

# **PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS REGARDING LIVESTOCK GRAZING AND WILDLIFE: A SURVEY OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE INTERMOUNTAIN WEST**

## **Investigators:**

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## **Objectives:**

- (1) To identify stakeholder perceptions regarding livestock/wildlife interactions on rangeland.
- (2) To identify areas of conflict or concerns regarding livestock/wildlife interactions and determine potential sources
- (3) To identify information needs and research priorities regarding livestock/wildlife interactions.

## **Methodology:**

We conducted a mail survey of public stakeholders that live in the Intermountain West to determine their perceptions, beliefs, and knowledge regarding livestock/wildlife interactions. The survey was mailed to 250 representatives of public and private conservation organizations, 200 randomly selected members of The Wildlife Society, Society for Range Management, Society for Conservation Biology, Farm Bureau, and National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and 1000 randomly selected households.

## **Results:**

Response rates for organizations and agencies exceeded 70%. Response rates for public survey was 40%. Cattlemen, Farm Bureau, and Society for Range Management members were more supportive of livestock grazing than other groups surveyed. Wildlife Society members recognized that livestock can be an important wildlife management tool. Conservation biologists and the general public recognize that grazing can be an important tool to manage wildlife habitats, but believed the application is currently limited.

## **Public Outreach, Presentations and Products:**

Presentation at 2001 Wildlife Society Meeting  
Manuscript is currently being prepared to report the results.

## **Future Activities:**

Survey results will be reported on the website.

## **Partners:**

Cedar Mountain Initiative, S.J. and Jessie Quinney Foundation, College of Natural Resources Quinney Professorship for Wildlife Conflict Management, Jack H. Berryman Institute, The Wildlife Society, National Pork Council, Ducks Unlimited, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Utah Farm Bureau, Utah Cattlemen, Utah Section of the Society for Range Management, Utah Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Utah State University Extension.