

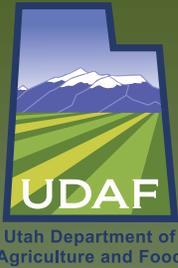


Utah Department of Agriculture & Food

Presentation to:

**Natural Resources,
Agriculture and
Environment
Appropriations Subcommittee**

February 12, 2013



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Commissioner
Leonard M. Blackham

Administrative Assistant - Kathleen Mathews

Agriculture Advisory Board
Conservation Commission
Animal & Wildlife Damage Prevention
Horse Racing Commission

Deputy Commissioner
Kyle R. Stephens

Regulatory

Plant Industry

Robert L. Hougaard

Regulatory Services

Richard Clark

Animal Industry

Dr. Bruce King

State Veterinarian

Conservation/Development

Grazing Improvement Program (GIP)

Bill Hopkin

Conservation Commission

Thayne Mickelson

Marketing & Development

Jed H. Christenson

Support

Administrative Services

Stephen Ogilvie

Chemistry Lab.

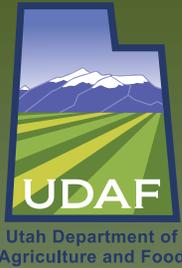
Vacant

Communications

Larry Lewis

Homeland Security

Dr. Chris Crnich



MISSION

Promote the healthy growth of Utah agriculture, conserve our natural resources and protect our food supply

GOALS

1. Improve communication and awareness
2. Conserve and enhance Utah's lands and natural resources
3. Ensure safe food and consumer protection
4. Build partnerships and advocacy. Develop leaders.

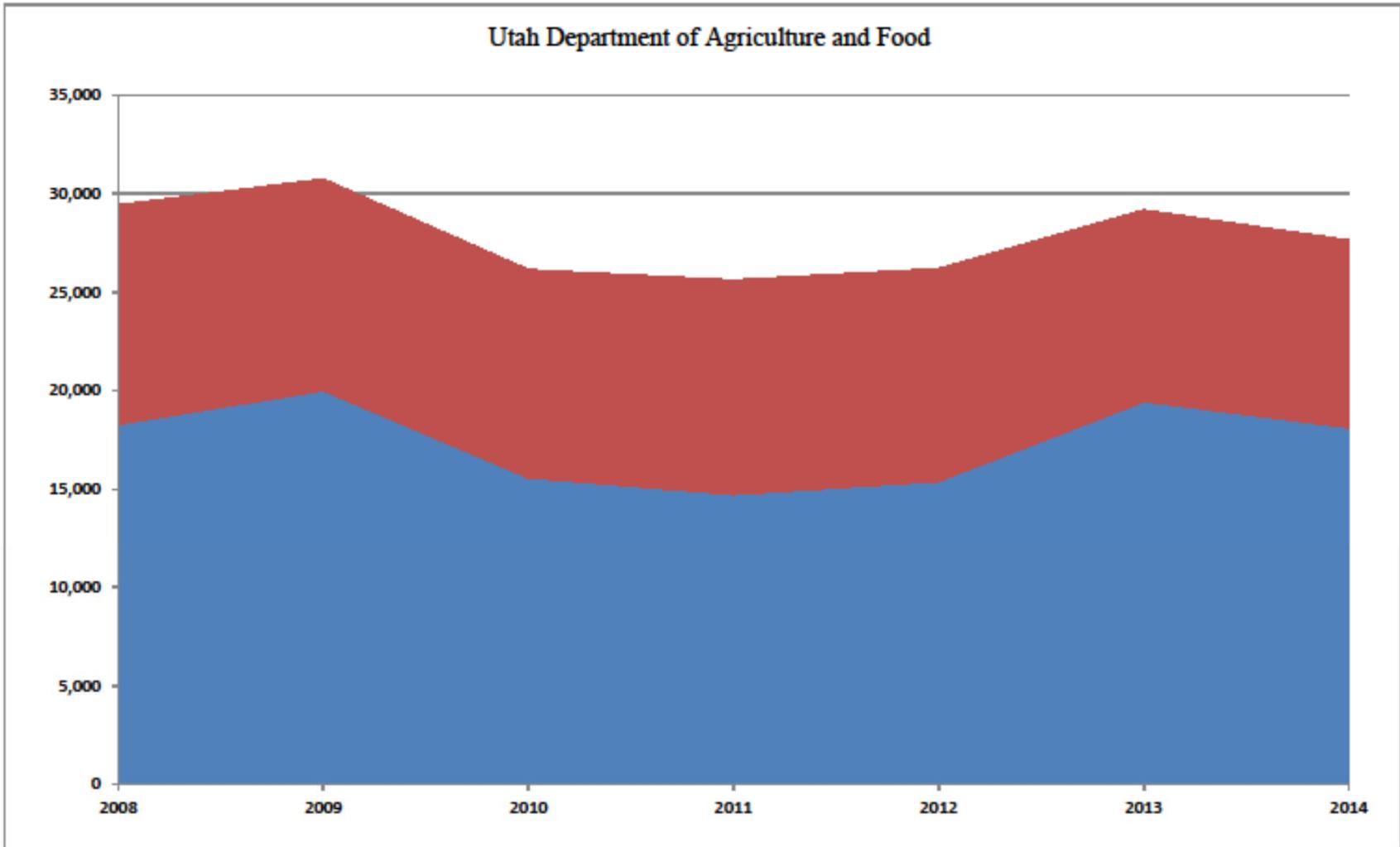
ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURE

	2008	2011	Growth
Production & Processing (with multiplier)	\$15.2 B	\$17.5 B	15.1%
Employment (with multiplier)	66,500	78,200	17.6%
Total state output	13.9%	14.1%	1.4%

USU data 01/2013

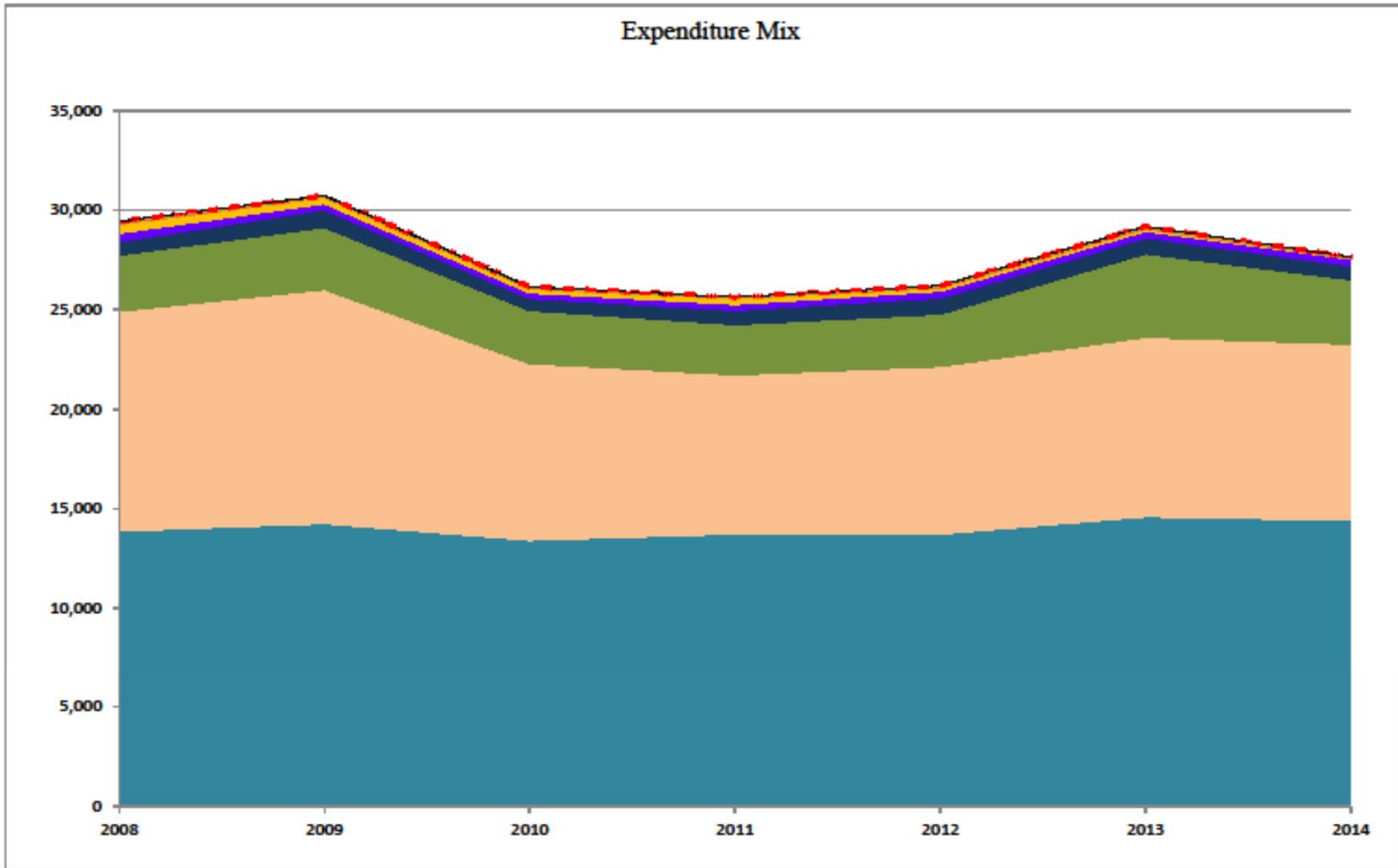
BUDGET

— Conserve and Enhance Utah's Lands and Natural Resources
— Ensure Safe Food Supply and Consumer Protection
All Figures in thousands (000)



