

IRON COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN



Final

June 2009

<http://ironcounty.net/departments/naturalresource/>

Table of Contents

Acronyms	Page ii
Introduction. County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) Overview	
Background and Project Impetus	Page 1
State of Utah, County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) Toolkit	Page 1
Iron County and the CRMP Process.....	Page 2
Iron County Natural Resource Specialist Roles and Responsibilities	Page 2
Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council Roles and Responsibilities	Page 2
Plan Development and Committee Make-up	Page 3
Element 1. Legal Basis	Page 4
County Planning Authority	Page 5
Federal Land and Natural Resources Planning.....	Page 5
Coordination and Consistency with State, Local, and Tribal Plans	Page 5
Federal Planning Criteria	Page 6
Forest Service.....	Page 6
Bureau of Land Management	Page 7
Multiple-Use and Sustained Yield	Page 7
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Cooperating Agency Status.....	Page 8
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process Overview.....	Page 8
Governor’s Consistency Review	Page 8
NEPA Provisions Regarding Cooperating Agency Status.....	Page 9
State Planning Coordinator Responsibilities	Page 9
Federal Advisory Committee Act.....	Page 10
Element 2. Socio-Economic Profile	Page 11
Executive Summary	Page 12
Demographics	Page 16
Employment	Page 20
Real Estate and Construction	Page 28
Higher Education.....	Page 33
Personal Income	Page 37
Retail Sales.....	Page 39
Demographic and Employment Projections.....	Page 41
Element 3. Iron County Positions and Policies	Page 43
Communication Between County and Land & Resource Management Agencies	Page 45
Coordination and Participation	Page 48
Public Awareness	Page 51
Element 4. Resource- and Site- Specific Planning	Page 52
Appendix	
Appendix I: Iron County Land Use Map.....	Page 53

ACRONYMS

AAGR – Average Annual Growth Rate

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

BOR – Bureau of Reclamation

BEBR – Bureau of Economic and Business Research

BEA – Bureau of Economic Analysis

CA – Cooperating Agency

CEQ – President’s Council on Environmental Quality

CRMP – County Resource Management Plan

DWS – Utah Department of Workforce Services

EA – Environmental Analysis

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

FACA - Federal Advisory Committee Act

FLPMA – Federal Land Planning and Management Act

FTE – Full-Time Equivalent

FWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

GIS – Global Information System

GOPB – Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget

IT – Information Technology

LRMP – Land and Resource Management Plan

NAICS – North American Industry Classification System

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

NPS – National Park Service

NRAC – Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council

NRS – Iron County Natural Resource Specialist

RMP – Resource Management Plan

SUU – Southern Utah University

TCPU – Transportation, Communication, Public Utilities

USFS – U.S. Forest Service

IRON COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CRMP)

Project Background and Process Overview

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT IMPETUS

The majority of rural Utah counties include vast areas of “public” lands. These lands and the associated resources are managed by federal agencies including the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and National Park Service (NPS). Traditionally, these counties and the residents thereof have used public lands and resources for economic growth and stability. These local associations with and dependence on public lands continues today. Specifically, local use of public lands and resources include, but are not limited to, recreation, minerals, oil and gas, timber, water, agriculture, fisheries and wildlife.

Due to the dependence of many rural counties on public lands and resources, decisions made by public land management agencies directly impact local interests and economies. Over the last several decades, state and local governments have taken a variety of approaches to improving relationships with federal land managers and participating in agency planning and decision-making processes. Depending on the local officials, the agencies involved and the topic of discussion, these efforts have had mixed results.

The Resource Management Plans (RMPs) developed by the BLM and the USFS Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMPs) are the basis for nearly all natural resource management policy and decision-making activities that affect federal lands. Because the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) mandates that these RMPs are to be consistent with state and local plans “to the maximum extent...consistent with federal law...,” it is essential that counties develop their own resource management plans to reflect local perspectives and positions regarding these interests.

STATE OF UTAH, COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CRMP) TOOLKIT*

In 2004, the State of Utah Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB), under the direction of the State Planning Coordinator, developed a “toolkit” to assist county governments in preparing public land and natural resource management plans. The purpose of the Toolkit and the resulting “County Resource Management Plans” (CRMP) is to empower rural Utah counties with the information and tools necessary to work more effectively with land and natural resource agencies, and ensure that the interests of local governments are adequately considered and addressed in agency planning and decision-making processes.

The CRMP Toolkit recommends that county resource management plans be developed and organized in a manner similar to the planning approach and document format used by federal agencies in their planning processes. By using a similar format, it will be easier to compare county resource management plans to agency-prepared documents. This approach should increase the usefulness and impact of county plans in federal planning and decision-making processes. In general, this structure centers around three important planning elements:

- Descriptions of the *Existing Condition*
- Descriptions of the *Desired Future Condition*; and,
- Methods for ongoing *Monitoring* to assess progress in moving from the existing condition to the desired condition.

As noted in the Toolkit, county-prepared resource management plans should also reference the legal framework for county planning as it relates to public lands as well as provide a detailed socio-economic backdrop for the county’s stated public land policies and positions. These sections, informed by GOPB research, legal citations and county economic and demographic data, are included in this document.

* A detailed description of the CRMP Toolkit, including a sample plan, can be found at: <http://governor.utah.gov/planning/CRMPOverview.htm>

IRON COUNTY AND THE COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS

In 2008, Iron County and Southern Utah University created and jointly funded the Iron County Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) position to develop the Iron County Resource Management Plan (CRMP). The Iron County Board of Commissioners also sanctioned and appointed a Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) made up of natural resource interests in the County to assist the Natural Resource Specialist to develop and implement the CRMP. The roles and responsibilities of the Natural Resource Specialist and the Natural Resource Advisory Council are described below. The completed Iron CRMP supplements the County's policies and positions in regard to public lands and resources as articulated in the Iron County General Plan (1995) and Public Lands Policy section of this plan. In addition, the completed CRMP provides a solid foundation for subsequent "resource/site-specific" management elements of the CRMP. The County's adopted positions and policies developed as part of this project can be found in Section 3.

Natural Resource Specialist Roles and Responsibilities- The Iron County Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) performs a variety of functions needed to develop, maintain and implement the Iron CRMP. In addition, the NRS utilizes the CRMP as the basis to further develop and implement "resource/site-specific" natural resource plans for the County. Specific roles and responsibilities in carrying out these duties include: facilitate and manage the Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC); implement and monitor all goals and objectives for the Iron CRMP; monitor, review, and report to the Iron County Board of Commissioners regarding federal and state land and natural resource management agency proposals and environmental analyses that impact Iron County; submit formal comments to agencies, as warranted, under direction of the Iron County Board of Commission and NRAC; serve as a representative for Iron County in formal Cooperating Agency agreements with federal agency projects of interest; building and maintaining positive and productive working relationships with all state and federal land and natural resource management agencies and personnel; responsible for public outreach, education and participation on behalf of the NRAC and other actions of the office; and, other related duties as assigned.

