The IR rating affects the amount of required defensible space around the structure as well as building materials used for construction.

- 3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream?
- The MSD does not regulate the manner in which water companies operate or supply water to their customers. To our knowledge, there is no section of County or Brighton code that dictates how much water storage a water company provides, nor how much pressure must be in the system. The source from which a given water company draws water is regulated by the Utah Division of Water Rights and in Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities. In addition, the Division of Drinking Water is responsible for regulating certain aspects of a culinary water supplier's system, including minimum sizing standards pursuant to UCA 19-4-114. Individual water systems make improvements, repairs, upgrades, and adjustments on a fairly regular basis, and the MSD does not regulate those except where individual permit applications are submitted for new water tanks or service buildings.
- 4. **Hauling water.** Are any residents in the Cottonwood Canyons hauling water to their homes for culinary purposes? If yes, who and why? Also, are residents drawing water from streams, shallow wells, etc., for their homes? If so, who, how many, why, and do they have water rights to draw such water?

The MSD does not have any way to track whether individuals are hauling water to their homes. As stated above, the Utah Division of Water Rights and the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities regulate individuals drawing water directly from the protected watershed area for personal use.

5. **Tree thinning.** Do Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City ordinances prohibit cutting or thinning trees in the Wasatch/Cottonwood Canyons for wildfire prevention? If yes, what exceptions occur to allow the cutting of trees in Parley's Canyon, Chipper Days, etc.? Is there draft language at Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City to address this prohibitive ordinance that seems to interfere with public safety? Section 19.72.110.B.2, and 19.72.110.D.1 of the County Code allow the selected removal of trees and vegetation consistent with the Wildland Urban Interface Code without a tree replacement requirement. Salt Lake County and Brighton are both working on draft ordinance changes to further clarify that vegetation removal for fire protection is allowed.

#### **Trent Sorensen**

# Director of Planning and Development Services

Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District tsorensen@msd.utah.gov (385) 468-6675 office (385) 214-5837 mobile

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City works Public Portal Guide - <u>bit.ly/cw-help</u>

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#### Trent Sorensen

# **Director of Planning and Development Services**

Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District tsorensen@msd.utah.gov (385) 468-6675 office (385) 214-5837 mobile

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From: Marla Howard < MaHoward@msd.utah.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 8:48 PM

To: Trent Sorensen <TSorensen@msd.utah.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Water and Wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

See below.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Bennett <JoBennett@slco.org>
Date: July 25, 2023 at 6:00:39 PM MDT

**To:** Marla Howard <MaHoward@msd.utah.gov> **Cc:** "Dea H. Theodore" <DHTheodore@slco.org>

Subject: Water and Wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Dear Marla,

Councilmember Theodore recently received a letter from several constituents asking a number of pointed questions about water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons. These canyons are in Councilmember Theodore's District.

The Municipal Services District is responsible for planning and zoning in these canyons. You, or your staff, may have some information that will help us answer these questions. Please provide whatever information you may have related to these questions.

Please review the following questions and provide your answers to me by Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Sincerely,

The questions are as follows,

- 1. **Year-round residents**. Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code? If yes, are these residences in compliance with Salt Lake County, or town of Brighton ordinances?
- 2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

We understand that many of the fire hydrants in Big Cottonwood Canyon often lack the necessary water pressure and flow required to put out fires. Although there are requirements for fire hydrant flow tests and inspections, we have been unable to locate records or proof of these inspections. We would like to see fire hydrant reports and maps showing which hydrants are operational and for what months out of the year and the inspection, water flow, and pressure reports for each hydrant, etc.

- 3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream?
- 4. **Hauling water.** Are any residents in the Cottonwood Canyons hauling water to their homes for culinary purposes? If yes, who and why? Also, are residents drawing water from streams, shallow wells, etc., for their homes? If so, who, how many, why, and do they have water rights to draw such water?
- 5. **Tree thinning.** Do Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City ordinances prohibit cutting or thinning trees in the Wasatch/Cottonwood Canyons for wildfire prevention? If yes, what exceptions occur to allow the cutting of trees in Parley's Canyon, Chipper Days, etc.? Is there draft language at Salt Lake County and Salt

Lake City to address this prohibitive ordinance that seems to interfere with public safety?

From: Angela Dunn <ADunn@slco.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 6:30 PM
To: John Bennett <JoBennett@slco.org>

Cc: Dea H. Theodore <DHTheodore@slco.org>; Tom Hudachko <THudachko@slco.org>; Katherine Fife

<KFife@slco.org>; Erin Litvack <ELitvack@slco.org>

**Subject:** RE: Water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Hi John,

Thank you for reaching out. These questions are very similar to ones brought to us by Representative Lyman last year. Happy to jump on a phone call to clarify anything.