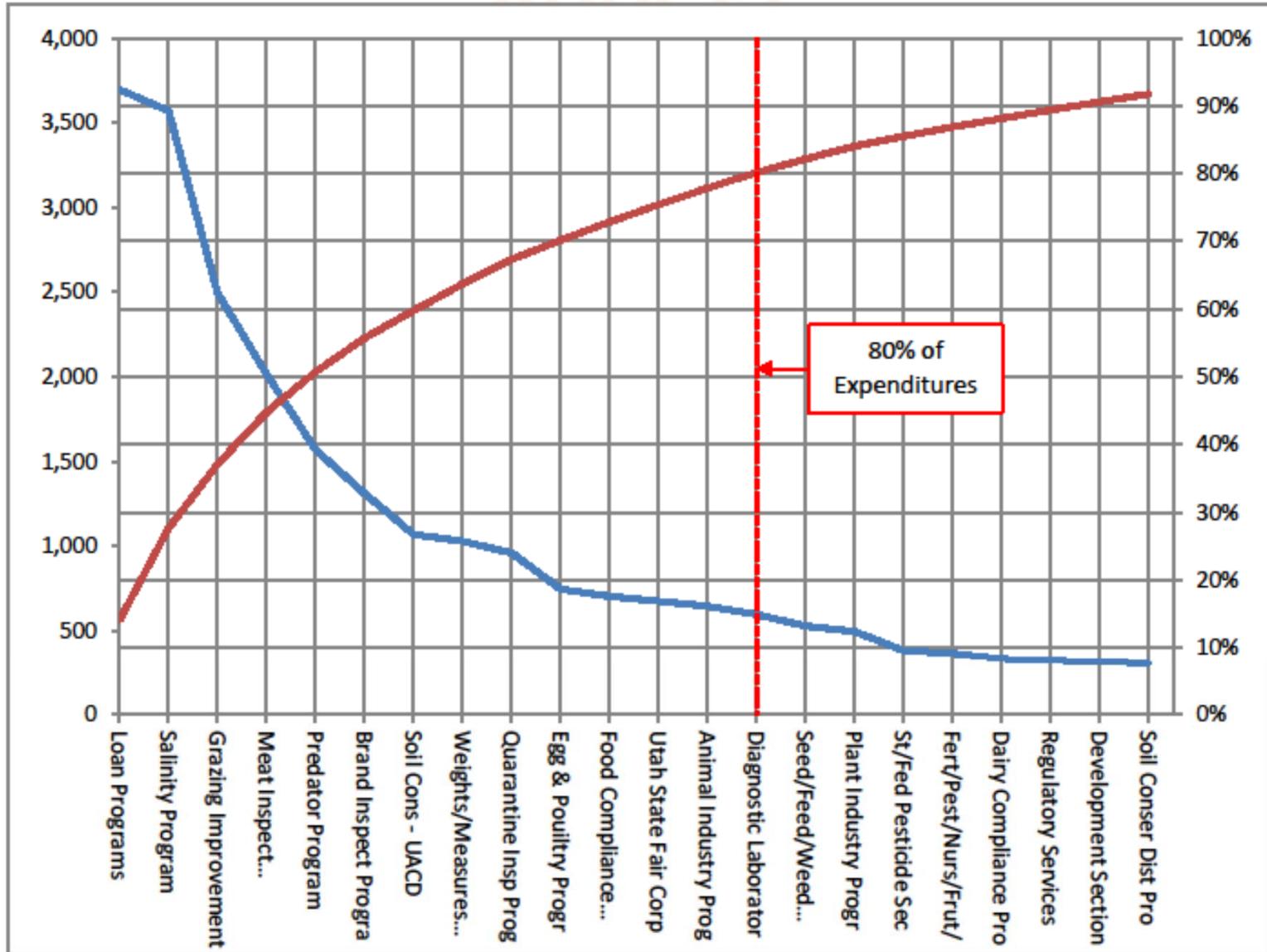
BUDGET

Expenditure Mix



Personnel Services	Pass Through	Current Expense	DP Current Expense	Travel - In State	Capital Expenditure	Travel - Out of State	DP Capital Expense
50.27%	33.85%	10.87%	2.67%	1.18%	0.77%	0.39%	0.01%

BUDGET

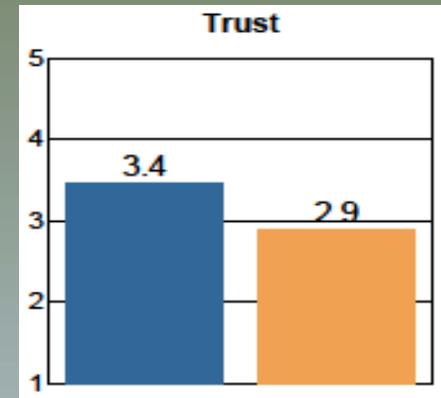
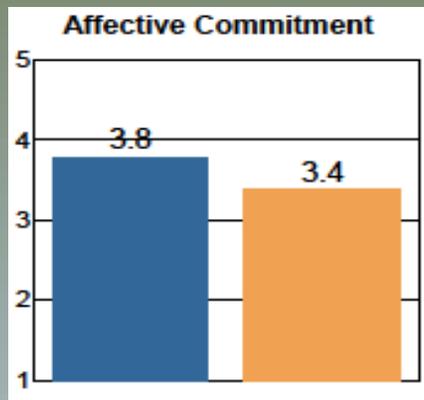


UDAF EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Total core employees: 183
Total core and non-core: 499

2012 DHRM Survey

UDAF employees exceed the statewide average in several categories



Employees work for the agency in order to make a difference.

Wish to devote their career to UDAF.

Willing to stay at the UDAF, even if other employment opportunities were available.

UDAF 2012



Statewide 2012



GOPB REVIEW

Legislative Management Committee requested a GOPB review of agency. (UCA 63J-1-701)

GOPB Reviewed:

- Program objectives

- Performance measures

- Program size

- Alternative funding if appropriate

- Priority ranking

- Budgetary information requested by the LFA

- Additional recommendations by the Governor

Resulted in 12 recommendations.

GOPB REVIEW

Twelve recommendations and UDAF responses

1. The existing building that houses the Department of Agriculture and Food was designed as administrative space. Currently a portion of the building is being used for laboratory space. As a result, several problems have arisen including persistent and costly HVAC deficiencies, health hazards, inability to expand testing, and increased demands of added bioterrorism/chemical terrorism monitoring.

GOPB recommends replacement of the laboratory facility through construction of the proposed Unified State Laboratory, Module 2.

2. There is an overlap of work between individuals in the field and data entry employees at the home office that can be eliminated through computerized reporting.

GOPB recommends the implementation of computerized reporting for full-time inspectors within Animal Identification/Brand Registration and Inspection.

3. Administrative rule is not in compliance with code regarding the tattooing of elk calves.

GOPB recommends revision of Administrative Rule R58-18-9(3)(g) as it is in contradiction with Utah Annotated Code 4-39-304 regarding the tattooing of elk calves. (see page 23)

4. *Two of the largest divisions, among others, have the lowest paid employees. Recruitment and retention of high quality employees may be hard to find.*

GOPB recommends a market comparability study be done for employees in the Divisions of Animal Industry, Plant Industry, and Wildlife Services. (see pages 23, 29, & 39)

5. *Utah is not in compliance with federal food safety standards requiring a ratio of 280-320 facilities to be inspected per FTE inspector. The state's ratio is 627:1.*

GOPB recommends that the agency request funding for seven additional FTE to bring the program into compliance with the minimum federal standards by September 30, 2017.

6. The department has had two of the three large capacity scale trucks in the shop and has spent \$18,000 in repairs in the first two months of FY 2013.

GOPB recommends that the Weights and Measures program replace two older, high mileage large capacity scale trucks. Having two out of three trucks repeatedly offline for repairs is costly and negatively impacts weighing and measuring device inspections.

7. The Utah Conservation Commission (UCC) is made up of 16 members, seven of which are representatives of the Conservation Districts. These representatives are not only on the UCC, but also on the Utah Association of Conservation District Board, which creates a conflict of interest.

GOPB recommends changes to UCA 4-18-4 (2)(h), such that representatives from the seven districts cannot serve simultaneously on the Conservation Commission and the UACD Board.

