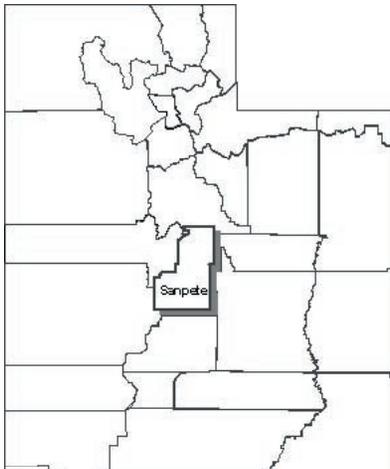


Sanpete County

Local Planning Summary

Prepared for the:
**Dixie, Fishlake & Manti-La Sal National Forests
Forest Plan Revision
Social and Economic Assessment**



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**December
2003**

SANPETE COUNTY, GENERAL PLAN, 1997
SANPETE COUNTY, TITLE 14 ZONING, 2001
SANPETE REGIONAL HERITAGE TOURISM PROJECT, 1996

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>A principal concern of landowners and residents of Sanpete County is protecting their rural lifestyle and heritage. Critical watershed, agricultural and recreational lands have been identified for preservation. The government and non-farm proprietors sectors are projected to create the most jobs in Sanpete County between 2000 and 2030. Government is currently the largest non-agricultural employer in Sanpete County.</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>Sanpete County is a relatively isolated and pristine area comprised of 13 small communities, all founded and settled by the early Mormon pioneers. It was once inhabited by groups of native American Indians, principally the Ute, Goshute, Piute, and Shoshone Tribes. Between 1970 and 2000 Sanpete County grew 107%. In 1989 Sanpete County established its first full-time Office of Economic Development.</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanpete County is one of four counties in Utah, which produces in excess of \$70,000,000 annually in its economy through agricultural industries, (Ch.8, p.7). • Sanpete residents consider economic development, job training, orderly growth and preserving open space to be their most pressing needs, (Ch.7, p.3). • County residents believe that scattered development should be prohibited in favor of encouraging development within and adjacent to established communities in the County, (Ch.8, p.2). • Sanpete County is one of the top three turkey producing areas in North America, (Ch.8, p.1).
<p>Environmental Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a predominating feeling in the County that population growth should occur on lands that are within or immediately adjacent to existing cities and that residential dwellings should be constructed on marginal lands rather than on prime agricultural property, (Ch.8, p.2).

<p>Social & Cultural Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on a county wide survey, Sanpete residents, (Ch.7, p.3): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Generally favors limiting or restricting growth in Sanpete County cities and towns ○ Strongly favors preserving agriculture lands, rural living and open spaces ○ Strongly favors restrictions on residential building in the unincorporated areas • The Sanpete Regional Heritage Tourism Project coordinates the efforts needed to preserve and renew the shared natural, cultural and economic heritage of the County, (Intro).
<p>Tribal-Specific Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native American cultural influences in contemporary Sanpete County live on primarily through observances related to the annual Blackhawk Encampments and through folklore that is a part of the County’s culture today, (Ch.4, p.4).
<p>Forest-Specific Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanpete has a total land area covering 1,015,449 acres. Approximately 60% is under federal ownership. Thirty-eight percent of this total is in the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Twenty one percent is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, (Ch.8, p.18).
<p>Public Lands Issues</p>	<p>Of the Sanpete citizens who responded to a survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 63% favor impact fees on new development, (Ch.7, p.4). • 71% favor limiting or restricting development on sensitive lands, (Ch.7, p.4). • By 1992, the total number of permits increased to approximately 750 with a valuation of 13 million dollars. In 1996, 919 permits were issued with a valuation over 25 million dollars. These increases in land use have created significant challenges for Sanpete County.
<p>Regional Demographic Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to increasing demands for diverse recreational activities and expanding its travel and tourism potential are also vital concerns being examined by the Recreation and Tourism Committee, (Ch.8, p.3). • There is a pressing need to assess and address the housing requirements within Sanpete County, particularly low-income housing, (Ch.9, p.8). • The County has established a “Residential-Agricultural” zone for agricultural areas that are likely to be converted to residential, and a “Sensitive Lands” zone that applies to grazing lands, mountains, and canyons.

