

## **Detrimental Bird and Wetland Impacts of the proposed UDOT West Davis freeway**

Great Salt Lake is globally unique

- Largest terminal lake in the Western Hemisphere
- Second saltiest lake in the world
- Located within the arid Great Basin desert ecosystem
- Along the eastern portion of the Pacific Flyway and other important international migration routes

Great Salt Lake provides critical resting, feeding and breeding habitat for millions of resident and migratory birds annually.

A myriad of federal and state sensitive species, and species of conservation concern depend upon the diverse and unique complexity of Great Salt Lake wetlands

5,000,000 birds (including 200+ species) visit the Great Salt Lake each year

60 of these species nest at Farmington Bay and the Great Salt Lake Shorelands Preserve

UDOT's proposed freeway would directly impact 120+ acres of Great Salt Lake wetland habitat.

Also many indirect impacts

- Noise pollution
- Light pollution
- Traffic visibility
- Groundwater disturbance
- Storm water runoff
- Exhaust fumes
- Continued disturbance from ongoing management access

Bird species diversity and abundance would be heavily impacted by such close proximity to a busy highway.

No degree of mitigation or creation of enhanced habitat will compensate for the permanent loss of this high quality, complex wetland mosaic which now exists along the Great Salt Lake shoreline.