8. The department contracts with the Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD) to provide programs, training, technical assistance, administration of the ARDL program and other services for the Conservation Districts with little oversight and few performance measures tied to the funding.

GOPB recommends that regardless of where funding dedicated to conservation in the state is sent, performance measures be adopted and UACD report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee regarding allocated state funds.

9. The Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD) receives both General Fund and Agricultural Resource Development Loan (ARDL) funds passed through from the department. These funds are appropriated by the legislature each year. As of June 30, 2011, UACD had \$1,855,364 in savings which includes \$954,708 in ARDL funds.

GOPB recommends that the Legislature set a limit of up to four months on reserve accounts for outside entities based on typical federal guidelines.

10. The Grazing Improvement Program lacks adequate performance measures in how funding benefits the public.

GOPB recommends that the Grazing Improvement Program establish metrics that measure appropriate public and landowner benefits through clearly defined performance measures and report on a regular basis to the Commissioner.

11. The Grazing Improvement Program is funded through the General Fund yet projects are often defined in terms of benefits to private landowners.

GOPB recommends that the Grazing Improvement Program improve transparency and accountability.

12. Although there are clear differences between the Grazing Improvement Program and the Watershed Restoration Initiative Program at the Department of Natural Resources, they often have similar benefits.

GOPB recommends that the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Department of Natural Resources prepare a joint resolution of how to eliminate overlap between the missions of the two programs. The joint resolution should focus on the most efficient and effective way of meeting the needs of the public.



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Plant Industry

Enforces Agricultural Code dedicated to the health and welfare of Utahans, control of insects, plant disease and invasive species, and ensure fair commerce within the agricultural industry.

Programs A: Consumer Protection, Truth in Labeling, and Regulatory Enforcement

Quality Control Sampling

Inspect and License Plant Nurseries

Inspection and Education for BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy) for FDA

Pesticide Enforcement

Programs B: Standardization, Plant Protection, Environmental Stewardship, and

Phytosanitary Inspection

Fresh fruit and vegetable grading and inspections that facilitate trade

Certification of organic products

Certification of hay and straw as noxious weed free

Invasive species mitigation (ISM) grants

Mormon cricket/grasshopper mapping and treatments

Invasive insect detection (trapping) and monitoring



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Animal Industry

Administer six programs that prevent the spread of animal disease, ensure wholesome food production, protect livestock from theft, regulate elk farming and hunting , and maintain a state-of-the-art veterinary diagnostic laboratory.

Animal Health

Maintained federal disease-free status of several major animal diseases

Meat and Poultry Inspection

Ensure that meat and poultry products produced in Utah are safe and wholesome.

Livestock Inspection

Ensure that livestock moved around the state maintain their correct ownership.

Fish Health

Prevent fish pathogens from entering Utah commercial aquaculture facilities .

Elk Farming and Elk Hunting Parks

Oversees Utah's 35 elk breeding farms and 10 elk hunting parks.

Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories

Two separate laboratories in the State: Logan and Nephi.



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Regulatory Services

Administers six primary programs that ensure equity in the marketplace and protect human health and enhance trade.

Food Compliance: regulates all food in Utah except restaurants and meat plants.

Dairy Compliance: regulates all milk and milk products in Utah to facilitate trade domestically and internationally. 301 dairy farms and processors.

Meat Compliance: investigates and resolves violations of the Federal Meat Act. 561 reviews conducted in 2012.

Weights & Measures: testing of gasoline pumps and retail store scanners, testing of vehicle fuel. Over 45,446 measuring devices in Utah.

Egg & Poultry Grading: assures that egg and poultry produced in Utah meets the criteria for the USDA shield. Grade an estimated 560,000,000 eggs!

Bedding, Quilted Clothing and Upholstered Furniture: assures that items such as down filled coats, couches and mattresses actually meet the criteria for the claims on the product labels, including flame resistance. 3,097 issued licenses worldwide in 2012.



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Predator Control Program

Title 4 Chapter 23

Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Act

4-23-2. Purpose declaration: The legislature finds and declares that it is important to the economy of the state to maintain agricultural production at its highest possible level and at the same time, to promote, to protect, and preserve the wildlife resources of the state.



Cooperative Program with UDAF & USDA

- 16 State FTE's
- 18 Federal FTE's
- One USDA State Director who serves as both the UDAF and USDA Supervisor of the Program
 - Allows better allocation and use of resources, both in funding and personnel.



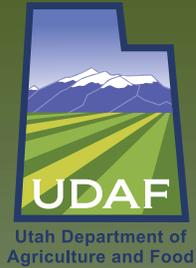
Predator Control Funding

■ State GF Appropriation	= \$ 726,800
■ State GF Approp (SB 87)	= \$ 250,000
■ Livestock Assessment	= \$ 242,800
■ DWR (statutory)	= \$ 59,400
■ DWR (Pass-Through - SB 245)	= \$ 600,000
■ Federal Appropriation	= <u>\$ 1,100,000</u>
■ Total	= \$ 2,979,000



More than just coyote control

- Black footed ferret – coyote control in Vernal area
- Sage Grouse Protection - statewide
- Nesting Waterfowl & Shorebirds
- Depredating birds @ community fisheries
- Badger Control on relocated Utah Prairie Dog colonies
- Bighorn Sheep depredation from Mountain Lions
- Wildlife posing threat to humans
- Bird damage to crops
- Starling-Pigeon control @ dairies & feedlots
- Bird strike prevention @ HAFB and SLC International Airport
- Skunks, Raccoons
- Use of Fixed wing aircraft to assist DWR in locating radio-tagged wildlife
(Much of this activity is done in cooperation with and to assist DWR)



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Support Divisions

Provide resource assistance to divisions and commissioner's office

Administrative Services

Ensures state policies and procedures are implemented to meet audits conducted throughout the year by State Finance and the State Auditor's Offices.

Chemistry Laboratory

Provides chemical, physical, and microbiological analyses in support of the agency's regulatory duties across multiple divisions.

Communications

Maintain communication links between Utahns, the Agriculture industry and UDAFA employees in the course of fulfilling the agency's mission.

Agriculture Homeland Security

Maintain awareness and respond to threats to Utah's agriculture industry, state employees and Utah consumers.



Utah Department of Agriculture & Food

Invasive Noxious Weed Program



Leafy
Spurge

Euphorbia esula)

Invasive Noxious Weed Projects

Invasive Species Grant Recipient	Counties	Grant Amount	Partnerships	Target Species	Project Status	Acres Treated
Beaver County	Beaver	\$ 10,000.00	UACD, County	Leafy Spurge	In Progress	1,765
Beaver County CWMA	Beaver, Iron	\$ 6,000.00	UACD, County, BLM	Scotch Thistle	In Progress	1,000
Blacksmith Fork District (Medusahead)	Cache, Box Elder	\$ 125,000.00	UACD, Private Land Owners	Medusahead	In Progress	2,000
Bonneville CWMA	Salt Lake, Summit	\$ 22,344.00	County, Salt Lake City, DWR	Garlic Mustard	Complete	500
Box Elder County	Box Elder	\$ 16,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Rush Skeletonweed	Reporting	2,500
Canyon Country CWMA - UACD Zone 5	Garfield, Kane	\$ 23,600.00	UACD, BLM, Private	Yellow Starthistle	Reporting	1,910
Daggett County	Daggett	\$ 12,000.00	County, Forest Service, UACD	Hoary Cress	In Progress	676
Duchesne County	Duchesne	\$ 10,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Russian Olive	Complete	150
Emery County	Emery	\$ 35,000.00	County, State, BLM	Russian Olive	In Progress	3,350
Great Salt Lake Audubon Society	Salt Lake, Davis	\$ 6,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Phragmites	In Progress	56
Iron County CWMA	Iron	\$ 5,000.00	County, State, BLM, UACD	Scotch Thistle	Reporting	500
Juab County	Juab	\$ 7,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Squarrose Knapweed	Reporting	250
Millard County CWMA	Millard	\$ 15,000.00	County, State, BLM	Squarrose Knapweed	Reporting	1,800
Natural Resources - DWR	Juab, Tooele	\$ 14,260.00	DWR, Private Landowner, County	Squarrose Knapweed	Reporting	300
Ogden Nature Center	Weber	\$ 12,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Dyer's Woad	In Progress	152
Rich County	Rich	\$ 10,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Hoary Cress	Reporting	600
Sanpitch CWMA	Sanpete, Juab, Utah	\$ 80,000.00	County, State, Forest Service, Private	Russian Knapweed	Reporting	7,000
School and Institutional Trust Lands(SITLA)	Sevier, Sanpete	\$ 8,979.00	State, County	Russian Knapweed	Reporting	30
Skyline CWMA	Carbon, Emery	\$ 7,350.00	County, State, BLM, Forest Service, Private	Yellow Toadflax	In Progress	4,000
South Central CWMA	Sevier, Piute, Wayne	\$ 70,000.00	County, State, BLM, Forest Service, Private	Leafy Spurge	Reporting	5,000
South Oquirrh CWMA (West Canyon)	Utah, Tooele	\$ 12,000.00	County, State, Private, Forest Service	Black Henbane	Complete	300
Squarrose CWMA	Juab, Tooele, Utah	\$ 119,200.00	County, State, DWR, Private, BLM	Squarrose Knapweed	Reporting	1,500
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Uintah Ouray Bird Refuge	Uintah	\$ 30,000.00	Federal, State	Russian Olive	Complete	50
U.S. Forest Service - Ferron Ranger District	Emery, Sanpete	\$ 2,500.00	County, State, Federal	Musk Thistle	Complete	500
Utah County	Utah	\$ 113,000.00	County, State, Private, Forest Service	Phragmites	Reporting	1,600
Utah-Idaho CWMA (Cache Zone)	Cache, Box Elder	\$ 8,000.00	County, State, UACD, Private	Russian Knapweed	Reporting	500
Utah Open Lands Conservation Association	Salt Lake, Davis	\$ 12,000.00	County, Private Land Owners	Russian Olive	In Progress	14
Wasatch County	Wasatch	\$ 12,000.00	County, State, Private, Forest Service	Dalmation Toadflax	Reporting	970
Wasatch County CWMA	Wasatch, Summit	\$ 60,000.00	County, State, DWR, Private, BLM	Leafy Spurge	Reporting	2,000
Washington County Water Conservancy	Washington	\$ 30,000.00	County, State, Private, Forest Service	Giant Reed	Complete	40
Wayne County	Wayne	\$ 6,000.00	County, State, Private	Hoary Cress	In Progress	250
		\$ 900,233.00			Total Acres Treated	41,263

