



Brooke Ranch Easement



Photo courtesy of Patrick Cone

Description: The Brooke Ranch is a cattle ranch that also supports hay and grain cultivation. The easement on the property will protect critical farm land and open space. The Brooke Ranch Easement will also preserve the historic agricultural character of the surrounding community quickly being lost to development

Location: Paradise, Cache County.

Acreage: 1563.32 acres

Grant funding: \$250,000

Total Project Cost: \$2,000,000

Grant Awarded: October 2002

Partners: Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, Natural Resource Conservation Service, The Trust for Public Land, Department of Natural Resources, Cache County

Local Support: Rep. Brent Parker, Paradise Town Council, USDA Farm Service Agency, USU Extension, Blacksmith Fork Soil Conservation District, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

Conservation Easement Held by: Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.



Public Benefits

Agriculture: The Brooke Ranch Easement sits in Cache County, consistently one of the state's top agricultural producers. Currently, the land is used for livestock grazing, hay cropping and other agricultural purposes. The USDA-NRCS have created a conservation plan to protect and enhance the agricultural practices of the land.

Wildlife Habitat: The ranch contains high value deer and elk winter habitat and critical riparian habitat along the Little Bear River. This riparian habitat is important for songbirds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. The Little Bear River contains rainbow and brown trout among other native and non-native species.

Historical and Cultural: Historically, the Brooke Ranch supported a dairy operation, a turkey farm, a trout farm, a cannery and a sheep ranch. The Diamond M Creamery, located on the property, was the first creamery in the Cache Valley. The property also contains two historic barns that were built by Mormon pioneers in the early 1900s.