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2024 ANNUAL REPORT
HEALUTAH
HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE OF UTAH

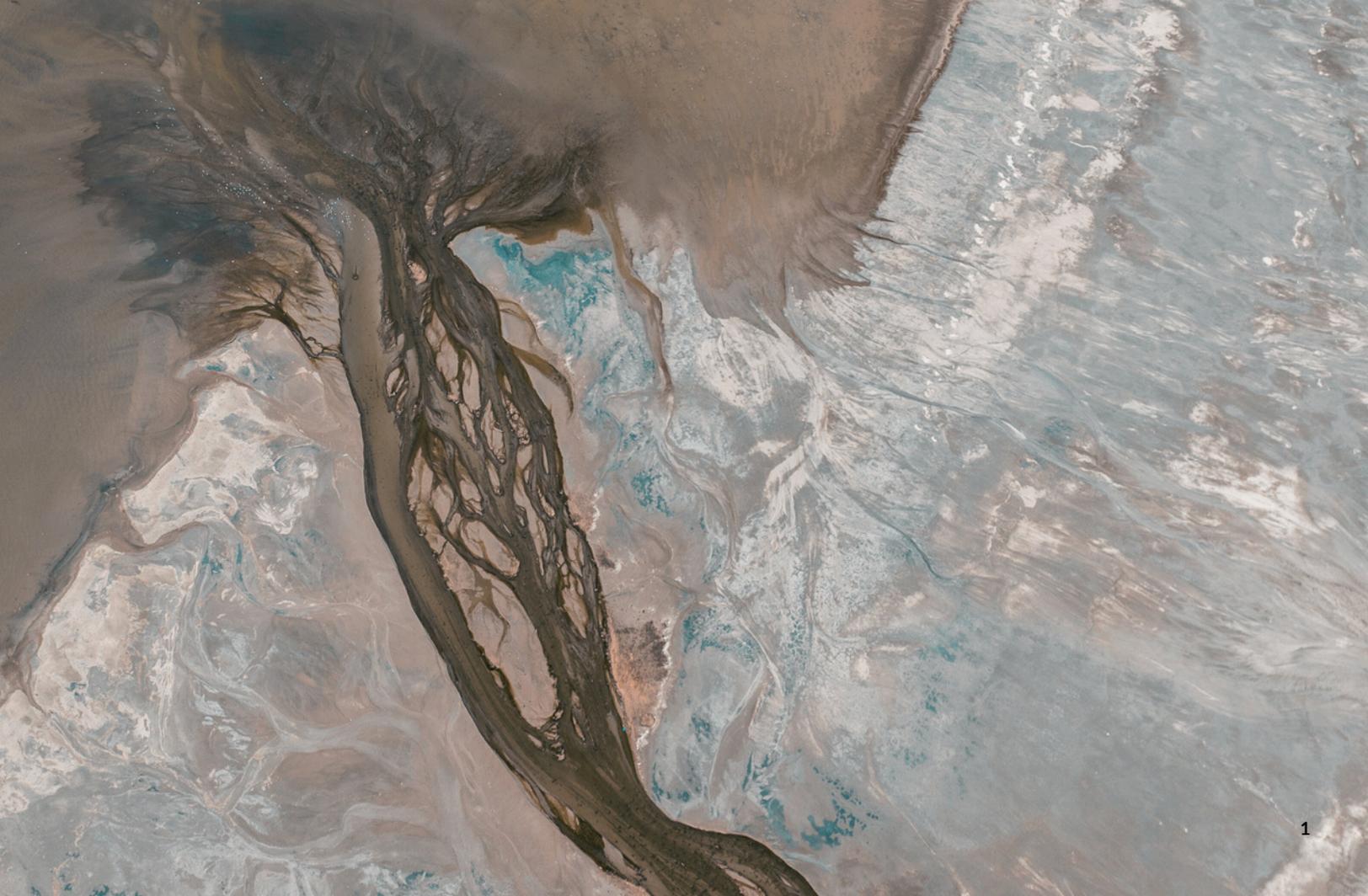


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A close-up of the Great Salt Lake shoreline near the Utah Saltair in Magna, Utah: Photo by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"

