Livestock Grazing in Utah: History and Status

A Report for the Utah Governor's
Public Lands Policy Coordination Office

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Livestock production has always been an important part of rural communities in Utah. However, little has been known about the characteristics of those livestock operators that do have (permittees) and do not have (non-permittees) one or more permits to graze lands that are administered by one of the state or federal agencies. This study was initiated in 2006 to provide some of the information desired by personnel associated with state/federal agencies and state/local government, as well as private citizens.

Data from published sources, as well as unpublished data obtained from federal and state agencies, were collected and summarized. These data indicate that livestock production is a very important part of economic activity in most rural communities in Utah, but the structure of the livestock industry has changed over time. Sheep production was the dominate livestock sector in Utah at the start of the 1900s, but sheep numbers rapidly declined in the 1930s and 1940s. This period of decline in the sheep industry was followed by growth in the beef industry as producers switched from sheep to cattle. These changes were not uniform throughout the state. For example, sheep numbers declined in every county between 1950 and 2002 except Box Elder County. The largest decline in sheep numbers occurred in Sanpete and Utah County, which were at one time the heart of the sheep industry in Utah. At the same time, the number of beef cows increased in every county but Washington, Kane, and Garfield. The net effect of these changes resulted in growth in rural counties in northern and central Utah. The areas that did not grow were in southern Utah and counties where urban growth has been rapid (Washington County and the Wasatch Front counties). The published data also suggest that while there are numerous livestock producers in Utah, production is dominated by a relatively few large producers.

Rangelands in Utah are primarily administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (FS). Data from the BLM indicate that use by domestic livestock has declined more than two-thirds over time. Most of this decline has been associated with the reduction of the sheep industry. Similar data for the FS indicate that declines in the use of FS lands have not been as dramatic as on BLM lands, but usage of FS lands today is about half what it was 60 years ago.

Every Utah livestock producer identified by the Utah office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), as well as out-of-state operators with permits to graze public lands in Utah, were sent a survey that was designed to obtain information not available elsewhere. Analyses of these data indicate the following:

1. The number of animals owned by permitttees is much larger than those owned by non-permitttees.

2. Permittee operations are generally more dependent on livestock production than are non-permittees.

3. Permittee operations commonly involve more than one family, while non-permittee operations are single-family operations

4. Most livestock operations have been owned by the same family for many years (commonly more than 50), and a large portion plan to have a family member operate the ranch in the future. This was especially true of permittee ranches.

5. A large portion of livestock producer sales are made to local firms, but an even larger percentage of their purchases are from local firms. As a result, firms in communities where livestock production is a large portion of the area's economic activity are intimately concerned with the health of the livestock industry.

6. Pasture is the primary source of feed for non-permittee livestock operators when they are not being fed hay (winter), while forage from public lands is the most important source of feed for permittee operators. Pasturelands are an important source of feed for all operators, but use of federal lands allows permittees to reduce their dependency on hay as a source of feed.

7. The market for grazing permits is poorly understood and not well defined. As a result, little is known about the economic demand for grazing permits.

8. The threat of lawsuits is viewed as the most important factor that may affect the use of public lands by domestic livestock in the future. Low returns from ranching and fire/drought were also viewed as important factors that may affect the livestock grazing on public lands.

9. Most livestock producers believe that livestock grazing has a very positive influence on fire suppression. The impact of grazing on other uses (e.g., wildlife, water quality) was generally perceived to be neutral, with the possible exception of the spread of invasive species and weeds.

10. Actual use of permits was generally less than permitted use in 2006, but this is not unusual. Many permittees have and continue to take voluntary non-use of federal lands as a result of reduced forage availability (primarily associated with drought).

11. Lands administered by the BLM provide the largest percentage of grazed forage by those having permits to graze federal or state administered lands. However, the percentage varies in the regions outlined in the study.

12. The most critical period of use of public lands for most permittees was during the summer.

13. The most likely changes that would occur if usage of public lands was reduced were to reduce herd size, seek other sources of feed and/or supplement ranch income with off-ranch income.

14. Permittee ranchers viewed the sale or leasing of private lands as the least desirable alternative to reductions in the use of public lands.

INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Livestock have been commercially grazed on lands in Utah for more than 150 years. The earliest record of grazing was by a herd of cattle owned by Miles Goodyear in the early 1840s. Native Americans probably grazed sheep and horses before that time. Grazing of lands by cattle and sheep in Utah increased rapidly after 1847, following the arrival of the pioneers in the Salt Lake Valley. While reliable data are not available concerning livestock numbers in Utah until after the turn of the century, it is generally conceded that sheep numbers (on an animal unit basis) exceeded cattle in importance. For example, USDA data indicate that there were about 170,000 beef cows in Utah in 1924 and 1.8 million ewes or about two times as many animal units (5 ewes are assumed to be equal to 1 cow[1]) of ewes as there were beef cows. This changed shortly after the Taylor Grazing Act was passed in 1934 and with the advent of WWII. Many ranches were converted from sheep to cattle operations during this period. In fact, many of the large cattle ranches in Utah that exist today were originally sheep operations. The trend in the number of sheep and beef cattle are shown in Figures 1 and 2. These data indicate that livestock production in Utah has shifted from sheep to cattle.

The cattle industry has become the dominant sector in Utah agriculture; see Figures 3 and 4. The data in these figures indicate that the sale of cattle and calves represents about one-third of all cash receipts in the agricultural sector in Utah. This percentage has remained essentially stable for about 20 years, while sales from some sectors have changed over time. For example, hog sales increased rapidly over the last decade (primarily as a result of the growth of Circle 4 farms[2]), while sales from other sectors (including sheep and wool) have declined relative to other segments of agricultural production in Utah. It should be noted that much of the hay and some of the other crops are not sold for cash but are fed to livestock that are produced in the state. As a result, cash sales under-represent the importance of crop production that is livestock feed.

The sale of livestock is particularly important in some counties (Figure 5). In most of these counties cattle and calves are the dominant livestock sector. The primary exceptions are Beaver and Sanpete County, where other livestock sales (hogs in Beaver and turkeys in Sanpete) are large. Dairy production is also important in Cache, Box Elder, Utah, Millard, and Sanpete counties -- dairy production is essentially non-existent in most counties of the state. But even in counties where dairy, hog, and turkey sales are large, the sale of cattle and calves is relatively important.

[1] This is the usual conversion ratio used in range management (Stoddard, Smith, & Box; Glossary of Terms used in Range Management)

[2] Circle 4 farms is a large integrated hog operation located primarily in Beaver and Millard counties that started production in Utah in the mid 1990s. Utah ranked in the top 15 states nationally and the largest hog-producing state in the 11 western states in 2005. Most of the pigs in Utah are owned by Circle 4 farms.

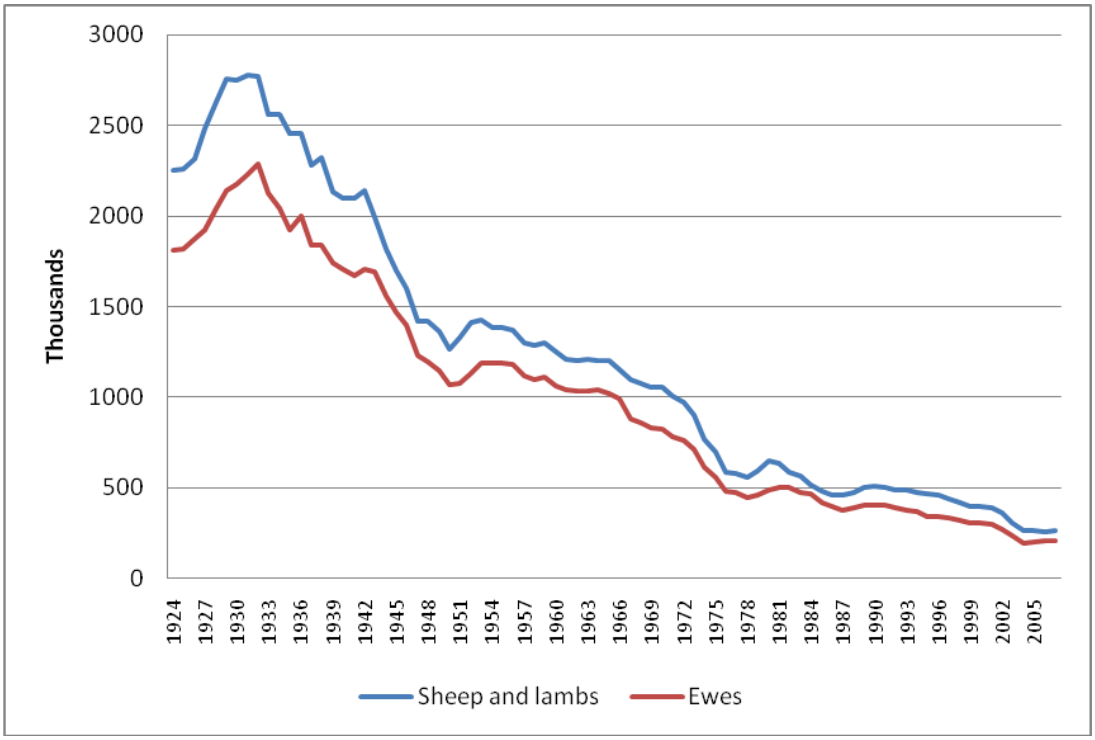


Figure 1. *Number of sheep, lambs, and ewes in Utah, 1924- 2007.*

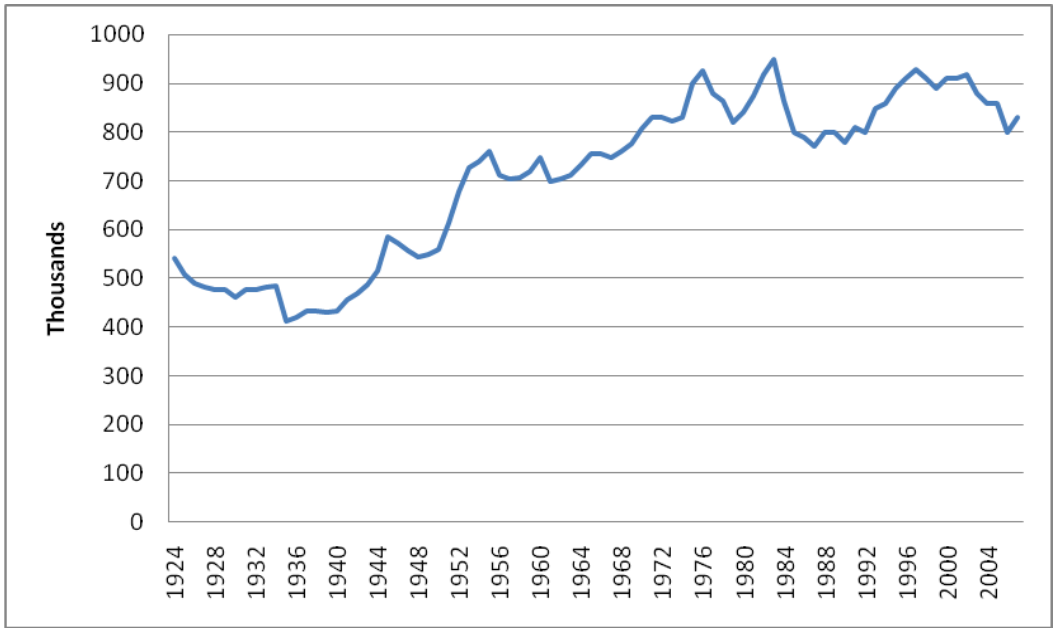


Figure 2. *Number of cattle and calves in Utah, 1924-2007.*

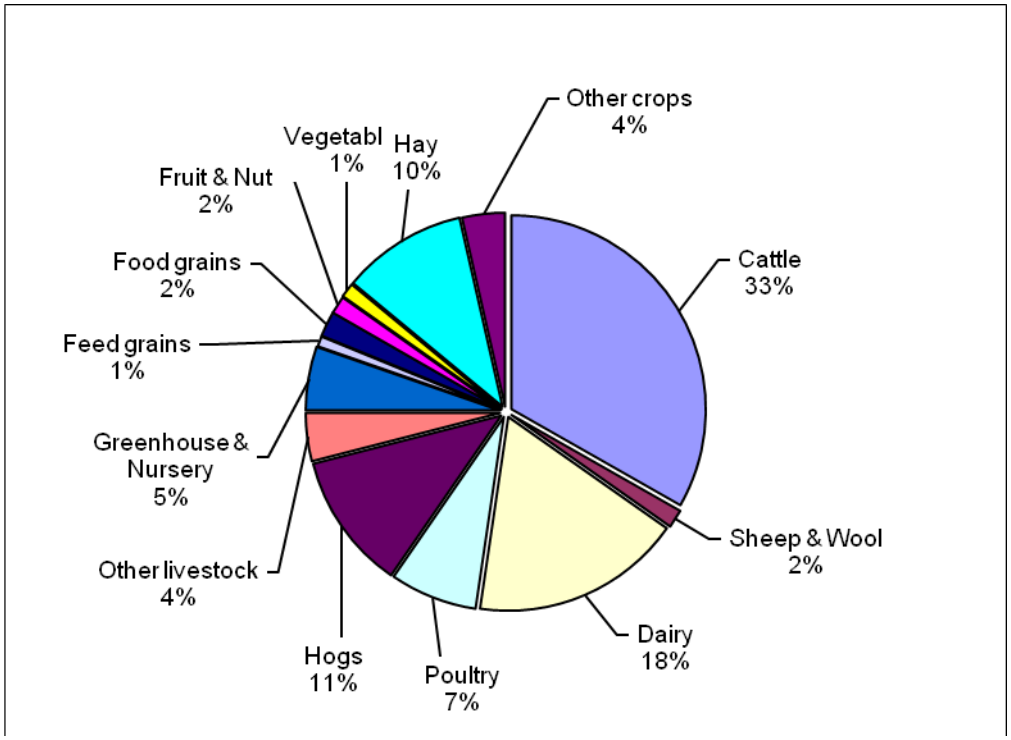


Figure 3. *Percentage of cash receipts by agricultural sector in Utah, 2006.*

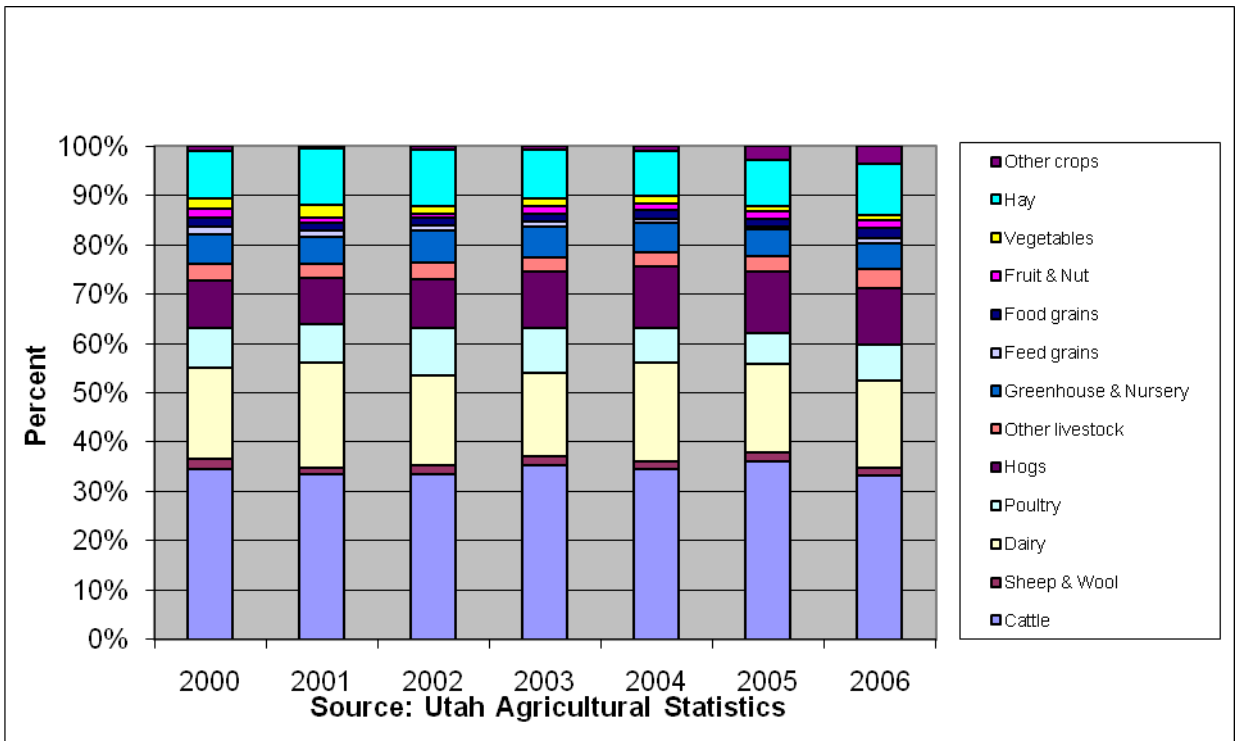


Figure 4. *Percentage of cash receipts by commodity in Utah, 2000-2006.*

The relative importance of livestock production in Utah is shown in Figure 6. The data in figures 4 and 6 suggest that livestock production is essentially synonymous with agricultural production in Utah: Utah agriculture is dominated by livestock production.

It should also be noted that the production of cattle and calves, as well as sheep/lambs, has generally grown in Utah relative to other states, as illustrated in Figures 7 and 8. However, the production of cattle, calves, and sheep in Utah is a relatively small percentage of United States production. This raises several questions concerning why livestock production in Utah has grown relative to other states. Other questions also arise within the state because growth has not been uniform throughout the state.

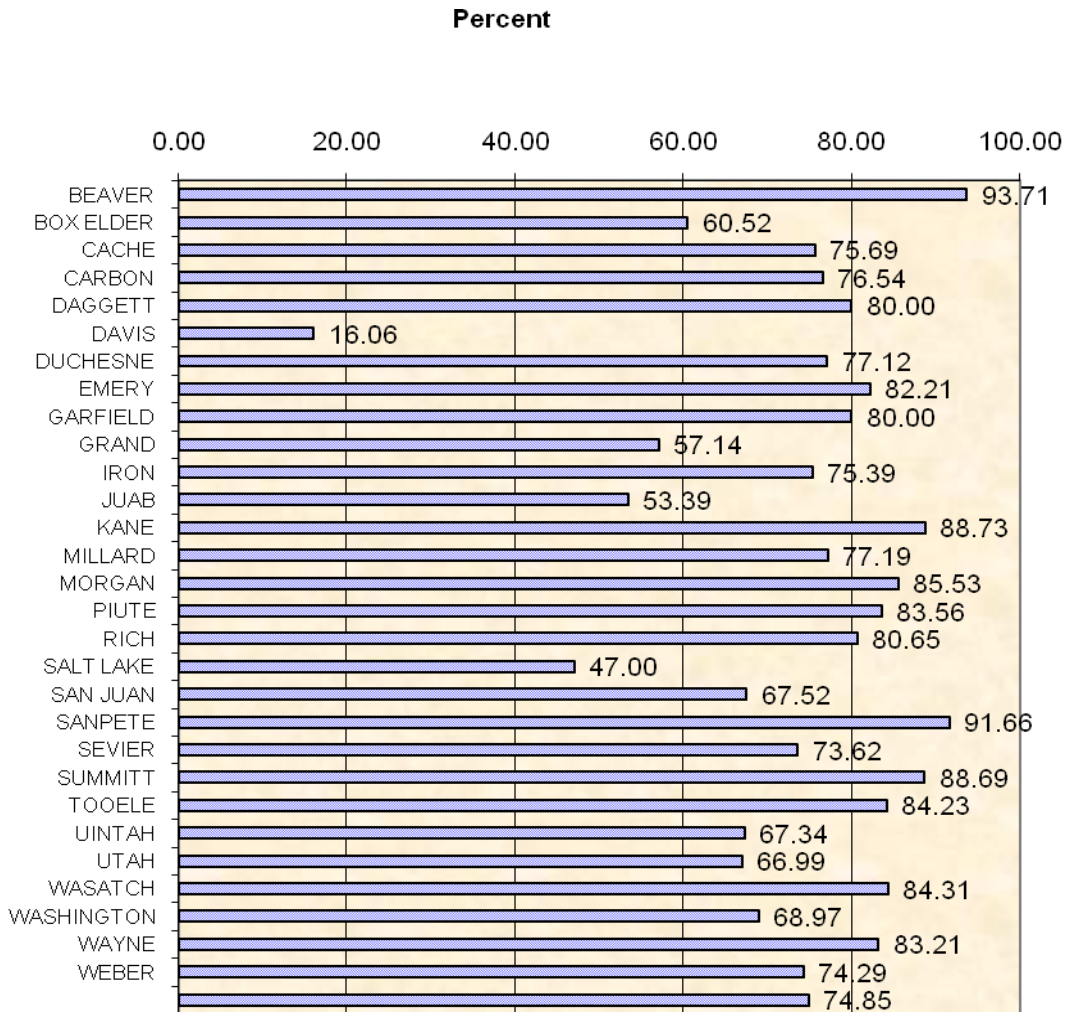


Figure 5. *Livestock and livestock products as percentage of total agricultural cash receipts by county in Utah, 2006.*

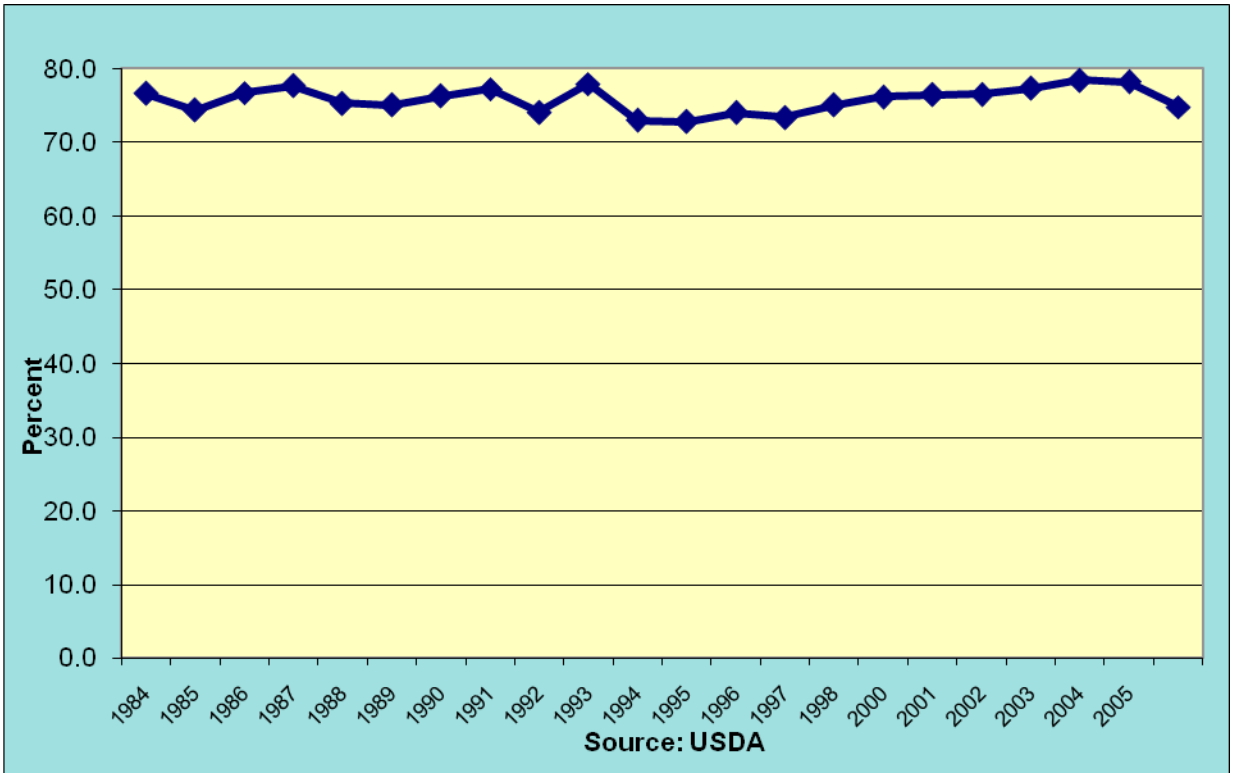
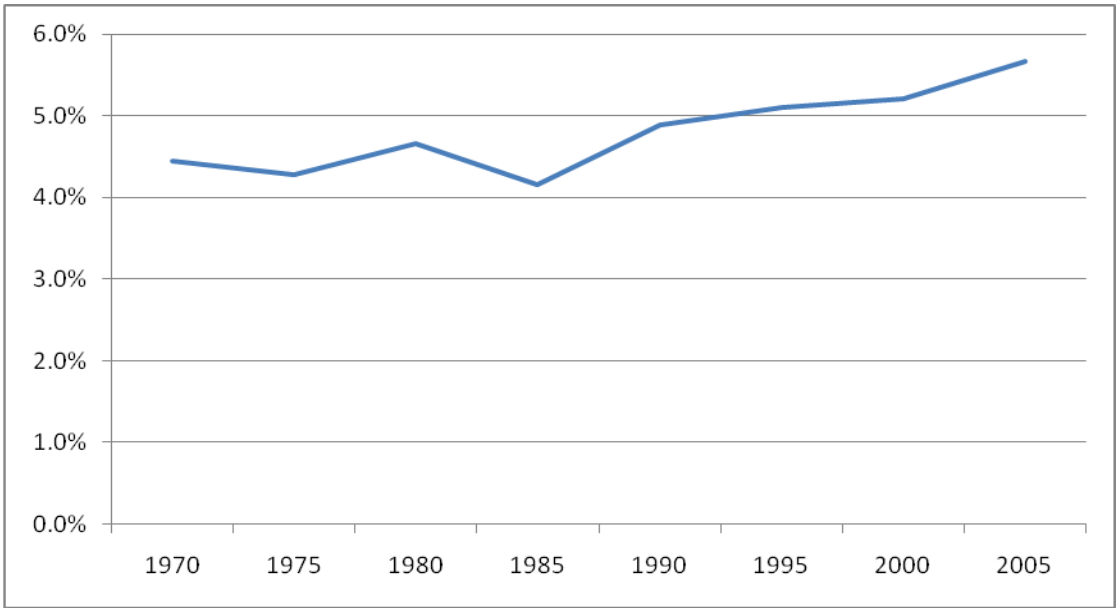
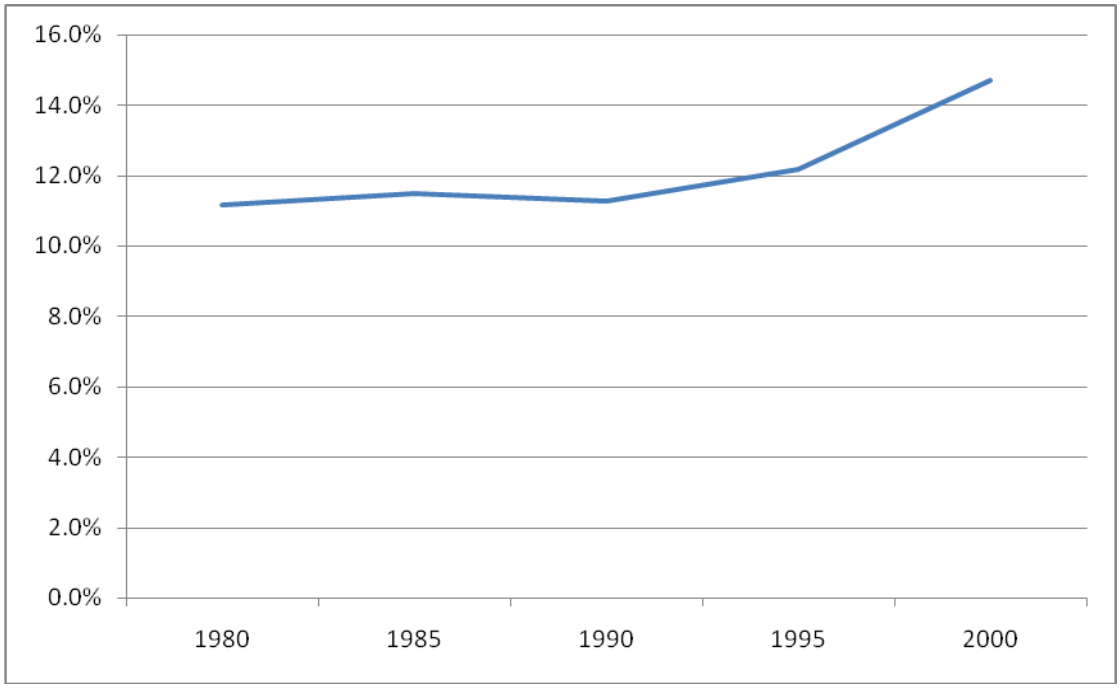


Figure 6. *Livestock sales as a percent of total agricultural cash receipts in Utah, 1984-2006.*



Source: Census of Agriculture

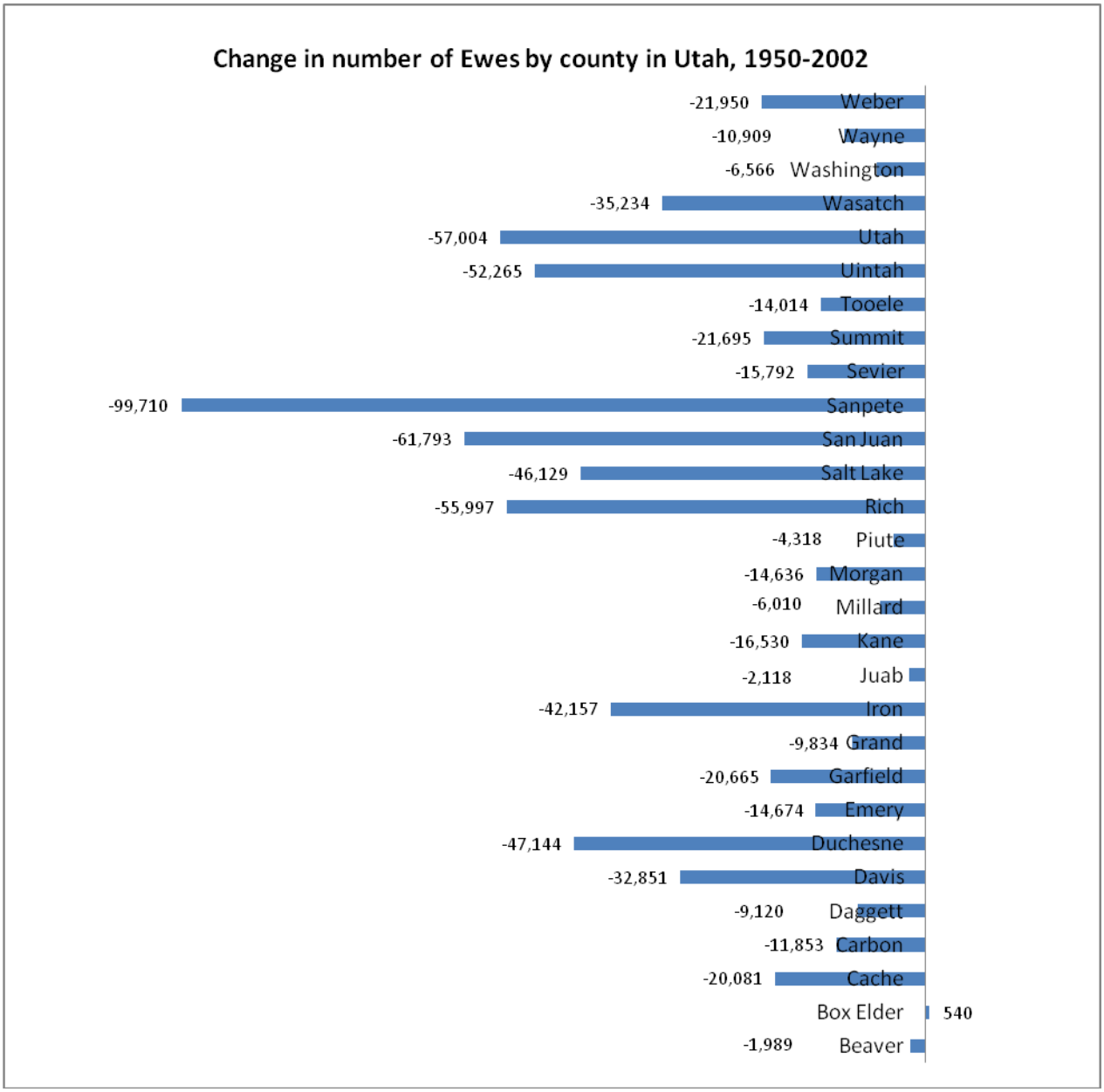
Figure 7. *Beef cow numbers in Utah as a percent of those in the 11 western states, 1970-2005.*