Natural Resource Advisory Council Roles and Responsibilities- Members of the Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Iron County Board of Commissioners. The NRAC provides support and council to the Iron County Board of Commissioners, the Iron County Natural Resource Specialist (NRS), other appropriate county staff (e.g., County Administrator or Circuit-Rider Planner), as well as federal and state land and resource management agencies regarding natural resources planning and management within Iron County. NRAC members, upon appointment by the Iron County Board of Commissioners, will have expertise in one or more of the natural resource areas of the County. Specific roles and responsibilities of the NRAC include: represent the Iron County Board of Commissioners and NRAC, as requested, at natural resource related meetings, activities, functions, etc.; serve as the planning entity for and assist the NRS with developing, maintaining, and implementing the Iron CRMP; assist the NRS in developing monitoring systems for all goals and objectives for the Iron CRMP; as requested by the NRS, review state and federal land and natural resource management proposals and environmental analyses that impact Iron County; review formal County comment to agencies, as requested by the NRS; at the direction of the NRS, identify and prioritize natural resources and/or site-specific planning needs within the County; participate in project implementation and monitoring efforts as requested by the County Commission, NRS, and federal & state agency partners; and, provide assistance to the NRS with public outreach, education and participation efforts.

IRON COUNTY RESOURCE PLAN (CRMP)

Plan Development and Committee Make-up

The Iron County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) was developed collaboratively with the County (Commissioners, Natural Resource Specialist, and the Natural Resource Advisory Council – including Southern Utah University’s Office of Regional Services), U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Cedar City Economic Development, and the Five County Association of Governments. The Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council is made up of individuals in the County that represent a variety of natural resource interests including timber, water, wildlife, recreation, trails, grazing, etc. In particular the following individuals deserve recognition for their efforts in the CRMP development, which is the basis for future cooperation and collaboration in planning for the diverse natural resources found within Iron County:

Iron County

- Iron County Commissioners and Administrator
 - Alma Adams, Chairman/Commissioner
 - Lois Bulloch, Commissioner
 - Wayne Smith, Commissioner
 - Reed Erickson, County Administrator
- Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council
 - Mike Worthen, Natural Resource Specialist, Iron County
 - Brian Cottam, SUU Office of Regional Services
 - Craig Laub, Agriculture
 - Jeff Hunter, Timber
 - Rick Bonzo, Water
 - Donnie Hunter, Wildlife
 - Art Tait, Trails and Recreation
 - Tom Stratton, Recreation, Tourism
 - Todd Stowell, County Planner/Circuit Rider

Partners

- U.S. Forest Service – Dixie National Forest
 - Robert MacWhorter, Forest Supervisor
 - Dayle Flanigan, District Ranger, Cedar City Ranger District
- Bureau of Land Management, Color Country District
 - Todd Christensen, District Manager
 - Randy Trujillo, Acting Manager, Cedar City Field Office
 - Keith Rigtrup, District Planner
- National Park Service, Cedar Breaks National Monument
 - Paul Roelandt – Superintendent
 - Matthew Wells – Chief Ranger
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Gaylord Robb
- Cedar City Economic Develop Office
- Utah State University Extension Service, Chad Reid
- Utah State University Extension Service, James Bowns

Element 1. LEGAL BASIS

This section outlines the legal framework for the Iron County land use and resource management planning as it relates to public lands and resources.

This is accomplished by citing and synthesizing the ties of local planning to federal planning as found in various state and federal laws and regulations. Iron County acknowledges these opportunities and responsibilities relative to public lands planning and resource management.

The authority for Iron County to make plans for the management of natural resources within the County's jurisdictional boundaries is derived directly from Utah State Law. Provisions of federal law also allow counties to participate in and influence the natural resource and land management plans of federal agencies. This is accomplished through the use of duly adopted county plans and through cooperative participation in federal planning efforts and activities. This section of the County's Resource Management Plan is intended to provide a broad outline of the parameters for influence and should not be considered an exhaustive dissertation of all possibilities.

COUNTY PLANNING AUTHORITY

Section 17-27a-401 of the Utah Code provides that "*each county shall prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-range general plan*" which addresses, among other provision the

- (a) present and future needs of the county; and
- (b) growth and development of all or any part of the land within the unincorporated portions of the county.

The plan may also provide for:

- (a) health, general welfare, safety, energy conservation, transportation, prosperity, civic activities, aesthetics, and recreational, education, and cultural opportunities; the efficient and economical use, conservation, and production of the supply of: (i) food and water; and (ii) drainage, sanitary, and other facilities and resources;
- (b) the use of energy conservation and solar and renewable energy resources;
- (c) the protection of urban development;
- (d) the protection or promotion of moderate income housing;
- (e) the protection and promotion of air quality;
- (f) historic preservation;
- (g) identifying future uses of land that are likely to require and expansion or significant modification of services or facilities provided by each affected entity; and
- (h) an official map.

In addition, the law provides that the plan may define the local customs, local culture, and the components necessary for the county's economic stability. (Utah Code § 17-27A-401(4)) Counties

may also request and access certain data gathered and held by state agencies that may be of assistance in the county's planning process. (Utah Code § 12-27a-402) It should be noted that the authority to plan does not give counties any direct jurisdiction over land owned by the state or federal governments. (Utah Code § 17-27a-304)

FEDERAL LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES PLANNING

Two of the major federal landowners in Utah, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service, are required to engage in land and natural resource planning processes which can affect the use and development of natural resources. The BLM is required by Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 [FLPMA] to *“develop, maintain and...revise land use plans which provide by tract and areas for the use of the [BLM] lands.”* Similarly, the Forest Service is required to *“develop, maintain, and...revise land and resource management plans for units of the National Forest System.”* (16 U.S.C. §1604(a))

COORDINATION AND CONSISTENCY WITH STATE, LOCAL AND TRIBAL PLANS

Both the BLM and the Forest Service are required to coordinate their land and natural resources planning efforts with those of the state, local and tribal jurisdictions. For example, the BLM is required to:

1. Become “appraised” of State, local and tribal land use plans;
2. Assure that consideration is given to those State, local and tribal plans that are germane to...plans prepared for public lands; and
3. Assist in resolving...inconsistencies between Federal and non-Federal Government plans. (43 U.S.C. §1712(b)(9))

Specifically, state and local officials are *“authorized to furnish advice to the [BLM] with respect to the development and revision of land use plans,...guidelines, ...rules and ...regulations for the public lands.”* (43 U.S.C. §1712 (b)(9)) This is significant because land use plans adopted by the BLM are required to *“be consistent with State and local plans to the maximum extent consistent with Federal law and the purposes of [FLPMA].”* (43 U.S.C. §1712(b)(9)) The duly adopted regulations of the BLM further define this consistency requirement by requiring that the BLM resource management plans shall be *“consistent with officially approved or adopted resource related plans, and the policies and programs contained therein, of... State and local governments and Indian tribes, so long as the guidance and resource management plans are also consistent with the purpose, policies and programs of Federal laws and regulations applicable to public lands.”*(43 U.S.C. §1610.3-2(a)) The term “consistent” is defined to mean that the duly adopted BLM plans for the natural resource within the county *“will adhere to the terms, conditions, and decisions of officially approved and adopted resource related plans”* of local and state governments. (43 C.F.R. §1610.3-1)

BLM regulations also provide that *“in the absence of officially approved or adopted resource management plans of ...State and local governments...[Federal] resource management plans shall, to the maximum extent practical, be consistent with officially approved and adopted resource related policies and programs of...State and local governments.”* However, as before, the consistency only applies to the extent the policies and programs are *“consistent with the policies, programs and provisions of the Federal laws and regulations applicable to the public lands”* (43 C.F.R. §1610.3-2(b))