### Angela

1. **Year-round residents.** Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code? If yes, are these residences in compliance with County Health Department Ordinances.

Ordinances and regulations do not allow for occupancy of residences that do not have culinary water available. In Salt Lake County, there are areas that may have seasonal water. This may be a result of a seasonal water contract with a water provider such as Salt Lake City Public Utilities, or that the water system servicing the property is designed for seasonal use. It is the responsibility of the homeowner/resident to be familiar with, and comply with, the terms of the contract. The SLCoHD is not a party to these contracts and has no way of determining how many residences have seasonal water contracts.

2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

We understand that many of the fire hydrants in Big Cottonwood Canyon often lack the necessary water pressure and flow required to put out fires. Although there are requirements for fire hydrant flow tests and inspections, we have been unable to locate records or proof of

these inspections. We would like to see fire hydrant reports and maps showing which hydrants are operational and for what months out of the year and the inspection, water flow, and pressure reports for each hydrant, etc.

SLCoHD does not have jurisdiction, and therefore defers to the local fire authority regarding fire safety requirements for a subdivision or home. The local fire authority determines what meets fire code related to fire hydrants and water supply to the hydrants, or if there are other acceptable options.

3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream?

Salt Lake County has an Individual Water System Health Regulation #11 that is based on State Administrative Rule R309-510. These requirements are for individuals or entities that have:

- · a water right or rights
- · the means to identify contaminants
- · the means to treat the water to meet culinary standards
- · the capacity to supply water year-round

Individual drinking water systems and public drinking water facilities must provide at minimum 400 gallons of water/day for recreational home development (not a permanent domicile) with no landscaping; if landscaped, the system must provide 800 gallons of water/day; and at minimum 800 gp gallons of water/day for year-round residential use.

SLCoHD can inspect these systems, however the installation of the water systems and the permitting enforcement is determined by the Division of Drinking Water.

4. **Hauling water.** Are any residents in the Cottonwood Canyons hauling water to their homes for culinary purposes? If yes, who and why? Also, are residents drawing water from streams, shallow wells, etc., for their homes? If so, who, how many, why, and do they have water rights to draw such water?

We are unaware of residents hauling water to homes. SLCoHD may respond to complaints about environmental health issues. This may include an individual drawing water from a river for culinary purposes or discharging wastewater into a water body. Instances of water being drawn from an illegal source or without a water right are rare. When the SLCoHD is notified of this, we investigate and take steps to have the resident provide evidence of having legal culinary water, as outlined above.

5. **Tree thinning.** Do Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City ordinances prohibit cutting or thinning trees in the Wasatch/Cottonwood Canyons for wildfire prevention? If yes, what exceptions occur

to allow the cutting of trees in Parley's Canyon, Chipper Days, etc.? Is there draft language at Salt Lake County and Salt Lake City to address this prohibitive ordinance that seems to interfere with public safety?

We are unaware of any Health regulations around this topic. The only provision I'm aware of that may be related to tree thinning is under SLCoHD Regulation #14 *Watershed Regulation*, section 4.2.14 which states it is a prohibited act "To move dirt into a water source or disturb vegetation in a manner which causes or promotes erosion and contamination of a water source."

From: John Bennett < JoBennett@slco.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:16 PM **To:** Angela Dunn < ADunn@slco.org>

Cc: Dea H. Theodore < DHTheodore@slco.org>

Subject: Water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons

Dear Angela,

Councilmember Theodore recently received a letter several constituents ask a number of pointed questions regarding water and wildfire risk in the Cottonwood Canyons. As you know, these canyons are in Councilmember Theodore's District.

The Salt Lake County Health Department has jurisdiction to regulate against pollution in all Salt Lake County Watersheds. You have ordinances that govern health and safety issues in these canyons. Please provide us with any information that may assist us in answering these questions.

Please review the following questions and provide your answers to me by Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Sincerely,

John Bennett

The questions are as follows,

1. **Year-round residents.** Are there year-round residents in the Cottonwood Canyons who do not have year-round culinary and emergency water service? If yes, how many and who? Specifically, how many home water connections go dry during the year, are substandard, or do not meet the code? If yes, are these residences in compliance with County Health Department Ordinances.

2. **Fire hydrants.** Which neighborhoods in the Cottonwood Canyons have access to fire hydrants, and which do not? How many neighborhoods with fire hydrants have operable hydrants and year-round service? For those who do not have access to fire hydrants, what is the source and capacity of their emergency water? How many fire hydrants in the Cottonwood Canyons are dry, substandard, or do not meet the fire code for pressure and flow?

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- 3. **Pinetree.** How much water storage does the Pinetree Water Company provide its residents? How much is required by law? Is there adequate pressure in their system? Is the system working as intended and designed? Is Pinetree now drawing water directly from a stream?
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