Cover: **Utah State Capitol:** Brenden Hunter Getty Images





A Letter from Our Executive Director

Federal environmental laws and agencies have long protected our air, water, and health. But today, with the current administration rolling back protections and slashing funding for climate and clean energy programs, Utah's future rests in the hands of state and local leaders. The stakes have never been higher. Our very lives are on the line.

The 2025 state legislative session made one thing clear: Utah leaders are willing to risk public health and taxpayer dollars on nuclear energy—despite its failures. The collapse of the Nuscale small modular nuclear reactor project in 2023 left communities without the energy they were promised. Our state continues to grapple with a history of radioactive contamination that has poisoned our people and buried their suffering.

Yet lawmakers continue to promote nuclear power while ignoring safer, faster, and more affordable alternatives to urgently address the existential threat of climate change. HEAL Utah will not let history repeat itself. We will keep fighting for clean energy investments that prioritize people over profits.

Backing down is not an option. Here at HEAL Utah we are doubling down—holding policy makers accountable, building powerful coalitions to fight the erosion of bedrock environmental regulations, and advancing concrete solutions that protect both our environment and our communities. We remain committed at our core to the principles of environmental justice, and to the fundamental belief that the right to a healthy environment is a basic human right.

In 2024, we set our own foundations for real progress. We started initiatives to create walkable communities for older adults, to design community resilience hubs to protect residents from extreme heat and pollution, and to expand clean energy job training in regions historically tied to fossil fuels. These are the forward-thinking solutions Utah needs.

Your support is essential. In the absence of federal funding and leadership, HEAL is looking to our community and our supporters to help ensure that every community, regardless of income, race, background, or geography, has access to clean air, safe water, and a healthy future.

Please stand together with us. We will fight shoulder to shoulder to protect Utah's people, Utah's environment and our shared future.

Lexi Tuddenham
Executive Director



PROTECTING UTAH'S ENVIRONMENT AND ITS PEOPLE— NO MATTER THE CHALLENGES.

OUR APPROACH: POLICY + COMMUNITY

HEAL Utah tackles environmental challenges through policy advocacy, community engagement, and corporate accountability. We push for evidence-based policies, stronger regulations, and responsible governance while bridging the gap between communities, lawmakers, and researchers. By amplifying voices, fostering partnerships, and promoting civic engagement, we work to create a healthier democracy and environment for all.





A LEGACY OF PROTECTION

At HEAL, we are committed to protecting Utah's environment and its people. by promoting clean air, clean energy, and comprehensive solutions to radioactive and toxic waste. Our key priorities include:

- [Protect Communities from Air Pollution](#)
- [Build an Inclusive Clean Energy Future](#)
- [Protect Communities from Radioactive and Toxic Exposure](#)

Rising from the Fallout

Advocating for justice for those affected by nuclear testing and uranium mining.

THIS IS WHAT

3,500
INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED

Across the state, we engaged over 3,500 individuals through 65 events focused on topics like sustainable transportation, climate change, renewable energy, air quality, and radioactive waste.

Online, HEAL Utah reached 275,238 individuals via social media and digital ads, informing them on critical issues related to air quality, energy, and waste.

275,238
DIGITAL REACH

Raising Voices, Making News

The Salt Lake Tribune



 *DeseretNews.*

This year, HEAL Utah spotlighted environmental health and justice issues in local and national media, elevating the voices of impacted communities across Utah.

Ren Griffith speaking at HEAL Utahs "Protecting Utahs Future" Rally: Photo by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"
Latino Conservation Week Gear Swap Festival: Photo from SLC Patagonia
Educational Instagram Post from HEAL Utah on Downwinders: Created by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"



CHANGE LOOKS LIKE

8 ACTION ALERTS

Throughout the year, we launched eight targeted action alerts, giving our supporters direct opportunities to engage with key decision-makers.

