

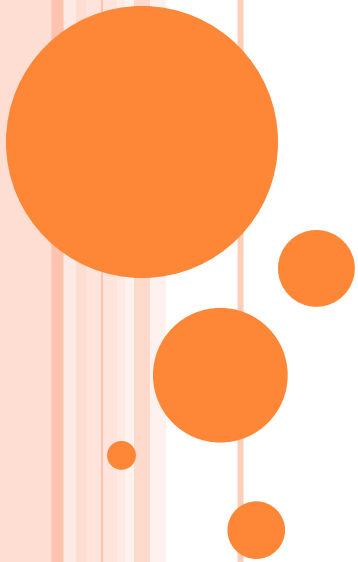
# UTAH GEOGRAPHY FACTS

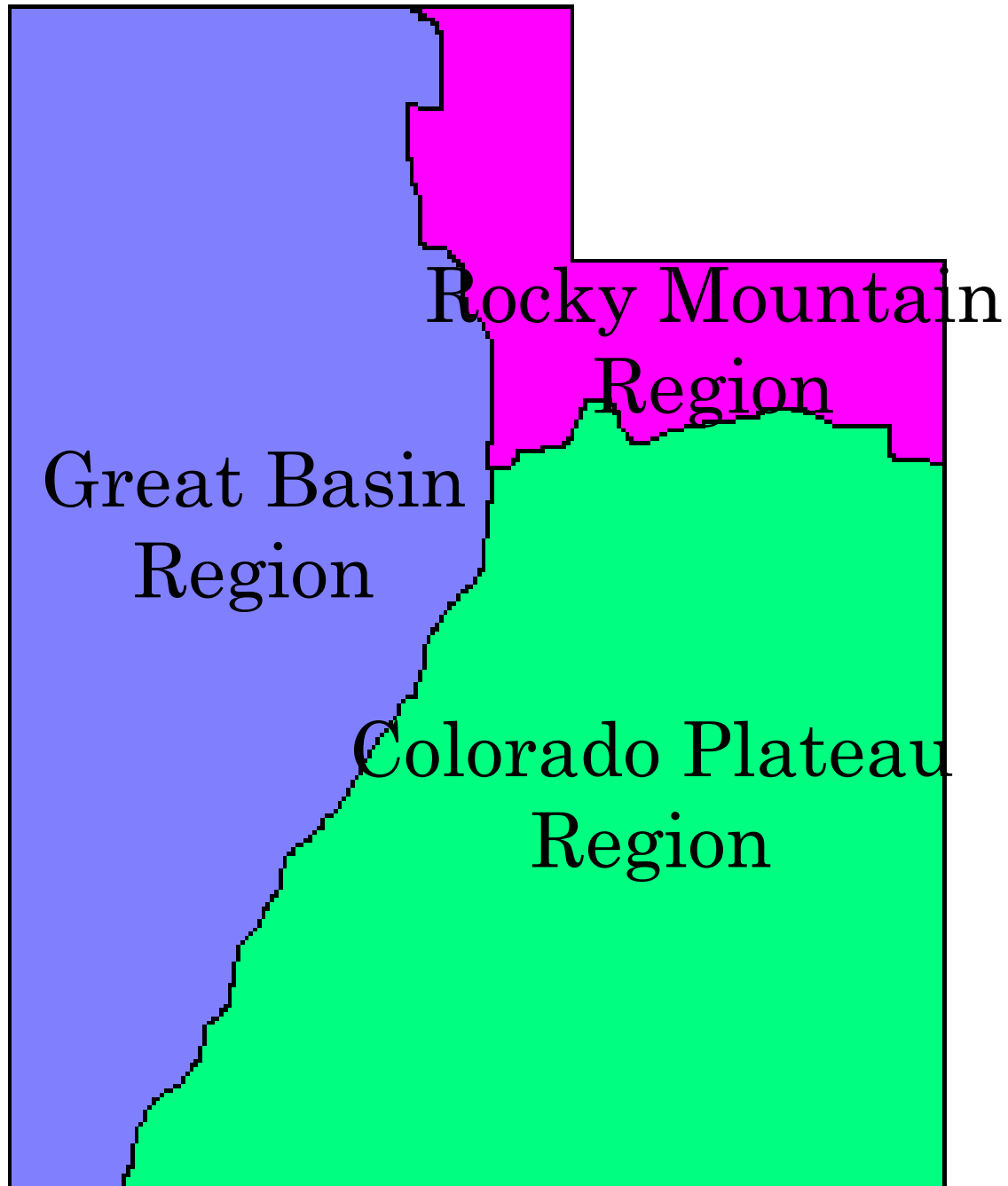
# Fun Facts:

