

Appendix 1. Questions used to guide semi-structured key-informant interviews conducted in 2009 and 2010 and interview participants.

Questions

1. Where does the water come from that maintains (“Bear River” or specific reference) wetlands?
Probes: Do (these) wetlands have certificated water rights? If so, what is the nature of those rights? If not, how is the water secured?
2. How much water, in terms of amount and frequency, do these wetlands need?
3. What happens to (“Bear River” or specific reference) wetlands in times of drought?
4. Is maintenance of (“Bear River” or “these”) wetlands controversial? Can you explain?
Probes: What groups or individuals are involved in this controversy?
5. What are the constraints to obtaining enough water to maintain these wetlands?
Probes: What constraints operate on an annual basis? What constraints pertain in times of scarcity?
6. What are the opportunities for obtaining enough water to maintain these wetlands?
Probes: What is the role of formal water rights applications? What is the role of informal agreements?
7. How do natural resource agencies take wetlands into account in their planning processes?
8. How does your state division of water rights take wetlands into account when reviewing water use applications (e.g. applications for new appropriations or changes of use)?
9. I would be interested in hearing your opinions about wetland policies.
Probes: What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of those policies?
10. Do the policies and politics differ depending upon the geographic location of the wetland involved? Can you explain?

Interview Participants

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Managers (2)

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Biologist

Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge Manager

Cokeville Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Manager

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Wetlands Liason

State of Utah

State Engineer's Office Northern Division Managers (2)

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Habitat Biologist

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Water Rights Specialist