Source: Census of Agriculture

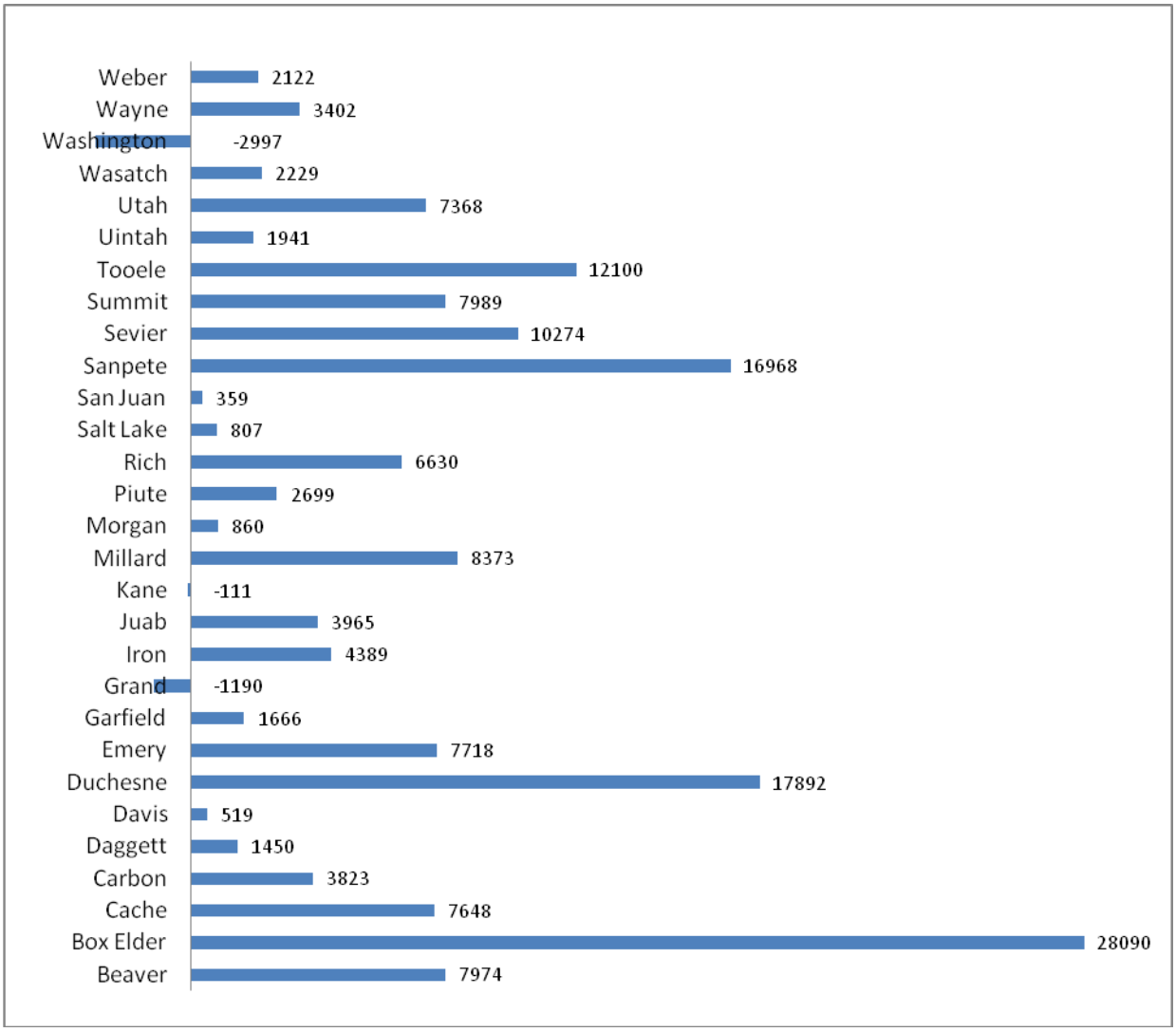
Figure 8. *Sheep numbers in Utah as a percent of the 11 western states, 1980-2000.*

For example, Census of Agriculture data indicate that ewe numbers declined in every county except Box Elder between 1950 and 2002, with the largest decline in Sanpete County (Figure 9). At the same time, beef cow numbers increased in every county except Grand, Kane, and Washington counties (Figure 10). These data show that beef cow numbers have generally increased in counties in the northern part of Utah, while counties in the southern part of the state have either declined or remained essentially unchanged during the last 50 years. For example, the three counties that border Arizona (San Juan, Kane, and Washington) either declined or had minimal growth, while the biggest increases occurred in Box Elder, Duchesne, Sanpete, and Tooele counties. The growth in cattle numbers in Sanpete County was probably the result of the large reduction in sheep numbers as producers shifted from sheep to cattle production.



Source: Census of Agriculture

Figure 9. *Change in number of ewes in Utah by county, 1950-2002.*



Source: Census of Agriculture

Figure 10. *Change in the number of beef cows by county in Utah, 1950-2002.*

The data in Figures 11 and 12 indicate that large producers dominate cattle production in Utah. For example, about two-thirds of the beef operations in Utah have fewer than 50 cows, and this group of firms only owns about 15% of the beef cows in the state. This compares to the two largest size classes (operations that have over 200 head), which represent about 9% of the operations and own more than 50% of the beef cows in the state, according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture. Similar data are not available for sheep operations in Utah, but personal knowledge of sheep operations in Utah suggests that large sheep operations are probably a more dominant portion of the sheep production in Utah than are the large beef operations.

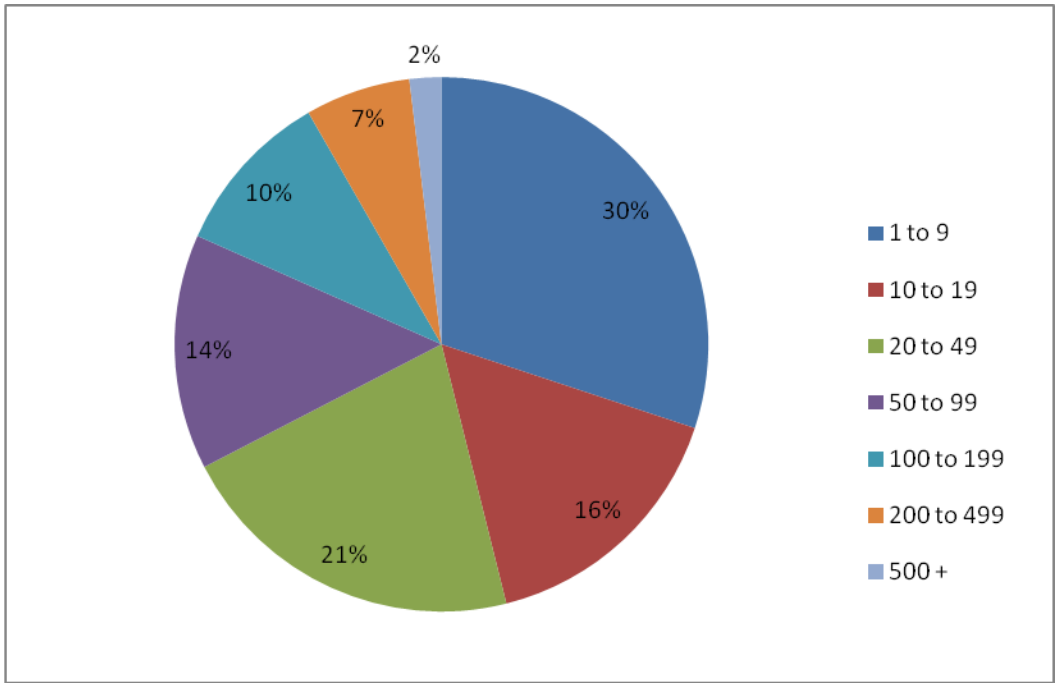


Figure 11. *Percentage of beef operations in Utah by size of herd, 2002.*

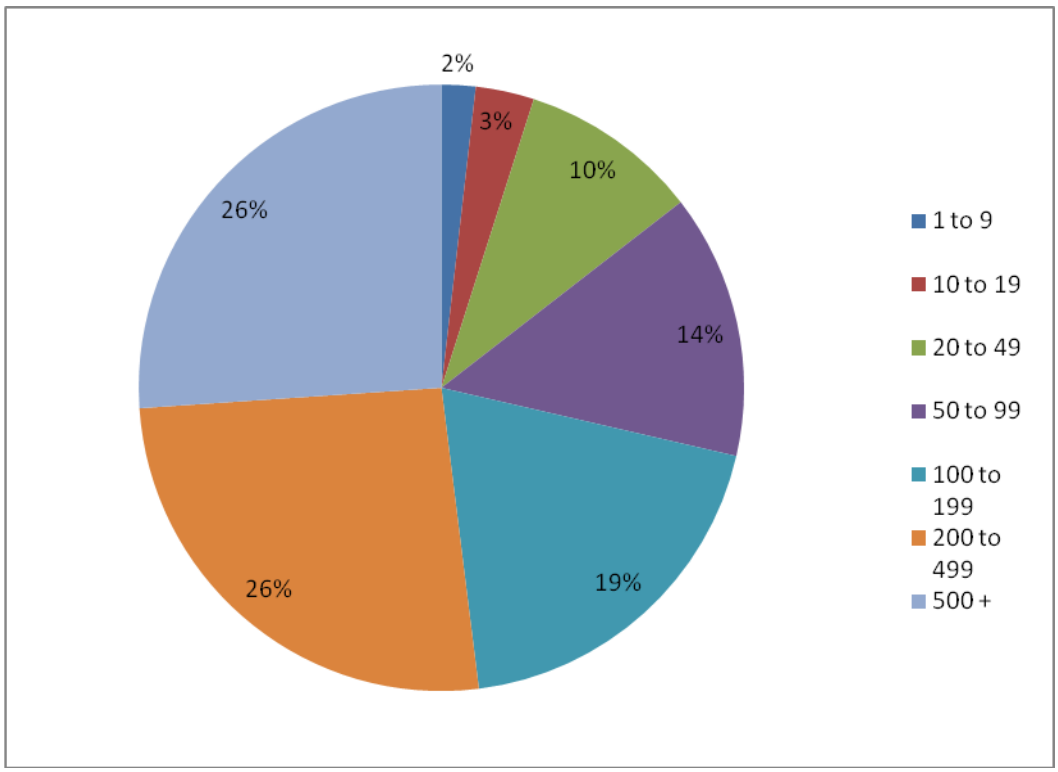


Figure 12. *Percentage of cows owned by size of operation in Utah, 2002.*

LIVESTOCK GRAZING AND PUBLIC LANDS

This publication will only provide data on the use of public and private lands in Utah by domestic livestock (sheep and beef cattle are emphasized because they are the primary domestic animals that graze rangelands in Utah) and outline some of the issues that are associated with this use.

Nearly three-fourths of the land area of Utah is administered by agencies of the federal or state governments (Figure 13). The two primary agencies that administer federal lands in Utah are the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service (FS), while the State and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) manages most of the land owned by the state of Utah. The percentage of land that is administered by a government agency or by private landowners varies widely by county (Figure 14 and Table 1). For example, nearly 90% of the land in Garfield County is administered by agencies of the federal government and 5% is privately owned, while 93% of the land in Morgan County is privately owned and 4% is administered by an agency of the federal government.

The use of lands administered by the BLM and FS by livestock has varied over time. For example, data for the Forest Service indicates that permitted use by cattle, sheep, horses, and goats declined from a high of just over a million AUMs[3] in the 1940s to about half that amount in the 2000s (Figure 15). This decline pales in comparison to the decline in the use of BLM lands by sheep and goats (Figure 16). This decline was more than a ten-fold reduction from over 1.8 million AUMs in 1940 to about 130,000 AUMs in 2006. The overall decline (cattle and sheep) in the use of BLM lands by livestock has been over two million AUMs since 1940. The decline in the use of FS lands has not been as large—about 400,000 AUMS between 1940 and 2005. Furthermore, data since 2000 indicate that the trend in the use of FS lands is downward. Similar data for the BLM suggests that there was a reduction in authorized use in 2003, with increases in 2004-2006. However, the general trend is still downward.

The decline in the use of lands administered by the BLM and FS occurred at the same time that total livestock numbers have generally been stable (Figure 17). The increase in cattle numbers has commonly offset the decline in sheep on an animal unit basis (five sheep were assumed to equal one cow). This suggests that an increasing portion of the forage used by livestock in Utah is coming from private lands (Figure 19). It should also be noted that the changes have not been uniform throughout the state (Figure 18). For example, relatively large declines occurred in urban (e.g., Salt Lake and Davis) and "red rock" counties, such as San Juan. The biggest increases occurred in Box Elder, Beaver, Millard, Duchesne, Sevier, and Tooele counties. All of this suggests that adjustments have been made by producers in the counties based on factors such as urban growth, sometimes controversial grazing policies on federal lands, development and use of private lands, economic variables, and personal conditions. The desire to better understand these factors and the livestock industry in Utah have resulted in this study.

[3] An Animal Unit Month (AUM) is defined to be the amount of forage needed to feed a 1000-pound cow (or its equivalent) for one month. AUMs are the most commonly used measure of forage consumption and production but have many weaknesses (Gray) as a measurement of forage production or consumption.

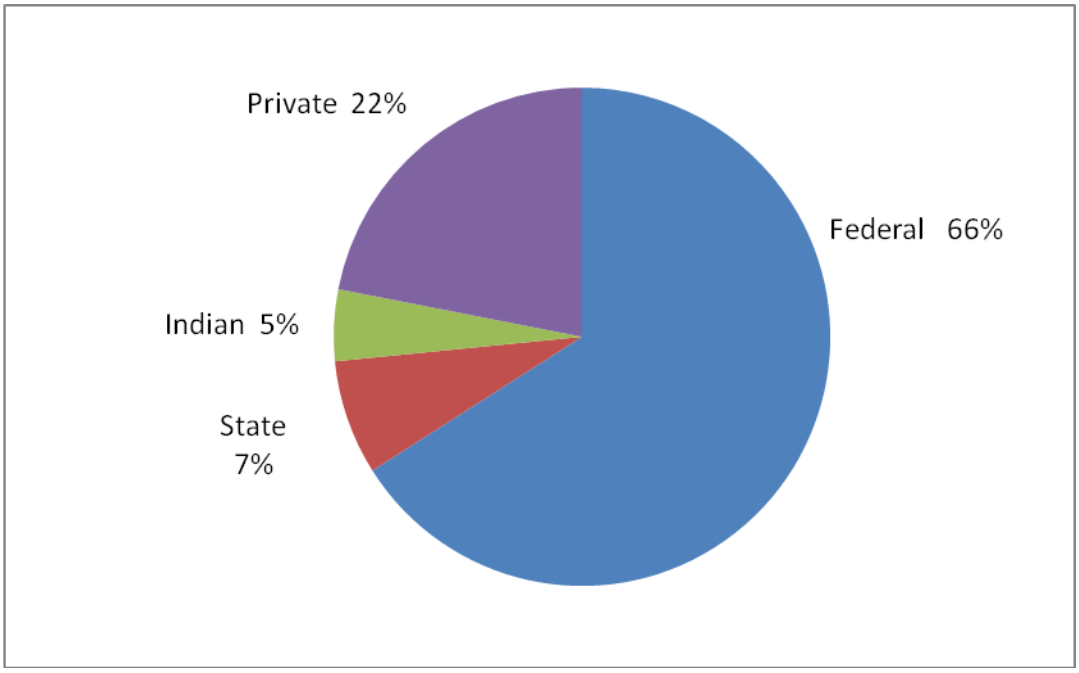


Figure 13. *Percentage of land area in Utah managed by federal agencies, state agencies, Indian lands and private land owners.*

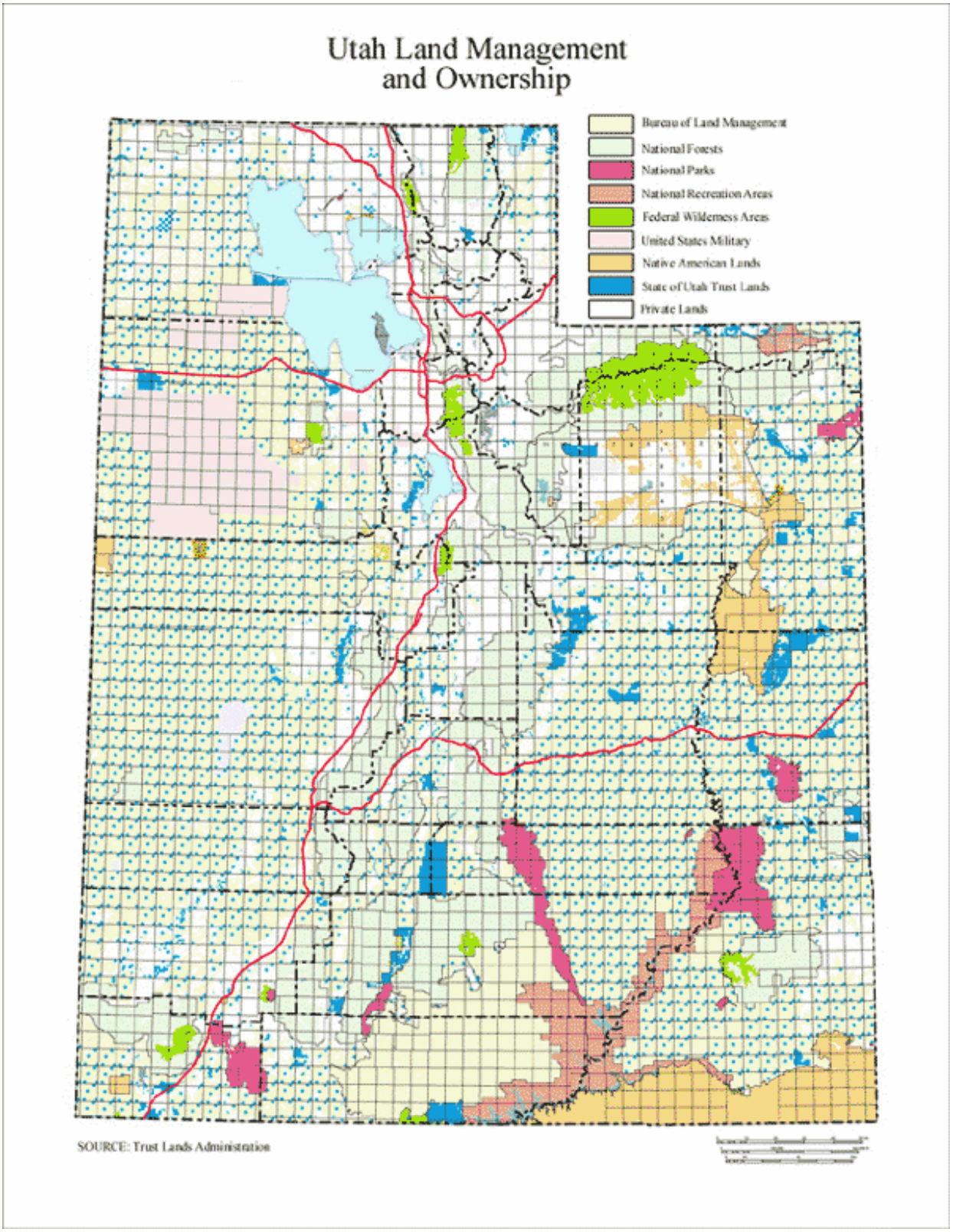
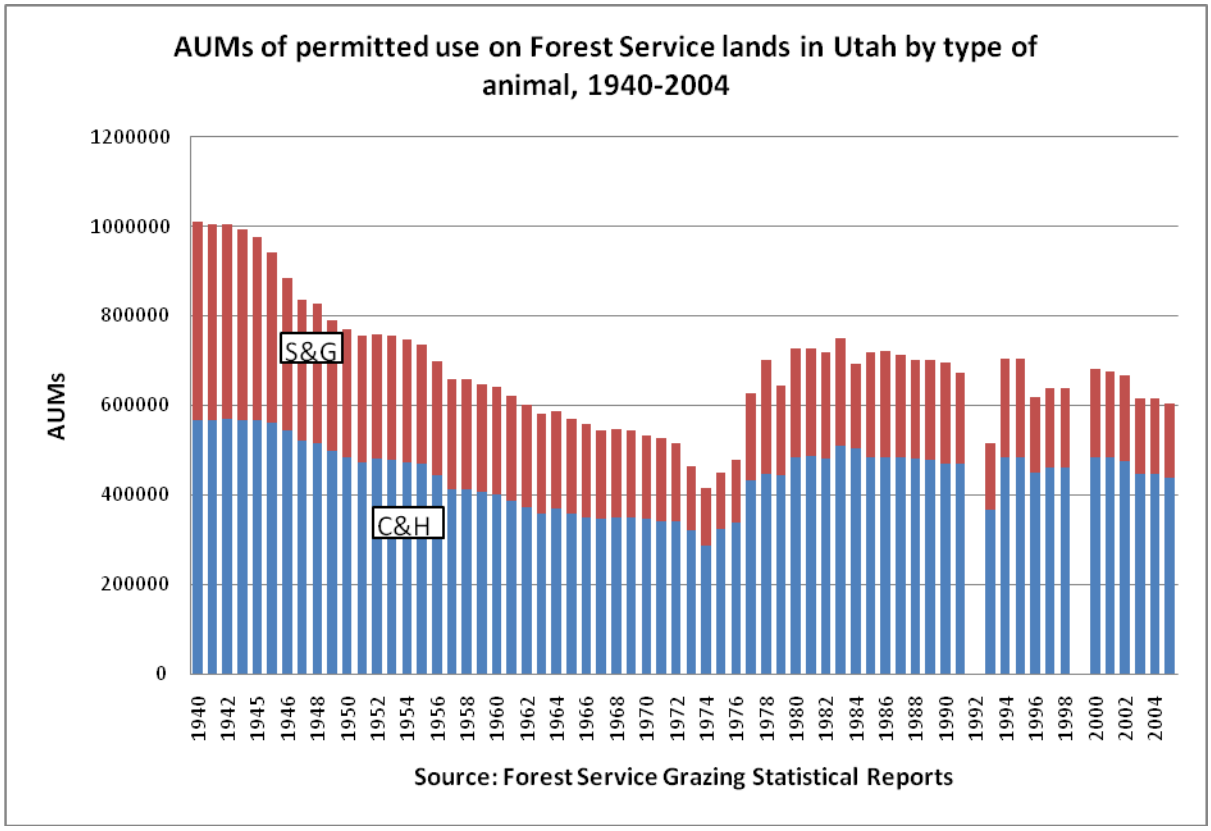


Figure 14. *Utah land management and ownership.*

Table 1. *Percentage of land area in each county in Utah that is administered by specified agencies or is privately owned.*

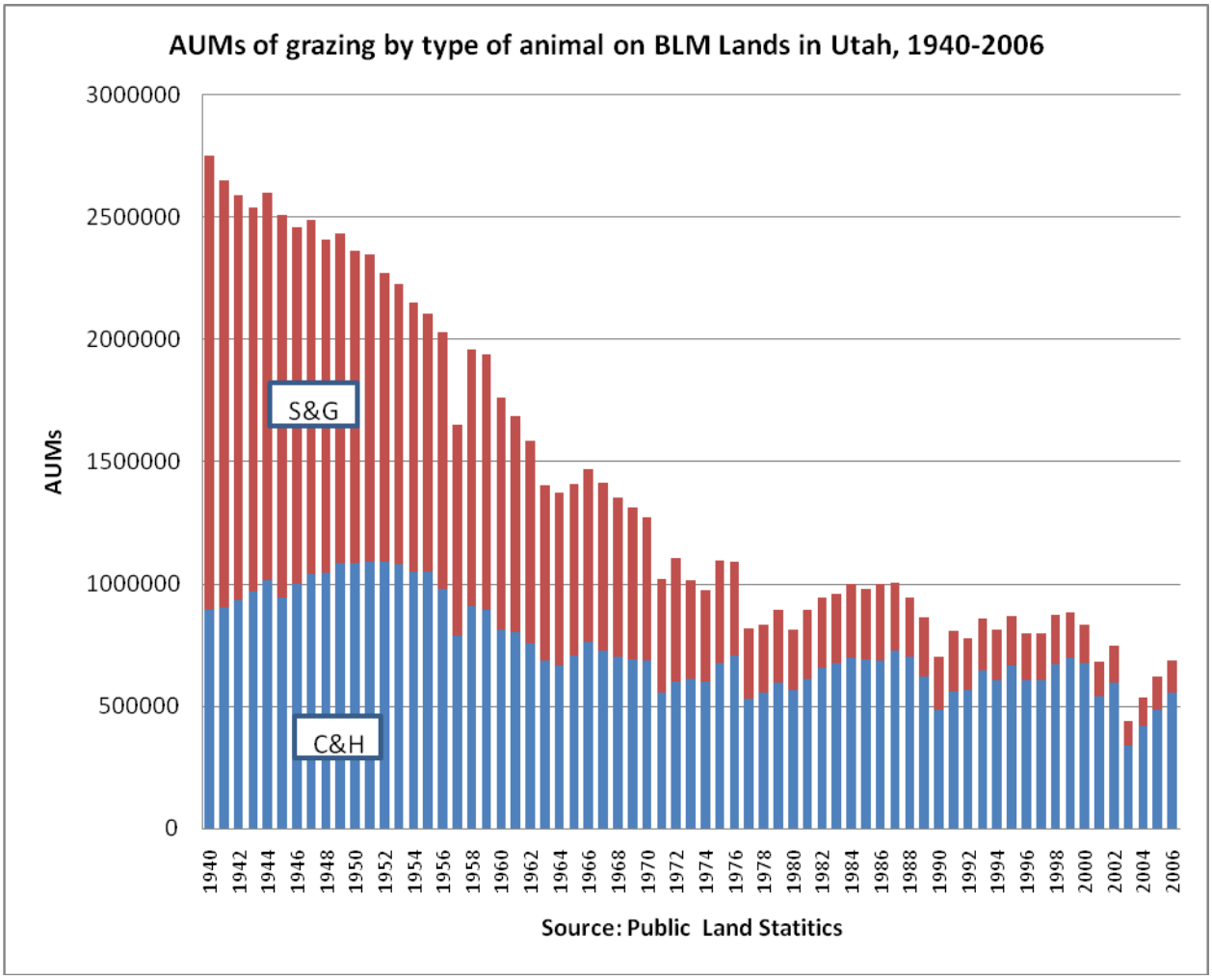
County	BLM	Forest Service	Other Federal	State	Indian	Private
Beaver	69%	8%	0%	10%	0%	13%
Box Elder	30%	2%	7%	6%	0%	54%
Cache	0%	30%	7%	5%	0%	58%
Carbon	44%	3%	0%	13%	0%	39%
Daggett	25%	37%	18%	9%	0%	11%
Davis	0%	21%	4%	16%	0%	58%
Duchesne	10%	22%	13%	7%	19%	29%
Emery	72%	7%	0%	12%	0%	8%
Garfield	45%	31%	15%	5%	0%	5%
Grand	66%	2%	3%	15%	8%	4%
Iron	45%	11%	1%	7%	0%	36%
Juab	65%	5%	2%	8%	2%	17%
Kane	64%	5%	17%	4%	0%	11%
Millard	68%	9%	0%	10%	0%	14%
Morgan	0%	4%	0%	2%	0%	93%
Piute	34%	41%	0%	13%	0%	13%
Rich	26%	8%	0%	8%	0%	58%
Salt Lake	0%	11%	11%	0%	0%	78%
San Juan	41%	8%	11%	5%	26%	8%
Sanpete	13%	38%	0%	6%	0%	42%
Sevier	17%	60%	0%	4%	0%	19%
Summit	0%	30%	13%	2%	0%	55%
Tooele	43%	3%	36%	6%	0%	12%
Uintah	48%	9%	2%	9%	16%	15%
Utah	8%	35%	4%	7%	0%	47%
Wasatch	0%	55%	0%	9%	0%	34%
Washington	41%	22%	12%	6%	2%	18%
Wayne	57%	10%	19%	11%	0%	4%
Weber	0%	17%	1%	5%	0%	77%



S&G: sheep and goats; C&H: cows and horses

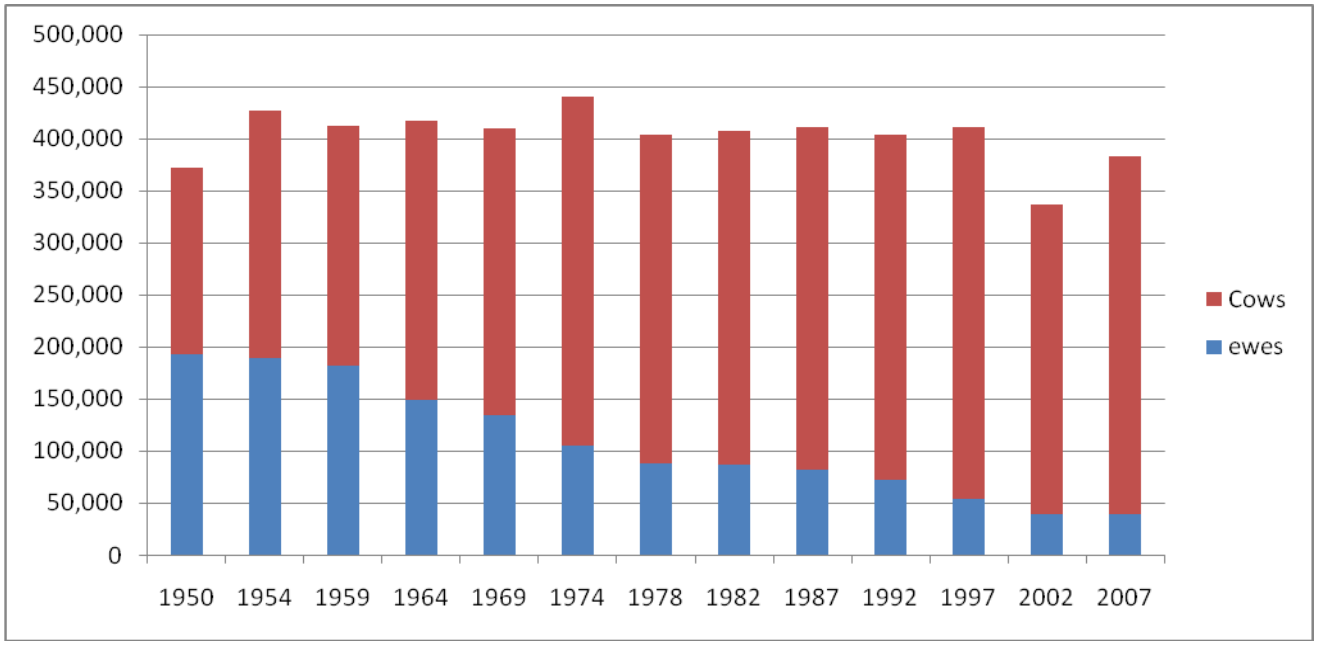
Figure 15. *Permitted use of Forest Service lands in Utah, 1940-2005*[4].