PROJECT STATUS

In Progress -- 0-75%	10
Reporting --- 75-99%	15
Complete ---- 100%	<u>6</u>
Total projects	31

ISM Projects 2012-2013

- 71 Grant Requests = \$ 2,200,000.
- 31 Projects Selected = \$ 1,474,809.
- Available Funding = \$ 1,000,000.
- Grants Requests Reduced by 33% in Order to Fund More Projects.
- Total Acres Treated = 41,263 acres
- Average Cost = \$ 21.82/acre
- Highest Cost = \$ 857.00/acre
 - Russian Olive Chainsaw Removal & Stump Treatment with Herbicide

Project Summary

- Squarrose Knapweed – 3,850 acres
- Rush Skeletonweed – 2,500 acres
- Medusahead Rye – 2,000 acres
- Phragmites (Utah Lake) – 1,700 acres
- Other weed species – 31,213 acres

Total Treated Acres – 41,263

Grant Partnerships

BLM

DWR

UDAF

SITLA

Counties

Cattlemens
Assoc.

Water Users
Assoc.

Private Land
owners



PHRAGMITES

- Great Salt Lake = 51,652 Acres
- Utah Lake = 15,130 Acres
- GSL Duck Clubs = 2,380 Acres
- Bear Lake = 1,225 Acres
- Total Estimated Area 70,387 Acres
- Approx. Cost/Acre \$ 235.00
- Total Estimated Cost
- \$ 16,540,945.00

**Acreage estimates taken
From "Management of
Phragmites in the Great
Salt Lake Watershed**

Photo by: K. Kettenring



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Marketing & Development

Increase profitability for agriculture and related businesses. Create a vibrant and healthy rural and state economy.

Utah's Own - Encourages consumers seek out and purchase Utah's Own products that are grown, processed or made locally. If Utahns shifted just 1% of their food purchasing dollars from national and foreign products to those grown locally we would generate \$63 million in additional local economic activity.

Market Development - Offers business development initiatives to expand business production and create jobs in rural areas.

Export Market Training - Provides export market training to Utah's Own and other Ag. producers to enter foreign markets.

Market News - Reports provide accurate and unbiased commodity price information critical to agriculture producers and agribusinesses.

Junior Livestock Shows - Monitoring the legislative mandated and funded program that assists the State's Junior Livestock Shows.



DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Utah Conservation Commission (UCC)

Protect, conserve and utilize the natural resources of the state by developing and implementing cost effective programs.

Conservation Districts

Protect local agriculture and natural resources by bringing together government, NGOs, and private individuals to work on large scale initiatives.

Special Service Districts of the state made up of five elected supervisors who represent agriculture on a local level

Agriculture Resource Development Loan (ARDL) Program

Low-interest loans are available for conservation projects that enhance production and natural resources

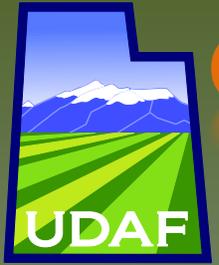
Utah Certification of Environmental Stewardship (UCES)

Ensures farmers and ranchers make decisions that balance production and environmental demands. (SB 57)

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Grazing Improvement Pgm.
Sage Grouse
Invasive Species





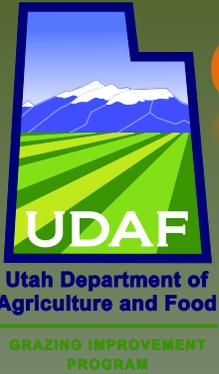
Utah Department of
Agriculture and Food

GRAZING IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM

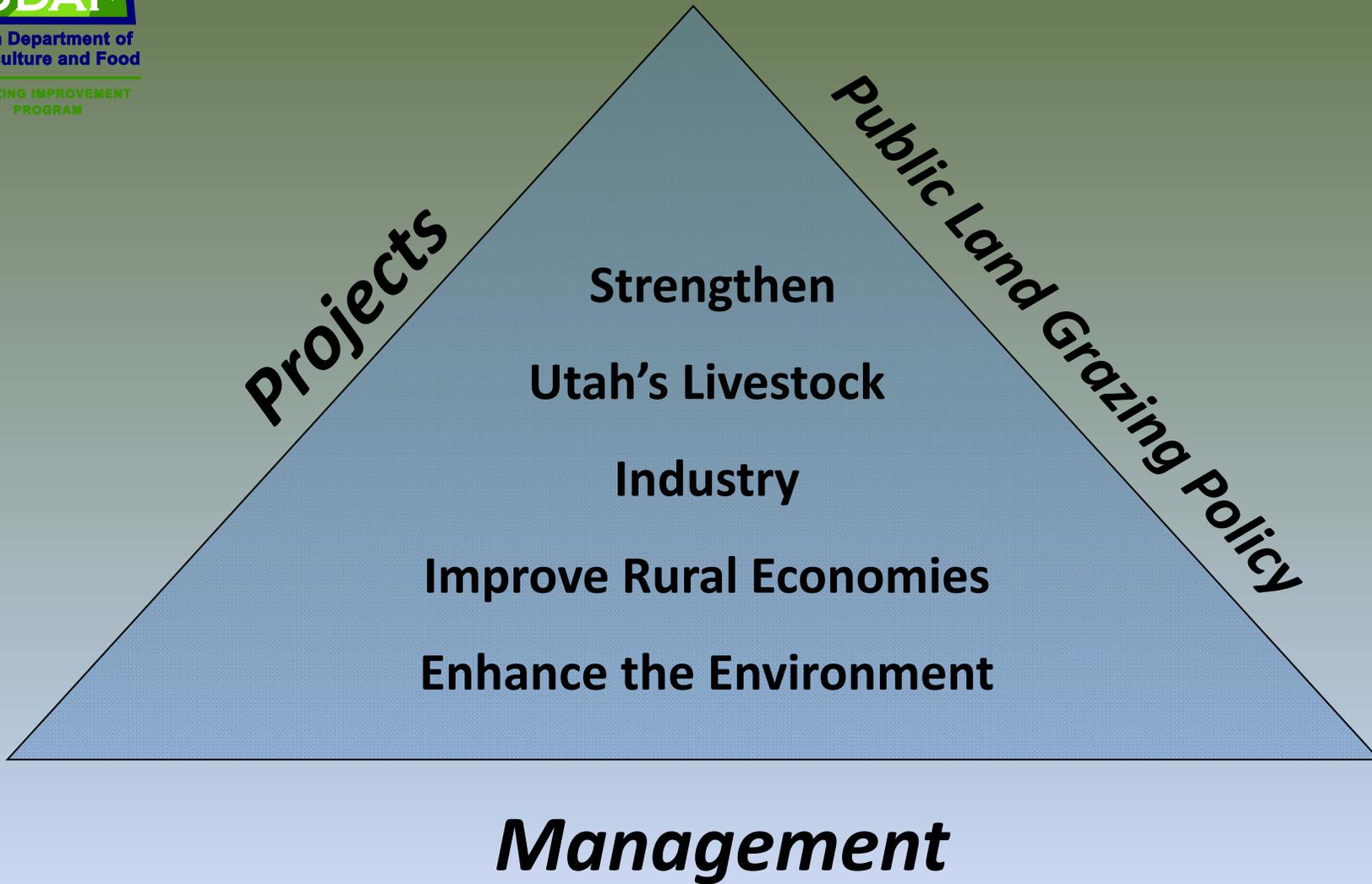
GRAZING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mission Statement

To improve the productivity,
health and sustainability of our
rangelands and watersheds.