The Forest Service is required to coordinate *“with the land and resource management planning processes of State and Local governments.”*(16 U.S.C. §1604(a)) The Forest Service's planning regulations state that the *“Responsible [Forest Service] Official must provide opportunities for the coordination of Forest Service planning*

efforts...with those of other resource management agencies.” Furthermore, the agency’s planning regulations provide that “the Responsible Official shall seek assistance, where appropriate from other state and local governments...to help address management issues or opportunities.” (36 C.F.R §219.9) Although there is no explicit parallel requirements for consistency of Forest Service plans with plans of state, local and tribal governments as that contained within FLPMA for the BLM Resource Management Plans, the Forest Service is required to “discuss any inconsistency” between the proposed plan’s provision and “any approved State or local plan and laws.” Further, if any inconsistencies exist, the plan must “describe the extent to which the [Forest Service] would reconcile its proposed action with the plan or law.” (40 C.F.R. §1506.2(d))

FEDERAL PLANNING CRITERIA

Counties may use duly adopted plans, programs and policies to directly influence public land and resource planning and decision-making processes. Counties with such plans should begin by informing federal land and resource management agencies of these documents and their provisions. To be truly effective, county plans should articulate the county’s policies and positions in regard to public lands and resources including the county’s interpretation/definition of the specific criteria federal agencies must consider as they prepare/develop land and resource management plans. For example, county plans can define, among other things, the desired future conditions for the county’s economy, lifestyle, and recreational needs of the citizens, and the necessary use of federally-managed lands and resources to achieve these desired future conditions.

Forest Service

The National Forests were originally set aside to provide a continuous supply of timber and to protect water sources for local communities and agriculture needs. Later, through the adoption of the Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1920, Congress determined that the forest should be “administered for outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, and wildlife and fish purposes,” which purposes were declared to be “supplemental to, but not in derogation of” the original purpose. (16 U.S.C. §528)

The Forest Service is required to “use a systematic interdisciplinary approach to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic, and other sciences” in its land and resource plans, The Forest Service must assure that the plans “provide for multiple use and sustained yield of the products and services obtained therefrom in accordance with the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960, and in particular, include coordination of outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, wildlife and fish, and wilderness.” The plans must “determine forest management systems, harvesting levels [of timber] and procedures” based on all the uses mentioned above, the definitions of multiple use and sustained yield as laid out in the law, and the availability of lands and their suitability for resource management. (16 U.S.C. §1604(b) and (e))

Forest Service regulations specifically define “principles of planning” to guide agency resources planning processes and activities. (36 C.F.R. §219.3)

- a) *Land management planning is an adaptive management process that includes social economic, and ecological evaluation; plan development, plan amendment, and plan revision; and monitoring. The overall aim of planning is to produce responsible land management for the National Forest System based on useful and current information and guidance. Land management planning guides the Forest Service in fulfilling its responsibilities for stewardship of the National Forest System to best meet the needs of the American people. (36 C.F.R. §219.3(a))*

The Forest Service is also required, as part of the development and interpretation of data and information used to prepare resource management plans and proposals, to consider and incorporate

the concept and conditions of sustainability. “Sustainability...has three interrelated and interdependent elements: social, economic, and ecological.” (36 C.F.R. §219.10)

- a) *The overall goal of the social and economic elements of sustainability is to contribute to sustaining social and economic systems within the plan area. To understand the social and economic contribution of National Forest System lands presently make, and may make in the future, the [Forest Service] must evaluate relevant economic and social conditions and trends as appropriate during plan development...*(36 C.F.R. §219.10(a))

Expectations for ecological sustainability as well as ecosystem and species diversity are also provided.

Bureau of Land Management

FLPMA provides that the BLM must manage the lands under its jurisdiction (referred to as “public” lands) “in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resource, and archeological values,” and will provide for, among other things, “outdoor recreation and human occupancy and use,” and “food and habitat for fish and wildlife and domestic animals.” Moreover, the BLM must specifically manage the public lands “in a manner which recognizes the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food timber, and fiber from the public lands.” (43 U.S.C. §1701(8) and (12))

The BLM is required to “use and observe the principles of multiple use and sustained yield” and, just as the Forest Service must, “use a systematic interdisciplinary approach to achieve integrated consideration of physical, biological, economic and other sciences” in the preparation of its plans. (43 U.S.C §1712(c)(1) and (2)) The BLM must also “consider present and potential uses of the public lands” and “provide for compliance with applicable pollution control laws, including State and Federal air, water, noise, or other pollution standards of implementation plans.” (43 U.S.C. §1712(c)(5) and (8))

MULTIPLE-USE AND SUSTAINED YIELD

Both the Forest Service and the BLM are required to manage the lands under their jurisdiction pursuant to the principles of “multiple-use” and “sustained yield.” These terms have been defined within the provisions of FLPMA for the BLM and within the provisions of the Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 for the Forest Service. Both definitions are lengthy and worthy of careful study. Nevertheless, it is apparent that the definitions are not crystal clear, leading to the differing interpretations concerning the development or preservation of natural resources and the environment.

The definitions do state, however, that multiple-use is to be considered in the context of the best combination of land use that meet the present and future needs of the nation with respect to “recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural, scenic, scientific, and historical values.” Furthermore, it states that these resources are to be managed in a “harmonious and coordinated” manner that does not lead to “permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.” Finally, multiple use does not, by definition, mean the “greatest economic return or the greatest unit output.” (43 U.S.C §1702(c)). See also 16 U.S.C. §531(a)). For the Forest Service, the “establishment and maintenance of areas of wilderness” is specifically determined to be consistent with the principle of multiple use. (16 U.S.C. §529.)

The term “sustained yield” is defined to mean the achievement of “a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the public lands consistent with multiple-use.” (43 U.S.C. §1702(h)). See also 16 U.S.C. §531(b))

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) AND COOPERATING AGENCY STATUS

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process Overview

Preparation of land and natural resource management plans by the BLM and the Forest Service is a major federal action requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the provision of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). (42.U.S.C. § 4231 et. seq.) NEPA requires federal agencies to fully disclose the nature and condition of the environment within the area of interest. Under NEPA, agencies must formulate various alternatives for future management and compare those alternatives to a “no-action” alternative of continuing the current management scheme. NEPA specifically requires the agency preparing the EIS to seek decisions that, among other things, *“attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, . . . preserve important historic cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, . . . and . . . achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life’s amenities.”* (42 U.S.C. §4331(b))

The development of an EIS by a federal agency as part of the process to prepare a resource management plan or proposed action includes a number of well established steps. Each of these steps provides an opportunity for comment by local governments based on their plans and policies. These steps, in general, are:

- 1) “Scoping” of the issues;
- 2) preparation of an “Analysis of the Management Situation;”
- 3) preparation of the various “Alternatives” with the associated necessary management scenarios and conditions;
- 4) issuance of a “Draft EIS” for public comment; and,
- 5) issuance of a Final EIS and a “Proposed Record of Decision,” which lays out the proposed final decision including the terms and conditions for management of the lands and natural resources for the life of the plan or for the specific project.

Issuance of the proposed Record of Decision is followed by a period for appeal by interested parties, which, upon resolution of the appeals (if any), is followed by adoption of the Record of Decision and implementation of the plan or specific project.

In many cases, Environmental Assessments are used by the federal agency to determine if a project or federal action requires or warrants an EIS. The EA is not as detailed as an EIS and does not require the degree of public involvement as does an EIS, however, the decision document is required to go through a public comment process and can be appealed as identified in the agency’s implementation regulations required by the federal Council on Environmental Quality. If the decision document following an EA does not warrant further consideration via an EIS, the decision document becomes final and the project can move forward.

