UTAH DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WATER QUALITY

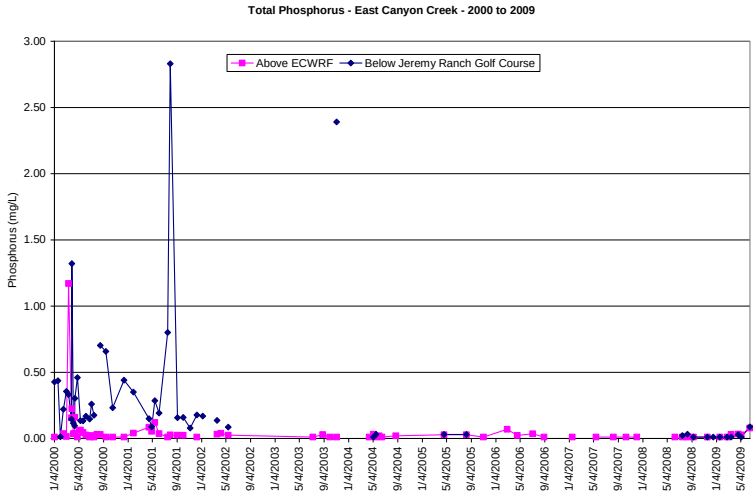
# *East Canyon Creek Restoration Success Story*

## *Partnerships Work to Reduce Phosphorus in East Canyon Creek*

East Canyon Creek from East Canyon Reservoir to its headwaters has been on Utah's 303(d) list of impaired waters since 1992 due to excessive total phosphorus (TP). An additional listing for low dissolved oxygen (DO) concentrations was added in 1998 for its cold water fishery use. As a result a TMDL was developed for East Canyon Creek in 2000 for nutrients, and another TMDL was completed in 2010 to address high temperature and low base flow during summer months.

While there has been a large amount of Nonpoint Source (NPS) work implemented throughout the watershed, the Snyderville Basin Reclamation District has also made significant upgrades to its waste water treatment facility. This has helped drastically decrease nutrient concentrations in East Canyon Creek, and ultimately the reservoir, which is also impaired due to high nutrients and low dissolved oxygen. Snyderville Basin continues to be a great partner in the watershed, assisting with much of the NPS work and water quality monitoring that is being done throughout the watershed.

Since 2000 over 16,000 linear feet of stream bank stabilization work has been implemented on East Canyon Creek. This included sloping and re-vegetating steep eroding banks and installing coconut fiber to help reduced erosion. Larger trees were planted to increase shading and reduce water temperatures during the summer. Over 21,000 feet of riparian fencing was also installed to better help manage livestock in the riparian corridor.




Utah Division of Water Quality

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**Contact**
Jim Bowcutt
Utah Division of Water Quality
Nonpoint Source Program Coordinator
(801) 536-4336

Email: jdbowcutt@utah.gov


East Canyon Creek Pre-implementation


East Canyon Creek Post-Implementation