GRAZING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



Ranchers have a voice

6 Regional Grazing Advisory Boards

1 State Grazing Advisory Board

- Provide direction
- Connects GIP with Utah's producers
- Set priorities

Utah Grazing Improvement Program Regions

Troy Forrest
 UGIP Field Operations Manager
 Northwest Region Coordinator
 O 435-257-5403 ext. 17
 C 435-279-3603
 tforrest@utah.gov

Taylor Payne
 SGI Coordinator, Rich County
 O 435-793-3905 ext.14
 C 435-757-6115
 taylorpayne@utah.gov

Bill Hopkin
 Director, UGIP
 O 801-538-4927

Thérèse Aschkenase
 State Coordinator
 O 801-538-7138

Jan Reinhart
 Biologist
 O 801-538-4962

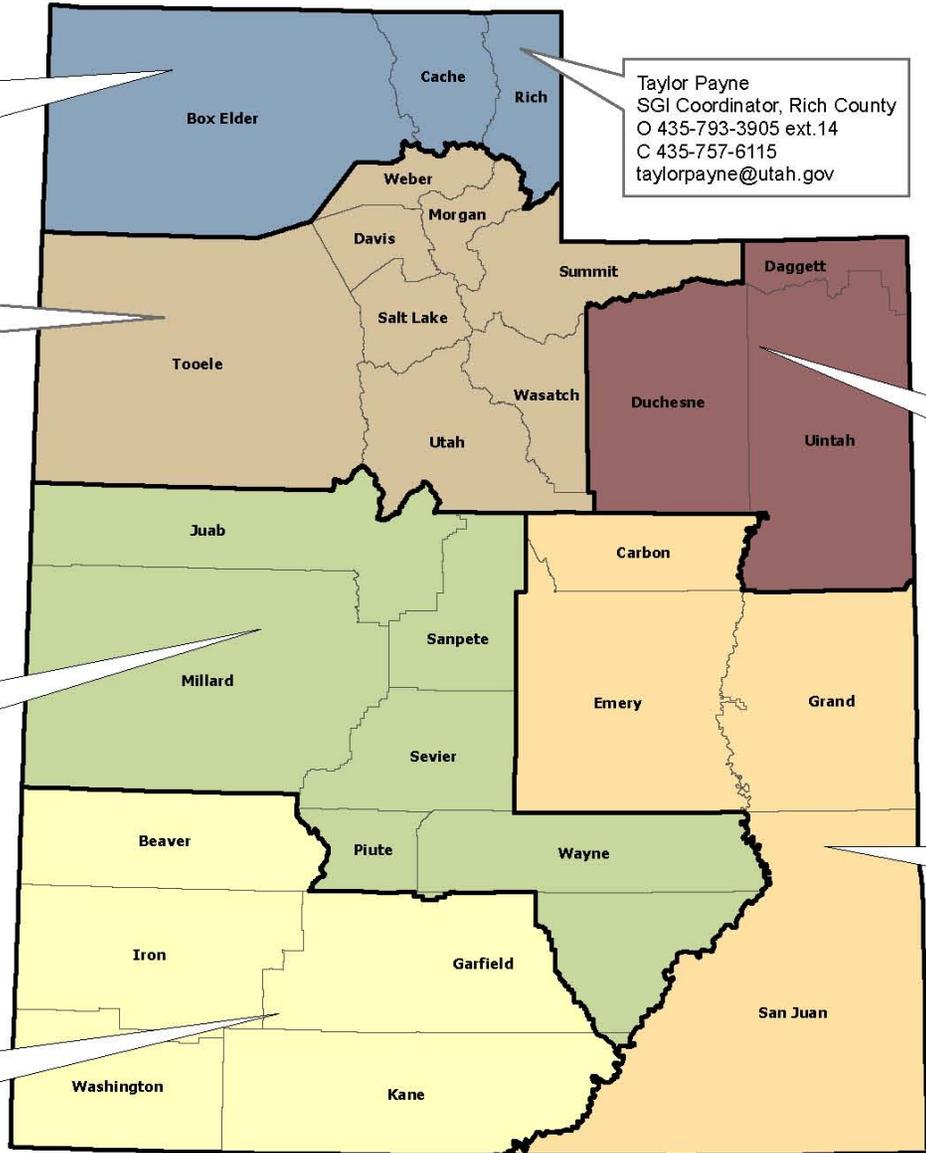
Ashley Hansen
 Wasatch Region Coordinator
 O 435-882-2276 ext. 16
 C 435-760-9021
 ashleyhansen@utah.gov

Terrell Thayne
 Northeast Region Coordinator
 O 435-722-4621 ext.138
 C 435-630-0051
 tthayne@utah.gov

Tom Tippets
 Central Region Coordinator
 O 435-835-4111 ext. 117
 C 435-813-2454
 ttippets@utah.gov

Slate Stewart
 Southeast Region Coordinator
 O 435-381-2300 ext. 116
 C 801-455-5804
 slatestewart@utah.gov

Randy Marshall
 Southwest Region Coordinator
 O 435-438-5092 ext. 106
 C 435-691-2730
 rmarshall@utah.gov



Strengthen Utah's Livestock Industry

- **Public Land Grazing Policy**

- Partner with BLM/USFS to improve grazing management and help producers be empowered

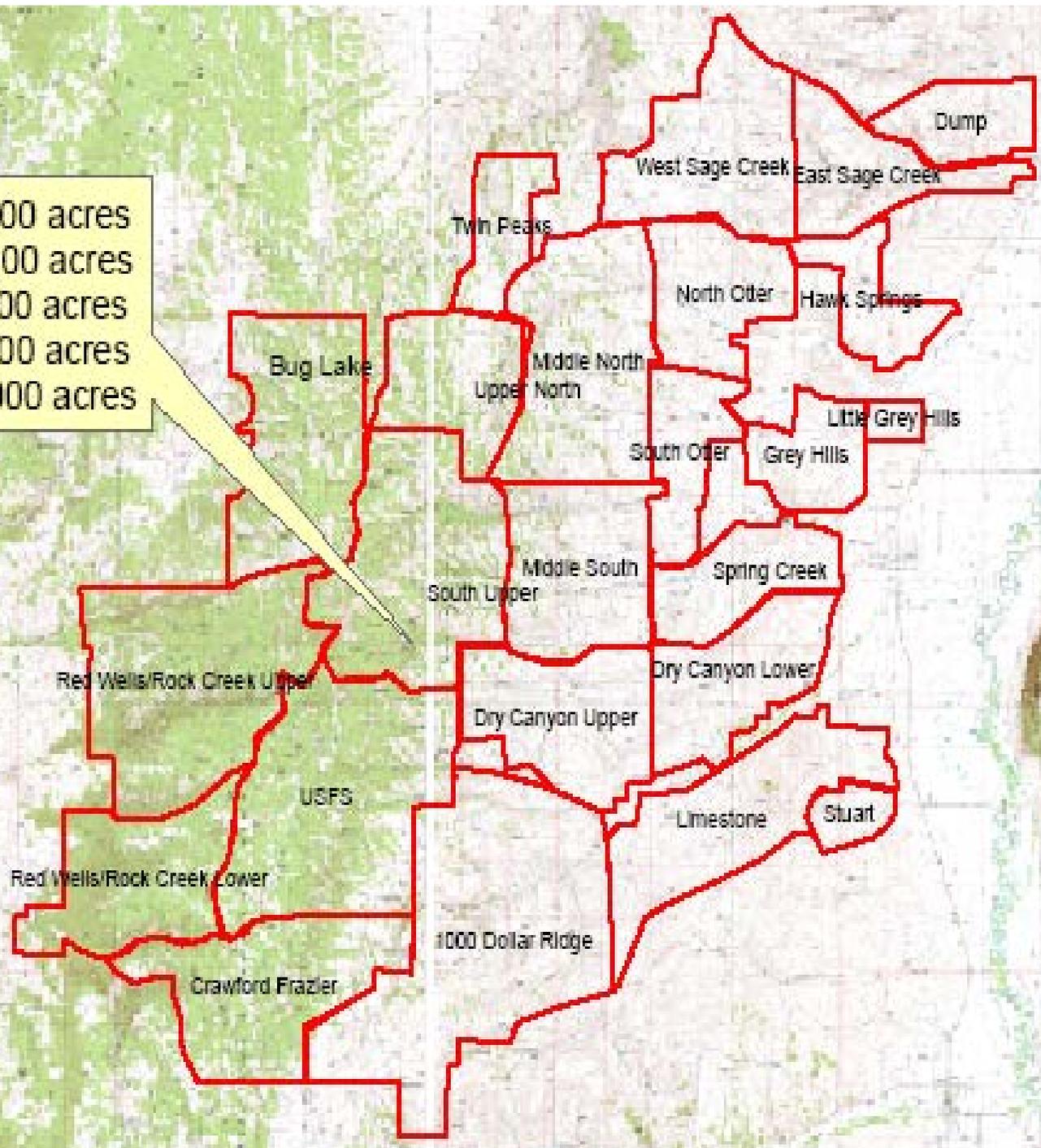
- **Management**

- Innovative science-based management plans
- Beginning Ranchers-train the next generation