Governor’s Consistency Review

For plans prepared by the BLM, the Governor of the state is given an opportunity for a “consistency review” immediately following the issuance of the Proposed Record of Decision. BLM is required to *“identify any known inconsistencies with the State or local plans, policies, or programs,”* and to *“assist in resolving, the extent practical, inconsistencies between Federal and non-Federal Governments plans.”* The Governor is given

60 days to “*identify inconsistencies and provide recommendations in writing*” in response. The BLM must accept the recommendations of the Governor if the BLM State Director determines that the recommendations “*provide for a reasonable balance between the national interest and the state’s interest.*” (43 U.S.C. §1712(b)(9) and 43 C.F.R. §1610.3-2(e). See also 40 C.F.R. §1506.2(d))

NEPA Provisions Regarding Cooperating Agency Status

The federal Council on Environmental Quality has issued specific regulations relating to the implementation of NEPA provisions. One of these directives provide for the elimination of duplication with state and local processes. This regulation requires federal agencies to “cooperate with state and local agencies to the fullest extent possible to reduce duplication between NEPA and state and local requirements.” This cooperation specifically includes, but is not limited to:

- joint planning processes,
- joint environmental research and studies,
- joint public hearings, and
- joint environmental assessments (40 C.F.R. §1506.2(b))

The Council of Environmental Quality also supports inviting state and local governments to become “cooperating agencies” in the preparation of federal land and natural resource management plans and the associated EISs. The invitation to become a cooperating agency is not based on the fact that state or local governments are entities that may be affected by the outcome of the process. Instead, cooperating agency status is specifically based on the state of local government’s position as professionals having jurisdiction by law in the planning area or as professionals holding special expertise in an issue to be addressed in the analysis or decision. (Memo from James Connaughton, Chairman of the CEQ) This status does not relieve the federal agency of the responsibility as the decision-maker, and does not guarantee a decision that the cooperating agency may necessarily favor. Cooperating agency status allows cooperators to participate in the scoping process, the inventory of data and analysis of current situation process, the preparation of alternatives, the impact analysis, and in the preparation of the draft and final EISs. Participation as a cooperating agency in federal planning efforts will specifically require the cooperators to respect the timing and confidentiality inherent in the federal process. Failure to adhere to these conditions may lead to revocation of cooperating agency status. BLM has proposed a regulatory rule change which would solidify the cooperating agency concept in BLM planning, stating that a “cooperating agency relationship” would complement the requirement under FLPMA to coordinate with state and local governments. (69 F.R. §43378.)

STATE PLANNING COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The State Planning Coordinator is authorized to prepare plans, programs and policies for the state that, among other things:

- “*incorporate the plans, policies, programs, processes and desired outcomes of the counties where the federal lands or natural resources are located, to the maximum extent consistent with state and federal law,*”
- “*develop, research and use factual information, legal analysis, and statements of desired future condition*” for regions of the state, “*as necessary to support the plans, policies, programs, processes, and desired outcomes of the state and counties where the federal lands or natural resources are locate,*” and

- Establish and coordinate agreements with federal agencies that facilitate state and local participation in the development, revision and implementation of federal plans. (Utah Code §63-38d-401)

State law continues by establishing “*findings*” that shall be considered by state and local governments as they interact with federal agencies in the preparation of federal land and natural resource management plans. These findings provide the framework for the necessary considerations of state and local plans and policies which the federal agencies are required to consider as part of their planning efforts. The findings include a definition of multiple use that emphasizes support for state and local plans that are designed to produce and provide the watersheds, timber, food fiber, livestock and wildlife forage, and minerals necessary to meet present needs and future economic growth and community expansion. As well as meet the recreational needs and the personal and business related transportation needs of the citizens of the state without impairing the productivity of the land.

The findings also indicate, for example, that: the federal government must seek water rights within the state appropriation system; federal agencies must support the purposes of the school trust lands compact in their land management decisions; development of solid, fluid and gaseous minerals of the state is important to the state economy; and transportation and access routes are vital to the state’s economy. Furthermore, the findings indicate parameters for state and local government support or opposition to specific federal land planning issues such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Wildland Scenic River studies, land exchanges, agricultural production and open space, forest management, off-highway vehicle use, and predator control. (See Utah Code §36-6-38d-401(6) and (7) for the complete list of findings.)

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA) was enacted to formalize and stabilize the process by which federal agencies receive advice from interested parties. It establishes conditions under which federal agencies may establish such committees, how they must be composed and chartered, and requires meetings and activities to be open to the public. FACA does not affect the requirement under FLPMA to coordinate with state and local governments nor does it affect the establishment of a cooperating agency relationship. FACA also does not apply to any state or local committee or other group established to make recommendations to state or local governments about any issue, including land and natural resource utilization issues. (5 U.S.C. Appendix)

Element 2. SCOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

This section provides a basic overview of Iron County economic and demographic characteristics. This document was prepared by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah, in June 2008.

County characteristics discussed in this section include:

Executive Summary	Page 12
Current Demographic and Economic Baseline of Iron County	Page 15
Demographics.....	Page 16
Table 1, Iron County Migration.....	Page 16
Exhibit 1, Iron County Population Estimates.....	Page 17
Exhibit 2, Iron County Population by Age, Sex, Race & Ethnicity.....	Page 19
Employment	Page 20
Table 2a and 2b, Iron County Nonagriculture Employment	Page 21
Table 3, Real Wage Trends in Iron County	Page 22
Table 4a and 4b, Total Nonagriculture Wages in Iron County	Page 23
Table 5a and 5b, Average Monthly Nonagriculture Wages	Page 24
Table 6, Iron County Farm Employment.....	Page 25
Table 7, Occupational Distribution by Sex for Employed Residents	Page 26
Table 8, Major Employers in Iron County, 2006.....	Page 27
Table 9, Iron County Summary Commute Flows, 2000.....	Page 27
Real Estate and Construction.....	Page 28
Exhibit 3, Land Ownership in Iron County by Entity.....	Page 28
Table 10, Housing Profile for Iron County, 2007	Page 29
Figure 1, Permit-Authorized Dwelling Units in Iron County.....	Page 29
Table 11, Permit-Authorized Dwelling Unites in Iron County	Page 30
Table 12, Value of Nonresidential Construction by Type in Iron County.....	Page 31
Figure 2, Value of Nonresidential Construction in Iron County.....	Page 32
Table 13, Value and Share of Nonresidential Construction by Type.....	Page 32
Higher Education.....	Page 33
Table 14, SUU Degrees Awarded by Type and Field Study	Page 34
Figure 4, Total Degrees Awarded by SUU by type	Page 35
Exhibit 5, Enrollment at SUU and DSC.....	Page 36
Table 15, Projected Annualized FTE	Page 36
Personal Income.....	Page 37
Table 16, Components of Personal Income in Iron County.....	Page 38
Retail Sales	Page 39
Table 17, Iron County Taxable Retail Sales by Category	Page 40
Demographic and Employment Projections.....	Page 41
Table 18, Iron County GOPB Projections.....	Page 41

Executive Summary

The population of Iron County now totals 44,813, increasing at an annual rate of 3.6 percent from its 1970 population of 12,300. Most of the growth in the county occurred after 1990 (23,903 additional persons since then), with net in-migration accounting for almost two-thirds of the increase.

In 2000, nearly 3,000 minorities lived in Iron County, or about 9 percent of the county's population—the highest percentage in the region. About half of the minority population is Hispanic, and one-quarter American Indian.