4 The changes in the reported AUMS in 1977 and 1993 occurred at a time when the Forest Service changed how the data were reported. First, the data were for a Calendar Year (CY) prior to 1977. In 1978, the data are for a Fiscal Year (FY). This continued until 1988, when the data are reported for a CY. In 1993 and thereafter, the data are for the "grazing season". Data for 1992 and 1999 were not available as a result of these changes. The second factor that affects this data is associated with how animal units are determined. The original data from 1940 to 1977 are reported in "head months." A conversion was made to AUMs by assuming that each head month for cattle and horses (C&H) is equal to one AUM. The head months for Sheep and Goats (S&G) were divided by five (five sheep are assumed to be equal to one cow). This probably underestimates the amount of permitted use to some degree, because horses and cows with calves are more than one animal unit. Higher amounts for a cow with a calf (1.3 animal units) and horses (1.2 animal units) were used by the Forest Service starting in 1977. Had these higher values been used from 1940 to 1977, the permitted use would have been higher than the values shown in Figure 15. Data to make these comparable are not available.



S&G: sheep and goats; C&H: cows and horses

Figure 16. *Permitted animal unit months (AUMs) of grazing by type of animal on BLM land in Utah, 1940-2006.*



Source: Census of Agriculture

Figure 17. *Animal units of beef cows and ewes in Utah, 1950-2007.*

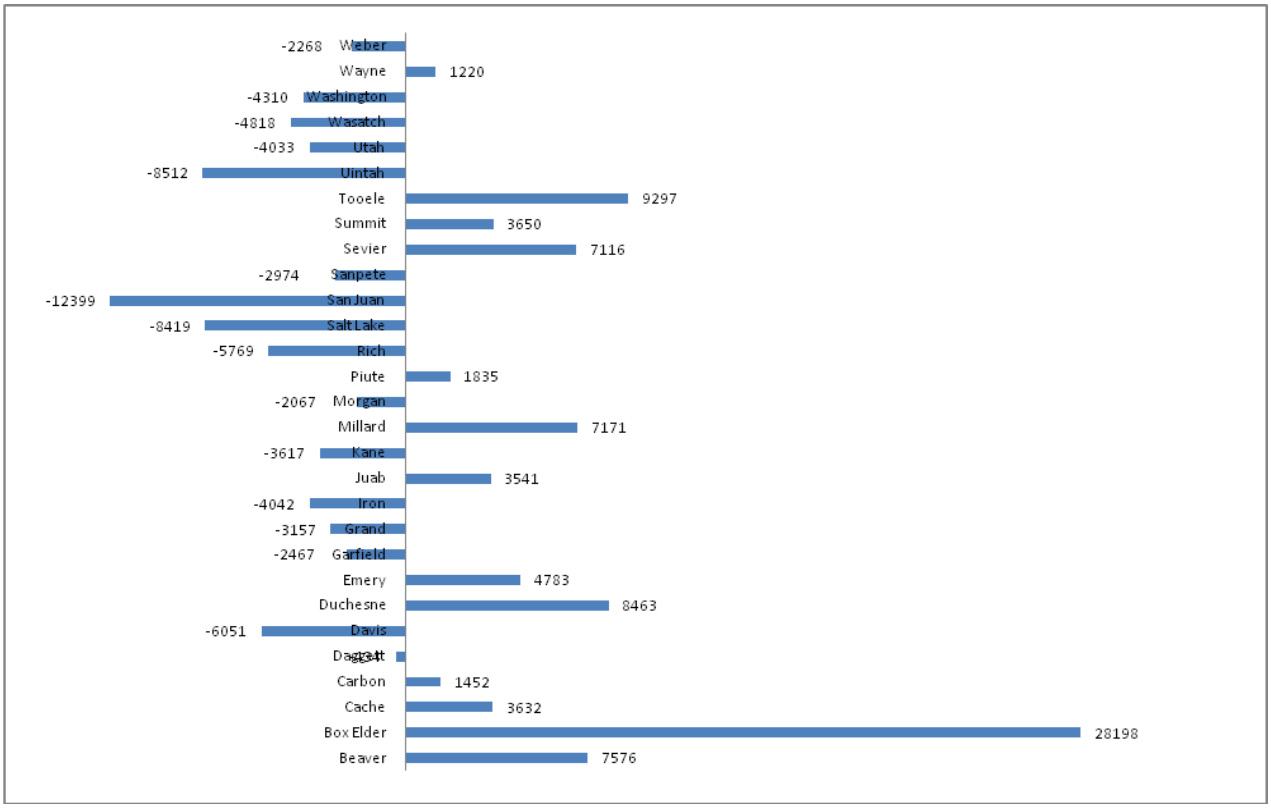


Figure 18. *Change in animal units of beef cows and ewes by county in Utah, 1950-2007.*

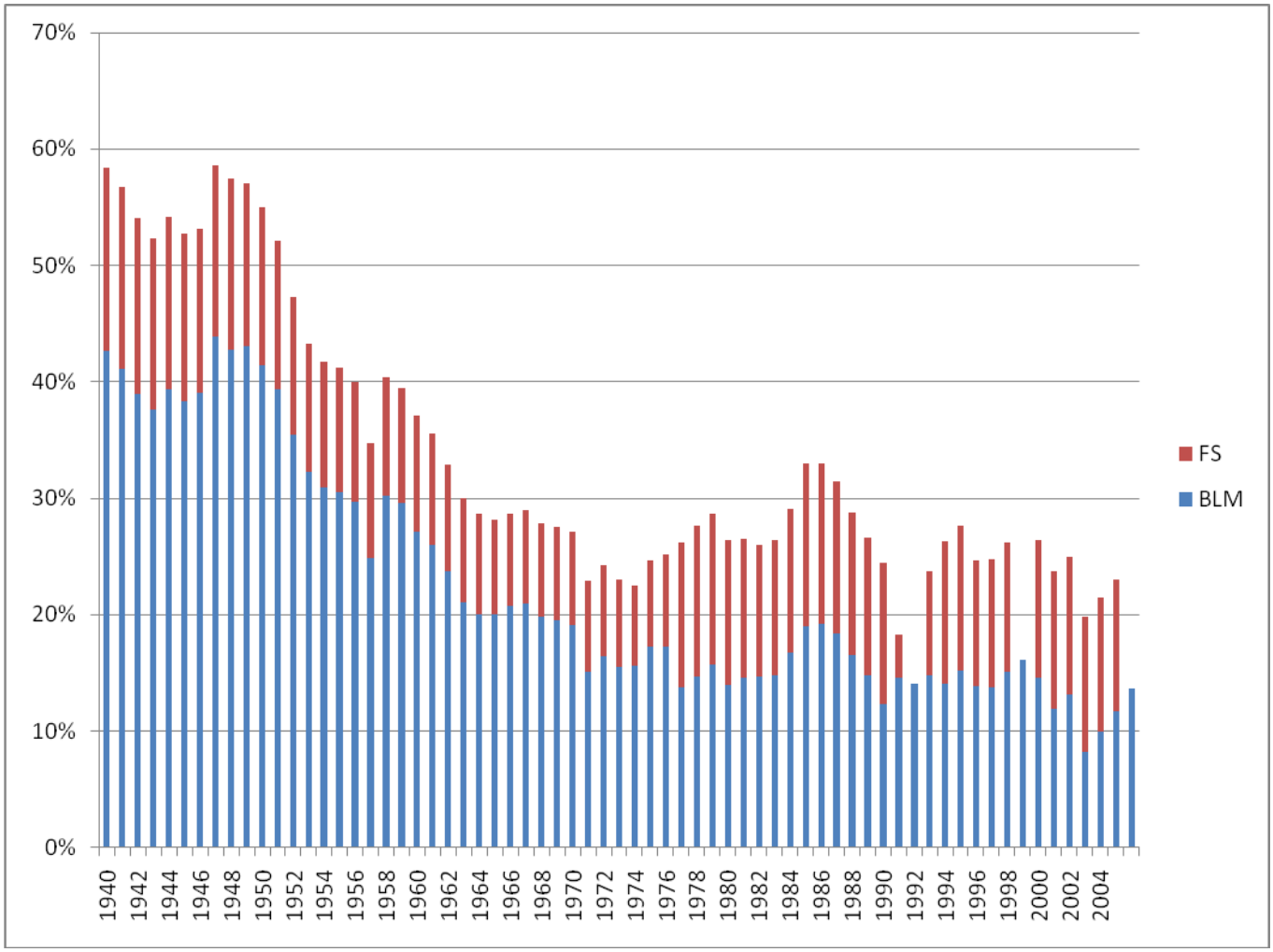


Figure 19. *Percentage[5] of feed needed by Utah's beef and sheep operations coming from lands administered by the BLM and Forest Service, 1940-2006*

[5] This percentage was computed in the following manner. The number of AUMS needed by the beef herd was derived using the following formula {Beef AUMs= [cows + (cows*0.125*0.7) + (cows/25)*1.25)]*12} where cows is the number of beef cows in the state in each year as reported by USDA. Feed for replacement heifers (cows*.125*0.7) and bulls ((cows/25)*1.25) are included in this computation. A similar procedure was used for sheep {Sheep AUMS = [ewes + (ewes*.2*.7) + (ewes/25)*1.25)]/5]*12}. The total AUMs for each year was then divided into the permitted or authorized AUMS from the BLM and FS as shown in Figures 15 and 16. The percentage computed is probably a high estimate (larger percentage) for several reasons. First, actual use of BLM and FS lands historically has been less than actual use. Second, feed needed by calves and lambs are not included. Third, each cow is assumed to weigh 1,000 pounds. This may have been true in the past but, but most cows are heavier today. Fourth, bulls/rams are assumed to be 1.25 times as large as are cows/ewes. FS data are not available for 1992, 1999, or 2006.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING IN UTAH

Published data provides very little detail concerning the characteristics of livestock operators in the state, including questions such as:

1. What proportion of livestock operators in the state have permits to graze public lands?
2. Are livestock operators that have permits to graze publicly administered lands (permittees) different from livestock operators that do not have permits to graze public lands (non-permittees)?
3. How dependent are livestock operators on the use of public lands, and does this dependency vary from area to area in the state?

This study provides insight into these as well as other questions. However, it raises almost as many questions as it answers.

The first question that had to be addressed concerned the number of producers in the state. Personnel in the Utah office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) were asked to provide the names and addresses of all livestock producers in Utah. It is generally conceded that NASS has the most complete list of producers because it is responsible for conducting the Census of Agriculture and periodical studies of other agriculture issues in Utah. The list of livestock operators obtained from NASS was complemented with brand records obtained from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF), as well as permit data obtained from BLM, SITLA, and FS. NASS listed 9,502 livestock operations in Utah. The data from BLM, FS, and SITLA listed 234 operations in other states that had permits to graze livestock in Utah. Every livestock operation included in the NASS data set, as well as the out-of-state operations, was sent two questionnaires. One questionnaire was designed for permittees and another for non-permittees (both questionnaires are found in Appendix A). Three mailings were sent to every livestock producer. Approximately one-third of those that received the mailings completed a useable questionnaire[6]. The following sections summarize some of the results.

[6] A discussion and analysis if the of the representativeness of the responses received is found in Appendix B.

General Characteristics of Respondents

Our suvey data indicate that permittee operations are quite different from non-permittee operations. This includes size of operation, tenure, sources of feed, and outlook for the future. Permittee tend to have full-time operations, while non-permittees tend to have part-time operations.

Permittees own an average of 162 cows and 766 ewes, while non-permittees own only 28 cows and six ewes. There are two families per operation for permittees versus one family for non-permittees. Permittees have owned their operations for more than 50 years, on average, and 75% plan to have the next generation take over, while non-permittees have owned an average of 30 years and 52% plan for a family member to take over.

Permittees report that they make 57% of their sales to local firms, versus 62% of non-permittees; both groups report making 84% of their purchases from local firms; 53% of permittees have wage and salary income vs. 58% of non-permittees; 55% of permittees have business incomes vs. 44% of non-permittees; and permittees have lived 50 years in the county vs. 43 years for non-permittees. Ninety-three and 90% of respondents, respectively, were male.

There were, however, many areas (Figure 20) of the state that differ from the general characteristics noted in Table 2. These differences are outlined in greater detail in the following sections.

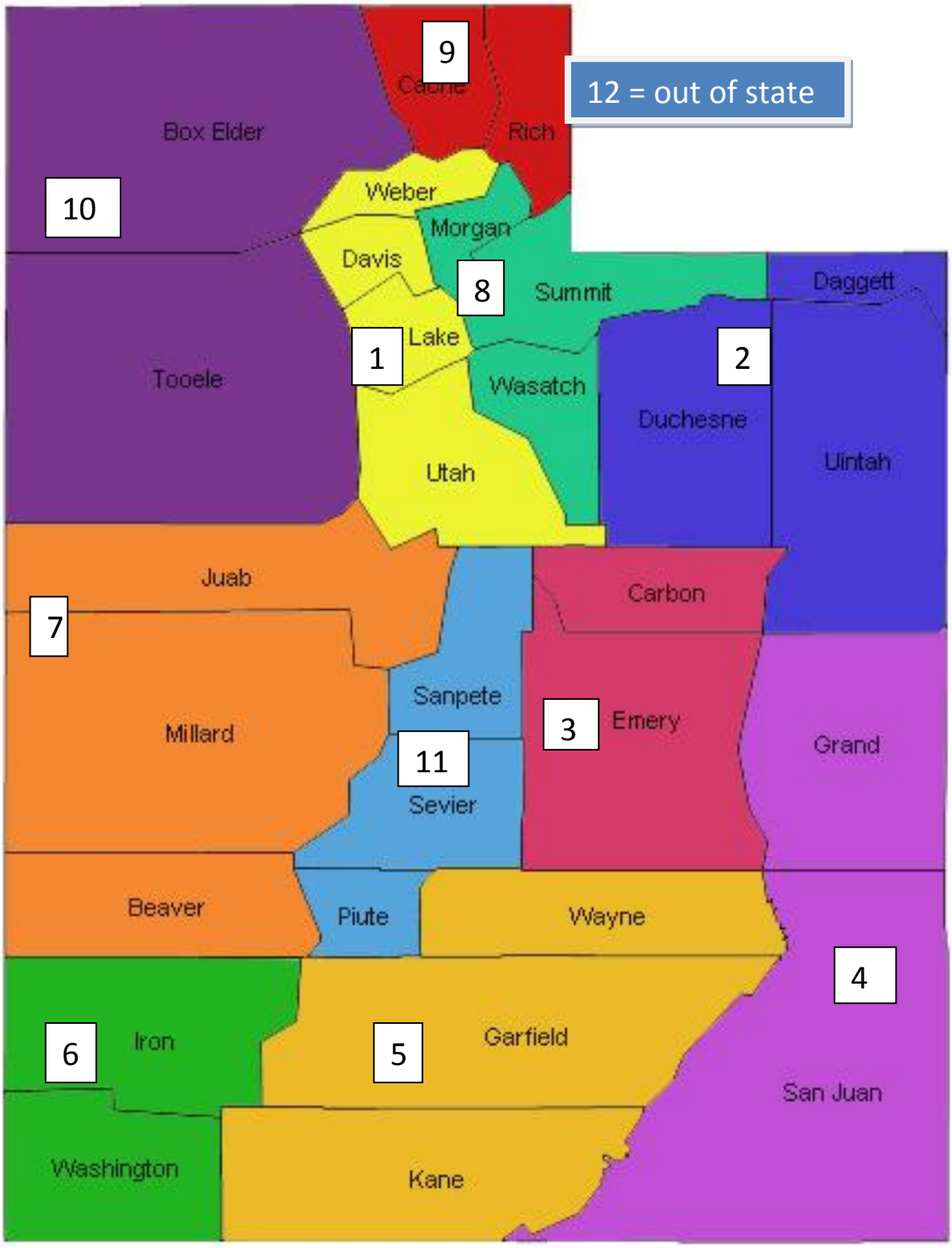


Figure 20. *Regions used in the study.*

SIZE OF OPERATION

One of the more interesting findings of the study is summarized in Tables 2 and 3. These data clearly show that cattle operations that have permits to graze public land have larger herds than do those who do not have permits to graze public lands. The 556 permit holders that provided information owned a total of more than 80,000 cows while the 2,273 non-permit holders owned a total of just over 60,000 cows. This suggests that permit holders are the dominant beef producers in Utah from a production point of view, while non-permit holders are the most common type of operator. The difference in size (as reflected by the number of cows or ewes owned) between permit and non-permit holders is especially pronounced in Cache and Rich counties, as well as in Grand and San Juan counties, where more than a 10-fold difference in the size of operation exists. One of the contributing factors for the difference in size between permit and non-permit holders in Cache and Rich counties is that permit holders are more common in Rich County, while non-permit holders are more common in Cache County; operations in Rich County include some of the largest operations in the state.

Table 2. *Average number cows owned by permit and non-permittee beef operators by region in Utah, 2007.*

Region	Counties/Area	Permittees	Non-Permittee
	State	162	28
1	Davis/SL/Utah/Weber	122	15
2	Daggett/Duchesne/Uintah	148	33
3	Carbon & Emery	102	17
4	Grand & San Juan	220	17
5	Garfield/Kane/Wayne	114	69
6	Iron & Washington	108	16
7	Beaver/Juab/Millard	160	30
8	Morgan/Summit/Wasatch	171	28
9	Cache & Rich	369	34
10	Box Elder & Tooele	205	34
11	Piute/Sanpete/Sevier	145	33
12	Out of state	253	No data

The number of animals owned by operators with grazing permits compared to operators without permits is much greater for sheep operations than it is for beef operations. The 62 permit holders that provided information and raised sheep owned more than three times as many ewes as the 379 non-permit holders that owned sheep. The difference is especially pronounced in regions 8, 10, and 11, where most of the sheep in the state are located.

Three other types of livestock are also important in Utah: goats, stockers (young cattle purchased and usually grazed -- not placed in a feed yard for finishing), and horses. Permit holders reported owning 661 goats, 5,570 stockers, and 2,465 horses while non-permit holders reported owning 3,566 goats, nearly 13,000 stockers, and 7,351 horses. But, because there are many more non-permittee ranches, the permittees own a disproportional share of all types of livestock in Utah—non-permittee vs. permittee for goats 6 vs. 24, stockers 3 vs. 309, and horses 3 vs. 10.

Table 3. *Average number of ewes owned by permit and non-permit sheep operators in Utah and the percentage of the all breeding sheep and lambs by region, 2007.*

Region		Number of Ewes Owned	
	Region	Permit	Non-permit
State		777	35
1 Davis/SL/Utah/Weber	1	1004	4
2 Daggett/Duchesne/Uintah	2	17	5
3 Carbon & Emery	3	71	10
4 Grand & San Juan	4	No data	2
5 Garfield/Kane/Wayne	5	215	13
6 Iron & Washington	6	568	13
7 Beaver/Juab/Millard	7	30	6
8 Morgan/Summit/Wasatch	8	1800	15
9 Cache & Rich	9	50	2
10 Box Elder & Tooele	10	1810	11
11 Piute/Sanpete/Sevier	11	1354	11
12 Out of state	12	4727	No data

Family Dependency

Every livestock operator was asked how many owner and hired families depended on the ranch operation for all or part of their income. Approximately 7% of the non-permittee livestock operations that participated in the study indicated that hired families depended on the ranch for part of their income. Furthermore, almost all of the non-permittee operations that had hired labor derived most of their income from the sale of crops. This result was expected, given the number of animals owned by non-permittee operations, which differs significantly from permittee operations.[7] Nearly one-fourth of the permittee operators indicated that at least one hired family depended on the ranch for some of their income; the average was 1.2 hired families per operation. In addition, an average of 1.5 owner families depended on the ranch for some of their income. The number of families that depended on the ranch was essentially uniform for each of the regions.

Sources of Income

About 12% of the non-permittee respondents did not indicate what percentage of their income came from any of the sources listed (livestock, crops, other agricultural products, oil/gas, timber, or recreation). However, livestock sales were the dominant source of income for most of the operations that indicated their percentage of income by source. Crop sales were an important source of income for 850 operations, while only 5 operations listed timber as source of income. Recreation was a source of income for 84 operations, but this was generally a small portion of each firm's income.[8] Oil and gas revenues were listed as a source of income for 30 operations and these revenues were commonly a large portion of the firm's income in some regions of the state (oil and gas data by region are not included in this report to maintain confidentiality of the information

[7] Only 324 hired families were reported as being hired by non-permittee operations, while permittee operations reported hiring 522 families.

[8] There were a number of notable individual exceptions to these generalizations. These differences are not included because it would not maintain the confidentiality of data provided by these firms.

provided by individual firms). The sale of other agricultural products was listed as a source of income for 124 firms, but the percentage of firms' incomes that came from this source was small.

Almost every permit holder indicated what percentage of the firm's income came from the various sources. These are outlined in Table 4. While there is some variation between the regions, livestock sales are the most important source of ranch income in all regions. Recreation is an important source of income in Region 4 (Grand and San Juan) and Region 8 (Morgan, Summit, and Wasatch). The relatively high percentage of recreation-related income in Region 8 should be especially noted because a higher portion of the land in these counties is privately owned than in other regions of the state, which helps facilitate activities such as posted hunting units. As expected, oil and gas revenues were relatively important in Region 4 (Grand and San Juan) and Region 9 (Cache and Rich). It is a bit surprising that oil and gas revenues were not indicated as a major source of income in Region 2 (Uintah Basin) by either permittee or non-permittees. Only two permit holders in the Uintah Basin listed oil and gas revenue as a source of income and only twelve non-permit holders in the Uintah Basin listed oil and gas as a source of income. In all cases, the percentage of permittee and non-permittee income noted was generally small in this region of the state.

Table 4. *Percentage of ranch gross income by source for permittee operations by regions in Utah, 2007.*

Region	Livestock	Crops	Other Ag	Oil/Gas	Timber	Recreation	Other
State	77	7	1	<1	<1	<1	14
1 Da/SLC/Ut/Web	95	5	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	87	3	<1	<1	<1	1	8
3 Carbon/Emery	98	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
4 Grand/San Juan	73	12	<1	1	1	4	9
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	76	5	2	<1	<1	<1	18
6 Iron/Washington	74	11	<1	<1	<1	<1	15
7 Bvr/Juab/Millard	72	17	3	<1	<1	<1	8
8 Morg/Summit/Was	73	3	5	<1	<1	5	15
9 Cache/Rich	79	5	2	1	<1	<1	13
10 BE/Tooele	82	4	1	<1	<1	1	14
11 Piu/Sanp/Sev	82	5	<1	<1	<1	<1	12
12 Out of State	92	3	<1	2	<1	1	3

Note: row totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Sales and Purchases

About two-thirds of the gross sales of non-permittee livestock operators are to firms located in the local areas, and nearly three-fourths of the sales are to firms in Utah. A higher percentage of purchases are from local firms (nearly 80%), and nearly all purchases are from firms located in Utah.

Livestock operators with grazing permits generally sell a lower percentage of their products to local firms than do non-permittees. This is especially true in areas that do not have a local livestock auction. For example, permittees in Carbon and Emery County (Region 3) reported selling less than one-third of their production to a local firm, while non-permittees sold a slightly larger percentage.

However, both groups sold a lower percentage locally than did producers in other regions (Table 5). Other counties with relatively low local sales include Wayne, Garfield, Kane, Morgan, Summit, Wasatch, Box Elder, and Tooele. Low local sales are probably a function of larger operations in some areas of the state because large operations commonly contract sales to firms outside of Utah and/or sell cattle via the satellite. While local sales may be lower for permit holders than non-permit holders, local purchases are at least as high in most areas of the state. The major exceptions are counties that have easy access to firms along the Wasatch front—Utah, Salt Lake, Weber, and Davis counties. Another area that had relatively low local purchases included Grand and San Juan counties (Region 4). Producers in this area probably obtain a large portion of their goods and services from firms in Colorado. Firms in Carbon and Emery County have relatively easy access to firms along the Wasatch front. As a result, few agricultural supply firms exist in these counties. While the information provided did not indicate where non-local purchases occur, the pattern suggests that firms along the Wasatch front depend on livestock operations in outlying areas for a significant portion of their sales.

Table 5 . *Reported percentage of local sales and purchases by permittee and non-permittee livestock operators by region.*

	Sales		Purchases	
Region	**Permittee**	**Non-Permittee**	**Permittee**	**Non-Permittee**
1 Davis/SL/Ut/Weber	73 %	70 %	92 %	86 %
2 Dag/Duch/Uintah	65 %	66 %	89%	87 %
3 Carbon/Emery	63 %	41 %	76 %	84 %
4 Grand/San Juan	67 %	54 %	73 %	62 %
5 Garfield/Kane/Wayne	52 %	62 %	87 %	89 %
6 Iron/Washington	76 %	62 %	95 %	89 %
7 Beaver/Juab/Millard	65 %	56 %	85 %	84 %
8 Morgan/Summit/Was	45 %	48 %	61 %	72 %
9 Cache/Rich	51 %	68 %	75 %	86 %
10 Box Elder/Tooele	41 %	67 %	81 %	86 %
11 Piute/Sanpete/Sevier	64 %	56 %	92 %	85 %

FAMILY TENURE

Most livestock operations that have permits to graze on public lands have been owned by the same family for over 50 years -- the average, mode, and median values for most ranches are commonly more than 50 years. Permittee ranches in the Uintah Basin (Region 2) are exceptions to this length of tenure. Their length of tenure is closer to 40 years. The longest-tenured ranches are in Regions 1 and 9, where some families have owned their ranches for more than 70 years (Table 6). Non-permittee livestock operations have been owned by the family for fewer years than ranches having a grazing permit—an average of 35 years. Region 2 (Uintah Basin) and Region 8 (Morgan, Summit, and Wasatch counties) are the only regions where the length of tenure was similar for permittee and non-permittee livestock operations. The tenure for permittee operations was essentially double that of non-permittees in some regions of the state. This length of tenure is also related to the intended likelihood that the livestock operation would be retained by the family.

Table 6. *Average number of years permittee and non-permittee families have owned the livestock operation by region.*

Region	Permittee	Non-permittee
1 Davis/SLC/Ut/Weber	70	38
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	39	34
3 Cargon/Emery	50	32
4 Grand/San Juan	56	35
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	52	38
6 Iron/Washington	61	38
7 Bvr/Juab/Mill	64	38
8 Morg/Summit/Was	53	47
9 Cache/Rich	74	42
10 Box Elder/Tooele	49	37
11 Piute/Sanp/Sev	54	37

Livestock operators were asked if a family member was planning to operate this ranch in the future. The results are shown in Figures 21 and 22. These data clearly show that a higher percentage of the permittee ranches plan to have a member of the family operate their ranch in the future than do non-permittee ranches. This pattern was true for every region in the state except Region 3 (Carbon and Emery County), where less than 20% of the non-permittees plan to have a member of the family operate the ranch in the future (Table 7). The highest percentage of permittees that plan to have a family member operate the ranch in the future was in Region 6 (83%). Permittee (80%) and non-permittee (57%) ranch operations in the Uintah Basin (Region 2) and Southwest Utah (Region 6) also have a relatively high percentage that plan to have a family member operate the ranch in the future when compared to other regions of the state.