These actions mobilized public support to protect Parleys Canyon, oppose harmful fossil fuel legislation, prevent taxpayer funding of polluters' legal fees, and push forward clean air and renewable energy priorities.

Together, our community took 1,286 actions—sending messages and public comments that helped shape policy outcomes and amplify our collective impact.

1,286 ACTIONS TAKEN

Protesters from Save our Great Salt Lake Protest: Photo by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"
State Senator Hinkins and Lyman meeting with Constituents during Rural Day on the Hill: Photo by Meisei
Connecting the 435 Rally at the Utah State Capitol

PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM RADIOACTIVE AND TOXIC EXPOSURE

We recognize that radioactive and toxic materials pose an environmental and public health crisis in tandem with our climate crisis. Consequently, HEAL Utah believes there is no inclusive clean energy future if we continue to ignore the impacts of extraction and industry on public health and frontline communities. When it comes to past, present, and future harms, we must stand with and protect Utah's communities.



- **Opposing High-Level Radioactive Waste:** HEAL fought efforts to bring high-level radioactive waste to Utah, attending DOE-funded siting workshops to oppose policies allowing that would have allowed indefinite storage or reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel.
- **Fighting Uranium Mining & Milling:** HEAL supported the White Mesa Concerned Community in opposing uranium hauling and mine expansion near the Grand Canyon. We co-hosted a rally at the state Capitol engaged state agencies, and joined the White Mesa Spiritual Walk to elevate community concerns.
- **Protecting Downwinders & Impacted Communities:** HEAL advocated for and helped secure support from members of Utah's federal delegation for extending the Radioactive Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).
- **Expanding Radon Education & Mitigation:** HEAL partnered with the University of Utah's Radon Lab and the Utah DEQ to raise awareness about radon risks. In 2024, we hosted our first radon webinar, connected state agencies with tribal organizations, and developed a resolution for National Radon Action Month. In 2025, we will advocate for radon testing certification and mitigation funding while expanding community outreach.

Carmen ValDez speaking at HEAL's RECA Downwinders Press Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah: Image from Deseret News
Protest Sign from White Mesa Concerned Community and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Annual Spiritual Walk and Protest
Keep Utah Waste Free: Illustration from Barking Goat



Advocating for Mining Justice & Responsible Transition: HEAL works to reform outdated mining laws and reduce dependence on destructive extraction as we transition to clean energy. In 2024, we fought harmful mining legislation in Utah, successfully limiting immediate impacts by converting a bad bill into a study. We continue to oppose efforts to weaken public input and local control over mining projects. Looking ahead, HEAL will push for mine mitigation strategies—such as recycling, efficiency, and waste recovery—to ensure the clean energy transition protects communities from toxic and radioactive exposure.



OUR WORK BREAKDOWN

PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM AIR POLLUTION

We believe that action on air pollution is action on climate change and that advocating for clean air is one of the most immediate ways we can protect communities and the environment. That's why HEAL Utah works to strengthen and defend regulations and air quality standards while supporting policies and strategies that prioritize public health and frontline communities.

**Salt Lake Valley Inversion,
Utah: Photo by Jake Quilter**

Advance Sustainable and Equitable Transportation

Sustainability Summit & University

Collaboration: HEAL presented at the Intermountain Sustainability Summit on equitable transit and partnered with University of Utah urban planning students to study air quality along the 509 bus route and walkability near Westside schools.

AARP Walkability & Transit Initiative:

HEAL secured a national AARP grant to assess transit needs for Salt Lake City's 50+ population, conducting walk audits, public events, and a Week Without Driving campaign. Findings will be shared with city planners in 2025 to improve accessibility.