- Coordinates: 39° N, 111° W
- Climate: Semi-arid to desert
- Elevation: 3,000-7,000 feet
- Highest Point: Kings Peak (13, 528 ft)
- Precipitation: 2<sup>nd</sup> Driest State
- Seasons: Cold winters, hot summers



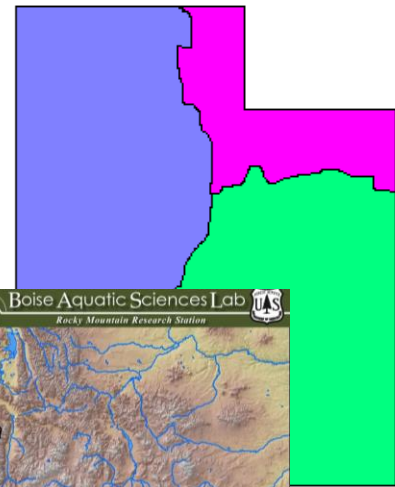
# THE 3 REGIONS OF UTAH



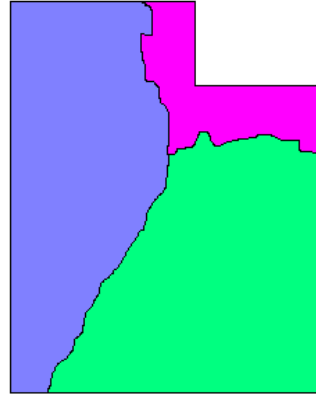


# THE GREAT BASIN REGION

- Landform: basin (large, flat bowl) surrounded by small mountain ranges
- Streams and rivers from surrounding mountains run into the valley floor and form lakes (GSL and Utah Lake)
- Desert climate
- Largest cities in Utah are found along the edge of this region, near the mountains
  - Runoff from mountains give them water



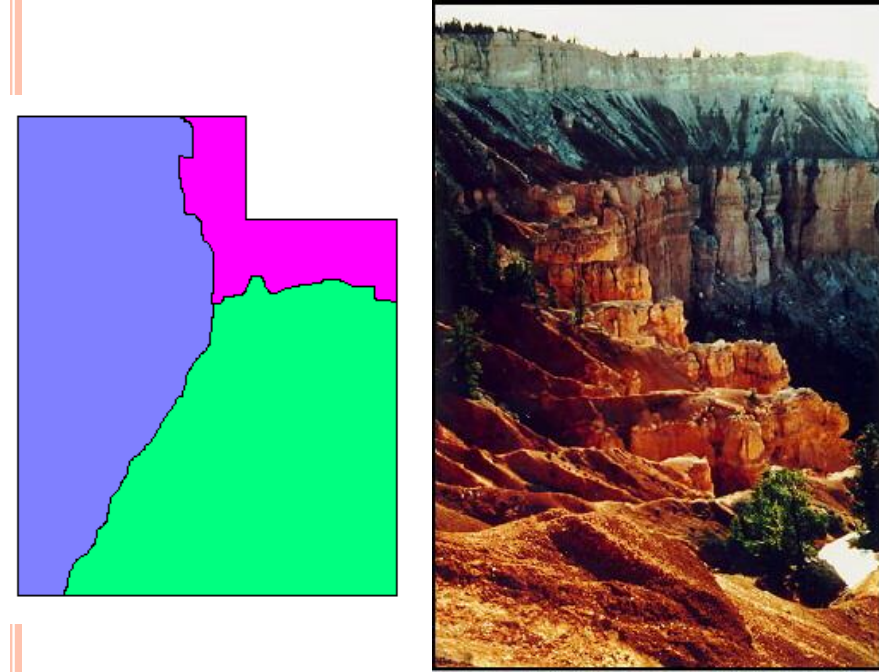
# ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION