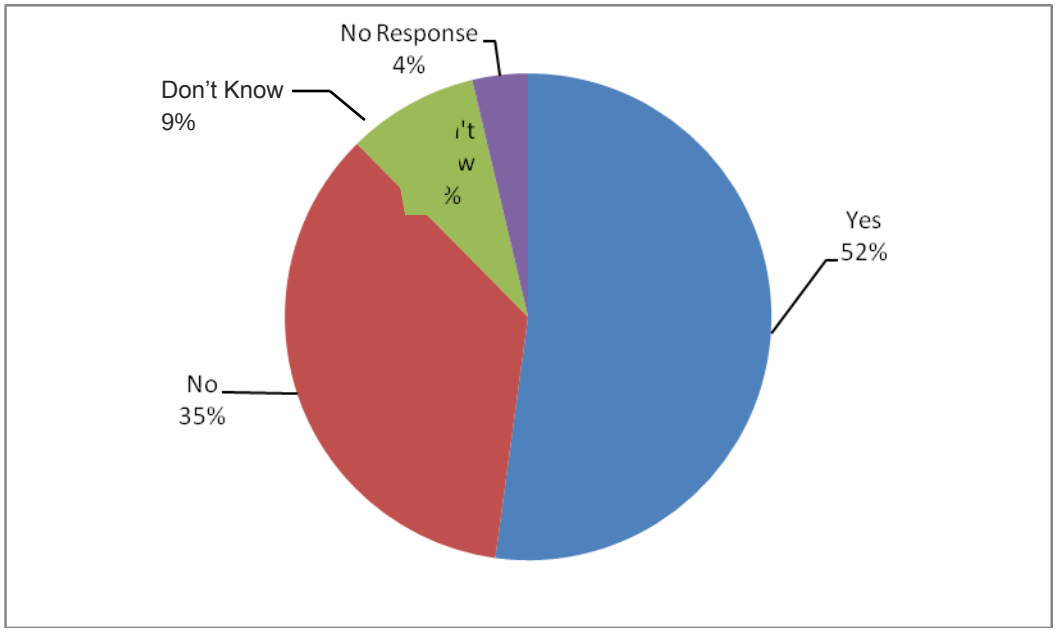


Figure 21. *Percentage of non-permit ranches that plan to be operated by a member of the family in the future.*

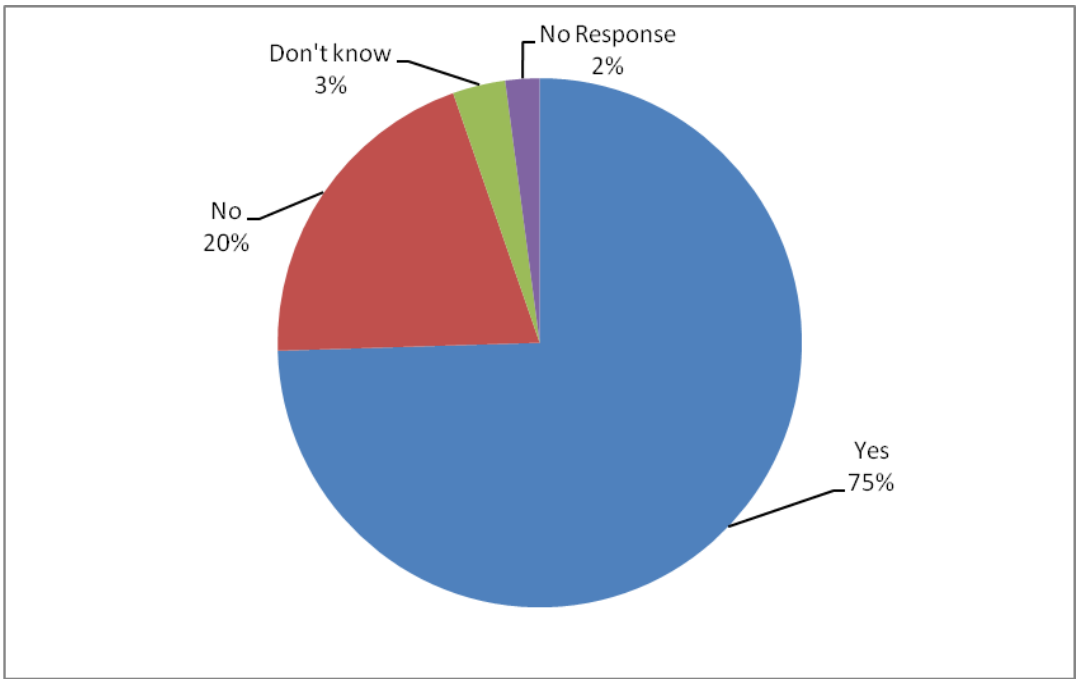


Figure 22. *Percentage of permit ranches that plan to be operated by a member of the family in the future.*

Table 7. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee livestock operations by region that intend to be operated by a family member in the future.*

Region	Permittee	Non-Permittee
1 Da/SL/Ut/Web	68 %	47 %
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	80 %	57 %
3 Carbon/Emery	67 %	18 %
4 Grand/San Juan	75 %	50 %
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	76 %	51 %
6 Iron/Washington	83 %	53 %
7 Bvr/Juab/Mill	74 %	52 %
8 Morg/Summ/Was	71 %	58 %
9 Cache/Rich	77 %	49 %
10 Box Elder/Tooele	75 %	55 %
11 Piu/Sanp/Sev	73 %	51 %

SOURCES OF FEED

Hay must be fed to livestock during the winter in most areas of the state. The only exceptions are areas where rangelands can be used for winter grazing. The period of time that animals need to be fed hay varies from Rich and Daggett counties, which commonly requires the feeding of hay for at least five months, to portions of southern Utah where winter grazing is commonly available. Sheep operations also commonly graze lands for a longer period of time than do cattle operations. They therefore are less dependent on hay as a source of feed.

Sources of feed during the grazing period (when hay is not being fed) vary throughout the state. There is also considerable variation by type of animal. For example, some horses are fed hay throughout the year while many sheep are able to graze lands essentially year round. However, about one-third of the feed needed by animals in most areas of the state is obtained from hay because hay is commonly fed more than four months of the year (4+ months divided by 12).

A common but imperfect measure of forage use is an Animal Unit Month (AUM), which is assumed to be the amount of forage needed by a 1000-pound cow for a month. Other animals are converted to an animal unit equivalent. Table 8 shows the conversions used in this study.

Table 8. *AUM conversion model.*

Class of Animal	Animal Unit Equivalent
Cow	1.0
Replacement	0.7
Bulls	1.5
Yearlings	0.65
Stockers	0.7
Ewes	0.2
Replacement ewes	0.15
Bucks	0.3
Goats	0.2
Horses	1.5

The number of animals of each of the types of animals reported by each livestock operation was multiplied by the animal unit equivalent.[9] This value was then multiplied by 12 to derive the amount of forage (AUMs) needed by that operation. The ranchers also indicated what percentage of their feed was obtained from the various sources (e.g., state, federal, private range, etc.). The amount of feed needed was multiplied by the percentage of feed by source. The resultant totals were then computed. Figures 23 and 24 indicate the average source of feed obtained by non-permittee (Figure 23) and permittee (Figure 24) ranchers.

These data indicate that permittee and non-permittee livestock operators obtain about the same portion of the forage needed by livestock from private range, state lands, aftermath, and other private lands. However, permittees (as expected) obtain a much larger portion of their feed from federally administered lands. This suggests that permittees use forage from federal lands to replace the feeding of hay and the use of private pasture. There is, however, considerable variation in the percentage of forage obtained by region in the state (Tables 9 and 10). In most regions of the state, non-permittees obtain most of their grazed forage from pasture lands. This is especially true in Region 1 (Davis, Salt lake, Weber, Davis) and Region 2 (Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah). Livestock owned by non-permittees in Region 8 (Morgan, Summit, and Wasatch) obtain a larger percentage of their forage from private rangeland than any other region in the state. This is due, at least in part, to the fact that most of the rangeland in that region is privately owned, while in the other regions rangeland is commonly owned by state or federal agencies.

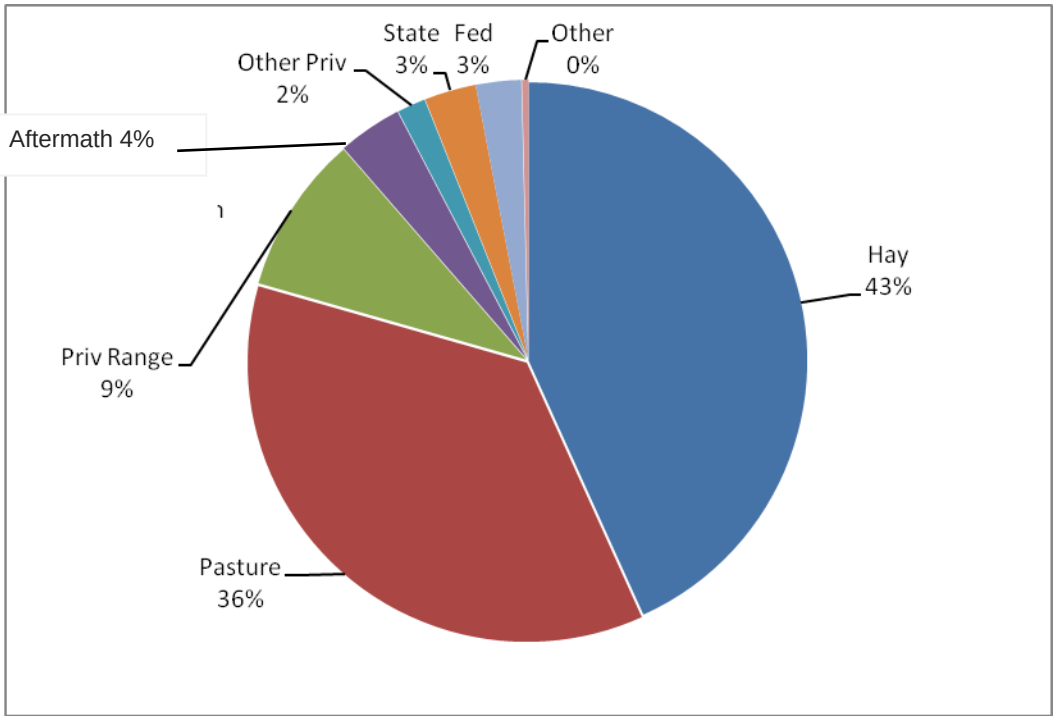


Figure 23. *Percentage of feed by source by non-permittees in Utah.*

[9] These values are probably an underestimate of the amount of forage used in Utah because most beef cows in the state weigh more than 1000 pounds and no credit is given to the forage consumed by calves or lambs. However, stockers may not be fed throughout the year. These conversions would affect the estimated total amount of forage needed but would have little, if any, effect on the percentage of feed obtained by source.

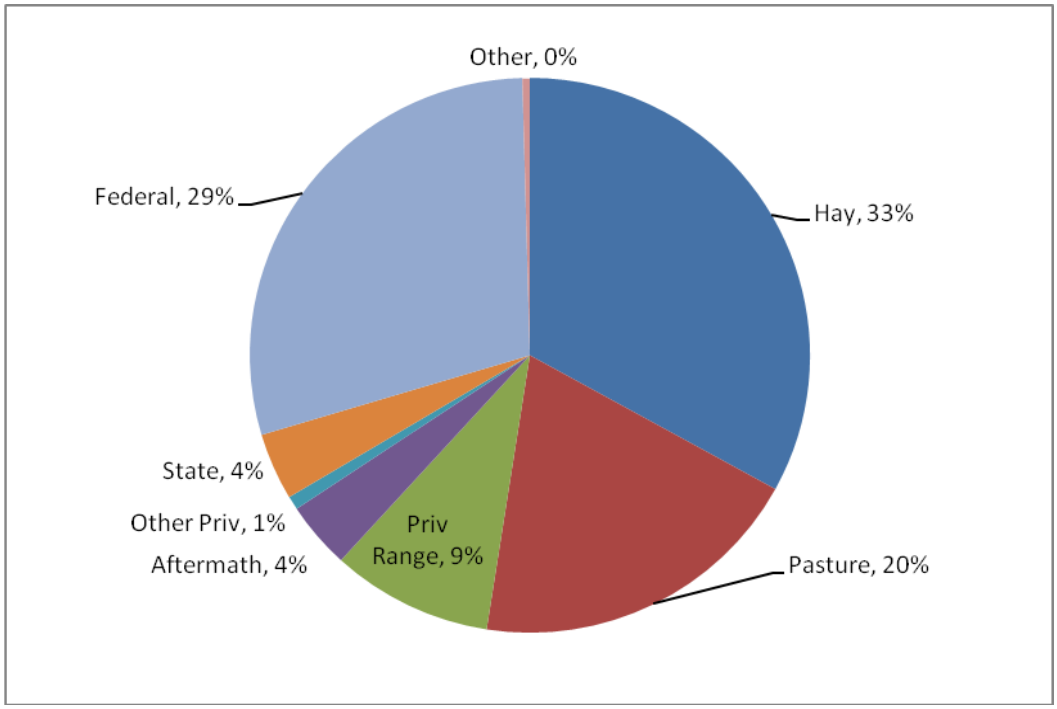


Figure 24. *Percentage of feed by source by permittees in Utah.*

Table 9. *Percentage of feed obtained by source and region by non-permittees during the grazing season in Utah, 2007.*

Region	Pasture	Private Range	Aftermath	Other Private	State	Federal	Other
1 Da/SL/Ut/Web	78	14	6	1	<1	1	<1
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	75	9	12	1	1	1	2
3 Carbon/Emery	16	17	2	1	14	1	48
4 Grand/San Juan	62	5	13	3	1	15	1
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	51	2	1	<1	39	6	<1
6 Iron/Washington	59	17	6	3	3	13	<1
7 Bvr/Juab/Millard	56	19	9	1	2	13	<1
8 Morg/Summ/Was	44	45	6	<1	2	1	1
9 Cache/Rich	62	27	2	1	5	3	<1
10 Box Elder/Tooele	57	28	4	1	2	7	<1
11 Piu/Sanp/Sevier	67	8	9	13	1	2	1

Table 10. *Percentage of feed obtained by source and region during the grazing season by livestock operators that have permits to graze on public lands in Utah, 2007.*

Region	Pasture	Private Range	Aftermath	Other Private	State	Federal	Other
1 Da/SL/Ut/Web	30	11	17	< 1	1	41	<1
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	34	14	5	2	8	31	6
3 Carbon/Emery	24	15	5	4	9	41	3
4 Grand/San Juan	29	8	14	1	6	41	<1
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	20	7	4	1	13	55	1
6 Iron/Washington	21	28	2	1	4	44	<1
7 Bvr/Juab/Millard	24	8	5	1	10	52	<1
8 Morg/Summ/Was	48	27	1	<1	3	21	<1
9 Cache/Rich	38	10	3	1	1	46	1
10 Box Elder/Tooele	23	20	8	1	8	40	<1
11 Piu/Sanp/Sevier	31	14	3	<1	4	47	<1

Grazing Permit Values

More than 80% of the state's non-permittees have never had a permit to graze lands administered by one of the major federal agencies or SITLA. However, more than 50% of the non-permittees in Region 5 previously had a permit to graze lands administered by BLM, FS, or SITLA (Table 11). This high percentage was not expected. It should also be noted that essentially none of these operators expressed any interest in having a permit in the future. Very few non-permittees in any region ever had a permit to graze lands administered by the Park Service or Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, this percentage is not shown in Table 11. The reasons why non-permit holders no longer hold grazing permits are noted in Appendix C. Most of these operators sold their permits and did not indicate a primary reason for the sale, but those that gave a reason commonly cited the non-fee cost of grazing these lands, including the problems of dealing with agency administrators (see the comments in Appendix C).

Table 11. *Percentage of non-permit holders that previously had a permit to graze lands administered by the BLM, Forest Service, or SITLA by region in Utah, 2007.*

Region	BLM	Forest Service	SITLA
1 Da/Sl/Ut/Web	7	9	2
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	10	13	4
3 Carbon/Emery	8	5	2
4 Grand/San Juan	24	16	13
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	52	38	25
6 Iron/Washington	24	18	10
7 Bvr/Juab/Mill	30	20	5
8 Morg/Summ/Was	5	9	2
9 Cache/Rich	6	11	2
10 Box Elder/Tooele	13	8	3
11 Piute/Sanp/Sev	14	28	4

More work is needed to evaluate the market for grazing permits in Utah, but the responses received from non-permit holders indicated that the price they would be willing to spend for a permit, if any, was low. Some indicated a high willingness to pay, but these were not common. The most common responses received were either no response or zero. Willingness to pay values by non-permittees was generally highest for summer permits, especially those administered by the Forest Service. But the data suggest that permit values are not high and that there is very little difference by agency or season of use.

One possible reason why values provided by non-permittees were so low may be related to how non-permittees interpreted the question posed in the questionnaire. Non-permittees may have interpreted the question as asking what they would be willing to pay for an AUM (several non-permittees explicitly stated their willingness to pay in this manner) of grazing from lands administered by an agency and season of the year and not what they would be willing to pay for the permit. If this interpretation is correct, the values provided by non-permittees were commonly lower than the fees paid to graze private lands (average values were commonly less than $12 per AUM). The exception to this generalization was for BLM and SITLA lands in Region 10 that could be grazed during the winter (these were $26 per AUM). If the values provided by non-permittees do reflect their willingness to pay for a grazing permit, they suggest that non-permittees do not place high value in the ownership of a permit to graze lands administered by one of the agencies (BLM, FS, SITLA). Relatively high values were indicated by a few non-permittees. For example, the maximum values were more than $1,000 per AUM but these were single observations. Given the small number of non-permittees that indicated any amount for their willingness to pay for a grazing permit, no values are provided in this study.

Permittees were also asked to indicate what they would be willing to pay for additional permits in their area. But, like the responses received from non-permittees, no value was given by most permittees. It is not known if the lack of response was a function of a lack of willingness to purchase a permit, if the value of the permits were (are) unknown, or if the value of a permit varies so much that the amount that would be offered could only be determined by evaluating the benefits and costs of a particular allotment (productivity and non-fee costs vary widely by allotment). The responses received from permittees were commonly above the average values indicated by non-permit holders, but the highest values indicated by permittees were lower than the highest values indicated by non-permittees. In addition, the variation in the amount permittees were willing to pay was much smaller than the variation in values expressed by non-permittees. This suggests that permit holders probably have a better understanding of the market for grazing permits. There was considerable variation by region, agency and season of use (Table 12). The values in Table 12 are the highest average value indicated by season of use for an agency. The variation in the values reported suggests that further analysis is needed. This is particularly true for regions and agencies when the average is quite different from the median (Region 4 is the only region where average and median values were nearly the same).

However, the following generalizations are probably valid. First, permits to graze lands administered by the FS commonly have the highest value in each region. Permits that can be grazed during the summer and winter appear to be the most valuable. These values are probably related to the feeding of hay. Winter grazing permits would normally allow a producer to substitute grazing for feeding hay, while a summer permit would allow a livestock producer to remove livestock from private lands during the growing season when hay is being produced for the winter feeding period

(this is probably the primary reason why FS permits have high relative value). However, in some regions there does not appear to be any significant difference in the value by season of use.

Second, there is considerable variation in the reported values. This suggests that each allotment probably has its own value to a producer. Third, the median (mid-value of the data set) is generally smaller than the mean/average for most areas and agencies. This suggests[10] that a few high values exist, compared to the most common values indicated. The most important inference that the provided data suggest is that there are a number of factors (size and type of operator, non-fee costs, ownership of other permits, etc.) that affect the value of a grazing permit. An analysis of these factors requires additional study.

Permittees were also asked to indicate what price they would be willing to accept for permits that they currently own. Most indicated that they were not willing to sell their permits and, therefore, did not provide a value for their current permit. As a result, there were very few responses to this question and no results are reported in this study.

Table 12. *Average and median amount permittees would be willing to pay ($ per AUM) for a grazing permit in their area by agency and season of use.*

	BLM		Forest Service		SITLA	
Region	**Avg/Median**	**Season**	**Avg/Median**	**Season**	**Avg/Median**	**Season**
1 Da/SL/Ut/Web	79/50	Summer	121/50	Summer	111/100	Sp/Su/F
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	86/80	Winter	251/102	Summer	94/80	Winter
3 Carbon/Emery	81/55	Winter	183/123	Summer	43/30	Summer
4 Grand/San Juan	76/75	Winter	86/78	Summer	78/78	Spring
5 Gar/Kane/Wayne	174/65	Su/W	255/120	Summer	114/80	Su/F
6 Iron/Washington	162/100	Winter	206/100	Spring	119/100	Su/W
7 Bvr/Juab/Mill	166/100	Su/F	164/100	Summer	133/90	Sp/F
8 Morg/Summ/Was	195/66	Sp/Su	325/325	Spring	75/75	Winter
9 Cache/Rich	73/40	Sp/Su/W	113/50	Summer	55/12	Summer
10 Box Elder/Tooele	88/75	Sp/Su/W	91/50	Sp/Su	90/60	Sp/Su
11 Piu/Sanp/Sev	199/90	Summer	242/150	Winter	138/90	Summer

Values for other seasons are lower than the values shown. Values that were similar (within $10 per AUM) for more than one season are indicated.

Factors Affecting Grazing

Livestock producers were asked to indicate what particular factors or influences they thought would "affect the use of publicly administered lands by domestic livestock." Responses are outlined in Figures 25-34. Non-permittees and permittees both view legal suits, low returns, and drought/fire as the primary factors that may affect the use of publicly administered lands by livestock. However, a higher percentage of the permittees view most of these factors as impediments to the use of public lands by domestic livestock. It should also be noted that a higher percentage of the non-permittees expressed a "don't know" opinion than did permittees. As a result, non-permittees have fewer responses in other columns. Still, the relative prioritization of the influences/threats was generally the same for permittees and non-permittees.

[10] Values for agencies not listed (e.g. Park Service) were lower than those indicated.

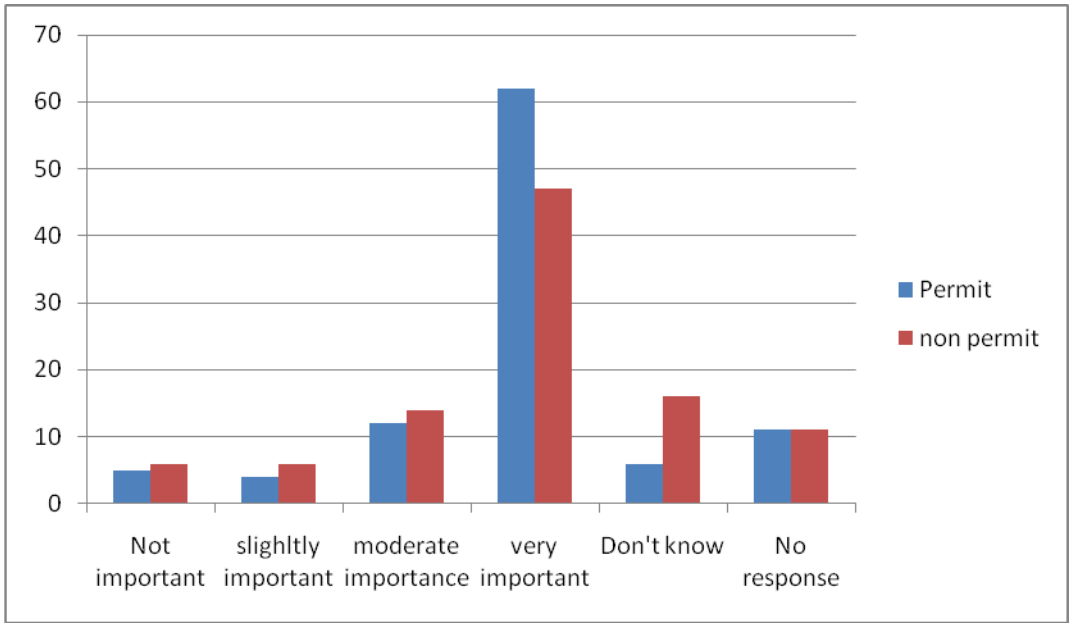


Figure 25. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think legal suits will be in affecting the use of public lands by livestock?"*

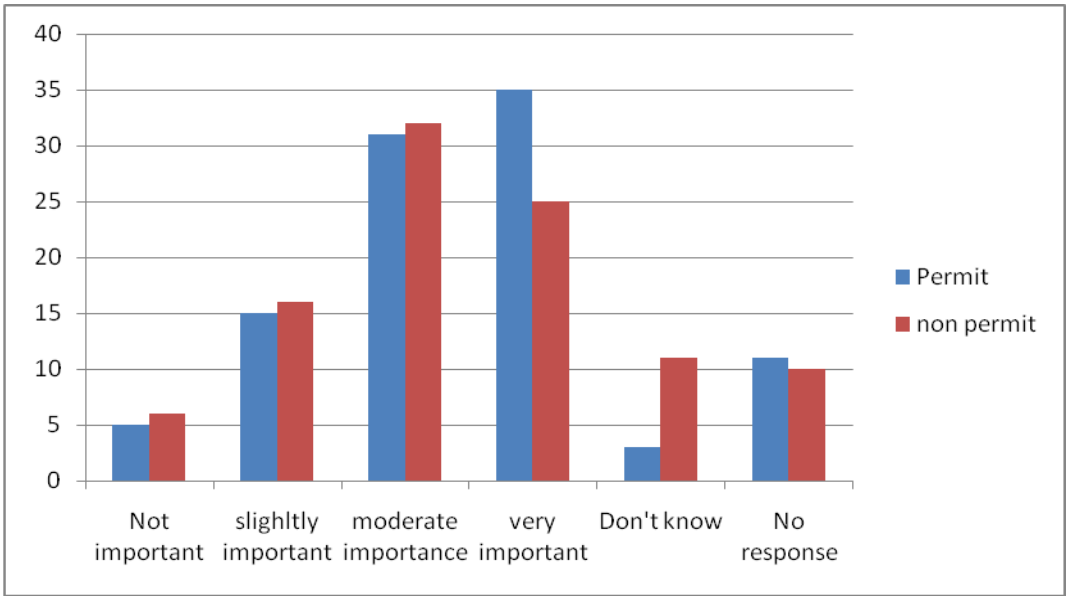


Figure 26. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think increased emphasis on use by wildlife will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

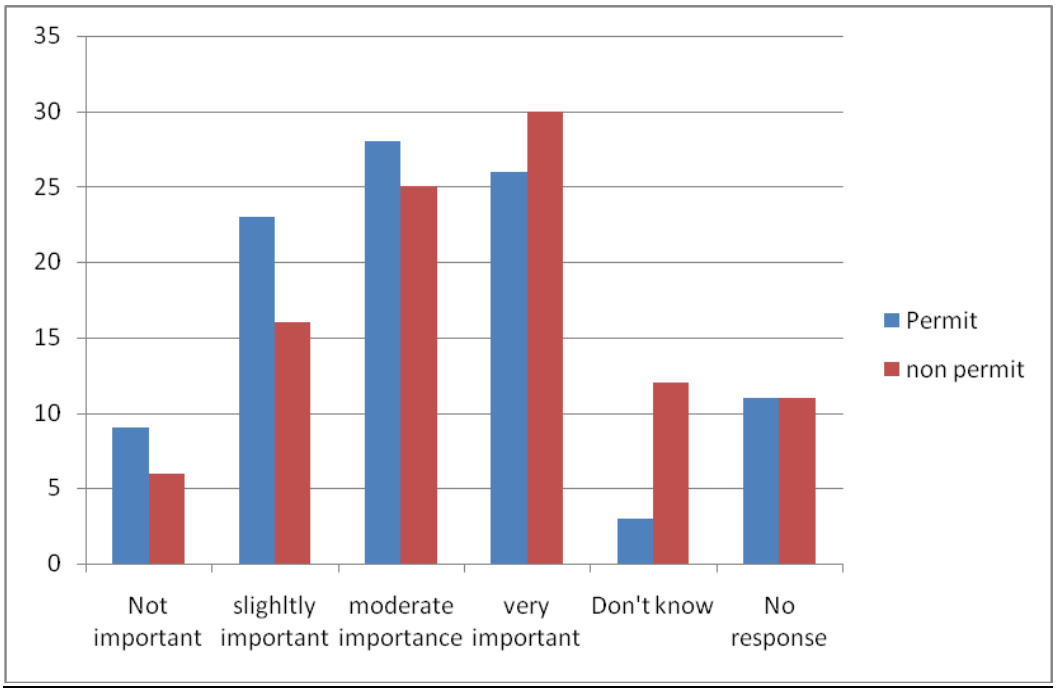


Figure 27. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think invasive species or weeds will be in affecting the use of public lands by livestock?"*

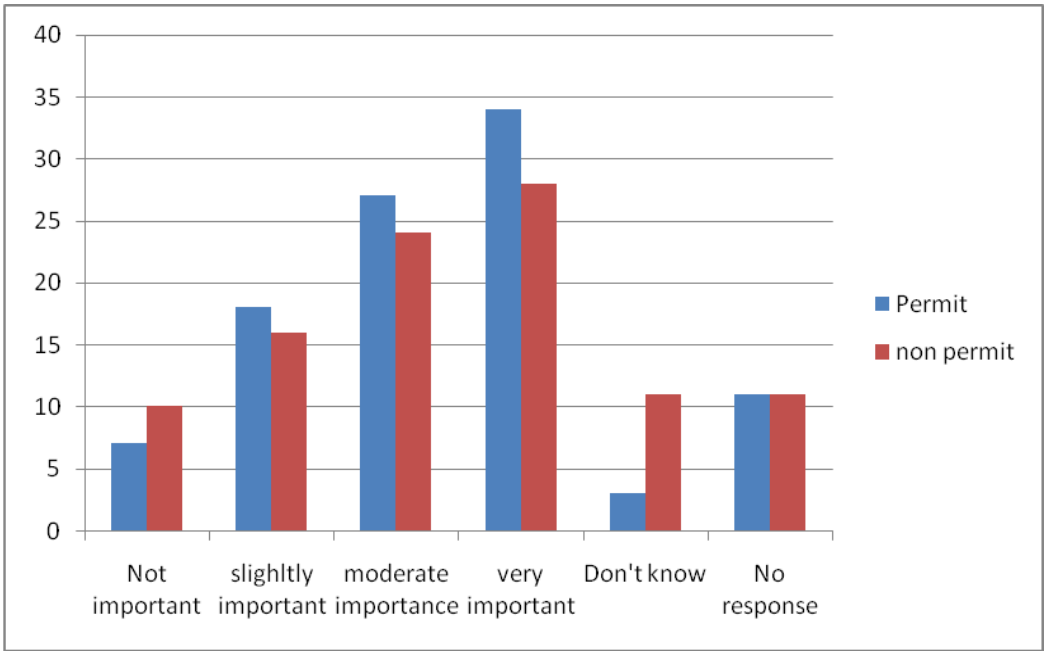


Figure 28. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think recreational activities (OHV's, hikers, etc.) will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

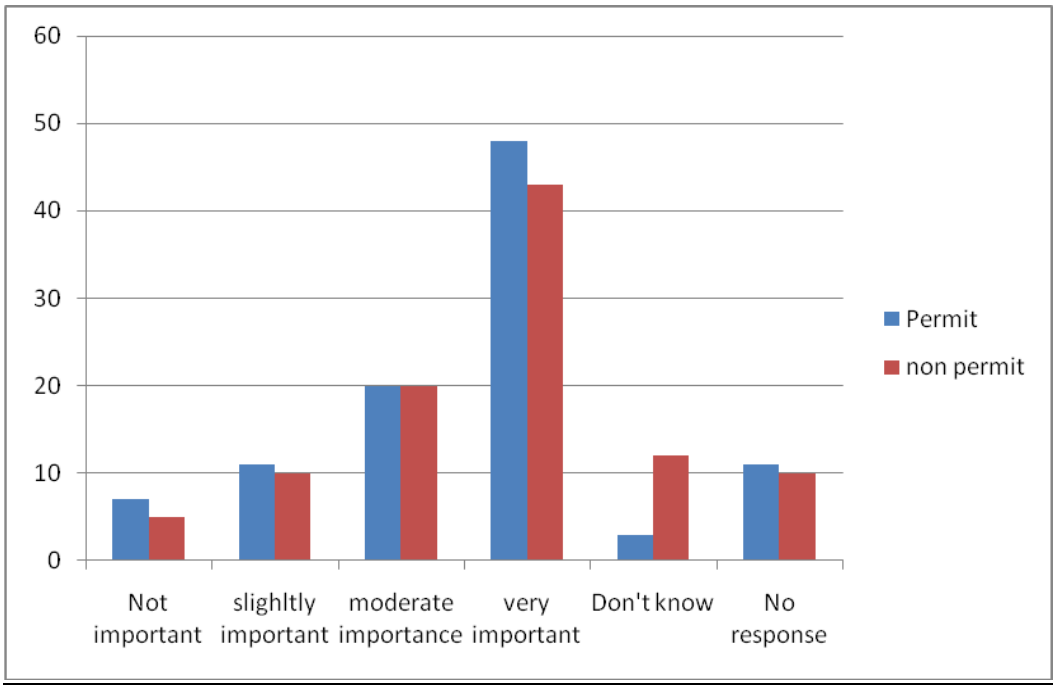


Figure 29. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think low returns from ranching will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