- **Projects**

- Bridge the gap to accomplish mgmt change

BLM	66,500 acres
FS	35,000 acres
SITLA	12,400 acres
Private	29,100 acres
Total	143,000 acres



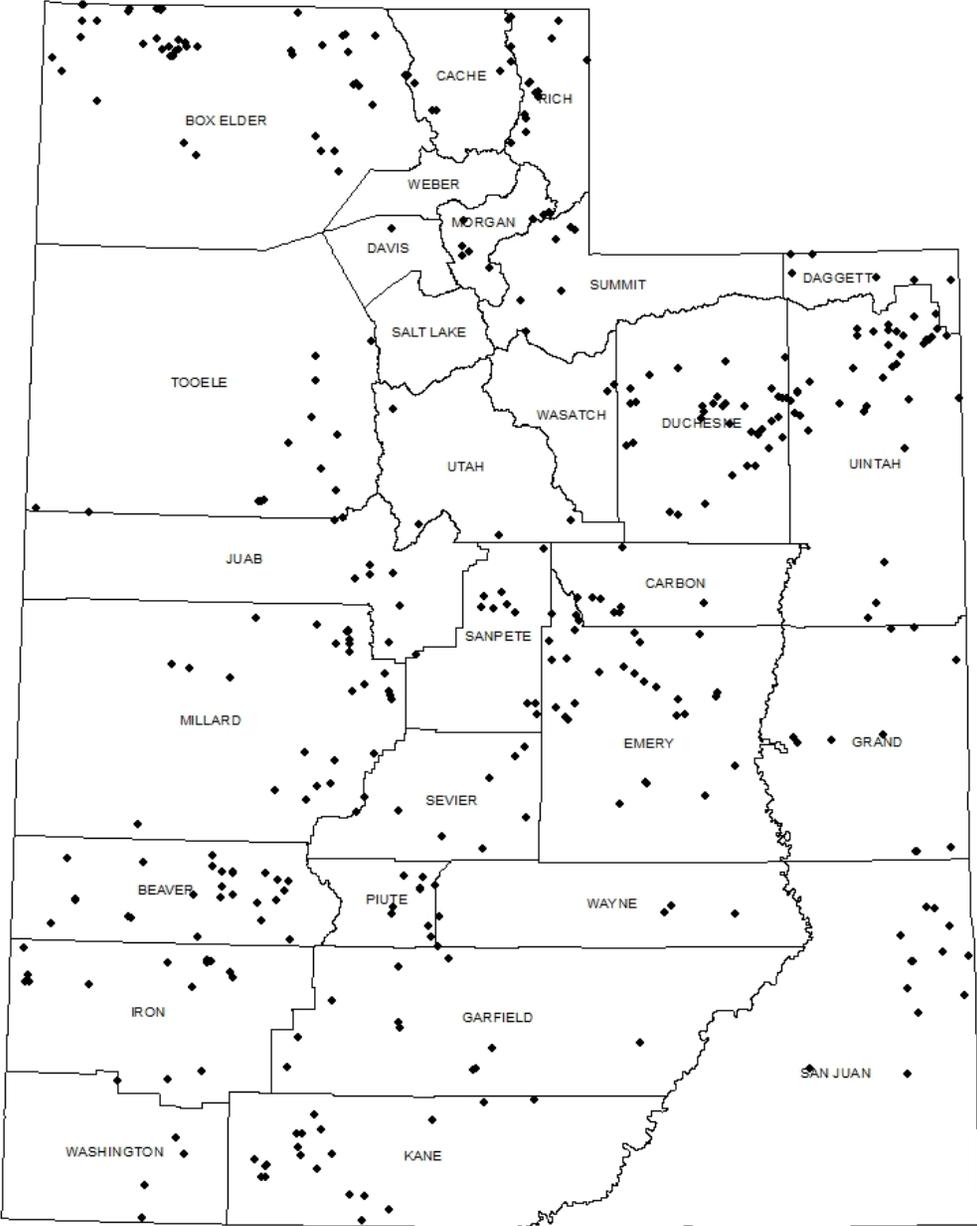
Training the next generation



UGIP Projects FY06-13

Fiscal Year	Total Projects	Total Cost	UGIP Cost	Acres Affected	Total Cost/UGIP Cost
2006	21	\$1,081,903	\$148,934	50,416	7.26
2007	21	\$1,042,294	\$371,907	141,413	2.80
2008	63	\$4,079,489	\$1,645,837	411,118	2.48
2009	62	\$3,213,705	\$1,043,406	375,850	3.08
2010	63	\$2,901,114	\$1,379,851	309,514	2.10
2011	70	\$2,878,402	\$1,173,574	354,579	2.45
2012	58	\$2,405,100	\$1,054,571	399,751	2.28
2013	67	\$2,531,442	\$1,341,491	500,569	1.89
Total	425	\$20,133,449	\$8,159,571	2,543,210	2.47

UGIP Projects FY07-13



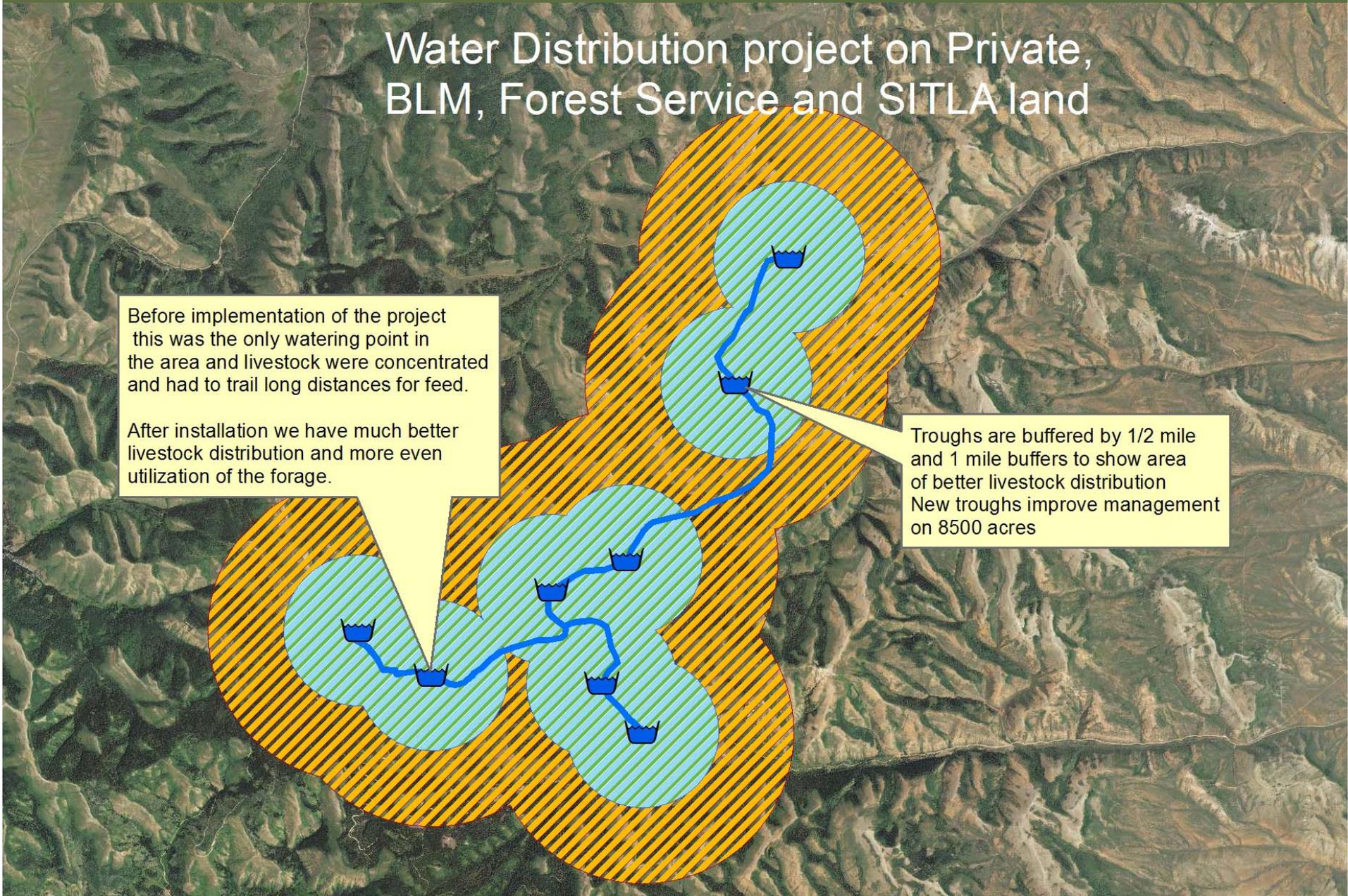
Map of Water Distribution Project

Water Distribution project on Private, BLM, Forest Service and SITLA land

Before implementation of the project this was the only watering point in the area and livestock were concentrated and had to trail long distances for feed.