- Uinta and Wasatch Mountain Ranges
- Most important source of water for Utah (runoff from snow in the mountains)
- Forests, bears, elk, deer, etc.
- Campgrounds and hiking trails; not a lot of cities
- Tourists come from all around the world to ski in Utah's mountains



# COLORADO PLATEAU REGION



- Landforms: plateaus
- Covers most of Utah
- Not a lot of rain (desert), but has the Colorado River
- Rock formations; all five of Utah's National Parks are found in this region
- Sedimentary Rock + Erosion = National Parks

# ZION NATIONAL PARK





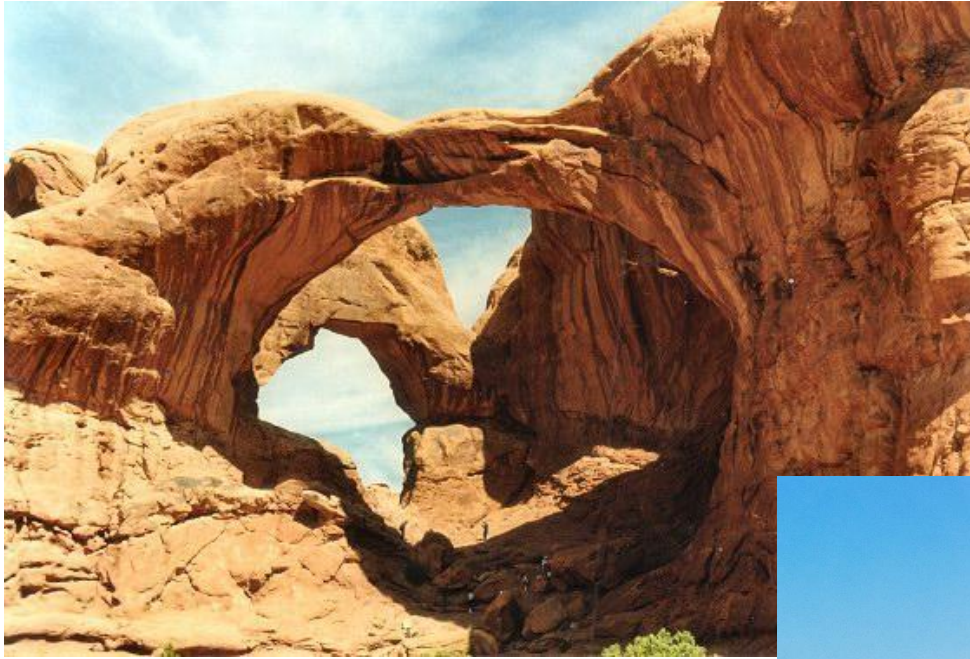
# CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK



# BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK



# ARCHES NATIONAL PARK



# CAPITOL REEF NATIONAL PARK



# CLIMATE



# CLIMATE

- What influences Utah's climate?
  - **Latitude** (distance north of the Equator; farther **north, colder** it is)
  - **Elevation** (height above sea level; **higher** it is, **colder** it is)
  - **Distance** from ocean (farther from ocean, **drier** it is)
  - **Mountains** from California blocking **rain** clouds from the ocean