Iron County is the second largest employment center in the southwest region, with about one-quarter of all nonfarm jobs in the region. Nonfarm employment in Iron County totaled 16,802 in 2006, up from 3,830 in 1970. This represents an average annual rate of increase of 4.2 percent, the second-fastest-growing county in the region. Since 1970, employment growth in Iron County contributed almost 20 percent of regional employment growth.

Government has been, and continues to be, a major employer in Iron County. In 1970, it provided more than one-third of all nonfarm jobs; trade and services were the other major sectors with 23.7 percent and 12.8 percent, respectively. By 2006, government's share of employment had declined, but it still employed 25 percent of all nonfarm workers *and* accounted for 22 percent of employment growth from 1970 to 2006. All services combined represented almost 30 percent of nonfarm jobs. Employment in construction grew significantly and by 2006 accounted for 11 percent of all nonfarm employment.

In 2000, Iron County had net out-commuting of 357 workers. Most out-commuting (67 percent) was to other counties within the region, primarily Washington County. Only 12 percent of out-commuters worked outside the state.

Total real wages (adjusted for inflation) have quadrupled in Iron County since 1970, reaching \$414.4 million in 2006. In spite of this growth, the county's share of total wages in the region declined over the period from 42 percent to about 21 percent.

In 2006, the average monthly wage in Iron County was \$2,055, an increase of 7.5 percent from the previous year. However, even with this gain, the county's average monthly wage measures 92 percent of the regional average. In comparison, in 1970, the average monthly wage in Iron County was 5 percent higher than the regional average. A large student workforce, combined with the current industry mix explain the county's below-average wages in 2006.

By far, financial activities (banks, real estate brokers, etc.) pay the highest monthly wage (\$3,046) followed by manufacturing (\$2,554). In contrast, the average monthly wage in the leisure and hospitality sector was \$883.

Iron County has the highest proportion of privately owned land among the five counties in the southwest region. More than one-third of the county is in private ownership. The federal government owns more than half and state lands make up about 7 percent. Iron is one of two counties with Paiute tribal lands.

Retail sales growth in Iron County has been impressive, increasing at an inflation-adjusted rate of 4.4 percent annually, from \$136.9 million in 1980 to \$418.2 million in 2006. Iron's per capita sales were \$9,631—more than double those in Beaver and Garfield, and \$1,000 more than Kane County's. Almost half of all retail dollars in the county are spent at general merchandise and building and garden stores.

In 2007, Iron County had a housing inventory of 18,127. Just over one in ten housing units are for seasonal or recreational use, the lowest share among the five southwest counties. A total of 15,387 units are occupied, a quarter of which are rental units—the highest percentage in the region. This is a reflection of the off-campus housing needs of students at Southern Utah University. One out of four housing units in the county has been built since 2000.

Residential construction has been exceptionally strong in the county over the past four years. Since 2004, building permits have been issued for 2,961 residential units in Iron County. New residential construction in Cedar City has accounted for most of these units.

Since 1975, Iron County has issued building permits for \$764.4 million (in 2007 dollars) of nonresidential construction. The peak year was 1992, with \$93.8 million, which included the American Pacific facility to manufacture automobile airbag parts. The second peak year was 2000, with the construction of the \$26 million SUU Physical Education Building and a Wal-Mart (\$9 million). Over the past two years, nonresidential construction has been exceptionally strong, totaling \$27.2 million in 2006 and \$30.7 million in 2007.

Between 2000 and 2020, Iron County's population is expected to double, reaching 68,315 by the end of the period. All three major age groups (school-age, working-age, and retirement-age) are projected to grow by more than 90 percent; however, the retirement population (65+) becomes more prevalent over time. This age group is projected to grow 120 percent, increasing as a share of population from 8.6 to 9.4 percent.

The school-age population (0–17) is expected to increase 140 percent, but sees no change in its share of the county's population. Although the working-age population is projected to increase by about 96 percent, its share of the county's population declines from 60.3 percent in 2000 to 58.8 percent in 2020.

All employment sectors in Iron County are expected to grow except natural resources and mining, which will lose about 94 jobs. Government adds the most jobs, accounting for 21 percent of job growth from 2005 to 2020. Education and health services will post the largest percentage increase, growing by 166.2 percent over the period, and adding 2,272 new jobs. The slowest-growing sectors will be manufacturing (up 42 percent) and information (up 56 percent).

Southern Utah University (SUU) is the largest of the two institutions of higher education in the southwest region, and the largest employer in Iron County. SUU offers graduate, baccalaureate, and associate degrees. It also offers certificates in five fields of study.

Enrollment at SUU has more than tripled over the last 25 years, growing from 1,921 annualized full-time equivalents in the 1981–82 academic year to 6,937 in 2006–07. Enrollment growth has been strong, dipping just three times since 1982. The largest drops occurred in 2002–03, with an enrollment decline of 223 over the previous year, and in 2003–04, with a further decline of 152. By 2004–05, enrollment had grown to 6,202, exceeding its previous high mark of 6,134.

The number of degrees awarded has also increased significantly. Since the 1981–82 academic year, the total number of degrees awarded at SUU grew from 301 to 1,250 in 2007—an increase of 315 percent. Bachelor’s degrees accounted for almost 70 percent of all degrees awarded in 2006–07.

SUU has seen very strong growth in its master’s degree programs. It currently offers master’s degrees in eight fields, but most are awarded in education and business. Since the first ones were granted in 1985–86, SUU has awarded a total of 1,566 masters degrees; since 1989–90, 1,004 have been awarded in education and 527 in business and marketing. The academic year 2006–07 was a peak year, with a total of 204 master’s degrees awarded.

Enrollment growth is projected to slow from its fast pace, with enrollment increasing by little more than one-third by the 2020–21 academic year. However, given the demographic and economic growth projections for the southwest region, enrollments may be much higher than forecast.

Current Demographic and Economic Baseline of Iron County

Population

Population (2007)	44,813
Average Annual Growth Rate, 1970–2007	3.6%
Net In-Migration, 1970–2007	16,952
Median Age (2006)	25.6
Households (2007)	14,302
Median Household Income (1999)	\$33,114

Employment

Total Farm, Nonfarm and Proprietor Employment (2005)	21,955
Average Annual Growth Rate, 1970–2005	2.2%
Farm Employment as a Share of Total Employment	2.6%
Nonagricultural Employment (2006)	16,802
Average Annual Growth Rate, 1970–2006	4.2%
Employer Firms (2006)	1,520
Major Nonagricultural Employment Sectors (2006)	<u>Number</u> <u>Share</u>
Government	4,198 24.9%
Retail Trade	2,255 13.4%
Construction	1,839 11.0%
Manufacturing	1,781 10.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	1,563 9.2%

Retail Sales

Taxable 2006 Retail Sales (millions)	\$418.2
Average Annual Inflation-Adjusted Growth Rate, 1980–2006	4.4%
Major Retail Categories (millions)	<u>Amount</u> <u>Share</u>
General Merchandise	\$112.4 26.9%
Building and Garden	\$83.5 20.0%
Motor Vehicles	\$67.4 16.1%
Per Capita Retail Sales (2006)	\$9,631

Wages and Income

Total Nonagricultural Wages (2006, millions)	\$414.4
Average Annual Inflation-Adjusted Growth Rate, 1970–2006	3.9%
Average Monthly Wage (2006)	\$2,055
Total Personal Income (2005, millions)	\$799.1
Average Annual Inflation-Adjusted Growth Rate, 1970–2005	4.4%