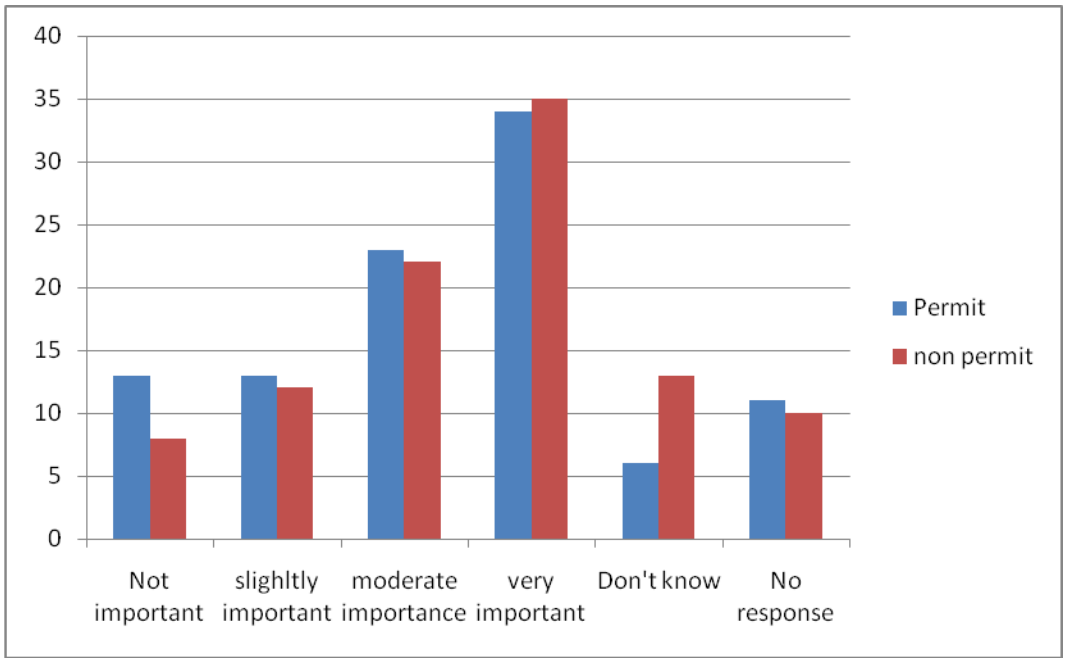


Figure 30. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think the purchase of ranches for recreational/second homes will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

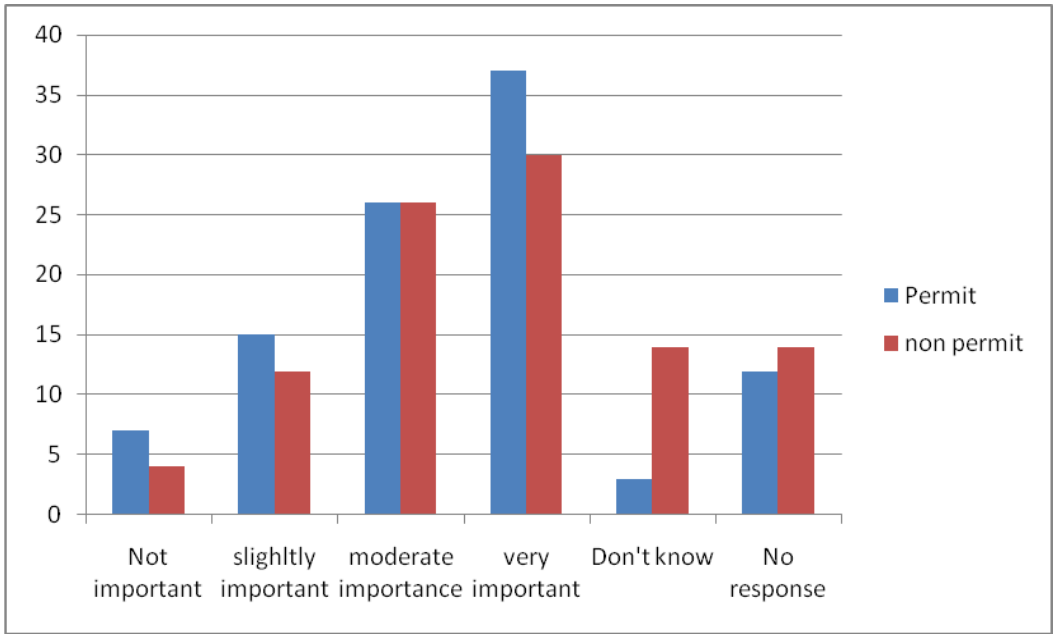


Figure 31. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think reduced development or maintenance of range improvements will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

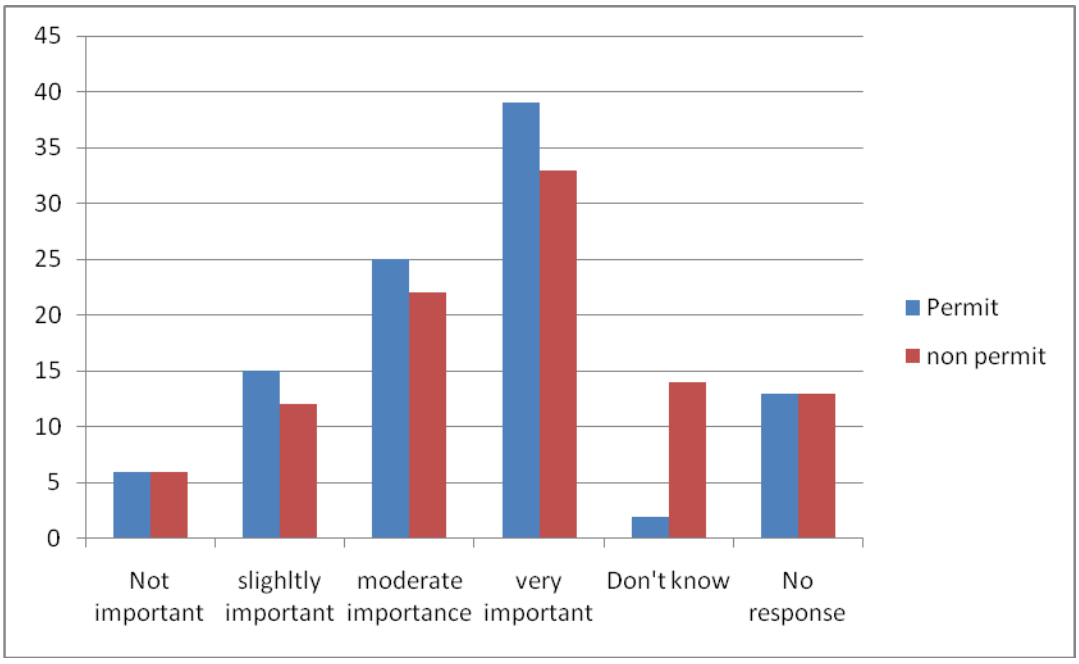


Figure 32. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think increases in grazing fees will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

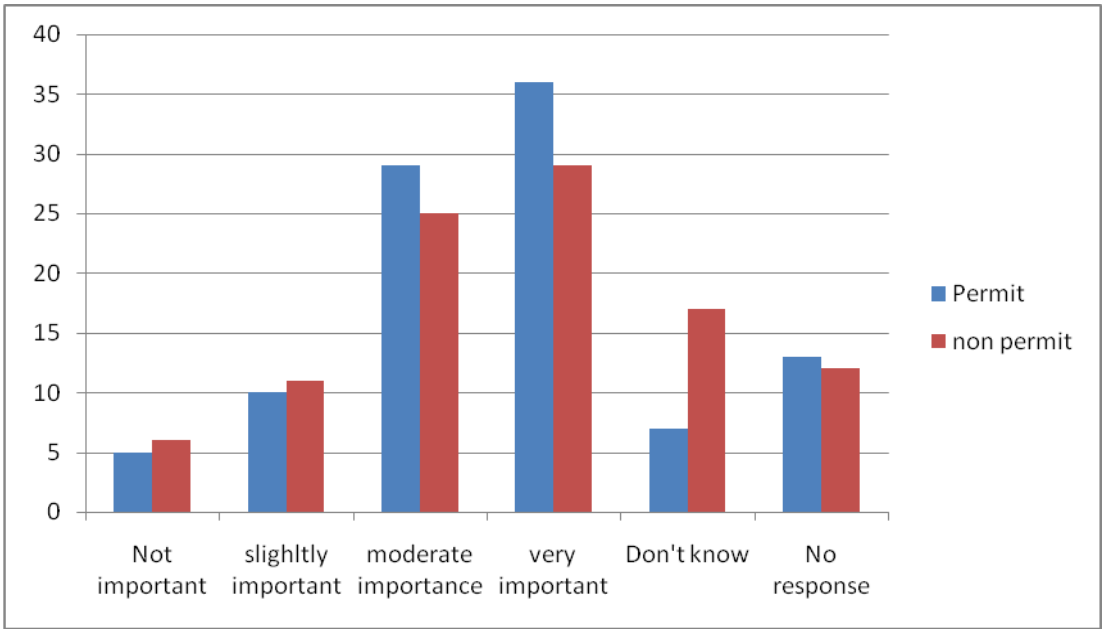


Figure 33. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think increases in non fee costs of grazing will affect the use of public lands by livestock?"*

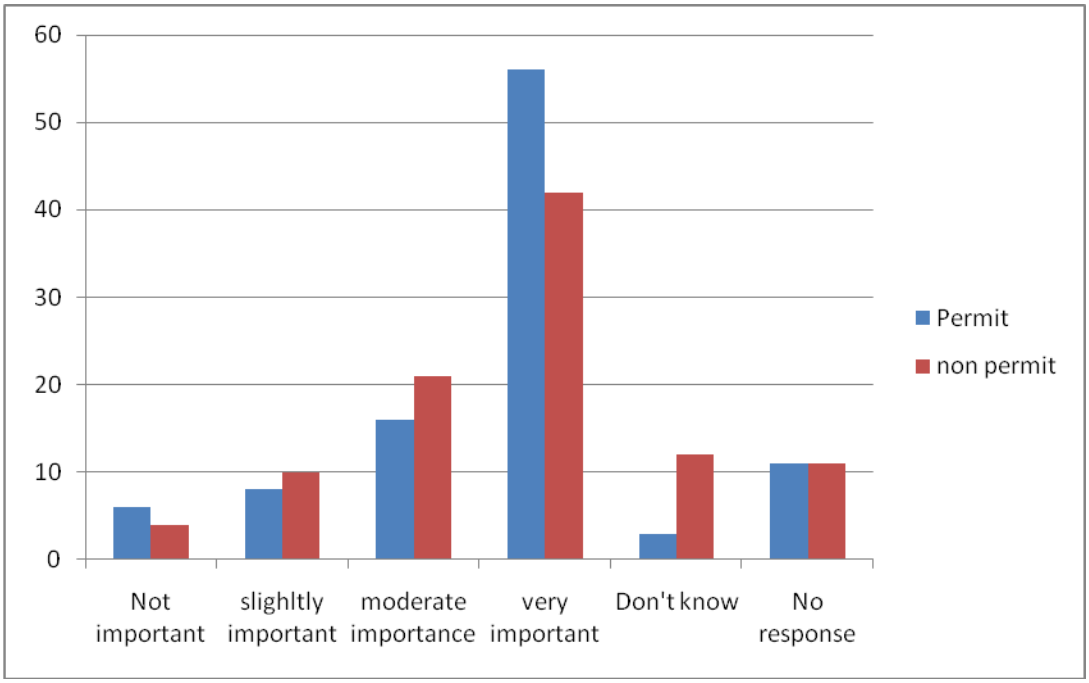


Figure 34. *Percentage of permittee and non-permittee responses to the question: "How important do you think drought and fire will be in affecting the use of public lands by livestock?"*

IMPACT OF GRAZING ON OTHER USES

Permittees and non-permittees were asked to indicate what influence livestock grazing had on other uses (e.g., wildlife, birds, water quality). Responses are noted in Figures 35-41. These responses clearly show that fire suppression is viewed as the most positive influence of grazing. The spread of invasive plants or weeds was viewed as the most negative influence, but most respondents viewed this as being basically neutral. Non-permit users were more uncertain about these influences than were permit holders. The most common response received concerning these influences by both permit and non-permit holders was basically neutral with the exception of fire suppression. It should be noted that no permittee indicated that they did not know what influence livestock grazing had on the activities/uses outlined below, while many non-permittees did not know. The percentage of the non-permittees that indicated that they did not know was quite consistent. In fact, the same respondents commonly said "did not know" for all of the uses outlined below.

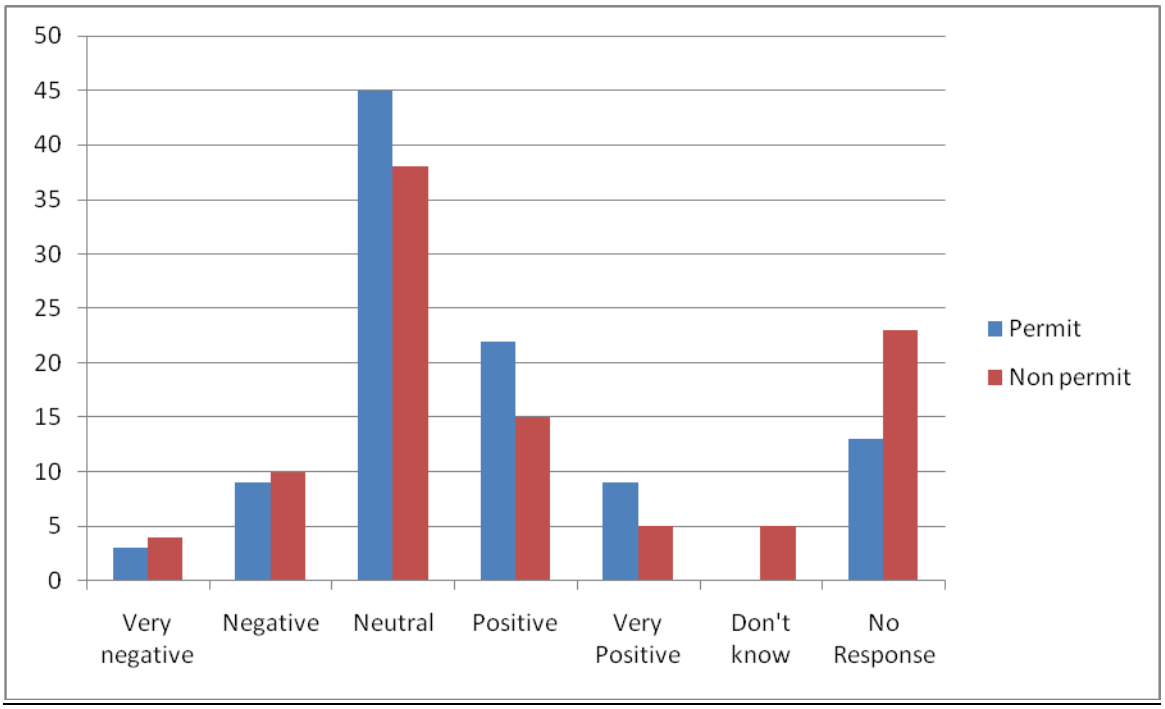


Figure 35. *Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on vegetation in riparian areas.*

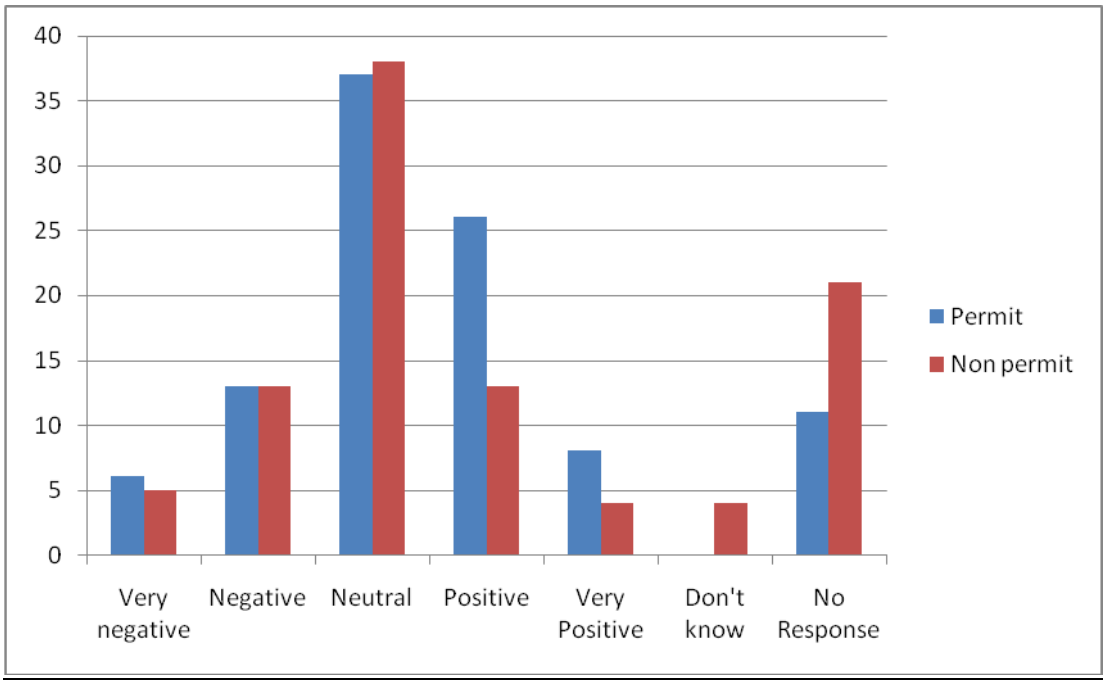


Figure 36. *Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on numbers of big game animals.*

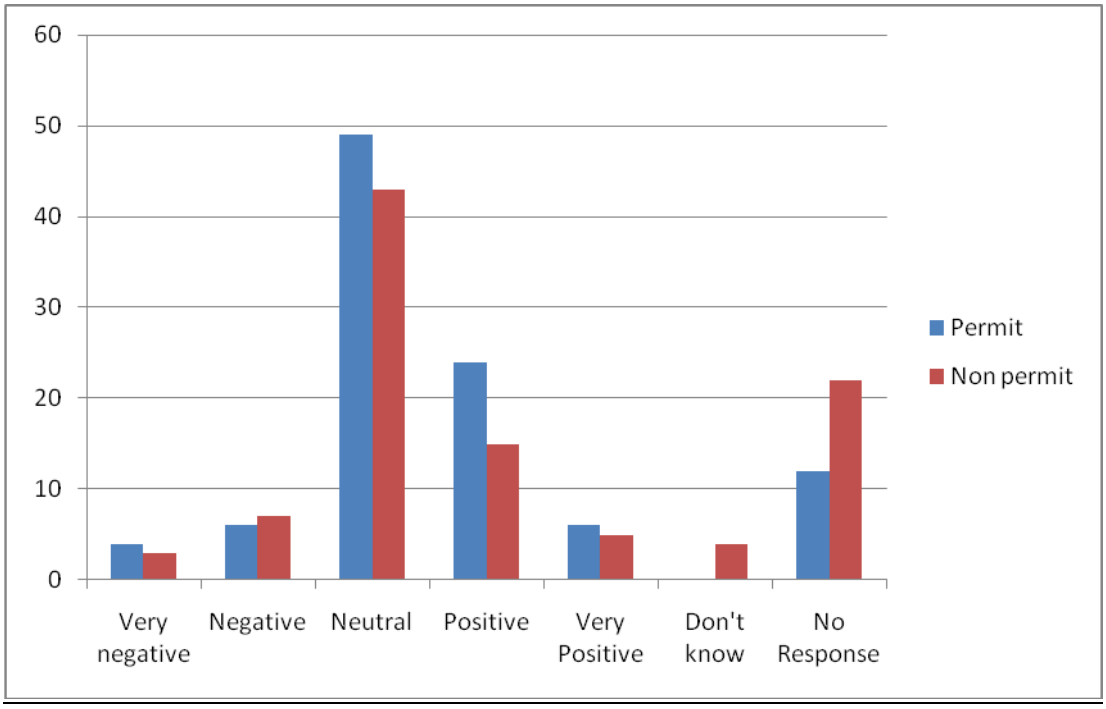


Figure 37. *Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on the number and variety of birds.*

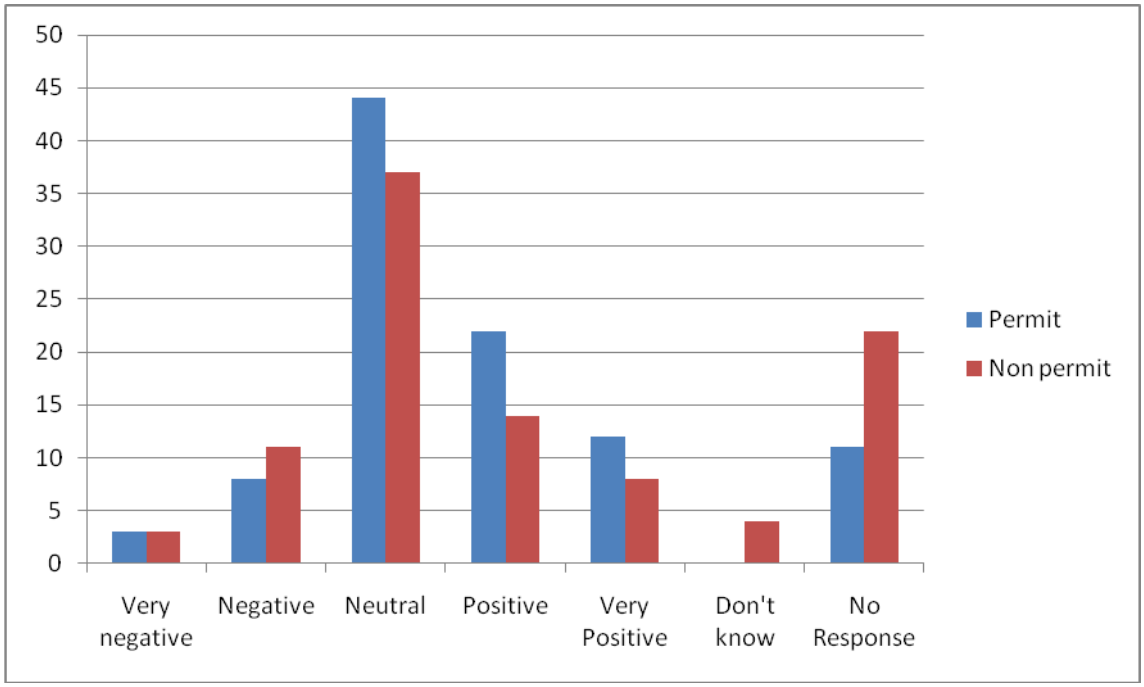


Figure 38. *Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on water quality/quantity.*

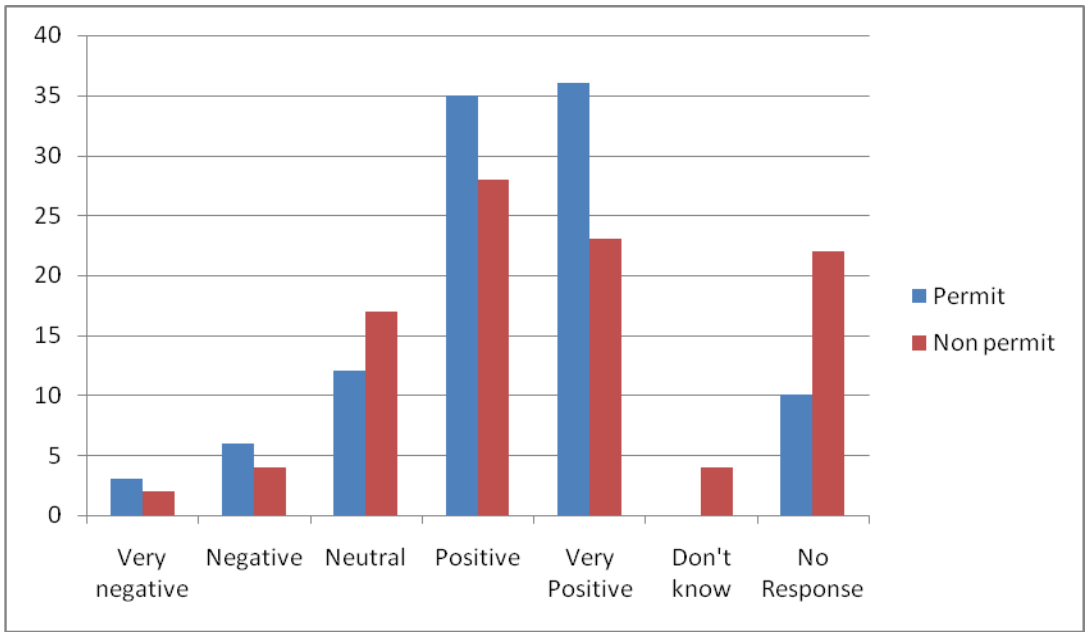


Figure 39. Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on fire suppression.

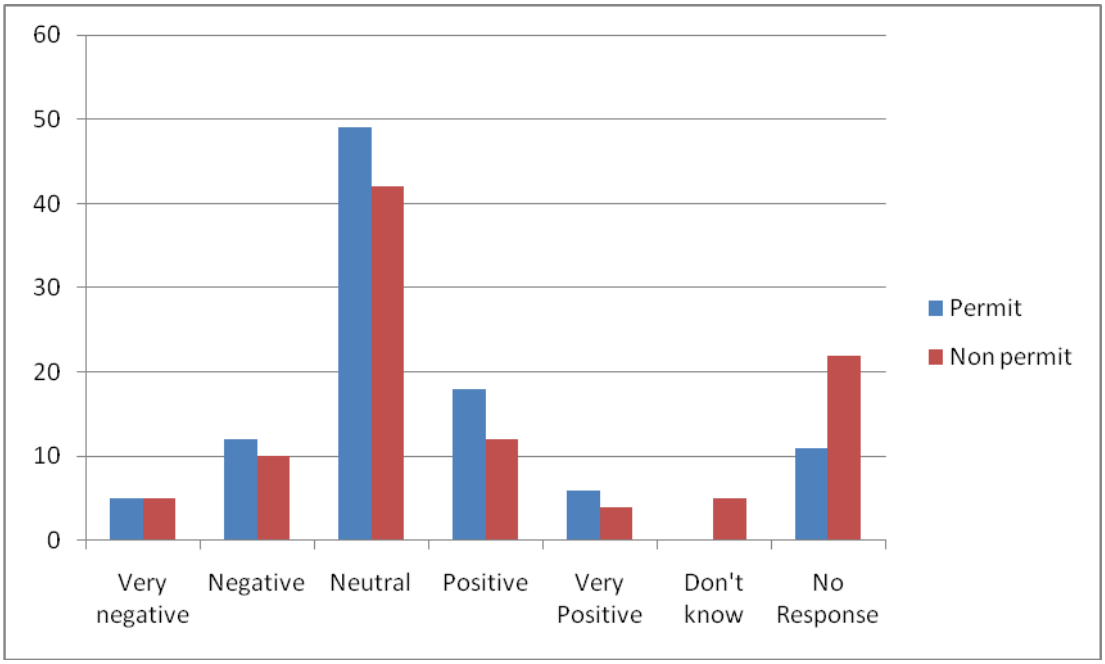


Figure 40. *Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on recreational opportunities.*

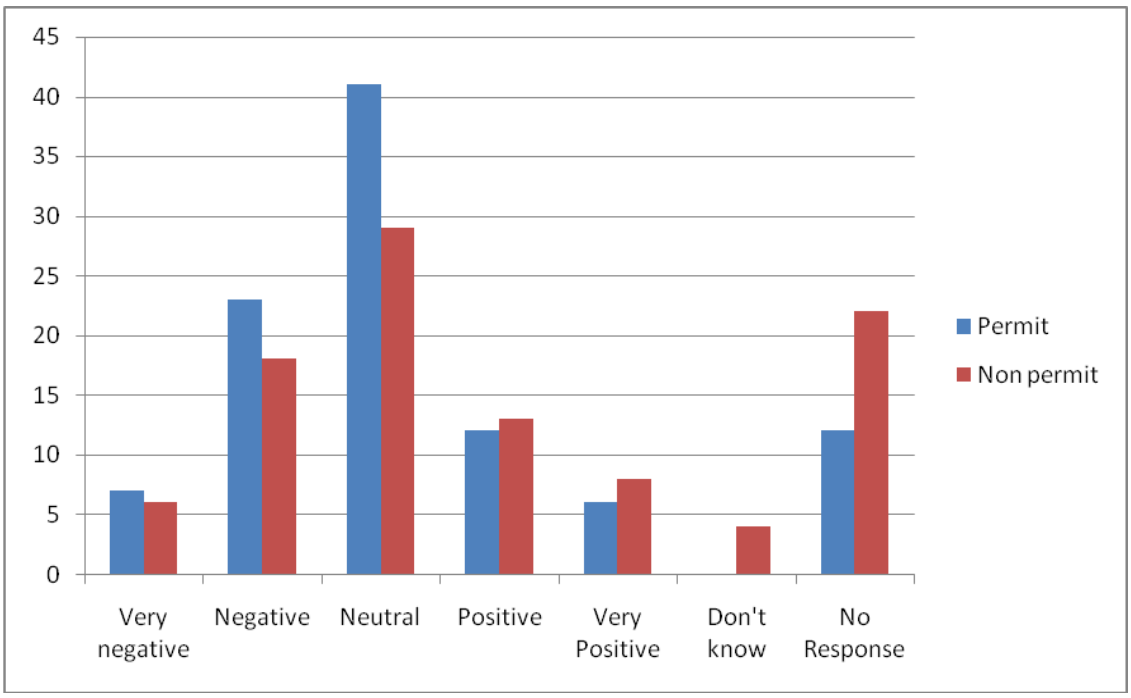


Figure 41. *Permittee and non-permittee perception of the importance livestock grazing has on the spread of invasive plant species or weeds.*

PERMITTEE ISSUES

The preceding sections were common to the permittee and non-permittee questionnaires. This section deals with issues of importance just to permittees.

Each permittee was asked to list each of the permits they owned, what agency administered that permit, the period of use, the permitted number of AUMs, the AUMs used in 2006, when each permit was acquired, and how the permit was acquired.

Permit Holders

One of the original objectives that was not fulfilled was to determine what percentage of the livestock operators have permits to graze publicly administered lands. A definitive answer would require an estimate of the total number of livestock producers in the state and the number of those that have permits. It was not possible to obtain either of these values for several reasons. First, no data exists that indicates the number of livestock producers in the state. The 2002 Census of Agriculture indicates that there were 6,688 farms that owned cattle and calves and 5,055 had beef cows. There were also 1,422 farms with sheep and lambs, 680 that had milk cows, and 752 that had goats. However, many operations had more than one type of animal (e.g., beef and sheep, or milk and beef cows).