After installation we have much better livestock distribution and more even utilization of the forage.

Troughs are buffered by 1/2 mile and 1 mile buffers to show area of better livestock distribution
New troughs improve management on 8500 acres



Installing the Troughs



Troughs Installed and working

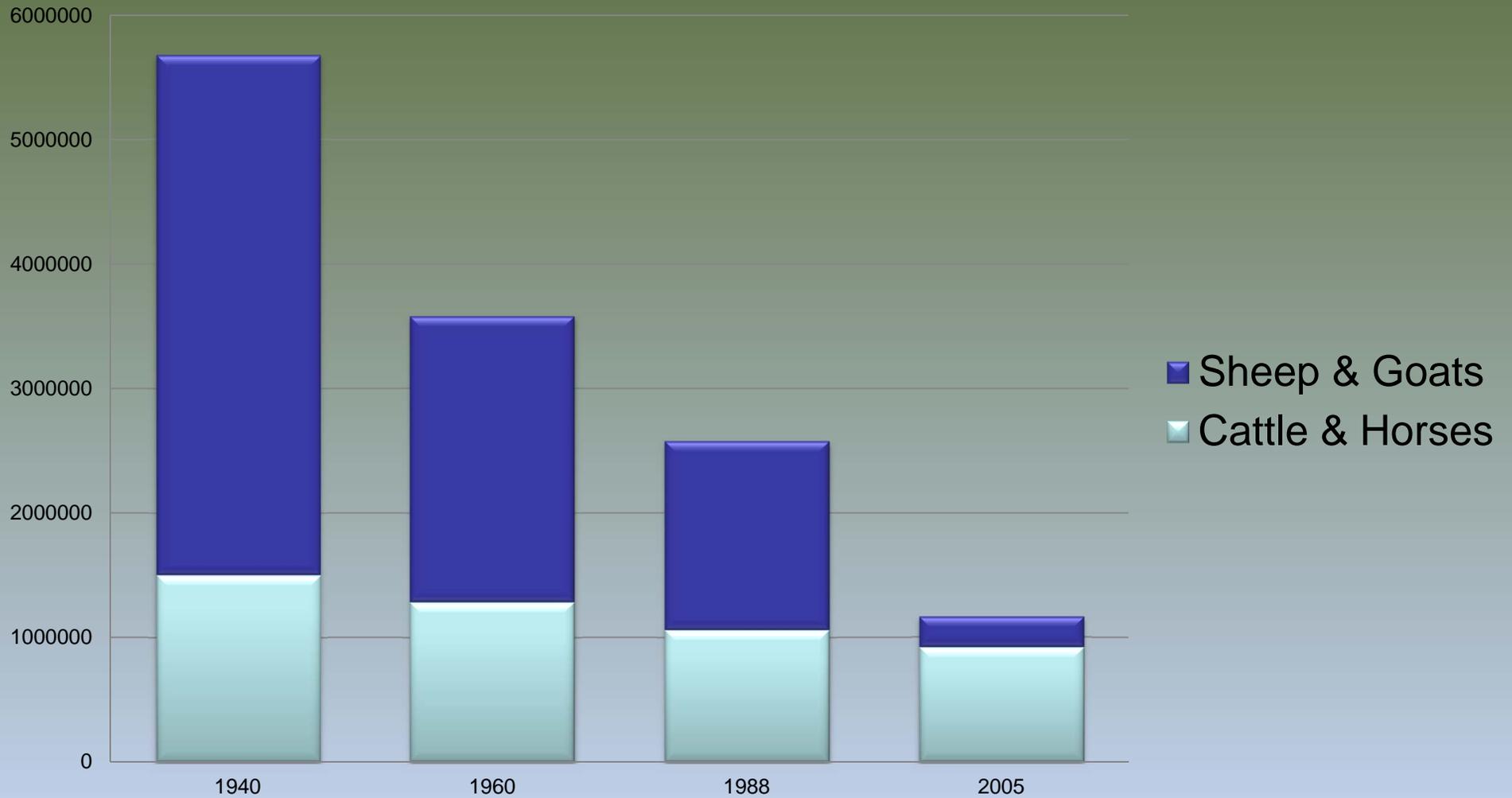


Solar panels for well that supplies water to the troughs

Improve Rural Economies

- **Public Land Grazing Policy**
 - Stop the decline in permitted AUMs
- **Management**
 - Demonstrate the importance of livestock grazing for rural communities and counties
- **Projects**
 - To enhance production and profit

Change in Utah Federally Permitted AUMs 1940-2005



Source: USU Rangeland Resources and Forest Service Region IV

An Economic Analysis of Time-Controlled Grazing in Three Creeks, Rich County, Utah

**Ruby A. Ward
Man-Keun Kim
Paul M. Jakus
Dillon Feuz**

**Department of Applied Economics
Utah State University
Logan, UT 84322-3530**

**Economic Research Institute Report #2012-02
February 20, 2012**

Importance of Cattle and Sheep Industry in Utah



- Cattle
 - USU study in Rich County shows that each cow provides \$560/head/year in economic activity
 - Sheep \$150/head/year
 - They are now studying Beaver, Duchesne & Wayne Counties



Enhance the Environment

- **Public Land Grazing Policy**
 - Rely on a Technical Committee of rangeland Professionals
 - Work collaboratively with interest groups
- **Management**
 - Large Scale Demonstration areas
 - Monroe, Three Creeks, W. Box Elder
- **Projects**
 - Infrastructure that makes the big projects successful and economically sustainable

1984



2011



Deseret L & L



Photo Courtesy of Todd Black

Sage-Grouse and Grazing

In Utah nearly half of the acreage used by sage-grouse is private land, and the rest of the habitat is grazed by those private land owners that hold grazing permits.

“What is good for the sage-grouse is good for the rancher.” NRCS Sage Grouse Initiative





“If people understood that livestock grazing turns uneatable grasses into a usable food product, they would view ranching in a different light.

Tax dollars invested in GIP assist an industry that not only produces food, but enhances wildlife, improves the ecology of the land and binds communities together.”

Darrell Johnson

- 5th generation rancher
- Leopold Conservation Award Winner
- GIP Board Member





“Citizens of Utah benefit from the GIP program because it helps ranchers maintain sustainable agricultural operations.

We turn the natural resources into food and fiber, while leaving the land in better condition than when we found it.”

Steve Osguthorpe

- 3rd generation sheep rancher
- Leopold Conservation Award Winner
- GIP Board Member





“Tax dollars spent on the GIP Program keep Utah ranges healthier, the water sheds functioning properly, but MOST importantly, keep Utah Ranching Families functioning for future generations.”

Butch & Jeanie Jensen

- 4rd generation ranchers
- Leopold Conservation Award Winners
- GIP Board Member



