



# IDAHO RANGELAND RESOURCE COMMISSION

P.O. Box 126, Emmett ID 83617  
Phone: (208)398-7002 website: idahorange.org

IRRC Board Members

January 15, 2015

Chris Black, Chairman  
Bruneau, ID

Jackie Ingram  
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Gretchen Hyde  
Executive Director

To: Senator Jim Rice, Chairman  
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Senator Steve Bair, Chairman  
Senate Resources & Environment Committee  
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House Resources and Conservation Committee  
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State Controller's Office, Carol Bearce  
Legislative Services Office, Ray Houston  
Division of Financial Management, Shelby Kerns

From: Gretchen Hyde, Executive Director

RE: Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission 2014 Report

Attached are the Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission 2015 Projected Profit & Loss Budget Overview and the 2014 Financial Statements as required by Section 58-1415 (4), Idaho Code.

The IRRC conducted a public opinion poll late last year. The results are enclosed. If you would like a presentation of the poll results, please contact me. The work of the IRRC has made a positive impact on the public opinion of grazing on public lands in Idaho. The IRRC also has very active and successful public relations and education programs. A copy of the information brochure will be included in this annual report for your review.

If you would like a presentation of these financial statements and the activities of the IRRC, please contact me at 398-7002 or email at [ghyde@idrange.org](mailto:ghyde@idrange.org).

**Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2013 through June 2014

|                                | Jul '13 - Jun 14  | Budget            | \$ Over Budget    |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b> |                   |                   |                   |
| <b>Income</b>                  |                   |                   |                   |
| Assessments                    | 186,084.05        | 191,000.00        | -4,915.95         |
| Grants Received                | 2,805.00          | 15,000.00         | -12,195.00        |
| Interest Income                | 211.56            | 600.00            | -388.44           |
| License Plate                  | 30,920.00         | 27,000.00         | 3,920.00          |
| Registration Fees-Symposium    | 740.97            | 0.00              | 740.97            |
| Registration Fees-Workshops    | 2,297.25          | 0.00              | 2,297.25          |
| Sale of IRRRC material         | 6,810.60          | 0.00              | 6,810.60          |
| <b>Total Income</b>            | <b>229,869.43</b> | <b>233,600.00</b> | <b>-3,730.57</b>  |
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>      |                   |                   |                   |
| Idaho Rangeland History Book   | 133.25            | 0.00              | 133.25            |
| Range Plant Book               | 6,248.78          | 0.00              | 6,248.78          |
| Requested Refunds              | 3,141.36          | 4,000.00          | -858.64           |
| <b>Total COGS</b>              | <b>9,523.39</b>   | <b>4,000.00</b>   | <b>5,523.39</b>   |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>            | <b>220,346.04</b> | <b>229,600.00</b> | <b>-9,253.96</b>  |
| <b>Expense</b>                 |                   |                   |                   |
| Administrative Expenses        | 118,683.68        | 119,998.00        | -1,314.32         |
| Educational Expenses           | 39,120.54         | 50,080.00         | -10,959.46        |
| Public Relations Expenses      | 85,619.44         | 81,000.00         | 4,619.44          |
| Research/Industry Expenses     | 5,639.37          | 27,600.00         | -21,960.63        |
| <b>Total Expense</b>           | <b>249,063.03</b> | <b>278,678.00</b> | <b>-29,614.97</b> |
| <b>Net Ordinary Income</b>     | <b>-28,716.99</b> | <b>-49,078.00</b> | <b>20,361.01</b>  |
| <b>Net Income</b>              | <b>-28,716.99</b> | <b>-49,078.00</b> | <b>20,361.01</b>  |

**Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission**  
**Balance Sheet legislative**  
As of June 30, 2014

|                                       | <u>Jun 30, 14</u>        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                         |                          |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                 |                          |
| Checking/Savings                      | 201,439.53               |
| Accounts Receivable                   | 14,299.98                |
| Other Current Assets                  | <u>6,420.75</u>          |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>           | 222,160.26               |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                   | <u>1,674.78</u>          |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                   | <u><u>223,835.04</u></u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>       |                          |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                    |                          |
| Current Liabilities                   | <u>3,776.56</u>          |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>              | 3,776.56                 |
| <b>Equity</b>                         | <u>220,058.47</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b> | <u><u>223,835.04</u></u> |

**Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget Overview**  
 July 2014 through June 2015

|                                | <u>Jul '14 - Jun 15</u>  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b> |                          |
| <b>Income</b>                  |                          |
| Assessments                    | 191,000.00               |
| Grants Received                | 18,000.00                |
| Interest Income                | 200.00                   |
| License Plate                  | 30,000.00                |
| Registration Fees-Symposium    | 0.00                     |
| Registration Fees-Workshops    | 0.00                     |
| Sale of IRRC material          | 0.00                     |
| <b>Total Income</b>            | <u>239,200.00</u>        |
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>      | <u>4,000.00</u>          |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>            | 235,200.00               |
| <b>Expense</b>                 |                          |
| Administrative Expenses        | 119,427.00               |
| Educational Expenses           | 59,750.00                |
| Public Relations Expenses      | 72,500.00                |
| Research/Industry Expenses     | 38,500.00                |
| <b>Total Expense</b>           | <u>290,177.00</u>        |
| <b>Net Ordinary Income</b>     | <u>-54,977.00</u>        |
| <b>Net Income</b>              | <u><u>-54,977.00</u></u> |

**Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission  
Statewide Survey**

**SSRU Technical Report 14-02-05**

**November 2014**

*Prepared For:*

Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission  
P. O. Box 126  
Emmett, ID 83617

*Prepared By:*

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**University of Idaho**

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

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## **Executive Summary**

The Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission and the Idaho Preferred Label contracted with the Social Science Research Unit (SSRU) at the University of Idaho to conduct a statewide telephone survey of Idaho residents. A total of 585 households responded to the survey, including 230 contacts made on mobile phones. The responses were representative of Idaho's population in terms of geographic distribution, sex, income, and age. The results of this study will be used to tailor educational and marketing efforts regarding Idaho's rangeland.

### **Use of Rangelands by the Public**

- The most common ways the survey respondents or a member of their household use rangelands is by camping (37 percent), hiking (34 percent), and fishing (30 percent).
- Ninety percent or more of respondents approved of hiking/camping, mountain biking, livestock grazing, and fishing/hunting on public lands, while energy development and transmission had the lowest rating for public lands, with 62 percent of respondents approving it as a use of public land.

### **Perceptions of Rangelands and Rangeland Health**

- A majority of respondents (57 percent) state that Idaho's rangelands are either in "very good" or "good" condition.
- Most respondents (79 percent) state that cattle and sheep producers manage their rangelands in a responsible manner, and 84 percent of respondents felt that private rangelands provide a large portion of wildlife habitat.
- A third (33 percent) of respondents felt that wildfire was a "moderate" problem for Idaho's rangeland, with an additional 43 percent stating it is a "severe" or "significant" problem.
- Eighty-two percent of respondents "strongly" or "somewhat" agree that grazing should remain a part of the management of public lands.
- On a scale of one to seven where one is "not at all important" and seven is "very important", 68 percent of respondents rated the importance of farms and ranches to preserving wildlife at a five or higher.
- When asked which agencies or groups were reliable with respect to information about rangelands, scientists, ranchers, and the Bureau of Land Management were rated most reliable with 84 percent, 83 percent, and 80 percent of respondents, respectively, rating them as either "very" or "somewhat" reliable. Environmental groups had the lowest reliability ratings, with only 55 percent rating them as "very" or "somewhat" reliable.

### **Supporters of Livestock Grazing on Public Lands**

- Multivariate models examining the relationship between respondent characteristics and opinions on livestock grazing on public lands found that generally, politically conservative Idahoans are more likely to agree that cattle and sheep producers manage rangelands in a responsible manner.
- Also those who engage in ATV/motorized vehicle use, and who have spent a larger proportion of their lifetime in Idaho are more likely to agree that rangelands should be kept as a part of the management of public lands.

