Public Lands Grazing: A Key In Economic and Ecosystem Stability

BRENDA RICHARDS, PRESIDENT PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL

Public Lands Council strives to maintain a stable business environment for ranchers with public lands grazing permits, who are the caretakers of the range, the economic drivers of rural western communities, and providers of food and fiber for the nation.

Grassroots

 Historical knowledge of land, capabilities and limitations Vested interest in success of the public lands on a landscape scale Committed to long-term results and stability Members of the rural communities



Challenges with Public Lands

- Policy
- ESA, NEPA, Water Quality
- On the ground applications
- Science
- Understanding
- Public differs from private
- Multiple Use

Tremendous Opportunity and Benefits

Knowledge and capability Landscape/watershed key component overall resource health Educational Partnerships Economic Stability

Public Lands are Key Component Landscape & Watershed Health

- Vested interest in overall success and sustainability
- Water quality and availability
- Weed control
- Partnership opportunities
- Local input gets site specific success

Dynamics / Change is coming along.....and brings.....





Partnerships for Success

Owyhee Initiative Board of Directors

- Owyhee Cattlemen's Association
- Owyhee County Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Owyhee Farm Bureau
- Owyhee Borderlands Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Wilderness Society
- The Wild Sheep Foundation
- Idaho Conservation League
- Back Country Horsemen of Idaho
- Sierra Club
- Idaho Rivers United
- Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association
- Southwestern Idaho Desert Racing Association

Owyhee County Commissioners and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes (non-voting members)



Unfragmented Landscapes

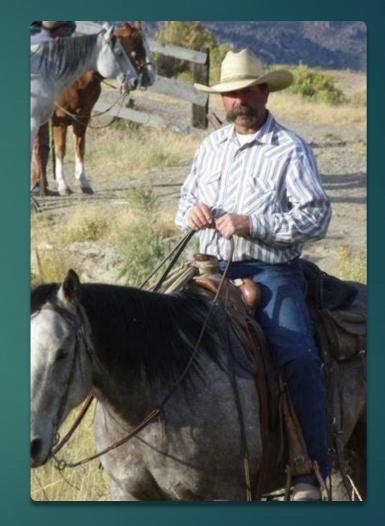


Good foundations for strong end results

Opportunity to

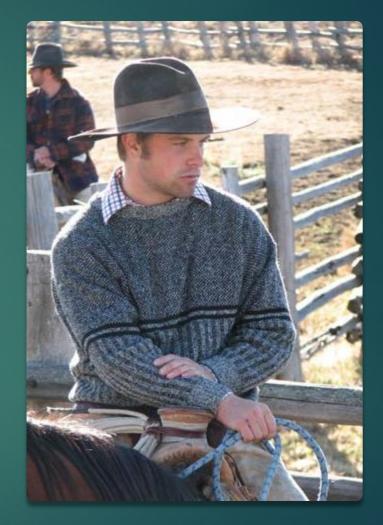
Participate Share Educate =

Win! Win!



Future brings opportunity

Stability in public lands ranching offers partnerships, long-term commitment, leading to overall success





Questions?