

MEMORANDUM

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DATE: April 30, 2015

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FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Emigration Canyon Water Resources

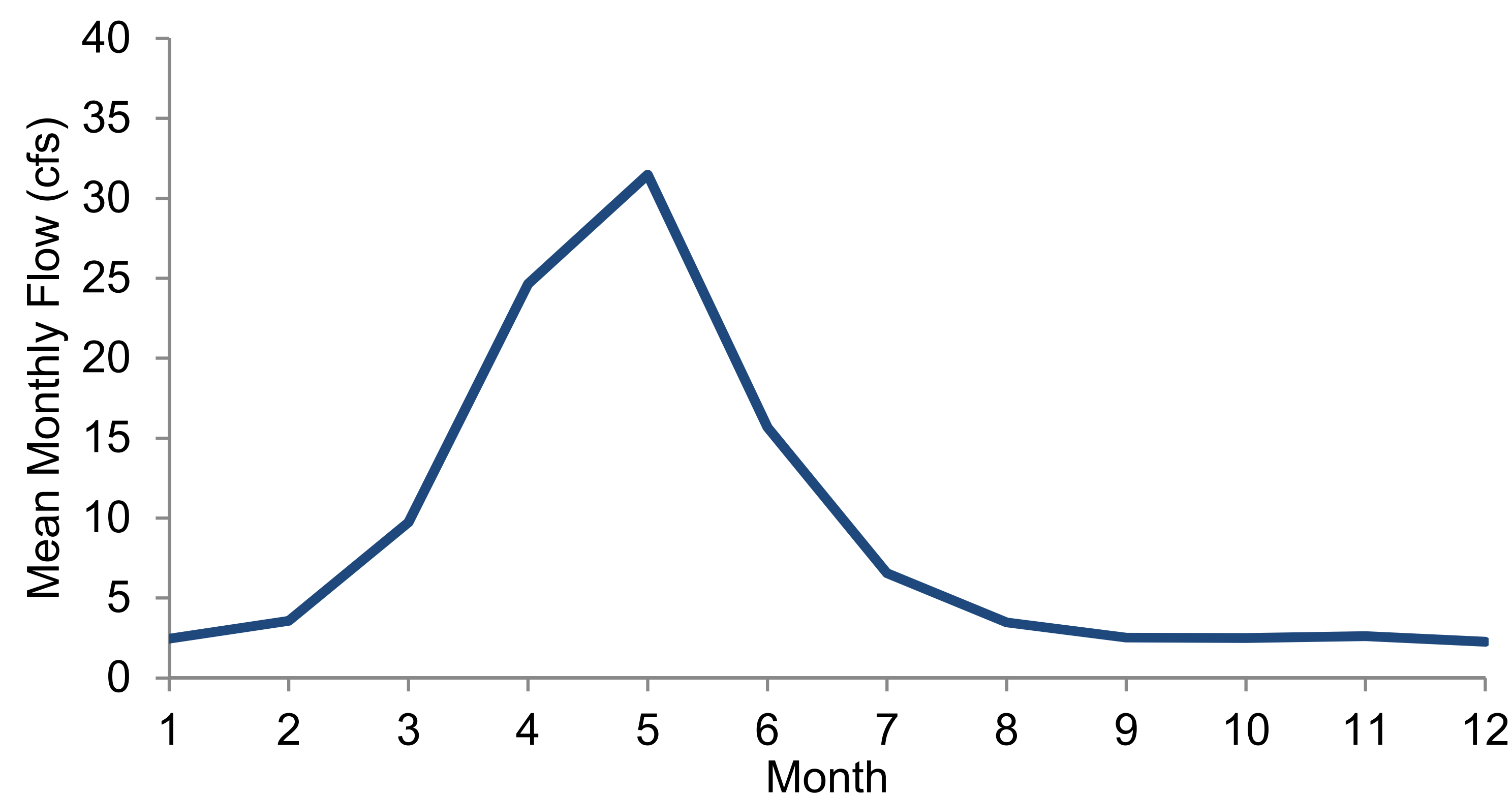
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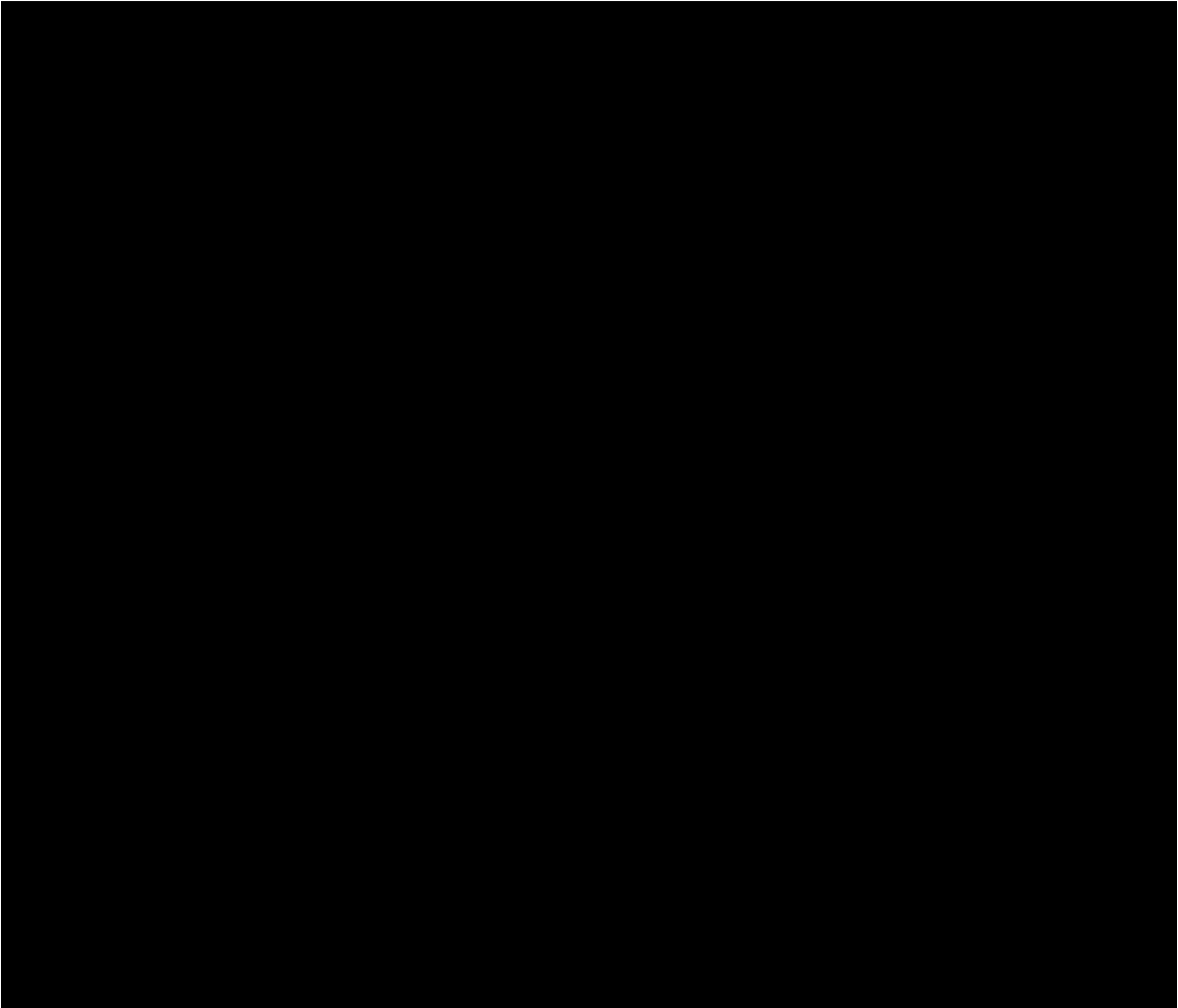
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Limited water supply in Emigration Canyon is well documented and well accepted. Professional scientists, Emigration Improvement District (EID), Salt Lake County, and canyon residents have acknowledged and are planning for a 700-home limit. After reviewing available data, Hansen, [REDACTED] has concluded that the 700-home limit is valid. Though the limit has not yet been reached, adequate streamflows have not been maintained in 8 of the last 14 years. [REDACTED] recommends that canyon development be limited as planned in order to protect the canyon's water resources from overuse.

EMIGRATION CREEK STREAMFLOW AND CANYON DEVELOPMENT

Flow records from 1964 to 2014 describe typical flow characteristics in Emigration Creek (Salt Lake County 2015; USGS 2015). See Figure 1. Flows between September and January range from 0 to 5 cfs (cubic feet per second). Discharge increases beginning in February and peaks in April or May. The minimum flows typically occur between September and December.





CONCLUSIONS

After reviewing and analyzing available information, [REDACTED] has reached the following conclusions.

- Limited water supply in Emigration Canyon is well established and well accepted. The Emigration Improvement District, Salt Lake County, and canyon residents have acknowledged and planned for a 700-home limit.
- In the absence of evidence to the contrary, Barnett and Yonkee’s professional investigations and resultant 700-home limit appear to be valid.
- Though the 700-home limit has not yet been reached, impacts to Emigration Creek have already been observed as adequate flows have not been maintained in 8 of the last 14 years. Whether due to human or environmental factors, the lower flows indicate that the creek is struggling to maintain the specified minimum flow at the current housing density.
- Canyon development should be limited as planned in order to protect the canyon’s water resources from overuse.
- Additional development will negatively impact streamflows in Emigration Canyon.