The 9,502 names of livestock operators obtained from NASS included a number that no longer owned any livestock (about 1.5% of those surveyed that also returned a questionnaire indicated that they no longer had livestock). The brand data from UDAF also did not provide a clear indication of the number of livestock producers there are in Utah because some individuals or firms may own a brand but no livestock, and some firms own multiple brands. As a result, there is no data that clearly indicate how many livestock operators there are in Utah. Permit data obtained from the BLM, FS, and SITLA also proved to be difficult to evaluate. The same operation may have a permit that is owned by more than one member of the family, or one may be owned by the firm and another by an owner of the firm (e.g., a BLM permit for the same operation may be owned by one member of the family and an FS permit by another[11]). Given all of these difficulties, a rough estimate of the percentage of livestock operators in the state that have a permit to graze publicly administered lands can be provided. If the response rate for permittee and non-permittee operators was representative of the state's operators, the percentage of permit holders to total operators would be about 18% (number of permittee respondents divided by the total number of respondents). This is probably a low estimate, for some of the reasons noted in Appendix B. The number of permit holders in the BLM, FS, and SITLA databases suggests that this percentage (18%) is probably conservative. As a result, it is likely that about 20% of the livestock operators in the state have permits to graze publicly administered lands in the state.

Number of Permits

One common question deals with the number of permits owned by permittees. As expected, BLM and FS permits are the most common grazing permits owned by those who provided information (Figures 42 and 43), but the percentage varied by administration in each of the regions (Figure 43). For example, BLM allotments were most common in Region 6, while FS allotments were most common in Regions 1 and 11.

Most permittees owned two permits, with the exception of permittees in Regions 1, 2, 8, and 9, which commonly had only one permit. Permittees that had two permits commonly had a FS and a BLM permit, but other combinations (two BLM, one BLM and one SITLA, etc.) also occurred. This, however, was the average number of permits owned by respondents. Some large operators had several permits and many operators only have one permit.

[11] This is common when a firm is a family operation (e.g., father and son).

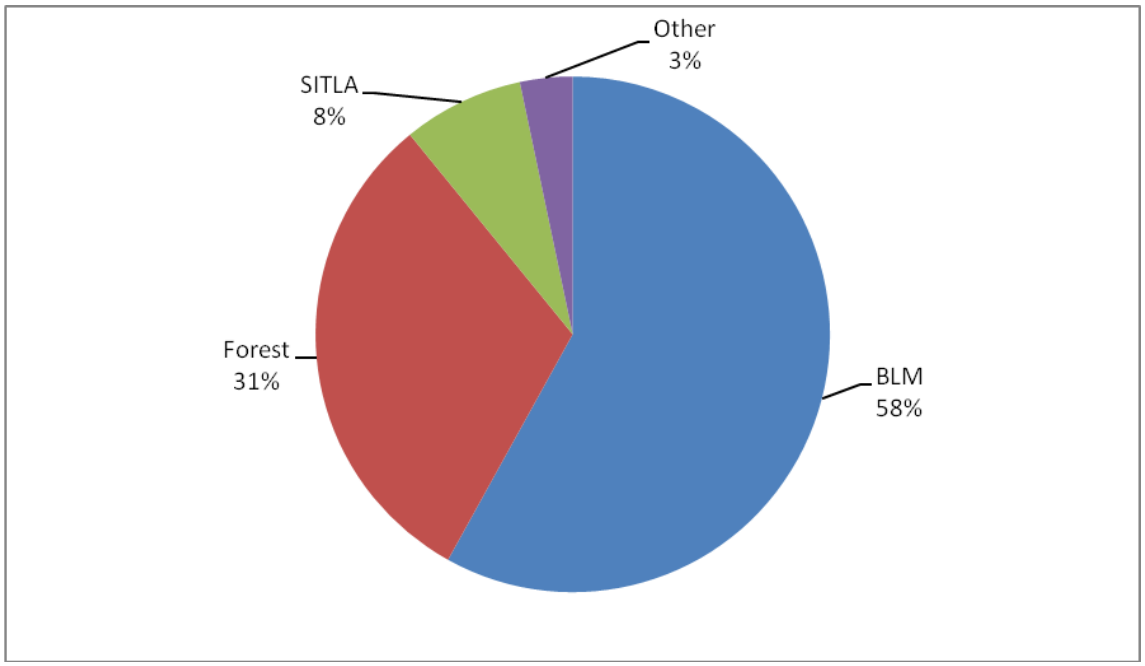


Figure 42. *Percentage of grazing permits owned by permittees by agency.*

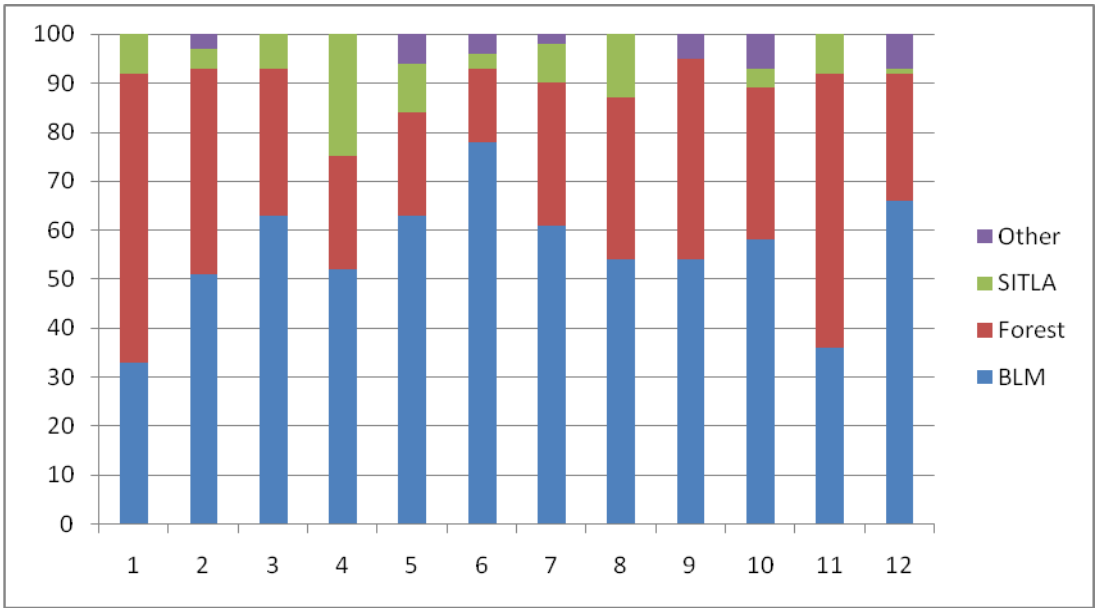


Figure 43. *Percentage of grazing permits owned by permittees in each region by agency.*

Table 13. *Agency and season of use that were judged to be most critical by permittees by region.*

Region	Primary Agency	Season(s) of Use
1 Da/Sl/Ut/Web	Forest Service	Summer
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	Forest & BLM	Summer
3 Carbon/Emery	Forest & BLM	Summer
4 Grand/SJ	BLM	Spring/Summer/Winter
5 Gar/Kane/Way	BLM	Summer
6 Iron/Washington	BLM	Summer
7 Bvr/Juab/Mill	BLM	Summer
8 Morg/Summ/Was	BLM	
9 Cache/Rich	FS & BLM	Summer
10 Box Elder/Tooele	BLM	Summer
11 Piute/Sanp/Sevier	Forest	Summer
12 Out of State	BLM	
State	Forest & BLM	Summer

Permittees were asked to indicate which of their permits were most critical to their ranch operation. The most common responses received were nothing (no response) or "all of them." But, there were some interesting responses from those that did indicate which allotments they viewed as most critical. A summary of these responses is shown in Table 13. The reasons why these allotments were considered critical are listed in Appendix C. There was no clear indication of the season of use that was viewed as most critical for permittees in Regions 8 and 12, but summer use is viewed as most critical in most regions of the state. This is somewhat surprising, given the seasons of use summarized in the following section. For example, winter use is high in Region 4, but summer use is viewed as being most critical by those that responded to the question. One possible reason why summer use of public lands is viewed as being most critical is that private lands are being used to produce other crops during this season and having livestock off the ranch is desirable (see also the reasons listed in Appendix C).

Season of Use

Permittees were asked to indicate when each of their allotments was grazed. The AUMs of use for each of these seasons was then summarized. This summarization is subject to some error, because some allotments are used during more than one season. The total AUMs were summarized by the primary season of use indicated by the permittee. As a result, the seasons indicated in Figure 44 are general. Nevertheless, there is considerable variation in season of use by region. For example, summer use dominates in Regions 1, 2, and 9, while use during the winter is high in Regions 4 and 8. The high winter use in Region 8 (Morgan, Summit, and Wasatch Counties) is surprising because very little of the public land in these counties can be grazed during the winter and none of the land in these counties is administered by the BLM (see Table 1). Furthermore, it is unlikely that any of the FS lands could be grazed during the winter. As a result, most of the operators in this region probably graze lands located in other regions of the state (e.g., west desert).

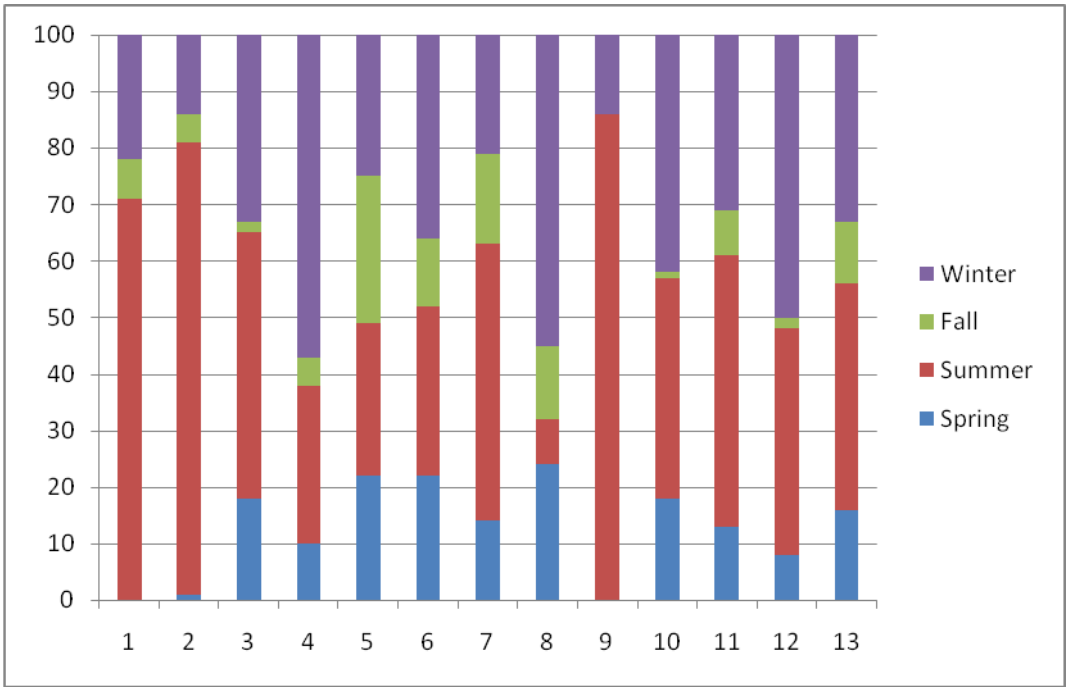


Figure 44. *Percentage of actual use in 2006 by permittees in each region.*

Amount of Use

Some grazing permits involve a small number of AUMs or land area, while others are large. The use of an allotment is affected by administrative, economic, and physical variables. For example, drought may limit the use of an area because the amount of forage available is less than the permit would allow. As a result of this, as well as other variables, permittees commonly graze fewer animals and/or reduce the period of use so that actual use is less than what is permitted. The difference between permitted and actual use for 2006 for each of the regions is shown in Figure 45. These data indicate that actual use was less than permitted use in every region, but the percentage was particularly large for permittees in Regions 3 and 8. There are a number of reasons why actual use may be less than permitted use of an allotment. In an effort to assess some of these reasons, permittees were asked if they had taken voluntary or involuntarily non-use of any of the allotments they were permitted to use. Nearly 25% of the permittees had taken non-use, and most of this had been voluntary. The primary reason given was drought (see comments in Appendix C). Most of the non-use was for one year and only 14% of the permittees indicated that the losses had been permanent (most permittees did not provide any response to this question, so 14% is probably a low estimate). The primary adjustment made to the reduction in use was to reduce herd size (see comments in Appendix C).

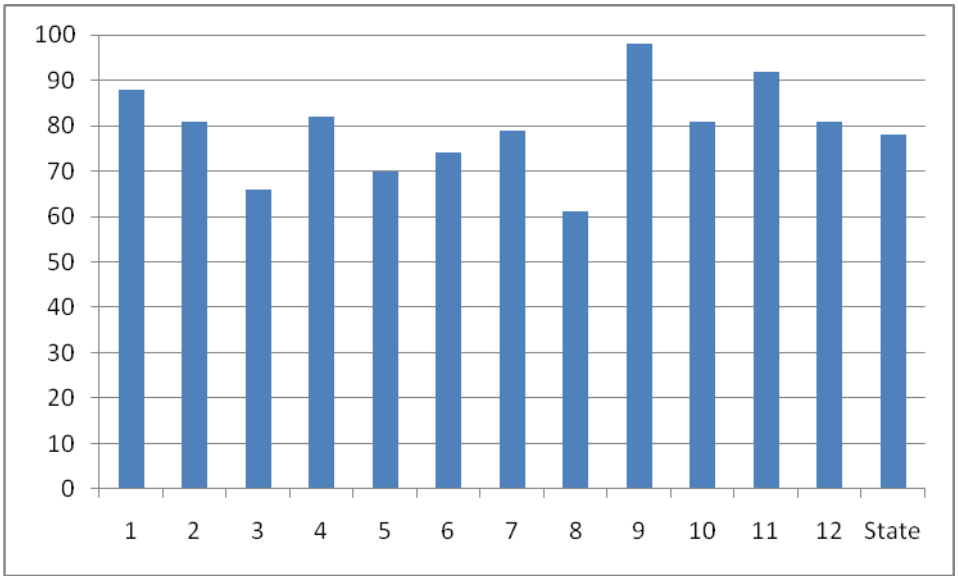


Figure 45. *Actual use as a percent of permitted use in each of the regions in 2006.*

The difference in permitted use compared to actual use may appear odd to some readers because it is not obvious why a producer would not use his/her full permit. There are numerous reasons (e.g., reduced herd size as a result of drought in the past, voluntary non-use). Some indication of how commonly a producer may not use his/her full permit is indicated in Figure 46. These data clearly indicate that actual use was commonly less than permitted use during the period when the FS provided data on permitted and actual use. They also indicate that sheep (and goat) operators stocked somewhat more conservatively than did those that had cattle (and horse) permits.

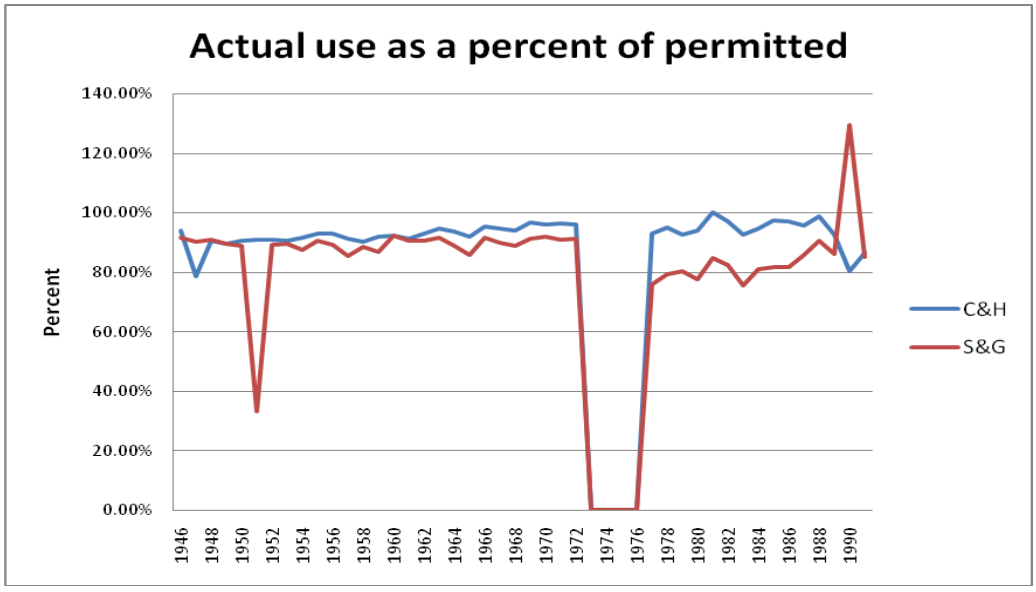


Figure 46. *Actual use*[12] *of Forest Service lands as a percent of permitted use in Utah by class of animal,1946-1991.*

[12] Actual use data were not reported for all of the years shown.

Forage from Agency

The land ownership pattern shown in Figure 14 and Table 1 suggest that forage obtained from the various agencies will not be uniform throughout the state because BLM, FS, and SITLA land ownership varies by county and region. For example, the data in Figure 47 indicates that nearly 90% of the permitted forage provided by the various agencies comes from BLM lands in Region 6, while less than 50% of the forage in Region 1 comes from BLM lands. Lands administered by the BLM do, however, provide about 70% of the forage that producers obtain from all public lands in the state. A similar pattern also exists for actual use (permittees were asked to provide permitted and actual use data). However, the ratio of actual to permitted use (actual use divided by permitted use) varied not only by region, but by agency, as shown in Figure 48.

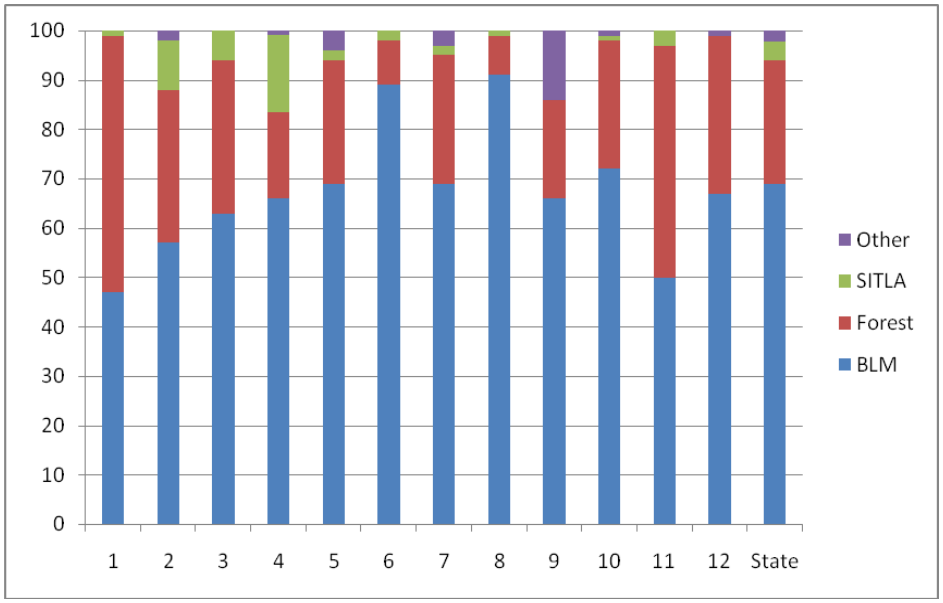


Figure 47. *Percentage of permitted livestock use by agency in regions of Utah in 2006.*

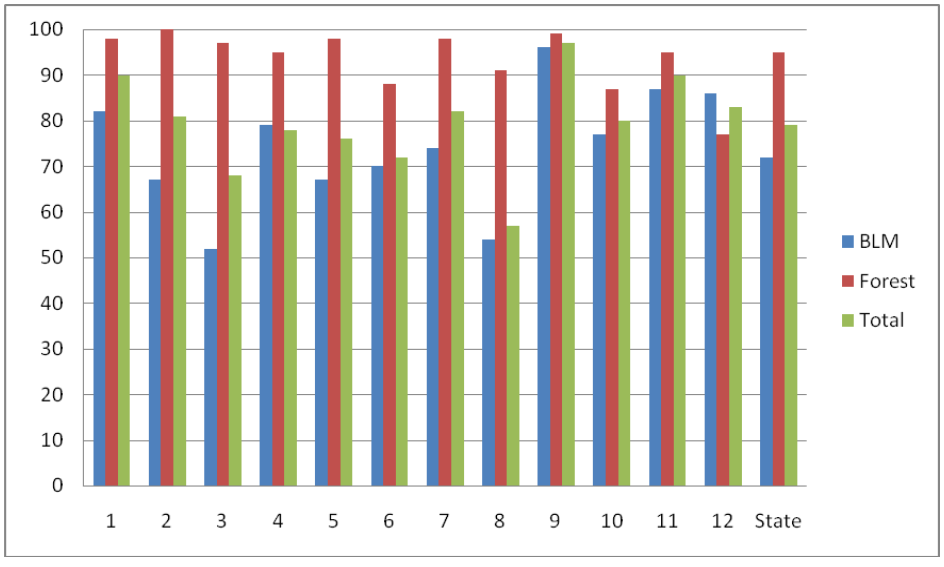


Figure 48. *Percentage of actual to permitted use by agency and region, 2006.*

These data, like the historic FS data above (Figure 46), indicate that actual use is commonly less than permitted use, particularly for lands administered by the BLM that experienced prolonged drought before 2006. This would have affected BLM lands to a greater degree than FS lands, because they are commonly in low-rainfall areas. This is probably the reason why lands in Region 9 were stocked closer to permitted use.

Grazing Adjustments

A number of adjustments can be made if the use of public lands is reduced. Permittees were asked to indicate what percent reduction it would take to have them make various alternative adjustments (go out of business, reduce herd size, seek other sources of forage, subdivide private land, supplement ranch income with off-ranch income, sell the ranch, or lease the ranch to another producer). The responses to these alternatives are summarized in Figure 49.[13].

Fewer than 10% of respondents were willing to sell the ranch, lease it to another rancher, or sub-divide private lands, while 72% would consider going out of business. This suggests most permittees would likely stay in business and get by with private resources if use of public lands was reduced. However, about 10% of the permittees would consider going out of business if grazing permits were reduced by as little as 25%. If the reduction was as much as 50%, more than half of the permittees would consider going out of business. It would take less than a 25% reduction in the use of the permits owned to have more than 30% of the permittees reduce herd size, to seek other sources of forage or supplement ranch income with off-ranch sources of income. Nearly two-thirds of the permittees would reduce herd size and/or seek other forage if permits were reduced between 25 and 50%.

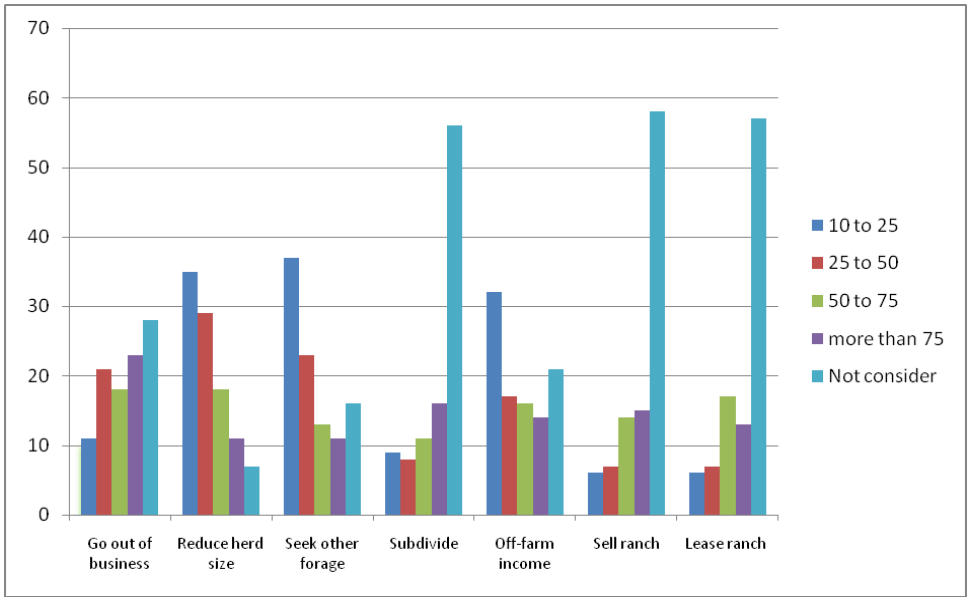


Figure 49. *Percentage of responding permittees that would consider alternative actions, given alternative reductions (percent) in the use of owned grazing permits.*

[13] It should be emphasized these data are only for those permittees that indicated what percent adjustment would be needed to make the adjustments considered. More than one-third of the permittees did not respond to this general question and nearly half of the permittees did not respond to the last three alternatives (supplement, sell, and lease). However, the responses received are probably indicative of the non-responding permittees.

CONCLUSIONS

Several related conclusions can be drawn from the data and analysis above concerning the livestock industry in Utah. Some of these are briefly outlined below.

1. The livestock industry in Utah has changed over time from sheep to cattle production, but the change has not been at the 5:1 ratio that has commonly been assumed. This is especially true in some areas of the state (e.g., southern Utah). As a result, livestock production has shifted from southern to northern Utah.

2. Relatively large reductions in the use of lands administered by the FS and BLM by cattle, sheep, horses, and goats have occurred over time. As a result, an increasing portion of the feed needed by the livestock industry in Utah is produced on private land. Livestock production has commonly declined in areas where the amount or development of private land is limited (e.g., areas where the amount of public land is high or where urban development has occurred).

3. Livestock producers with permits to graze public lands have larger operations than livestock producers without permits. Large portions of these operators also have other sources of income that supplement their ranch operation, but ranching is their primary occupation. Livestock operators without permits can generally be viewed as part-time producers whose primary occupation is not the production of livestock.

4. Livestock operators with grazing permits generally have been owned by the same family for more than one generation, and they intend to keep this a family operation in the future. These operators view the sale of the ranch, leasing, and the creation of subdivisions actions of last resort if their use of public lands were reduced.

5. Livestock producers view legal proceedings as the biggest threat to the use of public lands by livestock. These legal actions are generally beyond their control.

6. Most livestock producers believe that livestock grazing has a positive impact on the reduction of fires. Livestock grazing is generally viewed as having a basically neutral impact on other uses (birds, big game, water quality/quantity, riparian areas, recreation, etc.).

7. The value of grazing permits varies widely within the state. The limited data that are available suggest that the value must be evaluated for each parcel and that few, if any, generalizations can be made.

8. Livestock production is a relatively important segment of the economy in some counties and regions of the state. This is especially true in some of the most rural counties. As a result, other segments (especially firms that supply inputs used by livestock operations) of the economy in these counties are closely related to and dependent on a healthy livestock production sector.

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Appendix A

Cover Letter and Questionnaires Sent to Livestock Producers

The following letter and the survey were sent to all addresses initially and then sent again later to the addresses that did not respond. The memo dated December 1 was a third mailing. Copies of these materials may be downloaded from the public lands section of the Agribusiness web page at Utah State University

http://extension.usu.edu/agribusiness/

15 July 2007

Dear Utah Livestock Producer

Approximately two-thirds of the land in Utah is managed by some governmental agency (BLM, Forest Service, State of Utah [SITLA], Park Service, etc). The Utah legislature gave researchers at Utah State University a grant to provide socio-economic information that these agencies and local units of government can use in resolving land management issues. This survey is one part of this grant.

One of the important uses of publically managed lands as well as private lands in Utah involves grazing by domestic livestock. Members of the State Grazing Advisory Board strongly encourage you to participate in this study by completing one of the enclosed questionnaires. One questionnaire is designed for those who currently have one or more permits to graze livestock on lands that are administered by a land management agency (for example, BLM, Forest Service, SITLA). The second is designed for livestock operators who do not have a permit to graze on lands administered by a government land management agency. This survey is also supported by the Utah Cattlemen, Wool growers, Farm Bureau, and Department of Agriculture and Food. The information you provide is needed to help us assess the role and importance of livestock grazing in Utah.

Your name was selected from a list of farms and ranches maintained by the Utah office of USDA's Agricultural Statistics Service. They are cooperating in this project but will not see the responses received and we will not see the names and addresses of those being mailed a questionnaire. All information received will remain confidential. Information provided by any individual will not be revealed. Questionnaires will be separated from return envelopes so there is no way to determine who provided what response. Your participation is voluntary and greatly appreciated!

Please return your response in the enclosed business reply envelope.

Should you have any questions concerning the study, please contact Bruce Godfrey (bruceg@ext.usu.edu or 435-797-2294) at Utah State University who is directing the work dealing with livestock grazing on public lands. Copies of the questionnaires used are also posted on public lands section of the agribusiness web site at USU (http://extension.usu.edu/agribusiness/).

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely yours

Jay Tanner

Chair, Utah Grazing Advisory Board

State Grazing Advisory Board

Paul McCoy	Vernal
Jay Tanner	Grouse Creek
Butch Jensen	Price
Tom Hatch	Panguitch
Andrew Taft	Bicknell
Darrell Johnson	Rush Valley
Steve Osguthorpe	Park City
Mike Styler	Salt Lake City
Ruland Gill	Salt Lake City
Rex Sacco	Helper
Stanley Wood	Lyman

NorthEast Regional Grazing Advisory Board

Paul W. McCoy	Vernal
Doak H. Chew	Jensen
Mitchell R. Hacking	Vernal
Todd Moon	Myton
Burt DeLambert	Vernal
Bill Robinson	Jensen
Gawain Snow	Jensen
Gordon Moon	Duchesne
Peggy Briggs	Manila

South East Regional Grazing Advisory Board

David Robinson	Monticello
Sandy Johnson	Lake Powell
Charles Redd	La Sal
Charley Tracy	Monticello
Dee and Tammy Taylor	Moab
Butch and Jeanie Jensen	Price
Wade and Cassie Jensen	Cleveland
Vic and Frankie Sacco	Price
Don and Kathie Holyoak	Green River
Ross and Jeannie Hinkins	Orangeville
John Hanna	Price
Earl Gordon	Huntington

South West Regional Grazing Advisory Board

Tom and Corrine Williams	Cedar City
Arlin Hughes	Veyo
Raymond and Allida Heaton	Alton
Tom Hatch	Panguitch
Dennis and Jeri Iverson	Washington
Wayne Smith	Cedar City
Dell LeFevre	Boulder
Dean Eyre	Minersville
Calvin and Phyllis Yardley	Beaver
William Dalton	Minersville

North West Region Grazing Advisory Board

Jr. Goring	Deweyville
Calvin V. Crandall	Springville
Jason Morgan	Morgan
Mike Spencer	Malta
Bill Kennedy	Randolph
Gail Parker	Ibapah
Ken Jordan	Kamas
Jay Tanner	Grouse Creek
Brent Rose	Park Valley
Kelly Kunzler	Park Valley

Central Regional Grazing Advisory Board

Stephen Osguthorpe	Park City
Bill Jasperson	Goshen
Jack C. Madsen	Gunnison
Paul Frischknecht	Manti
Stanley Wood	Lyman
E. Earle Hobby	Fairview
Mark R. Monroe	Scipio
Bliss Brinkerhoff	Bicknell
Andrew G. Taft	Bicknell
John S. Nielson	Leamington
Verl Bagley	Loa

Memorandum

Date: 1 December 2007
To: Beef and sheep producers in Utah
From: E. Bruce Godfrey
Subject: Grazing questionnaires

It is not too late to respond. This is the third mailing of a questionnaire that is designed to help us assess the role and importance of the livestock industry in Utah and in regions of the state. The information you provide, along with other information that is being developed, will be used by the governor=s office and local units of government in preparing responses to planning documents and EIS statements developed by federal agencies.