## Introduction

The Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission contracted with the Social Science Research Unit (SSRU) at the University of Idaho to conduct a statewide survey of Idaho residents. The survey and subsequent analysis examined Idaho residents about grazing, as well as how those perceptions might be evolving due to changes in Idaho's demographics and the emergence of the "New West". To accomplish this, 2014 results are compared to earlier iterations of the study.

Telephone interviews were conducted with 585 households. We sampled both traditional landline phones and mobile (cell) phones. Sampling cell phone numbers is increasingly important, as 52.6 percent of Idaho households now exclusively have mobile phone service without a traditional landline.<sup>1</sup> Research has shown that mobile phone-only households tend to be younger (18-29 years), are more likely to be male, and are more highly educated than landline households<sup>2</sup>. Thus, accounting for mobile phone-only households is important in representative survey research. The study was designed to provide results that are representative of the state of Idaho.

The survey instrument was written and designed with input from IRRRC and SSRU staff. The survey was divided into two primary sections, one to address each of the study objectives. In addition, demographic questions were asked in order to assist with the analyses, as well as assess the level of sample representativeness. The final survey instrument for the survey is shown in Appendix A.

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<sup>1</sup> Blumberg, S. J., and J. V. Luke. "Wireless Substitution: State-level Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, Jan-Dec 2007." U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention. *National Health Statistics Reports, #14*. March 11, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Blumberg, S.J. and J.V. Luke. 2007. Coverage bias in traditional telephone surveys of low-income young adults. *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 71:734-749.



NEWS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

Contact: Steve Stuebner, [sstuebner@cableone.net](mailto:ssuebner@cableone.net), 208-484-0295 or Gretchen Hyde, executive director, Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission, 208-866-2466; [ghyde@idahorange.org](mailto:ghyde@idahorange.org)

## UI poll finds 90% of Idahoans support livestock grazing on public lands, the same level of support for mountain biking and guided recreation

BOISE -- (Jan. 20, 2015) -- A new statewide poll found that 90 percent of Idaho residents approve of livestock grazing as a legitimate use of public lands, the same percentage as guided recreation and mountain biking. Ninety-eight percent of the respondents approve of hiking and camping on public lands, and 65 percent approve of the use of motorized recreation such as ATVs and motorbikes.

The new survey conducted by the University of Idaho Social Science Research Unit for the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission

(IRRC) was based on 585 telephone surveys with Idaho residents. The poll was completed in December 2014. More than half of the survey participants have lived in Idaho for more than 30 years, and participants represent a diverse cross-section of political ideology, UI officials said.

Public support for livestock grazing was approximately 20 percent higher than it was for logging, which had a 71 percent approval rating. Using public lands for energy development and transmission lines received the lowest level of support at 62 percent. Public approval of livestock grazing on public lands went up 1 percent since 2010, and 10 points since 2001, according to previous polls conducted for IRRC by the University of Idaho.