Build Healthy Communities

Challenging the I-15 Expansion: HEAL continues to oppose the I-15 expansion, pushing back on flawed air quality assessments and working with the OverFreeways coalition on legal strategies to protect communities. We gathered over 500 comments to advocate for a more just and sustainable transportation plan.

E-Bus Air Quality Monitoring & Public

Engagement: HEAL helped develop an air quality monitoring dashboard on electric buses, hosting community focus groups and launching it at the Air, Art, and Alternative Transportation Festival. Following public feedback, we are seeking funding to expand the tool into a mobile app for greater accessibility.

Addressing the Great Salt Lake Air Quality Crisis:

HEAL led weekly coalition calls, hosted community events, and worked with researchers to assess health impacts from lake dust. We are advocating for legislative funding for dust monitoring and guiding its strategic application in vulnerable communities.

Ensure Compliance with and Advocate for Updated Air Quality Regulation

Reducing Ozone on the Wasatch Front: HEAL pushed for stronger measures to address ozone pollution after the EPA downgraded this area to serious nonattainment.

Stopping Coal Pollution in Southern Utah: HEAL fought PacifiCorp's plan to extend coal plant operations indefinitely, advocating for faster closures to clean up air quality and protect viewsheds from regional haze

Improving Air Quality in the Uinta Basin: HEAL shaped a \$20M EPA grant proposal for clean energy, green jobs, and air monitoring with input from residents concerned about public health.

Fighting the Parley's Canyon Gravel Mine: HEAL led legal action and advocacy to block this dust pollution threat and helped defeat two state bills that would have stripped away local control over mining regulations.



OUR WORK BREAKDOWN

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

We believe that our energy system should be built for the people it serves and that advocating for clean energy requires a comprehensive approach. That's why HEAL Utah works to advance a clean energy future that not only reduces emissions and stabilizes the climate, but also promotes adaptation, resilience, health equity, and economic opportunity in our communities.

Advance Renewable Energy

- **Opposing Small Modular Reactors:** HEAL continues to highlight the dangers and inefficiencies of nuclear energy in addressing climate change. Since the collapse of the NuScale project, we've driven public dialogue through media advocacy and successfully opposed zoning changes for small modular reactors on the Wasatch Front.
- **Advancing Community Renewable Energy:** HEAL works to support "Utah Renewable Communities" in achieving 100% net renewable energy by 2030. We engage in coalition meetings, advocate for equitable utility agreements, and are preparing public comment workshops as the Utah Public Service Commission reviews the program's final application in 2025.

Support Utah's Energy Communities

- HEAL continues to build relationships with rural communities, addressing air quality, energy, and hazardous material concerns. We challenge the false promises of nuclear energy by highlighting its financial and environmental risks while advocating for sustainable, job-creating alternatives. Through ongoing visits and stakeholder meetings in areas like Carbon County, Southern Utah, and the Uinta Basin, we ensure local needs shape effective solutions.

Welcome to Utah State Sign: Photo by Bruno Coelho
Renewable Energy Wind Turbines: Photo by bauhaus1000 from Getty Images
Solar energy: Photo by tupungato from Getty Images

Our Legislative Work

We collaborate year-round with lawmakers, advocates, and experts to support beneficial legislation and block harmful bills. Our Bill Tracker keeps stakeholders informed with real-time updates on key environmental policies. Through our Community Lobbying Program, we equip individuals with advocacy skills and direct engagement opportunities at the Capitol, ensuring a stronger voice for a healthier Utah. Read the full breakdown of the following legislation at: www.healutah.org/recap2024/

THE GOOD: Bills We Supported That Passed

- **HB 85 – Electric Bike Amendments:** Clarifies definitions of electric bicycles.
- **HB 449 – Pedestrian Safety and Facilities Act Modifications:** Adds bicyclist safety considerations to street design and expands use of funds.
- **HB 430 – Local Government Transportation Services:** Allows high-growth cities to propose public transit innovation grants.
- **HB 11 – Water Efficient Landscaping Requirements:** Limits overhead spray irrigation at new government facilities in the Great Salt Lake Basin.
- **HB 453 – Great Salt Lake Revisions:** Strengthens management of the Great Salt Lake, regulates mineral extraction, promotes water-friendly technologies.
- **HB 107 – Recycling Facility Transparency Amendments:** Requires data transparency from political subdivisions on recycling collections.