Housing, New Construction, and Real Estate

	<u>Number</u> <u>Share</u>
Total Housing Units (2007)	18,127
Total Occupied Units (share of total housing units)	15,387 84.9%
Owner-Occupied (share of total occupied)	11,450 74.4%
Renter-Occupied (share of total occupied)	3,396 22.1%
Recreation or Seasonal Units (share of total housing units)	2,099 11.6%
Median Sales Price of Existing Single-Family Homes (2006)	\$150,750
New Permit-Authorized Dwelling Units (2007)	656
Value of Residential Construction (2007, millions)	\$858.5
Value of Nonresidential Construction (2007, millions)	\$30.7
Land Ownership (2007)	<u>Acres</u> <u>Share</u>
Privately Owned	754,031 35.7%
Federally Owned	1,215,177 57.5%
State Owned	141,184 6.7%
Total Area	2,113,335 100%

Southern Utah University

Total Annualized FTE Enrollment (2006–07)	6,937
Total Degrees Awarded	1,250

Tax Revenue

Property Tax Receipts (2006, millions)	\$31.2
Sales Taxes Disbursed (2006, millions)	\$6.0

Note: All dollar figures are in current dollars.

Sources: Utah Population Estimates Committee; U.S. Census Bureau; Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget; Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah; Utah Department of Workforce Services; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; USDA 2002 Census of Agriculture; Utah State Tax Commission; Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center; Utah System of Higher Education.

Demographics

Population Levels and Changes

The population of Iron County, which remained within 1,000 of Washington County from 1900 through 1970, has grown to an estimated 44,813 in 2007 (Exhibit 1). This is slightly less than a third the size of Washington County, but over two-and-a-half times the combined population of the remaining three southwestern Utah counties. Prior to 1990, the population growth of Iron County resembled that of small rural counties throughout the state. Although natural increase was consistently positive, net migration cycled between in- and out-migration depending upon labor market conditions. On a cumulative basis, the county experienced net out-migration from 1940 to 1990.

Since 1990, Iron County population growth has accelerated significantly, averaging 4.5 percent annually. Population more than doubled, from 20,910 in 1990 to 44,813 in 2007, with net in-migration accounting for 15,185 or 63.5 percent of the increase. Considering components of population change and annual growth rates, it appears that the population growth dynamics in Iron County since 1990 have come to more closely resemble those of Washington County.

Of those who lived in Iron County in 2000, 35.3 percent are estimated to have moved to the county from elsewhere since 1995 (Table 1). These are divided nearly equally between out-of-state and in-state (but out-of-county) origins. Utah, California, Nevada, and Arizona were the top three states of origin, with Salt Lake, Utah, and Washington counties being the top three sending counties within the state. About 1.5 percent of the population of Iron County in 2000 reported living outside the U.S. in 1995. Persons who left Iron County between 1995 and 2000 left for elsewhere in Utah, California, Nevada, Arizona, Missouri, and Oregon (the last three states had nearly equal numbers of out-migrants). All of these had positive net in-migration to Iron except the last two. (Oregon and Missouri received sizable net out-migration from Iron County.) Washington, Salt Lake, and Utah counties were the top three in-state destination counties for those leaving Iron County from 1995 to 2000. The top three counties with net in-migration to Iron County were Salt Lake, Utah, and Davis counties. Washington County was the only one with significant net out-migration from Iron County. According to the Census 2000 data, Iron County experienced positive net in-migration from 1995 to 2000 on both an in-state and out-of-state basis.

Table 1
Iron County Migration, 1995–2000

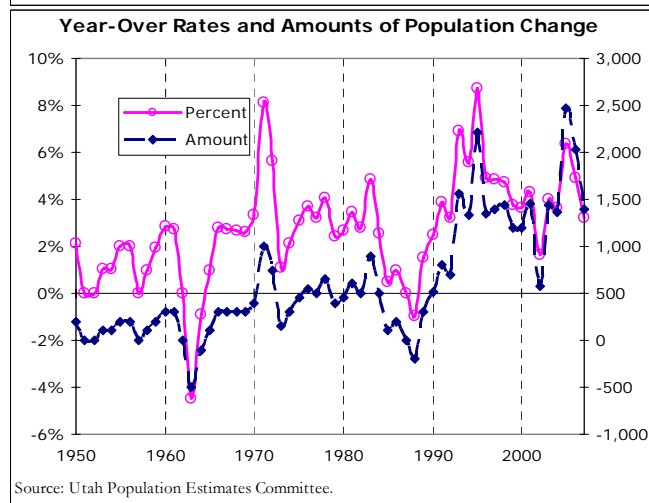
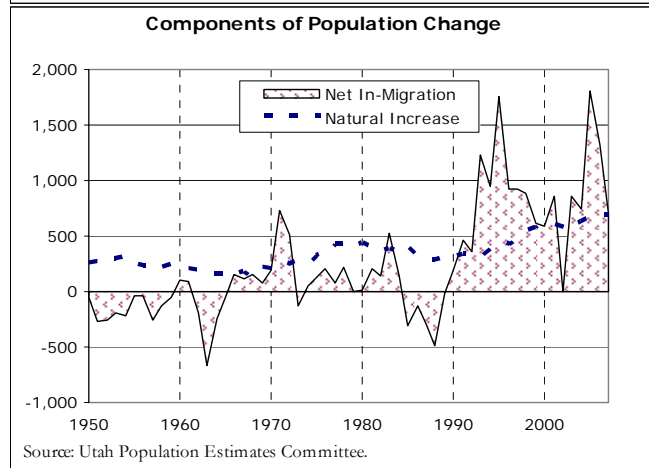
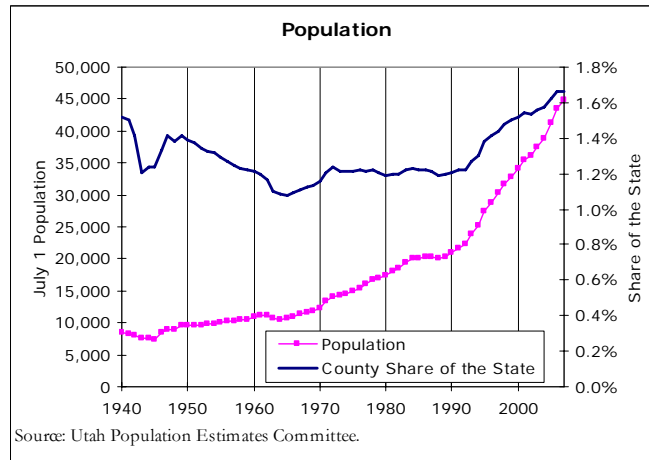
<u>State-to-County</u>		<u>In-State-to-County</u>	
In-Flows		In-Flows	
Total	10,805	Total	5,491
Utah	5,491	Salt Lake	1,193
California	1,308	Utah	901
Nevada	1,267	Washington	819
Arizona	509	Davis	317
Idaho	319	Millard	259
Out-Flows		Out-Flows	
Total	7,736	Total	3,714
Utah	3,714	Washington	964
California	1,011	Salt Lake	835
Nevada	831	Utah	600
Arizona	241	Cache	153
Missouri	229	Beaver	115
Net		Net	
Total	3,069	Total	1,777
Utah	1,777	Salt Lake	358
Nevada	436	Utah	301
California	297	Davis	228
Arizona	268	Millard	162
Idaho	160	Sevier	141

Source: Census 2000, County-to-County Migration File.