We realize that the earlier mailings arrived at a busy time of the year. As a result, many of you did not respond----to date less than 20% of those that were mailed a questionnaire in August and September have responded.

The following provides you with some guidelines concerning which questionnaire you should complete and return in the enclosed business reply envelope.

1. Did you respond earlier by returning a questionnaire or indicating that you were no longer a livestock producer?

   A. If yes. **Thank you**. Your cooperation is appreciated! Dispose of the material in this mailing. You received this mailing because we have no way of knowing, unless you provided us with this information, who has and has not responded. This was done to keep all responses anonymous.

   B. If no. Go to #2

2. Do you have a permit to graze livestock on public (e.g., BLM, Forest Service) lands?

   A. If yes. complete and return the buff (yellow) colored questionnaire.

   B. If no. complete and return the green questionnaire.

If you have any questions, please contact:

E. Bruce Godfrey
Department of Economics
3530 Old Main Hill, USU
Logan, Utah 84322-3530
Phone: (435) 797-2294 Fax: (435) 797-2701
e-mail: bruceg@ext.usu.edu

Your cooperation is appreciated! We wish you a happy holiday season.

Public lands grazing survey
Summer 2007

Grazing Non-permittee Questionnaire

Do you currently hold or lease one or more permits to graze livestock on lands administered by a land management agency (e.g., BLM, Forest Service, SITLA, Park Service)? If yes, please complete the Grazing Permittee Questionnaire. If no, please complete the following.

1. In what county and state is your ranch headquarters located?

County: _____ State: _____

2. How many of the following types of animals do you (family/firm/ranch) currently own?

Beef animals		Sheep	
Brood cows		Ewes	
Replacement heifers		Replacements	
Bulls		Bucks	
Retained yearlings		Goats	
Purchased stockers		Horses	

3. How many families (owners and hired) depend on this ranch operation for all or part of their income (enter appropriate number)?

Owner families: _____ Hired labor families: _____

4. What percent of your ranches gross income is from the sale of:

Source	Approximate percent of gross income
Sale of livestock	_____%
Sale of crops	_____%
Sale of other ag products	_____%
Oil/gas	_____%
Timber	_____ %
Recreational enterprises	_____%
Other (please specify)_____	_____%
	100%

5. What percentage of your gross sales are to firms or individuals located in:

A. Local area: _____ % B. Utah: _____ %

6. What percentage of your purchases (supplies, fuel, medicine, etc) are from firms or individuals located in:

A. Local area: _____ % B. Utah: _____ %

7. How long have you or your family owned this livestock operation? _____ years

8. Does a member of the family plan to operate this ranch/firm in the future (next generation)? _____ yes or no.

9. During which period of time do your livestock typically depend on hay as their primary source of feed (For example, 15 November to 31 March)? _____

What percent of the hay fed is raised on your farm or ranch? _____%

10. When your livestock are not primarily being fed hay, what percentage of their feed (AUMs) is obtained from the following sources? What percentage of each source of feed is obtained from lands in Utah?

Source of feed	**Percent**	**Percent from Utah**
Private pasture		
Private range		
Crop aftermath		
Other private		
State lands		
Federal permits		
Other (specify)		
Total	100 %	

11. Have you (family/firm/ranch) ever owned a permit that allowed you to graze livestock on lands administered by any of the following land management agencies (circle all of the appropriate agencies)

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
State of Utah (SITLA)
Fish & Wildlife Service
Forest Service
Park Service

12. If you (family/firm/ranch) owned one or more permits to graze on public lands in the past but no longer do so, why do you no longer own these permits?

_____
_____
_____
_____

13. If a grazing permit became available for sale in your area, what would you be willing to pay for a permit administered by the following agencies by season of use ($ per AUM)?

Agency	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
BLM				
Forest Service				
SITLA (state)				

14. Several factors or influences have or may affect the use of publicly administered lands by domestic livestock. Please indicate how important you believe each of the following may be in affecting your or others' use of grazing permits in the future. Please circle the appropriate response (1= not important, 2= slightly important, 3 = moderately important, 4 = very important; DK= don't know or no opinion).

Factor or influence	Importance			
Legal suits filed to reduce or eliminate grazing . . . . . .……1	2	3	4	DK
Increased emphasis on use by wildlife . . . . . .…….1	2	3	4	DK
Invasive species or weeds. . . . . .……... 1	2	3	4	DK
Recreational activities (OHV's, hikers, etc) . . . . . .……1	2	3	4	DK
Low returns from ranching . . . . . .……1	2	3	4	DK
Purchase of ranches for recreation/second homes . . . . . ……..1	2	3	4	DK
Reduced development/maintenance range improvements ……1 (fences, water structures, revegetation treatments)	2	3	4	DK
Increases in grazing fees . . . . . .……1	2	3	4	DK
Increases in the non-fee costs of grazing public lands . . . ……. 1	2	3	4	DK
Drought/Fire . . . . . .…… 1	2	3	4	DK
Other (please specify) _____1	2	3	4	DK

15. Grazing by domestic livestock can have a positive as well as a negative impact on other uses. Indicate what impact, if any, grazing by domestic livestock has on the following in areas where your livestock graze (check the appropriate box)

Impact of livestock grazing on	**Very negative**	**Negative**	**Neutral**	**Positive**	**Very Positive**
Vegetation in riparian areas					
Numbers of big game animals					
Number and variety of birds					
Water quality/quantity					
Fire suppression					
Recreational opportunities					
Spread of invasive plant species or weeds					
Other (please specify)					

Background information

The following information will allow us to determine how representative the responses received are of the general population. All responses will remain strictly confidential.

16. What is your gender (circle appropriate response): Male Female

17. What is your level of education (circle appropriate response):

less than a high school degree — High school degree or GED
Some College — 2 year/associate degree
4 year degree (BA/BS) — Advanced degree (MS, JD, PhD, etc)

18. In what county and state is your primary residence?

How long have you lived in this county? _____ years

19. How many people currently live in your household

Total number _____ Number under the age of 18: _____

20. What is your religious affiliation if any (circle appropriate response)?

Latter-Day Saint Buddhist Catholic
Protestant (e.g., Baptist, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist)
Other (please specify): _____ None

21. Which of the following best describes your racial/ethnic background? (Feel free circle more than on category if appropriate):

White/Caucasion/Anglo
African American/Black
Hispanic/Latino/Latina
Native American/American Indian
Asian
Pacific Islander
Other (please specify): _____

22. Which of the following are current sources of income to your household? Circle all that apply.

Wages and salary
Income from business
Interest and/or investment income
Income from rental property
Supplemental security income
Other disability benefits
Social Security payments
Retirement pension payments
Unemployment compensation
Food stamps
Public assistance/welfare
Other

23. Which of the following categories best describes you pre-tax annual household income for 2006?
Circle the appropriate amount

Less than $15,0000
$ 15,000 to $ 24,999
$ 25,000 to $ 34,999
$ 35,000 to $ 49,999
$ 50,000 to $ 74,999
$ 75,000 to $99,9999
$ 100,000 to $ 149,999
$ 150,000 to $200,000
$ 200,000 or more

24. Please add any comments you believe would be helpful or informative.

Public lands grazing survey
Summer 2007

Grazing Permittee Questionnaire

Do you currently hold or lease one or more permits to graze livestock on lands administered by a land management agency (e.g., BLM, Forest Service, SITLA, Park Service)? If no, please complete the enclosed non-permittee questionnaire. If yes, please complete the following questionnaire.

1. In what state and county is your primary ranch headquarters located?

State: _____ County: _____

2. How many of the following types of animals do you (family/firm/ranch) currently own?

Beef animals		**Sheep**	
Brood cows		Ewes	
Replacement heifers		Replacements	
Bulls		Bucks	
Retained yearlings		Goats	
Purchased stockers		Horses	

3. How many families (owners and hired) depend on this ranch operation for all or part of their income (enter appropriate number)?

Owner families _____ Hired labor families: _____

4. What percent of your ranches gross income is from the sale of:

Source	Approximate percent of gross income
Sale of livestock	_____%
Sale of crops	_____%
Sale of other ag products	_____%
Oil/gas	_____%
Timber	_____%
Recreational enterprises	_____%
Other (please specify)_____	_____%
	100%

5. What percentage of your sales are to firms or individuals in:

A. Local area:_____ % B. Utah: _____ %

6. What percentage of your purchases (supplies, fuel, medicine, etc) are from firms or individuals in:

A. Local area: _____ % B. Utah _____ %

7. How long have you or your family owned this livestock operation? _____years

8. Does a member of the family plan to operate this ranch/firm in the future (next generation)? _____ yes or no

9. During what period do your livestock typically depend on hay as their primary source of feed (for example, 15 November to 31 March) ? _____

What percent of the hay you feed is raised on your farm/ranch? _____%

10. When your livestock are not primarily being feed hay, what percentage of their feed (AUMs) is obtained from the following sources? What percentage of each source of feed is obtained from lands in Utah?

Source of feed	**Percent**	**Percent from Utah**
Private pasture		
Private range		
Crop aftermath		
Other private		
State lands		
Federal lands		
Other (specify)		
Total	100%	

11. If a permit became available for sale in your area, what would you be willing to pay for a grazing permit administered by the following agencies by season of use ($ per AUM)?

Agency	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
BLM				
Forest Service				
SITLA (state)				

12 . Please complete the following for each permit you have to graze on publicly administered lands: A) allotment name or number, B) agency (e.g., BLM, Forest Service, SITLA, National Park Service) that administers this allotment, C) in what state is this permit is located, D) the number of AUMs permitted and used in 2006, E) the season of permitted use and F) when and how this permit was acquired by your family/firm. See the examples noted below

Allotment name or number	Agency	State	Permitted AUMs	AUMs used in 2006	Season of use	When acquired	How acquired
Big Creek	*FS*	*UT*	*450*	*300*	*6/1 to 9/15*	*1975*	*purchased base property*
99 mile	*BLM*	*ID*	*300*	*300*	*11/15 to 3/25*	*2004*	*sub-lease from neighbor*

13. Which of the permits noted in question 12 do you view as being the most crucial to your ranch operation? Please explain why?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

14. Has voluntary or involuntary non-use been taken since 1990 on any of the allotments noted in question 12?

Allotment	Year(s) non-use taken	Voluntary or Involuntary	Reduced AUMs	Reason(s)

15. Has the season of use or number of AUMs permitted for any of the permits noted in question #12 been permanently reduced since 1990? Yes or No? _____

16. Have you permanently lost or sold any other grazing permits since 1990? Yes or No?

17. What adjustments, if any, in your ranch operation did you make as a result of the reductions noted in questions 14, 15, or 16?

_____
_____
_____
_____

18. What amount would need to be offered ($ per AUM) to induce you to sell any or all the permits you currently own/hold (see question 12 above)?

Allotment or permit	**Acceptable price**		**Allotment or permit**	**Acceptable price**

19. If you involuntarily lost (not sold) the use (AUMs) of the permits noted in question #12, indicate how much of a loss would be needed to have you make each of the following adjustments by you/your ranch (check the most appropriate column in each row).

	Percent reduction				
Action:	10 to 25%	25 to 50%	50 to 75 %	more than 75%	would not consider
Go out of business					
Reduce herd size					
Seek other sources of forage					
Sub-divide private land (ranchettes, etc)					
Supplement ranch with off-ranch income					
Sell ranch to another firm					
Lease ranch to another firm					
Other (please specify):					
Other (please specify):					

20. Several factors or influences have or may affect the use of publicly administered lands by domestic livestock. Please indicate how important you believe each of the following may be in affecting the use of your grazing permit(s). Please circle the appropriate response (1= not important, 2= slightly important, 3 = moderately important, 4 = Very important, DK= Don't know or no opinion).

Factor or influence	Importance				
Legal suits filed to reduce or eliminate grazing . . . …… . . . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Increased emphasis on use by wildlife . . . . . …… . . . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Invasive species or weeds . . . . . …… . . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Recreational activities (OHV's, hikers, etc) . ……..... . . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Low returns from ranching . . …….. . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Purchase of ranches for recreation/second homes . . . ……..... . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Reduced development/maintenance of range improvements . . …….. . 1 (fences, water structures, revegetation treatments)	2	3	4	DK	
Increases in grazing fees ……. . . . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Increases in the non-fee costs of grazing public lands …….. . . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Drought/Fire . . …… . 1	2	3	4	DK	
Other (please specify) _____ 1	2	3	4	DK	

21. Grazing by domestic livestock can have positive as well as negative impacts on other uses. Indicate what impact, if any, grazing by livestock has on the following in the areas where your livestock graze (Check the appropriate box).

Impact of livestock grazing on:	**Very Negative**	**Negative**	**Neutral**	**Positive**	**Very Positive**
Vegetation in riparian areas					
Numbers of big game animals					
Number and variety of birds					
Water Quantity/Quality					
Fire suppression					
Recreational opportunities					
Spread of invasive plant species or weeds					
Others (please specify)					

22. Please add any comments that you believe would be useful or informative concerning livestock grazing on public lands.

Background information

The following information will allow us to determine how representative the responses received are of the general population. All responses will remain strictly confidential.

23. What is your gender (circle appropriate response): Male Female

24. What is your level of education (circle appropriate response):

less than a high school degree	High school degree or GED
Some College	2 year/associate degree
4 year degree (BA/BS)	Advanced degree (MS, JD, PhD, etc)

25. In what county and state is your primary residence?

How long have you lived in this county? _____ years

26. How many people currently live in your household

Total number:_____ Number under the age of 18:

27. What is your religious affiliation if any (circle appropriate response)?

Latter-Day Saint Buddhist Catholic
Protestant (e.g., Baptist, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist)
Other (please specify): _____ None

28. Which of the following best describes your racial/ethnic background? (Feel free circle more than one category of appropriate):

White/Caucasion/Anglo	African American/Black
Hispanic/Latino/Latina	Native American/American Indian
Asian	Pacific Islander

Other (please specify): _____

29. Which of the following are current sources of income to your household? Circle all that apply.

Wages and salary	Social Security payments
Income from business	Retirement pension payments
Interest and/or investment income	Unemployment compensation
Income from rental property	Food stamps
Supplemental security income	Public assistance/welfare
Other disability benefits	Other

30. Which of the following categories best describes you pre-tax annual household income for 2006? Circle the appropriate amount

Less than $15,0000	$ 75,000 to $99,9999
$ 15,000 to $ 24,999	$ 100,000 to $ 149,999
$ 25,000 to $ 34,999	$ 150,000 to $200,000
$ 35,000 to $ 49,999	$ 200,000 or more
$ 50,000 to $ 74,999	

Appendix B

Representativeness of Survey Data

Every five years producers are required to provide information for the Census of Agriculture, conducted by the Census Bureau through 2001. The 2002 Census was conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The Utah office of NASS also conducts various surveys of agricultural producers throughout the year. As a result, NASS data is probably the most complete source of information concerning agriculture. Most of the questions raised in this study are not areas of emphasis for studies conducted by NASS. As a result, there is no benchmark data that can be used for comparison for many of the questions raised in this study (e.g., number of animals owned by permit and non-permit holders). However, NASS data probably provides the best data set for comparison purposes. The Utah office of NASS did provide the list of livestock operators that received the questionnaires that were used in this study. However, the names and addresses of these individuals and firms were kept confidential and not revealed to the author of this study. As a result, the names and addresses could not be compared to grazing records maintained by BLM, FS and SITLA. BLM, FS, and SITLA records provided the only data available concerning out-of-state firms or individuals that have permits to graze lands in Utah. Data for every registered brand were obtained from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF). Every county agent in the state was also asked to provide data on the number of livestock operators that were on their mailing list.

All of the above sources, along with the NASS data noted above, were used to evaluate how representative the responses received were of all producers in Utah. It should be emphasized however, that the responses received are not a sub-sample of the population. The questionnaires were sent to EVERY livestock producer identified by NASS, BLM, FS, and SITLA. The number of responses received by county is noted in Table B1. These data indicate a high response rate for some counties (e.g., Beaver and Wayne) and low for others (e.g., Salt Lake). The low response rates for the urban counties were expected because it is likely that most of these producers are small, part-time operators. The low response rate that was not expected is that for Sanpete County.

The Utah office of NASS was asked to indicate how many producers on the mailing list (9,502) had either more than 25 beef cows or 50 ewes. The result was 4,577 producers. The remainder (9502 - 4577 = 4925) had fewer than this number of animals. The permit and non-permit questionnaires were summarized to reflect those producers that had more than 25 cows or 50 ewes. The number of these producers, by county, was then divided by the number of large (more than 25 cows or 50 ewes) producers identified by NASS. The response rate for the larger producers was smaller in all but Piute, Rich, and Sanpete counties than it was when the smaller producers were included in the comparison. This suggests that larger producers are probably under-represented in the study when compared to NASS data.

Table B1. *Number of permit and non-permit holder responses by county and percentage of NASS number.*

County/Area	NASS	Number of Responses Received			Percent of NASS	
		Non-Permit	Permit	Total	All	Large
Beaver	132	43	20	63	48%	29%
Box Elder	572	154	32	186	33%	27%
Cache	700	202	16	218	31%	17%
Carbon	167	37	1	38	23%	11%
Daggett	30	8	5	13	43%	33%
Davis	252	69	1	70	28%	18%
Duchesne	676	167	20	187	28%	26%
Emery	360	70	47	117	33%	30%
Garfield	178	32	24	56	31%	27%
Grand	40	11	3	14	35%	20%
Iron	311	70	30	100	32%	30%
Juab	136	33	12	45	33%	27%
Kane	86	20	18	38	44%	27%
Millard	365	81	42	123	34%	33%
Morgan	154	52	6	58	38%	33%
Piute	69	14	7	21	30%	39%
Rich	122	14	27	41	34%	38%
Salt Lake	478	65	2	67	14%	5%
San Juan	138	27	21	48	35%	29%
Sanpete	480	50	17	67	14%	26%
Sevier	372	91	18	109	29%	22%
Summit	379	109	10	119	31%	26%
Tooele	262	55	22	77	29%	25%
Unitah	581	158	20	178	30%	22%
Utah	1,120	266	28	294	26%	22%
Wasatch	213	41	5	46	22%	19%
Washington	427	69	39	108	25%	20%
Wayne	127	29	29	58	46%	40%
Weber	575	124	0	124	22%	10%
No county indicated		11	2	13		
Other				376	4%	
Out of state		12	32	44		
Total	9,502	2,184	556	3,116	33%	24%

It should be noted that more than 375 questionnaires[14] were returned because producers were either no longer in business, contacted at an incorrect address, or a phone call was received that indicated that the caller was out of business, did not want to participate in the study, or was not

[14] Records were not kept of all phone calls and returned questionnaires. The 376 noted in Table B1 are only the number for which a response was recorded.

viewed as a livestock producer (e.g., several individuals indicated that they only raised an animal or two for family consumption).

Table B2. *Beef cows, breeding sheep, and lambs included in the survey as a percentage of those reported by NASS by region in Utah.*

	Beef Cows			Breeding Sheep & Lambs		
Region	**NASS**	**Sample**	**Percent**	**NASS**	**Sample**	**Percent**
1 Da/SL/Ut/Web	32,000	11,477	36%	24,700	6,022	24%
2 Dag/Duch/Uin	44,000	17,299	39%	15,600	1,773	11%
3 Carbon/Emery	23,000	6,682	29%	15,400	1,358	9%
4 Grand/SJ	12,000	5,947	50%	2,000	85	4%
5 Gar/Kane/Way	23,500	13,061	56%	7,000	2,024	29%
6 Iron/Washington	17,000	8,986	53%	36,700	9,715	26%
7 Bvr/Juab/Mill	46,500	16,467	35%	8,000	969	12%
8 Morg/Summ/Was	16,000	8,583	54%	45,000	13,432	30%
9 Cache/Rich	27,500	22,368	81%	11,400	1,490	13%
10 Box Elder/Tooele	57,000	17,317	30%	42,400	9,793	23%
11 Piu/Sanp/Sev	45,500	10,962	24%	60,700	13,716	23%
State	344,000	139,149	40%	270,000	60,377	22%

Another way of evaluating the representativeness of the responses received is to compare the number of animals included in the sample compared the total reported by NASS. This comparison is shown in Table B2. The NASS data are the reported number of beef cows and breeding sheep and lambs found in the 2007 issue of Utah Agricultural Statistics for 1 January 2007. The number in the sample is the number of beef cows and ewes reported by those who responded to the survey. This comparison suggests that a larger portion of the state's beef cows is included in the survey than is suggested by the number of operators that responded. For example, in Region 9 (Cache and Rich County) some 80% of the estimated number of beef cows reported by NASS were included in the survey responses, which is much higher than the percentage of the respondents for either county (Table B1). In general, the percentage of beef cows included in the survey is a larger share of the estimated number of beef cows reported by NASS in every region of the state. However, the percentage response is lower for sheep. This suggests that sheep operators are probably under-represented in the study. A review of the data and personal knowledge of the industry suggests that large permit-holding sheep operators are probably the one group that is most under-represented in this study. However, no data exist to confirm or refute this supposition. It should be emphasized that the number of animals reported by NASS is also an estimate. The standard used (NASS data) for comparison is also subject to sampling error, but it is the only data available that can be used for comparison.

The data in Table B3 summarize the general characteristics of permittee and non-permittee respondents. These data indicate that the general population characteristics of respondents are similar for permittees and non-permittees. The one response that was somewhat surprising was the high percentage of the questionnaires that were completed by males. It is not known if these characteristics differ in the regions of the state because these summaries have not been completed at the time this publication was written.

Table B3. Background information of permittee and non-permittee respondents.

Characteristic	Permittees	Non-permittees
Percent of respondents that were male	93%	89%
Percent by level of education		
Less than high school	2%	2%
High school degree or GED	28%	26%
Some College	25%	24%
2yr/associate degree	12%	12%
4 year degree (BA/BS)	19%	21%
Advanced degree (MS/JD/PhD, etc)	12%	13%
Average number of people in household	3	2.9
Religious affiliation		
Latter-day Saint	87%	84%
Protestant and Catholic	2%	5%
None or no response given	11%	10%
Racial/Ethnic Background		
White/Caucasian/Anglo	95%	94%
Hispanic/Latio/Latina	<1%	< 1%
Native American/American Indian	<1%	1%
Percent reporting income by source		
Wages and Salary	54%	58%
Social Security payments	32%	36%
Income from business	55%	44%
Retirement pension payments	25%	31%
Interest or Investment income	23%	27%
Unemployment compensation	0%	<1%
Income from rental property	10%	15%
Food stamps or public assistance welfare	None	None
Supplemental Security payments	2%	2 %
Other	4%	4%
Percent having annual gross income (pre-tax) in 2006		
Less than $15,000	3%	2.6%
$15,000 to $24,999	7%	6.8%
$ 25,000 to $34.999	11%	10.2%
$ 35,000 to $49,999	15%	17.3%
$ 50,000 to 74,999	21%	24.1%
$ 75,000 to $99,999	11%	16.6%
$ 100,000 to $149,999	7%	9.7%
$ 150,000 to $ 200,000	2%	2.4%
$ 200,000 or more	4%	4.0%
No response given	21%	6.3%

Appendix C

Responses to Survey Questions

The following responses were received are generally verbatim comments. The only changes that were made were corrections for spelling and deletion of names or allotments. Deletion of the names of individuals or specific allotments was made to maintain the confidentiality of the responses received.

Reasons given by non-permit holders concerning why they no longer own a permit to graze on BLM, Forest Service, SITLA, FWS, or Park Service Lands

sold livestock and permits to neighbor
We had to sell our land back to Forest Service to get Federal aid to restore water shed in the 1930s We owned 1 section of mountain land until 1930
never owned a permit
Millcreek canyon 80 years ago or more for sheep
Federal Bureaucracy discoufed use threatened curtailment and was difficult to work with. Therefore sold off majority of operation. Tired of listening to "pristine deer and elk only" rhetoric.
sold permits in Nevada 500 head
his mother lost them
The price was lower
the demand of rec - costs more than it was worth. (more)
Downsize to livestock #
didn't use them or need them
downsize and cost
environmentalists screwed us out of our grazing permits
sold most of ranch & moved cows to NV; sold most of cows
father grazed cattle on Strawberry, but farm broke up
sold cows
not sure
sold due to cuts, restrictions & labor shortages – 1965
too much recreation on land, cost too high for small operator
too expensive
reduction of number of animals
dad has pass but only uses 70% other left open
uncertainty due to previous cuts
cut back, sold
sold permits with former ranch in Northern Utah
don't know
sold permits because private ground was condemned too many times
politics - with gov. and others who hold permits
family strawberry permits. They might someday. But the range is turning to sagebrush. It was the cows and water users that made strawberry what it was
Sold before I purchased the land
too close to city, too much traffic, too much liability
too short of grazing season
loss of farm ground

we let a friend use them
turned over to neighbor
failed to renew permits
Expense
Strawberry Water Users - done away with
cut back - so we sold out
sold - government too hard to work with
Strawberry water and grazing
couldn't afford to
no cattle sold permit
discontinued permits in Strawberry
the government and environmentalists forced us out of these permits with no personal compensation being paid for them. We owned a much larger herd before our permits were taken from us.
just renting out my land
strawberry water users
Forest Service has them now
no longer have the need
sold out
sold to the reduction of permits
Sold
too much harassment from forest service
project was closed and permit sold
problems with gov. and other cattlemen
sold because of gov. harassment
sold them
permits were pulled
father sold permits
had permits in strawberry valley, gov. condemned them
to expensive
sold them with farm
sold it
too expensive
Short season. Express in maintaining
sold permit
It was my Father And sold long ago
not available
never had the opportunity to get ine
SILA sold it in an auction
don't wish to put up with BLM, state of Utah
opp. Too small- probably wouldn't buy any
sold sheep herds
Sold
sold it
Bureau of Reclamation took back, river contamination
sold out

cut back # of animals and days allowed make it hard
too expensive to ship cows to range, reduction in herd due to drought
sold my cows and got too old to ride that much
cost hard to get along with government
not feasible
sold our cattle and permits
cost and not available
we used to run sheep but sold them
sold out, too old to keep up
lease cancelled. Don't think anyone runs on it anymore. Don't know for sure. Also Difficult to work with DWR
partly retired and slowed down my operation
Grandpa sold them
insecurity of continued use
I sold it
cost of permit
it became too costly
sold because season to use it was shorter
more economical to use private & Indian leases
sold permit in Wyoming (too far to travel)
up/downs of farming/ranching
Sold
didn't need one
sold permit
too much red tape and tracking expense
sold the ground
sold property
sold to neighbor
sold it
Too much government control
leasing members deceased
no longer in livestock business full time
sold them out, tired of the red tape and harassment
too old
very small operation
predation and theft of calves.
sold and bought private ground
It was too time consuming for small # of the permit (43 cow/calf units)
sold them
sold summer permit to _____, had a full time job too hard to handle at the time
bought the public lands so as not to deal with others and to keep public out of trespassing on the operation
had to cut back on operation numbers and no longer need them
the family sold it
too far away
given to someone else

sold them with pasture
purchase the land
an uncle in another area now owns the permit
they've become too expensive
sold place and permits
purchased the land
it was a poor permit and gov. red tape
always had enough private grazing for needs
sold ground and permit
no need, no feed
no longer have cows
never owned
no livestock owned now
When dad & uncle retired then passed away our private deeded land mostly is leased to other operators, no need to renew permit - Also dad and uncle were out bid in 1990 on some state permits
sold permit
father sold largest part
parents sold them
Economics
too much hassle
too many rules and reg and other permittees
sold base property
permits were sold when I was young and dad was killed in accident
Sold
Sold
grandfather sold permits with part of the farm
we sold the permits and cows
sold base property
Sold
cattle are fed at home
sold them
family farm sold by parents
run on private farm
transferred to next generation
sold with 95% of farm
dad owned the permits- brother inherited them
Sold
sold 2007
property leased
drought and sold out
reduced the help size to a more manageable level
sold due to inability of father while I was out of US
the farm has 1 small permit 6 amu's that we kept just to keep from having to build a fence. There is no pasture on the permit just canyon and cedar trees
We have 3 grazing permits, but none in my name

I sublease from a current lease
sold them with cattle sale
too much hassle with the above agencies
Navajo Reservation grazing permit
Injury
Tired of hassle with Gov. Reg & envir "exclusionists"
sold cows due to AUM cut drought
sold them
not enough time
old age
cut the permits
BLM closing, park run on
land trade made it unnecessary to lease from the forest service
down size
sold, too much trespass
we went out of the livestock business and sold our permits to others
the government kept cutting permits
it was retired- no family member could run it
I had some SITLA ground but they took it away
sold most of the farm
Sold herd
sold it
no access to permit
because of monument status - tired of dealing with BLM idiots. Drought
sold sheep permits did not trade to beef
father sold
the distaste I developed for working with federal agencies
Not economical to maintain
Other interest
sold- too much trouble
bought private past -not agree w/ grazing plans -reasonable sell
wasn't enough feed for the animals
sold to nephew and niece
Drought and could not compete with buffalo
could not longer take care of it
permit was sold when dad retired
owned in the past not any more
sold them
ask my brother _____
sold to niece and husband
sold livestock and permit
Sold
father required to sell the permits
sold- can find many to purchase
personal choice
sold the cows

gave up permit when operation downsized
Sold
cost prohibitive due to distance
sold them

too many laws and too many people poking their noses around our business
reduced number of livestock
sold sheep and permit
sold permit out of range sheep
I have no livestock. I have sold the permits
we have owned permits that we sold because of the way we operate the business
they were taken without compensation
mother sold to pay Dr. bills
went out of the livestock business
sold permit out of fear of losing everything
not feasible numbers cut
we got a bad check for our lambs- had to sell
state sold land
Sold
The hassle of working with gov.
too many persistent bureaucrats
forest service took father grazing permits
couldn't put up w/ BLM's regulations & policies
would be interested but don't know cost
Owner died, Changed operation
Not economically feasible
Agencies are too hard to work with
Retired
we haven't needed them
sold permit not practical for our location
so much regulation and mismanagement that I sold permits
sold rights
SITLA has become a real estate development arm of Utah
Father sold it before he died
had to sell permit when moved to Nevada/ California in 1956. was carrying as non use for several years prior to moving away
I no longer own any cattle I have a very small BLM permit for sale
we use the range only as a hobby
moved away, sold cows, no longer used permit
permits decreased
Conflict of interest- worked for BLM
Na
Sold
brother now owns it
Sold
expensive and too much time to take care of cattle

to much control and decisions by the government
1960's bought private ground for the cows
Sold
they were sold
sold BLM too unpredictable
father owned and sold when retired
it got to be too big of a hassle to deal with a federal agency
wife's grandfather had permit we believe and when he died his wife got rid of it
sold them
Sold
requires too much time cannot work and keep permits
BLM kept reducing the number of permits. Orig. 50 then 25 then 12 then sold permits
sold and went to private pasture
ground has been burned or droughts cut permits
traded permits to another rancher
made ranch smaller- sold them
father retired and sold permits
got to be a pain
do not plan to carry enough stock to need one
time conflicts
permits were sold - too much hassle with gov agency
was leased (fire, fencing, would transfer sheep permit to cow
forest service banned permit on Nebo
not worth cost and effort
permit #'s were reduced until it cost more to ride and manage the unit than we could possibly gain from it
the government stopped the grazing
sold to other producers
we got pushed out of them by the agencies noted
The government stop us from grazing
no longer allowed grazing there
sold because of costs - sold down cows - raise calves for beef
dad sold the cows and the permits
Adjudication
the permits were cut from 75 head down to 15 head
very poor range, did not work well with management decisions
AUM were cut down so low it wasn't worth renewing
Sold
they took them away
went broke
sold the permit to buy private pasture
moved out of the area
sold them because of conflict of interest
too much hassle dealing with BLM, other cattlemen, public etc.