THE BAD: Bad Bills That Failed with Your Support!

- **SB 120 – Intermountain Power Agency Modifications:** Would've let Legislature control IPA's board.
- **SB 172 – Protection Areas Revisions:** Would've further eroded local authority to block damaging mining operations.
- **SB 155 – Road Usage Charge Program Amendments:** Tried to penalize EVs and remove hybrids from RUC programs.
- **SB 75 – Mineral Amendments:** Sought to expand mining incentives and reduce oversight.

Utah Valley University Center for Social Impact
Community Lobbying, Utah State Capitol, SLC, Utah:
Photo by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"





THE BAD: Bills We Opposed That Passed

- **HB 124 – High Cost Infrastructure Development Tax Credit Amendments:** Expands eligibility to fossil and mining-related projects.
- **HB 191 – Electrical Energy Amendments:** Allows coal plants to keep operating if upgrades are possible, countering clean energy transitions.
- **SB 224 – Energy Independence Amendments:** Creates a fund to keep coal plants running, subsidized by taxpayers.
- **HB 48 – Utah Energy Act Amendments:** Shifts focus toward fossil fuel development within the Office of Energy Development.
- **HB 374 – State Energy Policy Amendments:** Reorders priorities, putting affordability and “clean” energy last.
- **SB 161 – Energy Security Amendments:** Enables state purchase of coal units, reinforcing reliance on coal.
- **HB 353 – Mining Operations Amendments:** Limits public and legal challenges to mining permits.
- **SB 57 – Utah Constitutional Sovereignty Act:** Grants state power to challenge federal regulations, possibly stalling air quality protections.
- **HB 373 – Environmental Quality Amendments:** Restructures advisory board, increasing influence of manufacturing and fossil fuel industries.
- **HB 241 – Clean Energy Amendments:** Rebrands nuclear and carbon capture as “clean energy.”
- **SB 156 – Tax Modifications:** Allows radioactive waste storage to qualify for infrastructure tax credits.
- **HB 407 – Eminent Domain Modifications:** Reduces landowner rights in areas designated for mining.
- **SB 211 – Generational Water Infrastructure Amendments:** Establishes a long-term infrastructure council with exemptions from transparency laws.

Utah State Capitol Cherry Blossoms, 2025: Photo by Jake Erickson

State Senator Hinkins Meeting Constituents During HEAL Utah's "Rural Day on the Hill": Photo by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"

Missed Opportunities: Good Bills That Didn't Pass

- **SB 191 – Grid Enhancing Technologies:** Would've incentivized utility grid upgrades.
- **SB 249 – Public Utility Expenditures Amendments:** Would've prohibited utilities from recovering lobbying/political costs via rates.
- **HB 577 – Utility Shut Off Protection Amendments:** Would've prevented utility shutoffs during extreme weather.
- **SB 189 – Rooftop Solar Credit Rate Reform:** Would've improved compensation for rooftop solar owners.
- **HB 109 – Safe School Route Evaluations:** Required infrastructure improvement recommendations in school traffic plans.
- **HB 65 – Active Transportation and Canal Trail Amendments:** Would've supported canal trail planning and funding.
- **HB 126 – Emissions Regulation Amendments:** Targeted dirty heavy-duty vehicles in pollution-prone counties.
- **HB 279 – Air Quality Amendments:** Mandated a 50% reduction in harmful air pollutants by 2033.
- **SB 142 – Lawn Equipment Tax Credits:** Proposed a 30% tax credit for electric-powered lawn equipment.
- **SB 170 – Clean Truck Incentive Program:** Would've launched a zero-emissions truck exchange grant program.
- **HB 473 – School Transit Amendments:** Proposed a 3-year pilot for free transit passes for students and school staff.
- **SB 118 – Water Efficiency Amendments:** Offered grants to residential developments using efficient landscaping.
- **HB 448 – State Water Program Reporting Requirements:** Boosted collaboration and reporting on water conservation.
- **HB 401 – Water Usage Amendments:** Would've restricted lawn irrigation during certain periods.
- **SB 196 – Great Salt Lake Amendments:** Would have improved long-term lake health management.

