



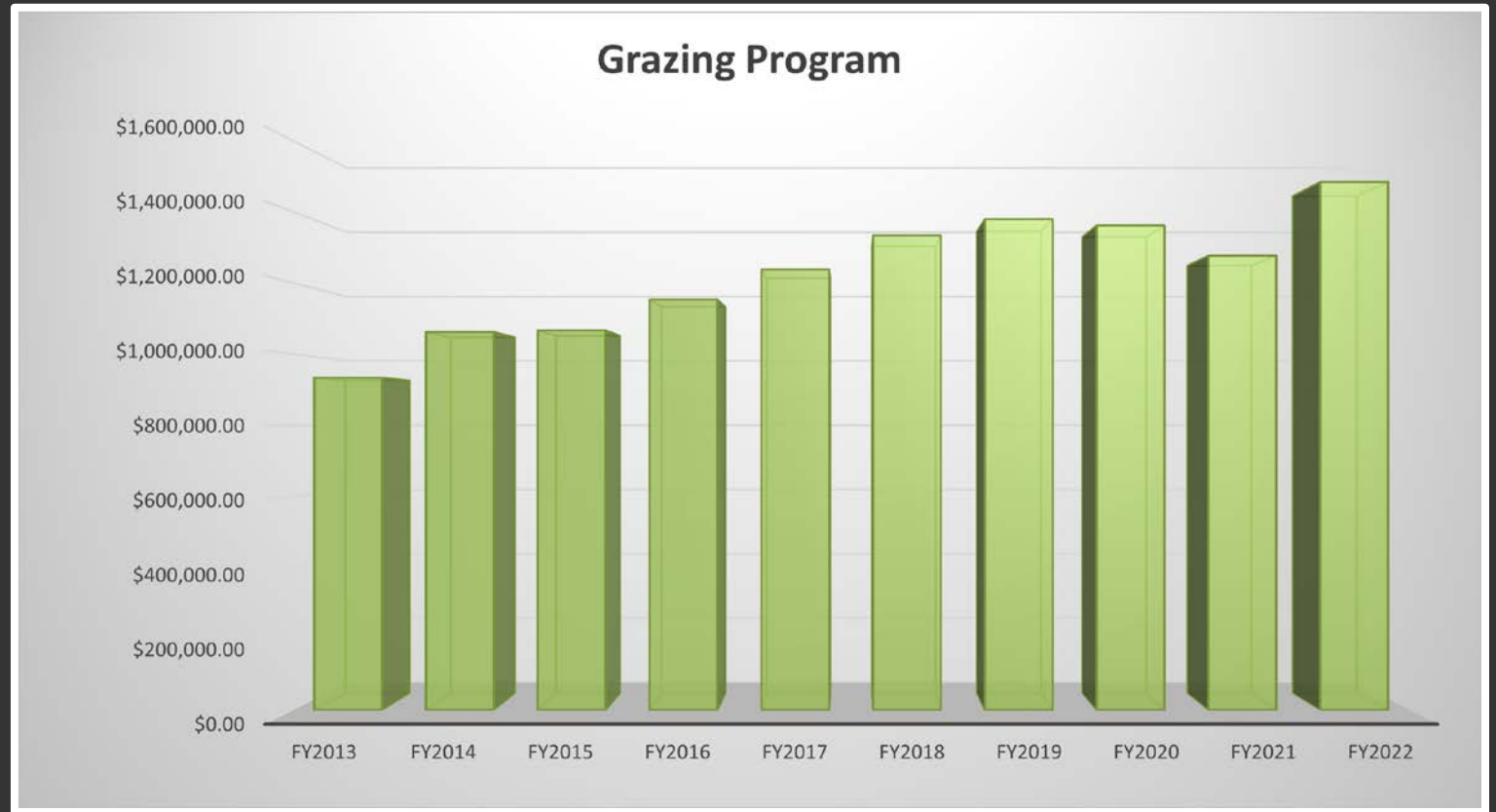
GRAZING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality
Appropriations Subcommittee**

August 16, 2022

RANGE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- 1,200 Active Grazing Permits
- Revenue to Trust Beneficiaries
- Land Stewardship
- Program Administration
 - 1 Division Manager
 - 3 Range Resource Specialists
 - 1 Office Specialist
- Management Authority
 - Utah Code (53C-5)
 - Administrative Rule (R850-50)
 - SITLA Board Policy





GRAZING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

- 15-year permit term
 - Grazing Fees Set Annually by Board of Trustees
 - Standard Assessment
 - 36% of USDA NASS private lease rate, 3 yr. avg.
 - \$6.64/AUM this year
 - High Value Lands Assessment (certain SITLA blocks)
 - 63% of USDA NASS private lease rate, 3 yr. avg.
 - \$11.55/AUM this year
 - Weed Fee – \$0.10/AUM
 - Up to 10% of annual grazing proceeds invested into qualifying range improvement projects
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NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL



- \$0.10/AUM Annual Weed Fee
 - Averages approximately \$19,500 annually
 - Equipment, supplies, chemicals, staffing
 - Focus on problem areas, containing new infestations, Class 1 Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) weeds
 - Set in statute (53C-5-104) – last adjusted in 2004
- Participation in Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA)
- Partnerships are Critical
 - Spray Day Participation
 - County Weed Departments
 - State/Federal Agencies
 - UDAF Grants
- SITLA Stewardship Fund
- OHV Surcharge Monies



OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES AND LIVESTOCK GRAZING

- OHVs allowed on designated routes only
 - Cross-country travel is prohibited
- Balance between public access/protection of the resource
- OHV Fund - \$1.50 Surcharge
 - \$375,000 annually
 - Improve recreational opportunities/mitigate impacts
 - Cattle guard installation – partner with counties
 - Fence and gate construction & repair
 - Signage installation & replacement
 - Noxious weed control
- Strive to be responsive to permittee concerns



RANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



- Board of Trustees has authorized investment of up to 10% of annual grazing proceeds into range improvement projects
- Partnerships with permittees, UDAF GIP, NRCS, other funding sources
- Reimbursement of permittee expenditures
 - Property sold, exchanged, or withdrawn from use
 - Permittee reimbursed, minus depreciation per NRCS schedules



LANDSCAPE SCALE PROJECTS

- Partnerships are critical
- Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative (UWRI)
- P/J removal, bullhog treatments, chainings
- Aspen regeneration projects
- Wildfire rehabilitation
- SITLA stewardship fund investment



State of Utah
School and Institutional
Trust Lands Administration



- Agricultural industry is important to the Trust
- Provides a steady income stream to beneficiaries
 - Only source of income on many Trust properties
 - Supports public education and other institutions
- Permittees are our partners in stewardship
 - Preservation and enhancement of Trust assets
 - Beneficial use of water rights
 - Eyes & ears on the ground
- Questions?

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