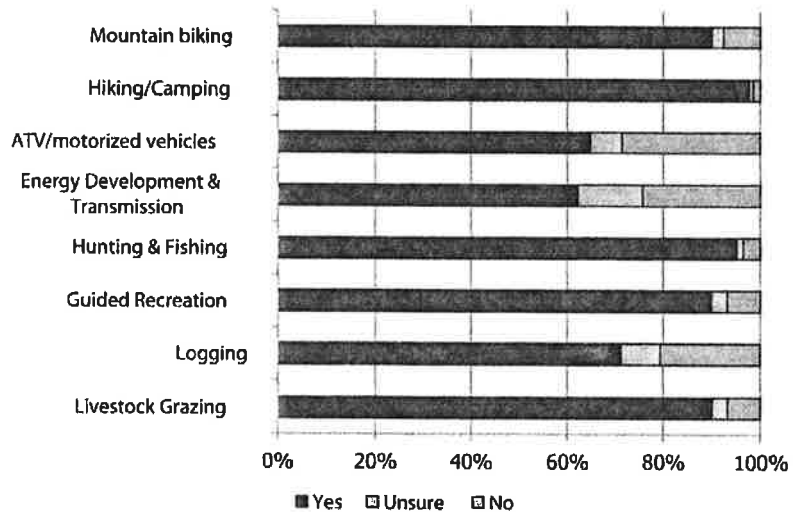


Figure 6. Approval of Specific Uses of Public Lands

"We're pleased to see public support for livestock grazing on public lands increasing," said Chris Black, IRRC board chairman and a Bruneau Rancher who has received a BLM national stewardship award for exemplary livestock management on public lands. "We think Idahoans are seeing improved range management when they're out recreating on rangelands and forests. And over the last five years, we've highlighted more than 30 stories of ranchers engaged in rangeland stewardship through the Commission's "Life on the Range" web site and video series.

"We feel it's important to show real people doing tangible things to improve public lands, the environment and threatened and endangered species, including candidate species such as sage grouse," Black continued. "That's what is expected in 21st Century public lands management."

IRRC officials said they commissioned the poll to understand the overall perception of Idaho residents about grazing, and how those perceptions might be evolving due to changes in Idaho's population demographics and the emergence of the "New West."

In a wildlife-related question, the poll found that 84 percent of the respondents recognize that private ranchlands provide important wildlife habitat. On a scale of 1-7, 68 percent of the respondents rated the value of private farms and ranches for wildlife as being a 5 or higher.

Seventy-nine percent believe that sheep and cattle ranchers manage rangelands in a responsible manner, and 82 percent believe that livestock grazing should continue to be part of public lands management.

In a series of questions rating the credibility or reliability of information provided to the public, ranchers and scientists rated 84 percent and 83 percent reliable, while BLM officials received a reliability rating of 80 percent and environmentalists received a rating of 55 percent.

The poll is statistically valid, sampling a broad cross-section of Idaho's rural and urban residents, an equal number of males and females, and mobile phone users as well as landline users, UI officials said.

If any members of the Idaho media would like a copy of the UI public opinion survey, please contact Steve Stuebner at 208-484-0295 or email Steve at [sstuebner@cableone.net](mailto:ssuebner@cableone.net). If you would like to set up an interview with Gretchen Hyde about the poll, please contact Steve.

**About the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission:** The Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission is an Idaho state agency that seeks to increase public understanding about the balanced management of public rangelands. The commission sponsors the award-winning web site, [www.lifeontherange.org](http://www.lifeontherange.org), and it provides information and educational materials to Idaho's school children. For more information, see [www.idrange.org](http://www.idrange.org).

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**~ Selected measures ~**  
**2014 IRRRC statewide survey**

Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission Board Meeting  
9 January 2015, Boise, ID

**University of Idaho**  
College of Agricultural & Life Sciences

conducted by University of Idaho  
Social Science Research Unit (SSRU)

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**General methodology**

- Telephone survey (~15 mins)
- Sample
  - 1,400 landlines
  - 2,000 cell lines
- 15 Sept – 5 Nov, 2014
- 587 completed surveys
- 36.8 % cooperation rate
- In partnership with *Idaho Preferred (ISDA)*



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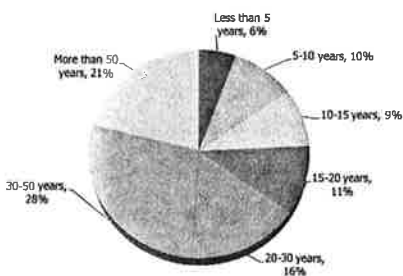
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**Length of residence in Idaho**



| Length of residence | Percentage |
|---------------------|------------|
| Less than 5 years   | 6%         |
| 5-10 years          | 10%        |
| 10-15 years         | 9%         |
| 15-20 years         | 11%        |
| 20-30 years         | 16%        |
| 30-50 years         | 28%        |
| More than 50 years  | 21%        |

