

## Modern and Glacial-Holocene Carbonate Sedimentation in Bear Lake, Utah-Idaho: Usgs Open-File Report 2005-1124



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***(Zella Bradtke)***

## MODERN AND GLACIAL-HOLOCENE CARBONATE SEDIMENTATION IN BEAR LAKE, UTAH-IDAHO: USGS OPEN-FILE REPORT 2005-1124



Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.The Bear Lake Valley in northeastern Utah and adjacent Idaho is a half graben containing a mesosaline-alkaline lake (Bear Lake). The lake is 32 km long and 6-13 km wide with an area of 280 km<sup>2</sup> at full capacity. Maximum depth is 63 m, with a mean depth of 28 m. The present elevation of the lake is 1805 meters above sea level (masl), but this level has varied considerably through time. The natural watershed of the lake is relatively small, with a basin-area: lake-area ratio of only 4.8:1. Historically, the Bear River did not flow into Bear Lake. A series of canals, built from 1909 to 1918, now diverts the Bear River into Bear Lake creating a reservoir to supply irrigation water downstream. This increased the basin-area: lake-area ratio considerably to 29.5:1. The mean annual surface hydrologic flux (including precipitation) to the lake is  $0.48 \times 10^9$  m<sup>3</sup>/yr, which is only about 6 percent of the lake volume ( $7.86 \times 10^9$  m<sup>3</sup>), giving an average residence time of about 16 years. The magnitude of ground water influx is not known. Kullenberg piston coring in 1996 and seismic profiling in 1997 and 2002 reveal a layered sediment package with clear wedging reflectors and erosional unconformities. The piston cores recovered highly resolved records with excellent definition of geochemical-climate proxies and low-sedimentation rates. They are only a maximum of 5 m in length but provide a 30,000-year record, well beyond the last glacial maximum. Some unknown amount of sediment was missing from the tops of the piston cores so surface sediments (up to 50 cm) were collected with a gravity corer. The Holocene sediments are carbonate-rich (predominantly aragonite), and the...



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