SANPETE COUNTY ACTION PLAN for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 1993

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>The Plan states that the preservation of their rural heritage is their desired future condition. Increases in government sector employment are likely attributed to the prison and Snow College. There is a desire to promote tourism by preserving access to the “recreational opportunities available in the surrounding countryside” (forests).</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>In 1993, the Sanpete County Economic Development Advisory Board and Action Team adopted the “Action Plan”. The development of this plan was influenced by the development of the Central Utah Correctional Facility. (Page numbers were not included in the Plan).</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases in government sector employment are likely attributed to the prison and Snow College, (executive summary). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The plan articulates that most employment figures are skewed because a number of mining employees that work out of the County, actually live in Sanpete.
<p>Social & Cultural Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plan articulates a “desired future condition” statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “New industries which are consistent with the rural heritage of Sanpete County will have located and prospered in our communities.” ○ “As visitors tour Sanpete County, they will have access to the many recreational opportunities available in the surrounding countryside.”
<p>Regional Demographic Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The demographic and economic information used in the formulation of this plan was based on the “Statistical Abstract for Non-Metropolitan Utah” that was prepared in 1993, (executive summary). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The perspective at that time was that the population was continuing a long term recovery from a decrease in the 1970s.

SANPETE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN (Water-Related Sections), 1997

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>The land irrigated each year in Sanpete County is about 57,000 acres. There is commonly a water deficit of 24-27,000 acre-feet. Current and projected expansion of the population in Sanpete County will require more water for culinary and irrigation purposes. As a result, the Sanpete County Water Conservancy District is working to bring the Gooseberry Narrows Project to fruition.</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>Forty years ago, the amount of water required in Sanpete County was considerable less than today. Water deficits are now common in the County. Current and projected expansion of the population in Sanpete County will require more water for culinary and irrigation purposes. Sanpete County’s population is projected to grow at an average annual rate of approximately 1.1% through 2030.</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In selected instances, it may be preferable to allow more than one structure on a parcel of land if the land is located in an area where there is ample ground water, (Ch.9, p.2). • At the current rate of development, 787 acre-feet of water will be developed in the next 20 years. This represents the issuance of 570 additional domestic well applications, (Ch.8, p.1).
<p>Environmental Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality of ground water in Sanpete Valley is high, except for local nitrate contamination. Most water in Sanpete Valley is Class IA (pristine) and II (drinking water quality), (Ch.4, p.11).
<p>Regional Demographic Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining adequate flows for irrigation purposes and recharge to valley-fill aquifers continue to be critical and perennial problems in Sanpete County, (Ch.4, p.11).

SIX COUNTY ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2000

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>The Six County AOG attempts to coordinate economic development efforts with the Six County Economic Development District, and this Plan is their comprehensive strategy. Population is expected to grow in each County. The government services sector is the largest employer in the Region. Tourism/trade is the fastest growing industry, and is expected to provide the greatest number of new job opportunities. One of the primary goals is to maintain coordination between agencies, and another is to assist Native Americans with their economic development efforts.</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>The Six County Economic Development District (SCEDD) was formed through inter-local agreements by Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, and Wayne Counties. The Plan was guided by the “CEDS 2000 Steering Committee”. This advisory group comprises elected officials, special interest representation, education, business, labor, industry, agriculture, minority groups, community organizations, unemployment and underemployment.</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government services sector is the largest employer in the Six County Region, (p.8). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Employment in this sector includes public lands management, education, public health and safety, parks and recreation, law enforcement. ○ This sector is vital to the area’s economy as higher level salaries are provided. • Tourism/trade is the fastest growing industry within the region. Unlike other major industries within the area, tourism related businesses have experienced significant growth and are expected to provide the greatest number of new job opportunities, (p.8).

<p>Tribal-Specific Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal #2: “conduct and support a reliable and integrated planning in cooperation with all agencies”, (p.15). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One of the objectives is to “maintain communications with county, community, tribal and other agency planning officials”, and ○ Provide technical assistance to counties, communities, and tribal bands in general planning, including development planning, (p.16). • Goal #6: “assist minority and ethnic populations in achieving their economic development goals and objectives”, (p.20). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assist Native Americans within the region with their community and economic development efforts, (p.20).
<p>Forest-Specific Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USFS was a member of the Steering Committee, (p.2).
<p>Public Lands Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal #4: “encourage and identify opportunities to develop more efficient use of natural resources”, (p.19). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Coordinate natural resource development with public land managers to foster multiple-use of public lands”.
<p>Regional Demographic Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plan predicts that population in all six counties will grow through 2050, (p.6). • Unemployment has been consistently greater in the region when compared with the State and Nation, (p.7). • Currently, public lands dominate with BLM and USFS controlling 72 percent of the total acreage. Private ownership equals only 15 percent. State and other interests control 13 percent, (p.11). • Presently the elected officials directing the economic development efforts of the Region are most interested in the development of industry that will utilize the area’s natural resources, enhance the standard of living, and create family sustaining jobs, (p.12).