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### Educational attainment

| Education                       | ACS <sup>1</sup> | This Study | 95% Confidence Limits |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Some high school                | 11.4%            | 3.0%       | 1.3% - 4.6%           |
| High school graduate            | 28.0%            | 20.0%      | 15.9% - 24.0%         |
| Some college                    | 27.3%            | 23.1%      | 18.9% - 27.3%         |
| Associate's degree              | 8.7%             | 12.1%      | 8.9% - 15.3%          |
| Bachelor's degree               | 17.0%            | 29.9%      | 27.8% - 34.0%         |
| Graduate or professional degree | 7.8%             | 12.9%      | 9.1% - 15.8%          |

<sup>1</sup>US Census. American Community Survey. Five-year estimates, 2009-2013. Available at: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

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### Household income levels

| Annual Household Income | ACS <sup>1</sup> | This Study | 95% Confidence Limits |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Less than \$10,000      | 6.7%             | 5.8%       | 3.3% - 8.3%           |
| \$10,000-\$24,999       | 17.7%            | 13.8%      | 10.1% - 17.5%         |
| \$25,000-\$34,999       | 12.5%            | 16.9%      | 12.8% - 20.3%         |
| \$35,000-\$49,999       | 15.9%            | 18.2%      | 14.2% - 22.2%         |
| \$50,000-\$74,999       | 20.7%            | 18.6%      | 14.8% - 22.5%         |
| \$75,000-\$99,999       | 11.9%            | 15.4%      | 11.6% - 19.1%         |
| More than \$100,000     | 14.6%            | 11.7%      | 8.5% - 14.8%          |

<sup>1</sup>US Census. American Community Survey. Five-year estimates, 2009-2013. Available at: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

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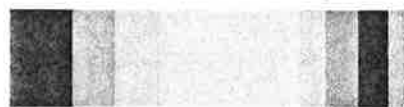
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### Political spectrum of respondents



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%  
 ■ Very Conservative ■ Conservative ■ Moderate ■ Liberal ■ Very Liberal ■ Unsure

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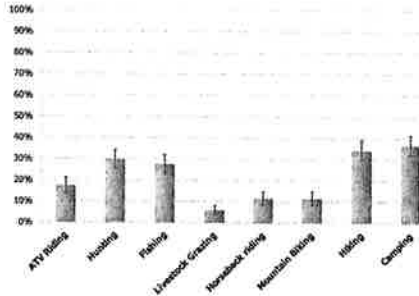
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### Respondents' uses of Idaho's rangelands




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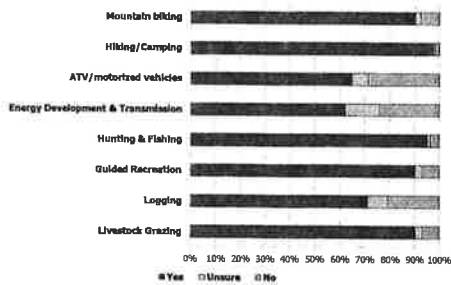
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### Approval of public lands uses




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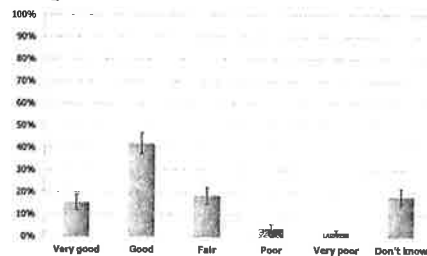
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### Perceived condition of Idaho's rangelands