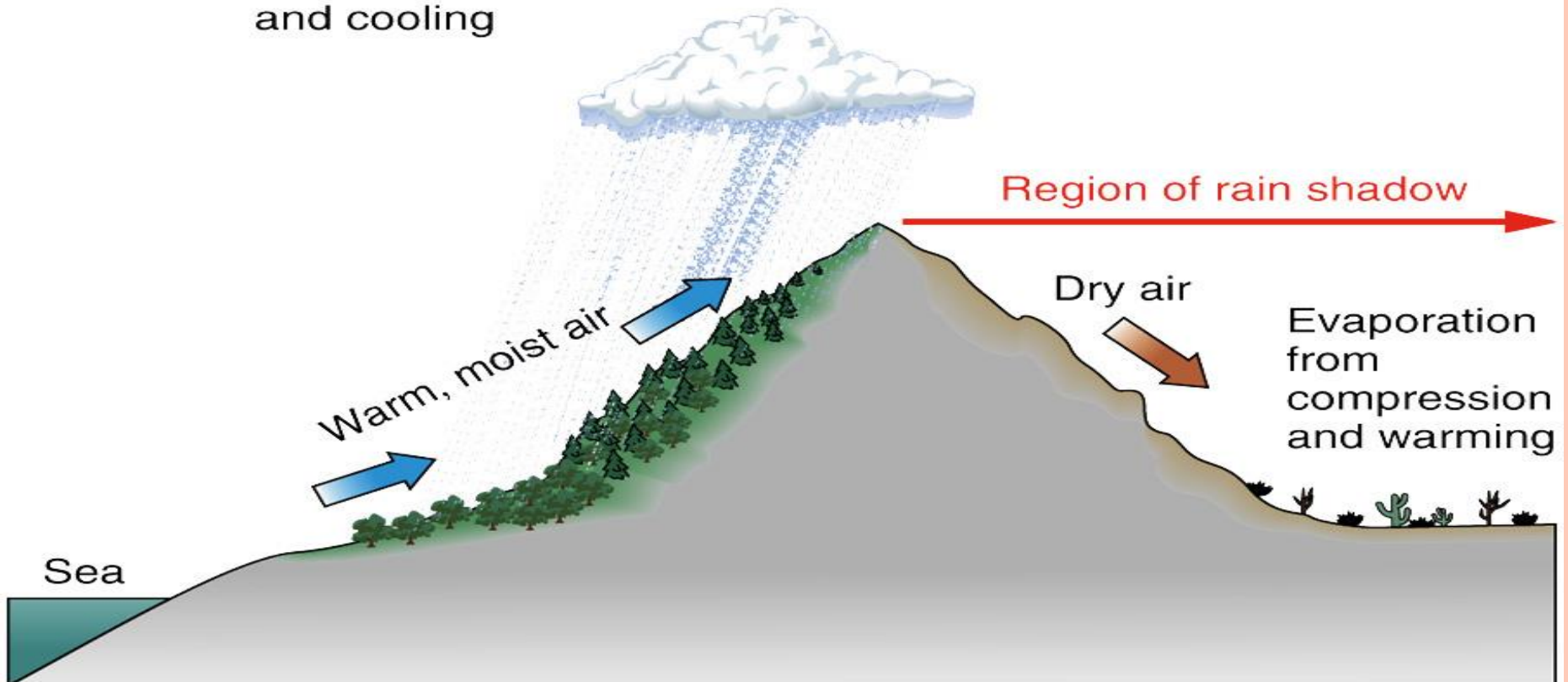
# RAIN SHADOW

## ○ Rain Shadow

- Clouds lose water on the western side of Utah Mountains making it green and have less water for the eastern side making it brown
- Water flows into two **drainage regions**

PM 13.04

Rain from expansion  
and cooling



# DRAINAGE REGIONS=WATER SHEDS

## ○ Drainage Regions

### Bonneville Drainage Region:

watershed that creates the Great Salt Lake, Utah Lake, Bear Lake, Rivers near there; takes care of **major cities**

### Colorado River Drainage

Region: watershed that creates the **Colorado River, Lake Powell** and then flows to **California**

