SARE
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

www.sare.org

What is SARE?

Since 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program has been the go-to USDA grants and outreach program for farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who want to develop innovations that improve farm profitability, protect water and land, and revitalize communities. To date, SARE has awarded over $9.5 million to more than 106 initiatives [1].

SARE is grassroots with far-reaching impact

Four regional councils of expert practitioners set priorities and make grants in every state and island protectorate.

SARE communicates results

SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining an online library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.

SARE: Advancing the Frontier of Sustainable Agriculture in...

Utah

Project Highlight: *Can We Manage Public Rangelands for Producers and the Environment?: Using Grazing-duration to Balance Livelihoods, Clean Water, Sage-grouse habitat, and Sustainable Forage*.

Federal agencies managing public rangelands often face calls or litigation to curtail grazing due to expectations that the land provide clean water and habitat for wildlife such as the sage-grouse. Yet ranchers depend on these lands for their livelihood, which is reduced when grazing intensity is reduced. In response, thirty-six Rich County Utah producers engaged in an eleven-year collaborative process with federal and state agencies to develop an innovative grazing plan for their public lands. Altering grazing-duration along streams is an important component of the plan they created. Understanding how grazing-duration affects key ecological goals and producer economic-vitality is critical to determining this plan's success.

Kris Hulvey led the Western SARE project with ranchers to examine how three grazing-durations in replicated riparian areas affected water quality, sage-grouse habitat, and forage recovery. They additionally assessed costs for altering durations as required in the new grazing plan. They found grazing duration can be used to manage forage height, bare ground, and the recovery of both in riparian areas. Shorter grazing durations (2-3 weeks) led to significantly taller vegetation and less bare ground than areas grazed for 1.5 months

They also found that grazing duration has mixed effects on sage-grouse habitat parameters. Lastly, they found grazing duration can be used as a tool to manage E. coli concentration without fencing-off riparian areas or removing cattle from rangeland pastures with streams. Shorter grazing duration led to fewer E. coli regulatory violations. There was no strong evidence that grazing duration affected stream water temperature, dissolved oxygen or pH.

For more information on this project, see sare.org/projects, and search for project number SW19-905.

SARE in Utah

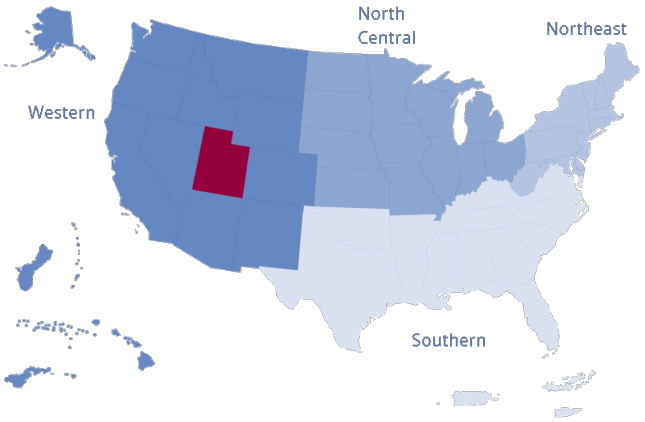
western.sare.org/state-profiles/utah/

$9,507,485 in total funding

106 grant projects

(since 1988 [1])

For a complete list of Utah grant projects, go to projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/



[1] These totals reflect available data; complete information may not be available for all grant programs prior to 2016.

SARE in Utah, 2021–2026

This is a summary of recent SARE-funded activities and impacts in the state. To search all SARE projects visit projects.sare.org. For a list of all projects in Utah visit projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/.

Grants awarded

Total awards: **29 grants**

6	Farmer/Rancher
6	Research and Education
4	Professional Development Program
2	On Farm Research/Partnership
7	Graduate Student
2	PDP State Program [2]
1	Community Foods Project
1	Local Ed & Demo (formerly RGR)

Total funding: **$3,946,093**

$130,095	Farmer/Rancher
$2,027,769	Research and Education
$377,408	Professional Development Program
$159,998	On Farm Research/Partnership
$209,962	Graduate Student
$240,000	PDP State Program [2]
$740,861	Community Foods Project
$60,000	Local Ed & Demo (formerly RGR)

[2] The Professional Development Program (PDP) State Program is a non-competitive award that funds the activities of the state coordinator(s). See more below.

Farmer and rancher impacts

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

12,082 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project

1,189 farmers changed a practice



For a complete list of Utah awards, visit:
projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/

Learn about local impacts at:
western.sare.org/sare-in-your-state/utah/

Contact Your SARE State Coordinator

SARE sustainable ag coordinators run state-level educational programs for Extension and other ag professionals, and many help grant applicants and recipients with planning and outreach. Visit western.sare.org/state-profiles/utah/ to learn more.

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SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

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