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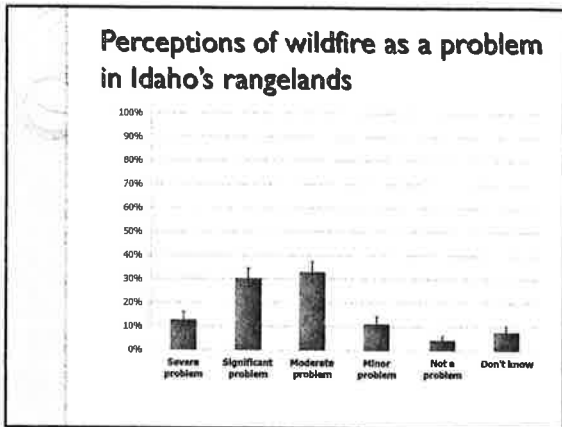
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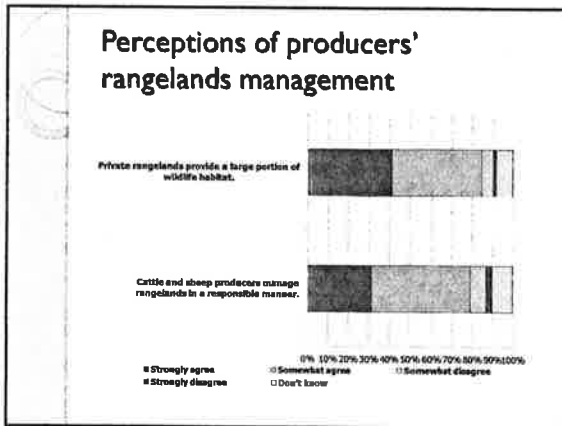
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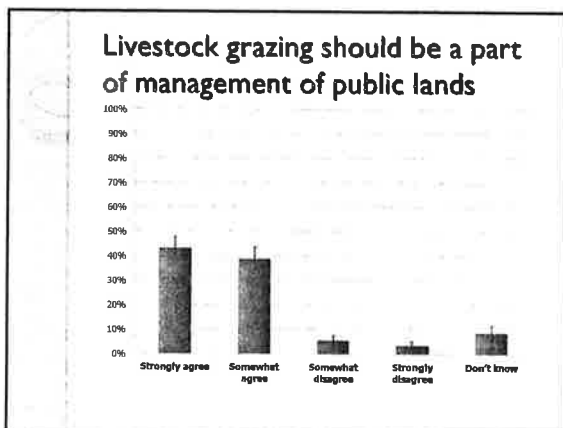
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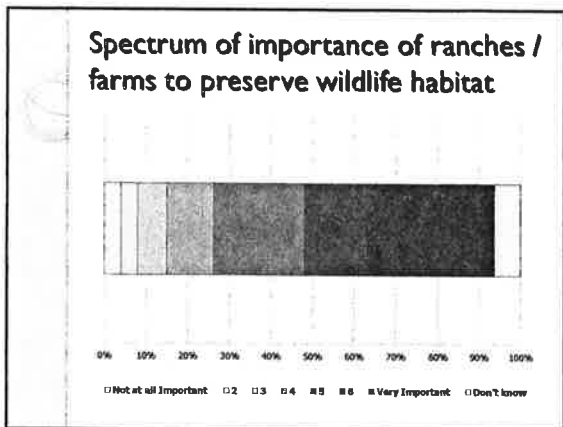
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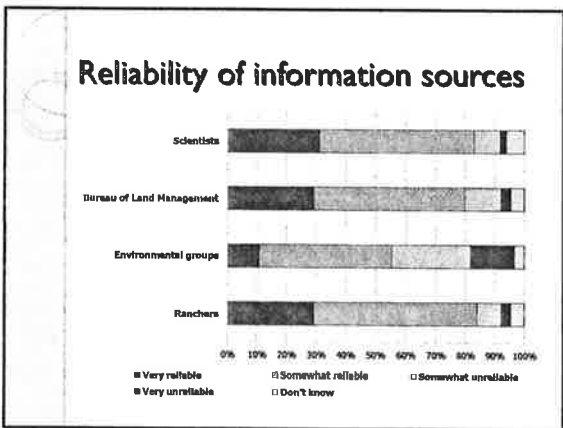
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