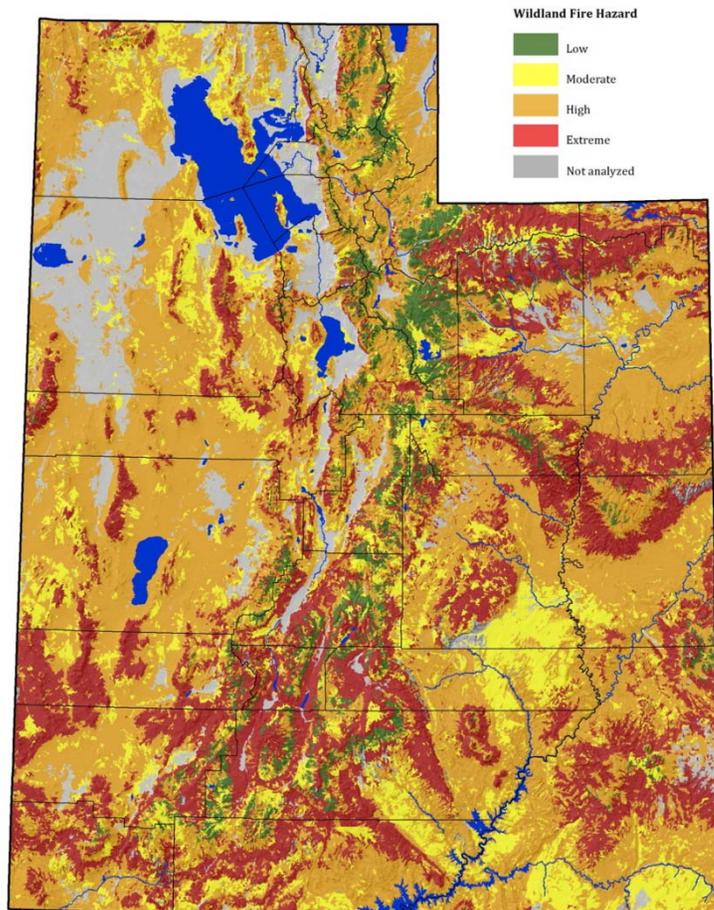
© Thérèse Anne

GIP Young Rancher Training 2012

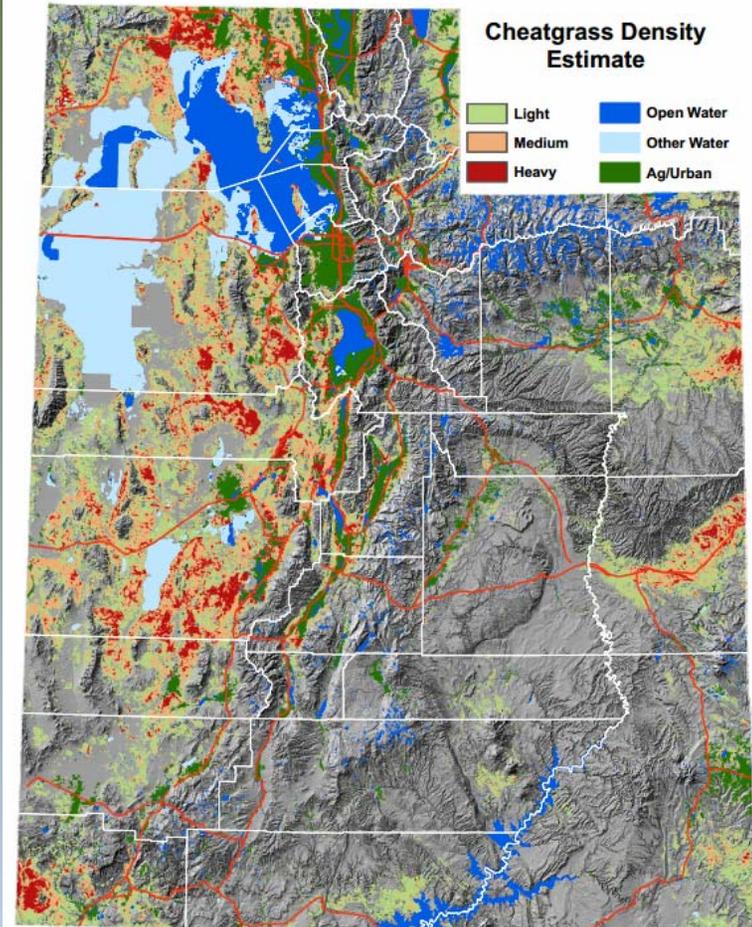
WAR ON CHEATGRASS

The size of wildfires is directly linked to the infestation of Invasive Species

Utah Wildland Fire Hazard



Cheatgrass Density Estimate



R. Douglas Ramsey
Department of Wildland Resources
Utah State University

WILDFIRE REDUCTION PLANNING

- Dept. of Agriculture & Food GIP/ISM
Green-Strip Firebreaks
- Natural Resources WRI Program
Mosaic Firebreaks

Photo by: Rudy Sandoval

GREEN-STRIP GRAZING FIREBREAKS

- Natural solution to control wildland fires
- Added benefit to grazing animals
- Improve Habitat for other wildlife species
- Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires
- Already in limited use by Grazing Program



MOSAIC FIREBREAKS

- Support Sage Grouse Habitat
- Improve Habitat for other wildlife species
- Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires
- Already in use by the WRI Program



Photo by: Tyre Holfeltz

Challenges

- New Invasions from Surrounding States
- Interagency Coordination
- Seed Movement by Recreational Vehicles
- Spread of Invasive Species by Animals
- Lack of Resources and Equipment



Not grazed

Livestock grazed

2012 Baboon Fire - Beaver Co.



Catastrophic Fire Task Force

- Governor's charge to UDAF to lead in the development of a comprehensive and systematic plan for reduction of catastrophic fires.
- Why? – Backside Cost is **HUGE**
 - \$15 million – state containment cost
 - \$7 million - reseeding
 - Community, ranching, & wildlife impacts

“War on Cheatgrass”

- Started four years ago
- Derailed due to recession & budget problems
- Budget request:
 - \$1.5 million of on-going
 - \$.5 million of one-time
 - Note: some of these funds will go to weeds & phragmites.

Response to Budget Brief Commissioner Blackham

Natural Resources, Agriculture &
Environmental Quality
Appropriation Sub-Committee

February 12, 2013

FTE for Projects-UDAF estimates

	Estimated Personnel Implementing Projects		GIP	GIP Projects
	Watershed	WRI Projects FTE		
Director	1 full time employee	1	1/4 Director's time	0.25
Regional Coordinators			1/2 of 6 Regional Coordinators	3
DWR Habit Managers	5 regions 3 to 4 /region	15		
Data Management	2 full time employees	2	Data Management (cover all UDAF conservation programs)	1.5
Biologist	7 full time DWR Biologist	3		
GBRC (Ephraim)		5		
UDAF Estimates of		26		4.75
UDAF could hide all their people under UACD if you wish.				
Ranchers do most of the GIP projects.				
Bill Hopkin spends very little of his time on projects				
The Regional Coordinators spend about 1/2 time on projects, 1/4 on management issues, 1/4 grazing permit issues				
Generally, at the Northern Utah UPCD meeting attendance includes 7 DWR people, 1 GIP, and sometimes a rancher and Conservation District employee and other government agencies.				

GIP Appropriations/Spending

	State-Funded Projects	
Fiscal Year	Watershed	GIP**
2006	\$1,195,408	\$0
2007*	\$1,524,282	\$65,000
2008*	\$1,276,114	\$2,375,000
2009	\$2,202,008	\$1,923,300
2010	\$2,998,431	\$2,712,386
2011	\$1,506,937	\$1,241,700
2012	\$2,250,853	\$1,428,700
2013 Appropriated	\$2,498,600	\$1,346,300
2014 Appropriated	\$1,819,300	\$1,346,300
Total	\$17,271,933	\$12,438,686
*Includes FY 2007 appropriation		
**Based on totals from Finance & appropriations		

UDAF Coordinating with DNR

- A Partnership requires mutual trust and sharing of decisions and resources
 - Mr. Styler and Mr. Blackham have agreed to have our project program people meet at least monthly during decision making time at the state level with the WRI, GIP, and Invasive Species (IS)
 - Many of the GIP vegetation projects are WRI projects
 - The other GIP projects are water or fencing related and WRI has not participated in any of these projects.
 - GIP brings the ranchers into the partnership along with their private sector money

Better Measurement Tools

- In the process of having Dr. Paul Jakus of USU study the issue
- Governor's new "SUCCESS" program has just been started to measure outcome related to cost
- Landscape projects can not be measured in just a couple of years – time element – not a simple "profit and loss statement"

Importance of GIP Projects for All

- GIP projects have ability to impact huge landscapes
- WRI project life time can be greatly extended by improved livestock management changes
- These changes will only come with more flexibility in federal grazing policy
- Rural economies are dependent on livestock ranchers (USU econ. study)
- GIP projects are driven by the private sector at the local level (the heart of rural Utah)

Governor's / UDAF Needs

- Three issues drive the request:
 1. Problems with permit renewals for ranchers – large scale projects (Three Creeks)
 2. Sage grouse issue
 3. Catastrophic fires
- GIP projects are needed to improve grazing management
 - GIP - \$500,000 on-going
- Invasive Species - \$1.5 M on-going + \$0.5 M one-time

Proposed reduction in Conservation

- UACD Contract has been reduced
- Funds have been used to hire three Conservation District Managers
 - Box Elder County - Clint Hill (UDAF employee)
 - Davis/Weber Co.- Reed Smith (UACD employee)
 - Utah County – Dustin Rowley (UACD employee)
- If the funds are removed these contracts will not be renewed

Goal to Strengthen the Conservation Districts

- Local Leadership (supported by district managers)
- Local Knowledge
- Local Experience
- Conservation Districts should be leading on local (county wide) conservation issues - charged in Utah Code.
- CDs – Great Resource for County Government
Road Issues, Development, Watersheds, etc.
(Difficult to do without district manager)

Governor's Budget Recommendation

UDAF/UDH/DPS

Module #2 of the Unified State Laboratory

Total Requested FY14	\$35,620,000
Construction	\$28,475,000
Design Fees	\$ 2,064,000
Property Purchase	
Furnishings & Equipment	\$ 2,152,000
Utah Arts	\$ 285,000
Other	\$ 2,929,000
Total	\$35,620,000

JUSTIFICATION

The existing Agriculture Chemistry Lab that tests dairy products is extremely undersized and outdated. All their labs have reached the end of their safe and useful life.



Utah Department of Agriculture & Food

For a copy of the Powerpoint
presentation
visit our website at:
www.ag.utah.gov