Exhibit 1

Iron County Population Estimates and Components of Population Change, 1940–2007

	Population	Fiscal Year Births	Fiscal Year Deaths	Natural Increase	Net In-Migration
1940	8,400	223	75	148	0
1941	8,300	230	57	173	-273
1942	8,100	214	48	166	-366
1943	7,700	233	64	169	-569
1944	7,500	239	66	173	-373
1945	7,300	212	50	162	-362
1946	8,500	235	65	170	1,030
1947	9,000	313	68	245	255
1948	9,000	304	65	239	-239
1949	9,500	334	64	270	230
1950	9,700	331	78	253	-53
1951	9,700	337	64	273	-273
1952	9,700	338	80	258	-258
1953	9,800	347	57	290	-190
1954	9,900	383	65	318	-218
1955	10,100	308	64	244	-44
1956	10,300	296	61	235	-35
1957	10,300	306	56	250	-250
1958	10,400	294	72	222	-122
1959	10,600	316	70	246	-46
1960	10,900	273	71	202	98
1961	11,200	281	74	207	93
1962	11,200	261	68	193	-193
1963	10,700	237	72	165	-665
1964	10,600	211	63	148	-248
1965	10,700	233	80	153	-53
1966	11,000	236	86	150	150
1967	11,300	268	83	185	115
1968	11,600	241	98	143	157
1969	11,900	306	82	224	76
1970	12,300	287	76	211	189
1971	13,300	351	80	271	729
1972	14,050	332	94	238	512
1973	14,200	386	108	278	-128
1974	14,500	336	81	255	45
1975	14,950	403	87	316	134
1976	15,500	429	79	350	200
1977	16,000	522	101	421	79
1978	16,650	502	76	426	224
1979	17,050	518	117	401	-1
1980	17,500	528	93	435	15
1981	18,100	508	109	399	201
1982	18,600	460	99	361	139
1983	19,500	475	95	380	520
1984	20,000	437	80	357	143
1985	20,100	498	90	408	-308
1986	20,300	435	103	332	-132
1987	20,300	412	116	296	-296
1988	20,100	403	115	288	-488
1989	20,400	418	108	310	-10
1990	20,910	409	96	313	197
1991	21,715	459	120	339	466
1992	22,410	444	108	336	359
1993	23,965	451	130	321	1,234
1994	25,296	527	142	385	946
1995	27,506	582	134	448	1,762
1996	28,858	578	150	428	924
1997	30,254	621	146	475	921
1998	31,687	726	183	543	890
1999	32,879	751	172	579	613
2000	34,079	771	155	616	584
2001	35,541	767	161	606	856
2002	36,122	749	171	578	3
2003	37,559	773	196	577	860
2004	38,925	804	182	622	744
2005	41,397	863	198	665	1,807
2006	43,424	939	232	707	1,320
2007	44,813	959	269	690	699



Notes: Population estimates for July 1 were produced by the Utah Population Estimates Committee (UPEC). UPEC changed its rounding convention. Estimates before 1990 are rounded while those for 1990 and beyond are not rounded. Birth and death data are from the Utah Bureau of Health Statistics.
 Source: Downloaded from www.governor.state.ut.us/dea on November 19, 2007.

Cedar City was the largest city in the southwest region into the 1970s. It has continued to be the population center of Iron County, with an estimated July 1, 2006 population of 25,665, which is nearly two-thirds of the county population. Unincorporated areas of the county have a population of 6,893 (also in 2006), followed by Enoch, with an estimated population of 4,550. Since 2000, Cedar City and Enoch have gained shares of the total county population.

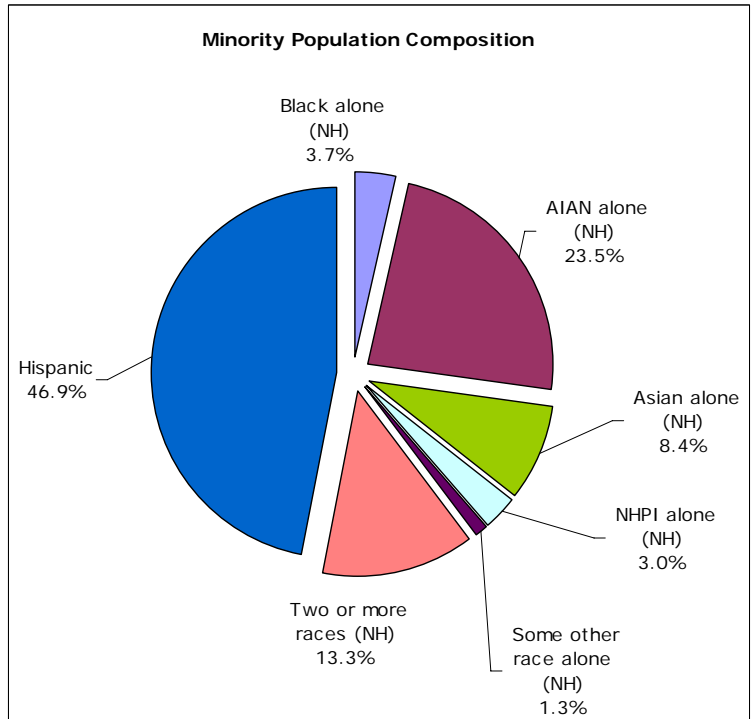
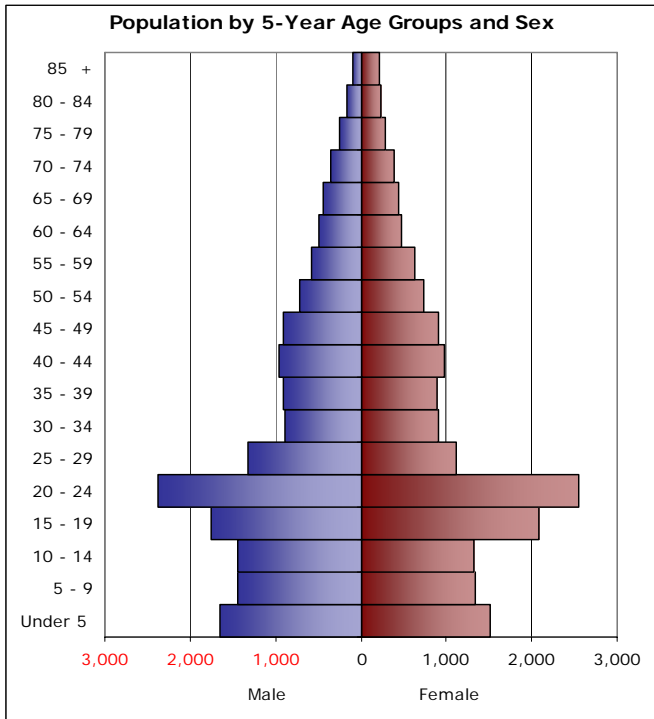
Age, Sex, Race, Ethnicity

Iron County has a classic college community age distribution, with “wings” in the college-age groups (15–19 and 20–24) (Exhibit 2). Census 2000 estimated enrollment of 5,249 individuals in college and graduate school in the county. In contrast to Beaver and Garfield counties, which experienced an exodus of persons in the college-age groups, Iron County imports people in large numbers. The median age was 24.2, among the youngest in the state. There was also a “missionary cave” on the male side of the age pyramid in the peak LDS religious service years (i.e., women particularly outnumber men in those ages). The beginnings of a retirement destination community were also evident in the slight overrepresentation of population in the 60–64, 65–69, and 70–74-year age groups (relative to the state). Because of the presence of college-age persons, the working-age population (18–64 years old) was 60 percent of the population, while youth (under age 18) were 31 percent and those over 65 were 9 percent of the total.

