

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Program at Utah State University, FY 2008

UtahStateUniversity
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) program funds allocated to Utah State University are administered by Utah State University Cooperative Extension and the Departments of Wildland Resources and Environment and Society in the College of Natural Resources. Funds are used to educate professionals, landowners, and others in rangeland and forest management, urban forestry, and outdoor recreation and tourism. In FY 2008, every RREA dollar leveraged at least \$10 of additional funds. RREA-supported programs are listed below.



The Utah Range School – We worked with federal and state partners to present this school that focused on educating landowners and managers on the latest rangeland management techniques. This and several other rangeland management extension programs held last year educated more than 350 landowners and managers and resulted in documented savings of more than \$50,000 per year.



Restoring the West Conference 2008: Frontiers in Aspen Restoration – Our annual Restoring the West Conference brings scientists and land managers together to focus on important restoration topics. This year’s conference attracted 125 professionals, researchers, landowners, and students from Utah and throughout the West to learn the latest on declining aspen ecosystems and aspen management. This year’s participants manage an average of 2.6 million acres each. Conference presentations are available online at www.restoringthewest.org.

“I have a better understanding of the aspen situation now and will use that knowledge to promote aspen restoration in the future.” – Restoring the West Conference participant, September 2008

Public Lands Connections – The Institute for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism conducted a mail survey of more than 8,000 Utah households to examine their “connections” to public lands and natural resources in the state. Of interest were participation in public land recreation activities and other non-commercial uses of public lands, importance of public lands uses and activities to quality of life, attitudes and preferences regarding public lands management, and opinions about public involvement in that management. The results will be useful for decisionmaking, planning, and management by both federal and state land management agencies in Utah.

Utah State University RREA contact: Michael Kuhns, Professor and Extension Forestry Specialist, Wildland Resources Department, 5230 Old Main Hill, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-5230; Tel. (435) 797-4056; e-mail: mike.kuhns@usu.edu.

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