A number of reasons, including changing operations (we're in a down-sized transition mode right now). But largely because the public land entities are such a pain to deal with and

becoming increasingly unfriendly to grazing

50 years ago
Sold permits
they cut your permit and won't let you increase
Sold the permit to buy a ranch
sold forest permit for small number of horses
sold due to time to took to maintain fences
sold them
troubles/uncertainty of gov. agencies
Parents sold it-I would evaluate then be very interested
convenience and problems with FS
didn't use
sold ranch and moved to current location
state sold the land
state sold parcel of land
USU sold property
Sold when ranch split Economy of scale forced sale
other family members have the permits
sold sheep operation to family member who bought these permits
it was too time consuming to work with the forest service. Because of all the regulations I spent too much time
the hassle of dealing with forest service personnel - fencing problem and public complaints
leased 1920 - 1941 gov sheep permits sheep have mot run on this land in years
went out of sheep business
change from cattle & sheep to dairy at the time
sold ranch next to permit
don't need
I don't qualify for BLM permits
sold sheep herd
they are in my father's name
uncertain future with forest permit
the state park purchased the private range making the forest unavailable
forest and state canceled the grazing
sold the cow operation and the permits went with the herd
Forest Service too hard to deal with
The state took it away from us and turned it over to sheep permit
sold permit with the cow in the 80s
father sold permit
sold some private land to state park
association sold out to sheep men
don't know where to get one
sold permit
forest service pushed us out - b/c rec camping
less and less grazing time
inconvenience and losses

not worth work to maintain with lwss time and less livestock
sold the ranch
I quit raising cow & calf operation
increased grazing price
sold them too much hassle with the
we get tired of the uncertainty of amount of time we would be on the range. Also we're tired of non farmers trying to manage our use of permits
various reasons including the hassle of dealing with Forest Service and local environmentalist
not worth the trouble too much red tape
Rail Road - sold former ranch
sold them
only good for Sept and Aug not worth the bother, no actual value - more of a nuisance
Rail Road - sold former ranch
no longer have cows
conflict with ranger and state livestock leaders
failure to receive paperwork
never owned one
still own them
I didn't have enough help and it was expensive
lack of positive management control
never had a chance-always taken by the big guys
grandparents sold
sold sheep and cattle
sold them, ranger tough to work with
Too much of a hassle
forced out by high expense and western watershed
I have retired, but left my nephew use the range
sold them to my brother
too costly to remove cattle
still have them
but sure grandpa ran cattle before I was born
one family member bought from us
sold when husband died
too much hassle, hard to check cattle, hard to coordinate rides, drought
cost of membership and value of grazing was not worth it.
Economics, bank pressure
sold them
the BLM became difficult to work with, was having to haul cattle 75 to 100 ,iles to utilize permits. Had problems with disease from other peoples cattle and bulls. 90% was problems with BLM
brother now operates grazing permits
state sold permit lands
cut herd number down
the state of Utah sold it
sold that ranch

stopped raising beef
they sold to Utah school trust lands. They sold out to private individuals
sold all cows
too many problems with the BLM management
too much trouble, improvements, short season
they were exchanged for remote grazing
sold to other family members
moved from Idaho
traded it
Utah ran it by the book didn't care about specific conditions
husband died
long story
cattle was sold and permits were cancelled or taken from my family by the BLM and Forest Service
health, old age, pressure from administrator
sold cows
sold permit when husband died
still have permits but because of costs don't use
Forest Service to hard to get along with. Pasture is much easier to run, less time involved
tired of fighting the feds
cuts in numbers and time
cost of operation
forest service canceled all cattle permits
It just wasn't worth the hassle for 25 permits
death loss, difficulty in managing herd calving
ATVs, dev., regulations, not cost effective
sold our sheep herd tot other livestock owner
Sold permits
Expired
Use private land now
sold sheep and permits
cost too much
too short grazing time. Too many problems with FS
We sold them we lose to many to wild animals
father-in-law did many years ago when has larger herd
transferred to another family
loss due to predators and other costs
father sold sheep herd
economics dictated a change in occupation
cut back and sold the sheep
costs too high so changed operation\
was not proving profitable
not worth cost and effort
price of lamb was so low in 2000 that I sold 1200 ewe and forest permit
# of head and pasture dates not consistent
Sold

Sold
too difficult to operate under USFS rules and regs, shortened grazing periods death and loss
sold permit
we do own them
sold and got out of sheep
permit numbers were cut, it was no longer economical
sold sheep and permit
we leased our cows to a permittee who was unable to keep up his cattle numbers for several years
down sized operation
could not depend upon; cost
Retired
Private pasture became available. Easier to manage
bureaucratic rigenmorole done away with permits
too much hassle and gov reg
ranch was closed
sold my cattle and forest permit for more than I was carring in 2007 January
too much hassle - too expensive to maintain.
sold for health problems
Sold
proper opportunity to sell
Too far from home ranch. Possibility that government could or would cancel lease.
Difficulty dealing with some government administration.
dad had to sell out because of drought
the returns were not worth the effort
sold cattle to father
too costly to operate
no longer exist
disease destroyed herd, could not rebuild
retirement because of age and gov. restrictions
grandparents sold
sold ranch
too much hassle
too much gov. hassle
not cost effective
sold out
Environmental pressures and grazing cutbacks
Too hard to work under govt supervision
sold to brother
sold permit
dad sold out
forest service canceled our permits
sold on non use
I owned a permit prior to working for BLM as a _____. When I went to work they (BLM) deemed it as a conflict of interest and made me give up the permit
to many predators and no herders

Miscellaneous voluntary comments received in non-permittee questionnaires

Some years grazing should be earlier because of good spring feed. Don't let the June grass grow so tall

Due to the drought in our area no cattle was kept in 2007, I am hoping to be more productive in future

It's just a hobby

I think that I already filled out this questionnaire

Battle with growth and state water engineer priority is anti agriculture

Don't feel like I know enough yet to participate intelligently in a survey like this

Buys light steers, put on hay and pasture and sell as big steers, to many risks for not enough money to be a cow operator

BLM does not know how to manage the land, should be turned over to the private sector. Keep and make control local

My children are the 5th generation on our farm

Our cow numbers are down right now because we sold them in the high market. Plan on rebuilding to 100 brood cows

I would not buy a permit. I would buy property and manage it myself for a better return

For Income: Personal – 3 Business – 9

what is the purpose of this survey? Will is help small producers or just the big operators

200 dairy cows 100 dairy heifers

I believe that land uses can be multiple

our business will probably all be for sale in the next 10-15 yrs because none of our children want to continue

I think it reduces the danger of all kinds of fires to graze all of these areas.

Our operation is primarily for our own use.
We produce 4 beef cows yearly- we use our hay for sale also

Early spring grazing on big game winter range is a benefit, where later on it seems to push the animals to other areas

wouldn't want a permit if it were free

cattle operation does not contribute significantly to my net income

I own 2 steers that I raise for beef for our family and harvest crops off of about 8 acre

why am I getting this form we dairy 100% - contained lots

small farms = broke

Beef cows are not our main source of income. Me and my wife both work outside of agriculture

put more information out on the positive side of grazing

went out of the dairy business in 1985

just sold beef animals
permits should be able to be bid on by everyone for 5 year contracts

Get a good public relations firm. Public grazing needs to edu
spread by enviro groups

we have reduced our herd

23 is not your business

hobby farmer, livestock raised for weed control and own use

get the state of Utah. Governor and Legislature to stop buying private lands. Discourage conservation easements

Thanks for asking

Very negative impacts to camping, hiking, hunting. Not worth it.

Livestock people who have grazing permits take very good care of the lands – grazing reduces fire danger and promotes grass growth

we train horses and use public lands a lot for recreation.

I would love to have winter grazing permit opportunities in any part of northern Utah

I'm not running any cattle yet but I am planning to buy some in 2008. I would appreciate any help with literature about the business that you would recommend.

Due to a senior partner having ill health our operation has cut down drastically

without **low cost** public grazing many farmers and ranchers would be forced out of business

Public land grazing is very important to the future of farming & ranching we must do everything we can to keep Public land grazing

kick environmentalists out of our state
BLM & forest service lands have too many people who think they own the ground & like to throw their weight around

many ranchers and farmers in this area would go out of business without the permits

no longer own livestock

we no longer ranch

fluctuation of prices

we pasture neighbor's cows

grazing practices by "old theory" ranchers should be more closely monitored. The way grandpa used to farm is not always the best method. More education needs to be given to younger ranchers

we raise these animals for recreational and for the kids to learn responsibility not for profit

retired – we own 446 acres and lease to others for $500 per year

plans for the state should be provided for all development is begun

we feel grazing helps with fire suppression by decreasing undergrowth

religion, ethnicity and income should not apply

Sagebrush has taken over leading to fire hazards and recreational danger

US gov. needs to look to the future- we will always need food grown in America, farming has got to be profitable

This is a very very little hobby

There's always a problem with wild life on this ranch, ruin fences, garden, yard, wrecked vehicles

our marketing changes every year- we answered #5 with an estimated average

The seasons are too short, too expensive. DWR has too many Elk

Just started – haven't seen a profit yet

Buy and sell 40 head of calves per year

at present we only feed what we want for our family's use. We graze after our crow season. We rent the field to others to feed off .

Grazing is very important

don't claim our place in taxes for farm or make any deductions off farm, just raise a few head for personal use

ranch and farms leased out

reduce environmentalists hold on public lands – wild fires are evidence against closing the acres in the west

I would like to know how to access information on obtaining permits

The range was owned by the family trust since 1976 and sold in 2007. I no longer have access to summer or winter range and have sold my cattle as of Dec. 2007

We only have 2 cows on private land 5.06 acres

would like available leases of public lands mailed to livestock producers, before environmental concerns purchase items

I don't have grazing animals that would be using BLM lands

hobby farm, my expenses always exceed any income this place generates

good livestock management equals good land management; please send info on how to obtain permits

I only raise a couple of cows at a time for beef and I do not currently have any

I don't know what the cost would be for permits but interested

I have a small 4.7 acre farm. It may one day buy my place of residence. It is a hobby farm at best.

Have less government involved

generally speaking livestock men have been the best stewards of the range and it's too bad negative attitudes and false information have such a big impact on ranching\farming

We raise livestock to harvest their fleece. Why are we not considered and acknowledged for our contributions?

Due to the salt creek fire we were forced to sell all of our livestock, but will answer the questionnaire as per cond. Before

haven't farmed for over 13 years, all we have are 4 horses that are in a corral

give ALL public lands in the state to local managed by the people of the state. Get the federal gov. out of our public lands.

I feel there are a few areas that grazing would help control grass and vegetation from being fuel for fire

I sold my ranch 7 yrs ago and just kept a few head of cows that I can feed and take care of in my old age

special interest groups have too much influence with no practical knowledge

I would like more info on the chances we have to graze on private or public lands

pasture land is leased

I raise beef for food, goats for milk, chickens for eggs, fish for food, and I sell a little of each for income

Permits far below private pasture prices – permits should be recalled every 10 years and re-auctioned off. It is impossible to start a new operation

my ranching is more a hobby than for economic gain

have no idea what the going rate is for permits or if by month or cost of permit

lack of income from farming has been a negative to future of farming by our family

the lack of grazing has been responsible for the increase in fires

#1 problem is ag land turning into residential and land process escalating along with property taxes

I no longer own livestock

One thing that would really help is if I had inherited a farm like most everybody else

we are only minutely involved but acutely aware of challenges of those living off of ranching

use corn to feed people and livestock not gas tanks. Build schools not bombs. Buy American

This is a hobby and we have calves for freezer meat and to keep the pasture feed off

have 2/3 acre & combine with neighbor 1-1/4 acre to graze 3 or 4 beef cows in summer to butcher for own
use & to sell

Our ranch is a hobby farm we love to be around animals. It is a way to relax

grazing fees should be based on market forces and not political muscle of the livestock operators or greenies.

I feel strongly that public lands should be used by a wide range of multiple uses- mining, oil, gas, grazing

I would be interested in a grazing permit for horses.

It is harder each year to find livestock feeder steers to purchase

selling out in Sept 2007- too expensive

grazing on public lands is very important to the success of our Ut. Economy and livestock business

My little operation is too minor to be of use in your program

will be buying cattle in the near future

small beginner farms need help

fuel prices are hurting us

The small family farm has about had it- you need to get big to survive or have other income

The small stock producer can't compete because of the present policies

use grazing as a means of fire suppression, over grazing is no longer the issue.

Unused land deteriorates

I don't approve of support grazing by private owners on public lands

farm land is being sold to build houses and ranchers can't afford to compete

I rent out my farm pasture to a neighbor for cow/calf operation

I put $5.00 per AUM But don't know or have any idea how much ranchers are paying for permits. Would be interested on knowing more about grazing permits and their availability

I rent 60 acres of pasture for 4 months out of the

year. I'm not paid much for cow calf unit. Unless you a big – there is no way to make a living off the land

livestock belongs on private lands, mountains are destroyed by livestock

my cattle are a hobby or food source. The sale of calves feed the herd and produce beef (unadulterated) for family consumption

I feed four calves each year for sale to pay the taxes on home and property

I own 5 Acers to pasture my horses on. They are for pleasure. I raise one beef per year for family use.

These are dairy cows – help dairy prices

Just a hobby

allow cattle on the mt. early enough to "eat" up the fire dangers, monitor and remain flexible

feed costs due to ethanol and bio diesel are killing us – fuel costs – trucking – shipping costs are cutting margins

This range land is private and is leased to a cattle operation

I am actively involved some sales to help support my farming habit

This family has owned the place since 1863 to now 2008 that's 145 years still in the same name & I'll be the 4th generation to run it. I will pass it on down to my oldest son, who will go on with it as we all have done, most places around me have been sold and turned into houses and concrete which grows no food, It's about time that people realized where we are headed. The farms and ranches are being pushed out by moneyed people. We are headed down a trail of doom very fast.

Lease pasture and water

Just do this to keep my ground in the green belt

There needs to be more use for livestock on public lands, not to stop grazing, grazing is a positive affect on land

I wish to thank those that have worked so hard to help rural America survive in hard times

Some birds are helpful some are bad – it is more profitable to sell land to developers

sold cow/calf operation because of lack of access to grazing. Went to an all hay production.

Survey does not apply. Own 35 acres used for recreation and leased to neighbor that runs the herd from 6/15 to 11/15

these are dairy cows

I do not have a clue of how much the grazing permits are worth

you better take care of the farmers. The wealth of this nation rests on his back.

I see a lot of elderly farmers selling out to developers at a high $. Younger would-be farmers cannot compete at the high $ amount. Sub-divisions should be built in non-productive land

If you want public land to be healthy you need to graze it.

Watering troughs for livestock also give water to wildlife. Upsetting to see ranchers names carved into trees on Mosbey Mt.

stop laws that currently allow the rich to steal feed from poor small land owners

some states won't accept cattle

I only have 1 goat. My dad grazes his cattle on my pasture in trade for hay for my goat

The last 4 or 5 questions indicate the validity of your questionnaire.

More public grazing= fire suppression; more public grazing= wildlife I see more deer (wildlife) on the farms than on public lands

Fuel is one of my biggest expenses. I feel the oil companies are greedy

have had more cattle in the past but had to reduce the number when the family sold the private grazing land on blue mountain to another cattle raising operation

BLM needs to help with private property fence lines that join them and spray noxious weeds

sold farm, bought larger farm in Wyoming

have had more cattle in the past but had to replace the total numbers when fam. Sold private range

The livestock industry means a lot to our family and we can't let it go. Its who we are, what makes us. We love it!!!

It would be nice to have grazing permit at a reasonable cost

We should have our Strawberry grazing rights returned to us. This would also help with the fires in this area.

Our ranching operation is primarily a program of real estate maintenance

stop overgrazing, because it affects the image of all ranchers also it take years to recover if it ever does

don't send me any more questionnaires

livestock grazing on public lands must pay fair market value comparable to private land in order to compete with recreational use

we raise lambs starting spring and sell in the fall every year. My father runs a separate sheep/cattle operation and has permits on BLM and Forest Service

had to sell cows because of condemnations and left us with no access to water for livestock and calving areas etc.

I only have 2 acres of pasture. I feed 4 animals for beef every year for family and friends. Generally from May to October. They then are slaughtered and processed

Thanks for your efforts in helping agriculture

would like very much to acquire grazing permit

I don't remember if I have already responded to this questionnaire

due to drought, we sold 60% of our cow herd in Aug and Sept

no comment because it wouldn't make any difference

I want more public advertising of range permits for sale or lease- it seems to be done behind close doors

small family historic farm- appox. 20 acres.

I could not get a permit if I tried

Taxes this year are outrageous! 600% increase is not right!

Just a hobby

I have rodeo bulls. They are too expensive to graze on public ground

sold dairy farm in 1965 have only 8 acres left where in pasture and grass hay

Land owners want to help but feel state and county agencies ties hands or try's to dictate policy; I speed two weeks a year trying to stop invasive weeds; I am cutting in road to property – no access right now

Property owned by a family partnership presided over by a 94 year old female. Grazing is leased to local friends; 40 head of cattle but do not know the division

established about 1910, and wasn't worked much from 1970-1994 been trying to get back into production the past 10 yrs

farm is mostly in young trees and fruit that are sold on road side stand

Raise beef for family use – do not sell for income

I believe that grazing helps public lands and game animals because ranchers control predators, keep water holes open, keep trails open and benefit the ground.

I lease my farms and buy hay from leases

Warner Valley used to be a very good winter permit but not now

Grazing permits that are in non-use should be made available to others who would use them- not environmentals

Farming and Ranching only help the environment and wildlife, no farmer/rancher wants to ruin the earth/animals

if permits were stable and I knew I wouldn't lose my investment I would love to buy some. (more)

We currently have the 4.3 acres for sale. We are not pasturing or feeding or owning livestock

I am struggling to keep going and I pray I can make it one more year!

Retirement and part time Jobs for both of us

I would welcome being part of a discussion group on this topic (info on sheet)

losing water shares to get simple water connects for water troughs for cattle om the Weber-Taylor area

I'm too old to know

our farm is up for sale Weber county taxes put me out of business

we no longer have cattle on our farm

tell the tree huggers to drop dead

Do not appreciate the questions #20 & 21

_____is forcing us to give up Irrigation shares for a connect water trough- who can afford to do that?

ground is worth more than farming, could easily retire if sold ground for horses or condos, what a waste

sells horse, wants to retire next year owns 30 acres

my wife & I both work other jobs cattle have many positive results on the environment contrary to popular belief

a larger (wider return envelope would be helpful

we no longer own cattle, all cattle from this operation were sold in 2006

retired

about 40% of my income comes from feeding cattle

for other people.

Our activities have been limited by mountain lions- otherwise keep to 200 head of sheep

Critical allotments (Q 13)
Why are the allotments identified important to your operation Note: reference to particular allotments or operations have been deleted to maintain confidentiality

able to hay pasture
All
all we would be done
amount of aums
base property
base property
Bought
bought from family
bought when BLM came in to offer
bought from son
can't sell the permits or else we sell the ranch
couldn't feed livestock without them
decided to sell these and buy some closer to new operation
doesn’t need hay in winter
Don’t have to feed winter hay
Family
father and purchased neighbor
from father
from individual
grandfather obtained/organization of BLM grazing
Grazing
had original since early 1800, purchased other permits as they came up
have no other place to put cows
If could buy more it would help the operation, more water available with those permits
if had winter grazing we could sell our hay instead of feeding it
if not used, would have purchased private
Inheritance
inherited from parents
inherited/purchased
inherited/purchased permit
lease came available
leased from oil company
leased private and obtained BLM permit
More time away from home and more AUM's
most cattle on it
Need both
no other winter range
only one
only one
only one I have
Only one I have
Only one I have
Only one I have
Only one I have
Only one I have
Only one I have
only one we have
only one we have
only one with any feed
only permit still own
only winter feed I have
Only winter grazing
permit in name of father
Provides enough feed
purchased with range
purchase base
purchase base property
purchase from neighbor
purchase ground
purchase of ranch
Purchased
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purchased base property, from previous owner
purchased base property/aum's from neighbor
purchased base property/from neighbor
purchased base property/sublease
purchased base property/sub-lease from cousin
purchased base property/sub-lease from neighbor
purchased base property/sub-lease from neighbor
purchased base property/sub-lease from neighbor/inherited
purchased based property
purchased cattle and base
purchased cows with permit
purchased cows with permit
purchased from another permittee
purchased from another permittee
purchased from bond rep cost, purchased from prior rancher
purchased from father
purchased from father
purchased from friend
purchased from neighbor
purchased from other permit holders
purchased from previous owner
purchased from shareholder
purchased lease from father
purchased permit/base property
purchased private land and BLM
purchased shares/base property
purchased shares/sub lease
purchased water base
purchased with base property
purchased with ranch
Purchased
Purchased
sale from neighbor
save feeding hay
sub from non-use neighbor
sub lease from family,
sub lease from neighbor
sub lease from neighbor
sub leases, purchased BLM permit
summer and winter grazing
summer feed
summer pasture
summer pasture
summer pasture
Taylor grazing act, purchased based property,
leased base property
Taylor grazing act/lease from neighbor
totally dependents on grazing through the winter months
trade through BLM, purchased base property,
sub-lease from neighbor
trade/purchased/lease
used with private concurrently
used with private concurrently
we use all of them
winter grazing
with purchase, plus extra and state lease
without would be out of business

Non-use (Q 14)
Reasons why voluntary or non-voluntary use was taken

antelope, grazing, drought
better use it
BLM changed off/on dates, no water
BLM mandated
BLM/FS
change in base generation
changed to winter use
conservation
conservation
desert tortoise
Didn't need that many
Drought
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drought & reseeding
drought & water development problems
drought and bison use
Drought and Decreased numbers
drought and fire
drought and fire
drought and fire
drought and fire
drought, fire
drought, fire
Drought, Lack of Money to buy cattle
drought, not enough feed
drought, permanent cut
drought/forest ranger no common sense
drought
Dry
Dry
Dry
Dry
Dry
dry conditions
Dry Range
dry season
dry, no feed
dry, no feed there

fallow, planted, no-use
false conditions
Father died, drought
Father unable to
Feed
feed reduction/droughts
Fire
Fire
Fire
Fire
Fire
Fire
Fire
Fire
Fire
fire and drought
fire destruction
Fire, Drought
fire, winter grazing, overgrazed
Fires
for range improvement
forest service decision
FS cut them/BLM cut them
government took them
Help improve range
herd reduction
lack of feed
lack of feed and drought
lack of feed, lack of fencing
lack of fencing
lack of moisture
lack of water
Loco
Management
move cows off early
need BLM AUMs to use the State land
need to repair the fences
no cows- economics
No exchange for cattle
no feed
no feed
no feed
no feed
no grass
no rain
no rain
no water
not enough cattle
not enough cattle
number of livestock
overgrazed, drought
over-grazing
partial non-use, drought
personal choice & fire damage
poor feed
range condition
range condition
range improvement
range improvement
recovery from fire
reduced feed
Reevaluated
Rehabilitation
re-seeding project
residential development, too many conflicts
severe drought
sold cattle
sold cows
stupid government
suspended AUM's
to bothersome
to far to transfer
to improve the range
to many buffalo
unknown, suspended
unsure of numbers
very severe drought
Water
water-fire
we voluntarily reduce when feed is scarce
when dry summers short feeder feed

Q 17
What adjustments, if any, were made as a result of reductions in the use of grazing allotments

50% cut
75% reduction in cattle numbers
adjusted grazing plan
As a cow-calf yearling operation, we reduced yearling numbers to allow adequate forage for the base momma cow herd
AUMs cut
because I have extra AUM's I was able to feed some permits heavy while not feeding _____ allotment more than one month in the fall 2006
bought another permit
bought bad and used CRP ground
bought hay
bought hay
bought hay
Bought hay, reduced herd
bought hay--sold down numbers--went with dept to get by
bought high priced feed
bought more farm and pasture
bought more pasture land
bought more property to raise more feed
buy hay
buy more hay
buy more hay and pasture to compensate
buy private range
cattle herd was reduced
Converting to feeder operation
cut back cows between drought and floods and fires
cut back numbers lease fall feed
Cut down-when the director shut me off of the 1/2 mi. grazing @ water west of the ___allotment.
Had to shear and leave for Colorado sooner.
Cut herd size
Cut herd size
Cut herd size in half
cut numbers of cattle because BLM will not help improve range
cut numbers of ewes, fewer, lambs to sell, deep some sheep on the farm
cut numbers some because of drought
cut numbers, and maintenance
cut the size of the cow herd down
Decrease numbers
Down sized.
Drought
Exchanged to cattle due to fire
fed hay all winter
fed more hay
fed more hay in spring
feed cattle for 2 years
feed hay
feed more hay
feed more hay-purchased
fewer cattle
fewer cattle in operation due to BLM taking approx 35% of our range and placing it in desert tortoise critical habitat and not allowing any grazing.
Found more pasture
had to buy hay
had to buy hay for livestock for three years
had to buy more hay and rent more pasture
had to feed, find other pasture
had to find summer pasture elsewhere, private property leases went up in price.
had to purchase hay and lease private pasture
had to reduce number of mother cows
have someone else take some of my herd
Hay
heavy culling and kept a few heifers home
heavy culling old cows
I made my own adjustment in 2002 by selling 1/3 of my cattle because of drought on private as well as public land.
I sold off 1 band due to drought
if you can't feed them, can't run than many cows
Increased Kelix, rotated cattle on several pastures more often, hauled water and fixed a spring for same reason.
Installed fences for rest/rotation pastures assisting with drought situation. In addition, installed 7 miles of new water line and troughs in each pasture to

assist with rest/rotation method. Entire waterline is approx 32 miles in length.
I've had to find pasture out of the state
keep cattle on private pasture
kept extra hay
Labor
lack of winter feed for sheep
Layoff hired hands
lease other grazing
lease other pasture
lease property
leased CRP Ground
Leased land elsewhere
Leased land in Colorado
leased other BLM allotments
leased other pasture
leased other pasture
leased other property
leased private lands
leased property
less cattle
less number of cattle
litigating for over 10 yrs
livestock grazing eliminated on one winter permit 135 head __ allotment and season of use reduced on __allotment 50 head, AZ because of desert tortoise-sold forest permit 250 head-same time and used private fields for summer and ___ allotment for winter
lowered total number
more hay
more private pasture
more private pasture
more ranch work
Moved entire herd to BLM ranch for 18 months then moved all back to our allotment when time was over.
must grow more hay
n/a
Na
Na
New lambing facilities, not as large as would have been
no change
No major changes
none at this time
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
not much, just got by
Numbers
Pastured
private range and forage, did not expand
put more sheep in other areas for winter
purchased feed
purchased hay
purchased hay
purchased hay
purchased hay
Purchased hay and leased extra pasture
purchased more permits
purchased more permits
purchased more private land
put cows on feed on crop/hay ground
raise more pasture and hay
raised more crops
reduce herd
reduce herd
reduce herd
reduce herd
Reduce herd size
reduce herd size
reduced aums

reduced cattle numbers
reduced cattle numbers
reduced cattle numbers 2/5 because of drought
reduced herd
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reduced herd size/fed more hay
reduced number
reduced number of cattle
reduced number of cows
reduced number of head of cattle
reduced numbers
reduced numbers
Reduced numbers
Reduced numbers
Reduced numbers
reduced numbers and kind of livestock
Reduced numbers due to drought
reduced numbers of cattle owned
reduced numbers of livestock
reduced overall numbers
rented pasture
rented private pasture
Renting more fields-changing lambing dates-more trucking
rotate pastures during growing season every other year and pulled off during summer months
run on private
run only the number of cows we are allocated
run our cattle on private pastures
sell cattle
sell down cows
sent cattle to private pasture elsewhere
slowed herd growth
Sold 1/2 permits in 1993 and also 1/2 private land, have been 1/2 of remainder during drought
sold 10 permits in Providence allotment to use only South Cache allotment
sold 20 head
sold 50%
sold a permit
sold a permit because of fire problems
sold another permit
sold breeding stock
sold brood cows
Sold cattle
sold cattle
sold cattle
sold cattle
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Sold cattle
sold cattle

sold cattle
sold cattle way down because of drought. Don't know if drought is over yet. Also being effected by population growth in our area.
sold cattle, rented other pasture
sold cattle, rented pasture
sold cow
sold cows
sold cows
sold cows during drought
sold cows, fed on private lands
sold cows, purchased hay
sold down herd
sold down my number of cattle
sold herd. Purchased hay
Sold Livestock
sold livestock
sold livestock
sold livestock to adjust for feed
sold most of cows and reduced horses
sold number down and bought hay
sold of livestock
sold off older cows to get down to permitted numbers
Sold other FS permit
sold out
sold permits
sold permits to the number
Sold some of the cows
sold some sheep
Sometimes too much snow, so I keep them on the ranch
supplemental feed and reduced number of cattle
Took cattle to a leased ranch in Nevada and fed a lot of hay
took job
Turned out late
unable to increase herd size
use private lands
used hay
used more private grazing
used other places, no reduction of herd
used private property more heavily. Used a BLM permit in Utah that was temporarily available
used to have sheep switched to cows
very little
We buy more hay
we down-sized
we had to sell
We have been unable to find a permanent grazing area since losing one forest permit and each year we are looking for a new area.
We purchased pasture out of the state and cut our herd numbers.
We sold 60 head of our permit to fit the number of cows we could feed from the hay which we raise on our own land.
we sold the sheep and changed to cattle
we were forced to sell because of turtle habitat
we were under the permitted numbers until 2007!
will have to sell some cows, if no help comes from government