Utah State Capitol House Chamber: Photo by: Meisei "EnviroCowboy"



Looking Forward

HEAL Utah is actively developing solutions to address the environmental challenges impacting our communities. Through strategic partnerships and grant initiatives, we are working to expand green infrastructure, improve housing sustainability, and protect vulnerable populations from extreme heat and poor air quality. However, due to the uncertain funding landscape we need your help more than ever to actualize these important programs!



Green Infrastructure for the 9-Line Trail

As part of HEAL's EPA Community Change grant application, we proposed upgrades to the 9-Line walking and biking trail to enhance connectivity across historically redlined areas in Salt Lake City. These improvements would provide safer, more accessible active transportation options while addressing long-standing mobility inequities.

Safe and Healthy Homes Initiative

HEAL partnered with community organizations in our Community Change grant application to establish a low or no-cost loan program for home retrofits. This initiative would help low-income renters and homeowners on Salt Lake City's Westside improve indoor air quality, lower energy costs, and reduce emissions—providing both health and financial benefits to underserved communities.

Extreme Heat & Cooling Center Upgrades

HEAL collaborated with Westside Coalition, University Neighborhood Partners, and Salt Lake City and County to propose green infrastructure upgrades and expanded programming at two county-designated cooling centers. If funded, this initiative would enhance the Day-Riverside Library and Sorenson Unity Center with cooling resources and emergency preparedness programs, providing refuge during heat waves and air quality crises, and connecting residents to resources like rebates for home retrofits and air filters.

HEAL Utah & REAL Salt Lake's Earth Day River Cleanup, Sandy, Utah: Photo by REAL Salt Lake
Guadalupe Park, Salt Lake City, Utah: Photo by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"
Moving Utah: Illustration by Meisei "EnviroCowboy"



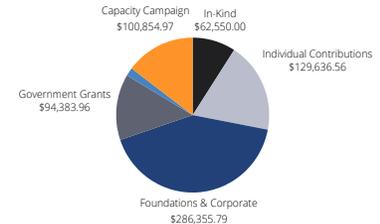


FISCAL YEAR 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

Your support is more critical than ever. As we navigate a shifting political landscape and uncertain funding from both federal and state initiatives, HEAL Utah continues to rely heavily on the strength of individual donors like you. Your contributions are not just sustaining our work they're driving our programs forward, fueling our efficiency, and helping us push for bold, science-based policies at the legislature.

Thanks to your generosity, and the momentum, we've been able to grow strategically, strengthen our team, and stay focused on protecting Utah's environment and its people.

Utah Mountains: Photo by AaronJOlson from pixabay



Contributions & Revenues

IN-KIND	\$62,550
INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$129,636.56
FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATE	\$286,355.79
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	\$94,383.96
EARNED REVENUE	\$11,909.26
CAPACITY CAMPAIGN	\$100,854.97
TOTAL	\$673,781.28

Expenditures

AIR QUALITY	\$208,864.68
CLIMATE + ENERGY	\$92,149.29
TOXIC WASTE	\$69,331.96
ADMINISTRATIVE	169,618.91
FUNDRAISING	118,003.50
GENERAL PROGRAMMING	15,812.94
TOTAL	\$673,781.28

OUR TEAM

BOARD

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Utah State Capitol, Salt Lake City, Utah: Aimintang from Getty Images



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