Nearly 3,000 minorities were enumerated in the 2000 Iron County population, representing almost 9 percent of the total. Hispanics were the largest minority population in the county, accounting for nearly half of all minorities. There were 692 American Indians counted, representing almost one-fourth of the Iron County population. Their numbers were only slightly larger than in 1990. The Hispanic population increased by 1,000 (from 382 to 1,383) from 1990 to 2000, while the Asian (not Hispanic) population increased from 98 to 249. The foreign-born population was estimated to be only 981 persons in 2000, 438 of whom were born in Latin America (and had migrated since 1990), 234 in Asia (migrated since 1990), and 182 from Europe (most immigrating before 1980). The growth of Southern Utah University and of the area’s labor market in general is probably encouraging the in-migration of these diverse populations.

Exhibit 2

Iron County Population by Age and Sex, Race, and Ethnicity: 2000



Age Distribution of the Iron County Population

	Sex		Ratio	Share	Share of State
	Male	Female			
Under 5	1,653	1,513	1.09	9.4%	1.5%
5-9	1,446	1,346	1.07	8.3%	1.4%
10-14	1,447	1,326	1.09	8.2%	1.4%
15-19	1,759	2,092	0.84	11.4%	1.8%
20-24	2,372	2,547	0.93	14.6%	2.2%
25-29	1,322	1,107	1.19	7.2%	1.4%
30-34	882	908	0.97	5.3%	1.2%
35-39	915	885	1.03	5.3%	1.2%
40-44	955	981	0.97	5.7%	1.3%
45-49	912	904	1.01	5.4%	1.4%
50-54	719	731	0.98	4.3%	1.4%
55-59	572	627	0.91	3.5%	1.5%
60-64	487	480	1.01	2.9%	1.5%
65-69	441	447	0.99	2.6%	1.7%
70-74	349	397	0.88	2.2%	1.6%
75-79	259	293	0.88	1.6%	1.4%
80-84	164	225	0.73	1.2%	1.4%
85 +	103	213	0.48	0.9%	1.5%
Total	16,757	17,022	0.98	100%	1.5%
Share 60 years+	11.4%				1.5%
Median Age	24.2				

Race and Ethnicity of the Iron County Population

	Population	Share	Share of State
Total	33,779	100%	1.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	32,396	95.9%	1.6%
White alone	30,829	91.3%	1.6%
Black or African American alone	108	0.3%	0.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	692	2.0%	2.6%
Asian alone	249	0.7%	0.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	88	0.3%	0.6%
Some other race alone	38	0.1%	2.0%
Two or more races	392	1.2%	1.3%
Ethnicity			
Hispanic or Latino	1,383	4.1%	0.7%
Minority	2,950	8.7%	0.9%

Note: NH is Not Hispanic. If a cell is shaded yellow and has bold red type, this indicates that the county's share of the state for the given category exceeds the county's share of total population in the state. Blue shading indicates a male-to-female ratio greater than one.

Source: Bureau of the Census, Census 2000, SF1.

Employment

Employment

Employment in Iron County increased more than four-fold, 338.8 percent, from 1970 to 2006 for an average annual rate of increase of 4.2 percent. From 1970 to 2000, the county accounted for 22.8 percent of regional growth; from 2001 to 2006 it contributed 14.9 percent (Tables 2a and 2b). Iron County is the second largest employment center in the region, though with Washington County's much faster growth (8 percent annually from 1970 to 2006) Iron's share of total regional employment has declined from 40.0 percent in 1970 to 22.2 percent in 2006.

Like all the counties in the southwest region, government is a major employer in Iron County. In 1970 it provided 34.8 percent of nonagricultural jobs; trade and services were the other major sectors with 23.7 percent and 12.8 percent, respectively. By 2000, government's share had declined to 26.7 percent, services had doubled to 26.0 percent, and trade's employment share was almost unchanged at 22.7 percent. Together, these three sectors accounted for more than three-quarters of the county's job growth. Over this period, manufacturing jobs grew from 8.2 percent to 12.2 percent of total employment, while mining jobs plummeted from 7.1 percent to 0.4 percent. In 2006, the four NAICS service sector groupings (professional and business, education and health, leisure and hospitality, and other) together accounted for 29.8 percent of total employment. Government provided 25.0 percent of jobs, trade, transportation, and utilities provided 18.0 percent, and construction 10.9 percent. Manufacturing also represented just over one-tenth of nonagricultural jobs (10.8 percent). Mining employment saw a significant jump in 2006 to 58 jobs from seven in 2005 and 3 in 2002–04.

The fastest-growing sectors from 1970 to 2000 were services, up 646.1 percent; construction, which increased 482.8 percent; and manufacturing, up 447.6 percent. The latter two contributed 7.1 percent and 13.7 percent, respectively, of total job growth over the period, while services was the greatest growth driver of all sectors with 30.9 percent. Only mining declined, losing 78.7 percent of its 1970 employment level. In the 2001–06 period, construction employment grew 111.9 percent, mining jobs grew 70.6 percent, and financial activity and education and health services both increased by about half. Only one sector saw employment losses: professional and business services were down 23.1 percent. The major contributors to employment growth in the period were construction (34.1 percent of new jobs), education and health services (18.4 percent), and trade, transportation, and utilities (16.7 percent). Leisure and hospitality, manufacturing, and government each accounted for about 10 percent of Iron's 2001–06 employment growth.

Table 2a
Iron County Nonagricultural Employment by SIC Sector, 1970–2000

Year	Mining		Construction		Manufacturing		TCPU		Trade		FIRE		Services		Government		Total	Share of Region
	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share		
1970	272	7.1%	151	3.9%	313	8.2%	253	6.6%	906	23.7%	112	2.9%	490	12.8%	1,333	34.8%	3,830	40.0%
1980	158	2.8%	290	5.1%	451	8.0%	410	7.2%	1,513	26.7%	296	5.2%	657	11.6%	1,887	33.3%	5,662	35.3%
1990	156	2.0%	215	2.8%	723	9.4%	412	5.4%	2,065	27.0%	209	2.7%	1,533	20.0%	2,342	30.6%	7,655	28.5%
1991	62	0.8%	245	3.1%	719	9.0%	328	4.1%	2,179	27.3%	234	2.9%	1,645	20.6%	2,569	32.2%	7,981	27.9%
1992	28	0.3%	419	4.9%	864	10.1%	303	3.5%	2,381	27.9%	241	2.8%	1,732	20.3%	2,581	30.2%	8,549	27.9%
1993	31	0.3%	463	5.0%	857	9.2%	295	3.2%	2,584	27.8%	274	2.9%	1,990	21.4%	2,796	30.1%	9,290	27.4%
1994	17	0.2%	579	5.6%	970	9.4%	329	3.2%	2,723	26.4%	322	3.1%	2,354	22.8%	3,023	29.3%	10,317	26.4%
1995	87	0.8%	693	6.1%	1,203	10.7%	350	3.1%	2,891	25.6%	333	3.0%	2,598	23.0%	3,125	27.7%	11,280	26.3%
1996	74	0.6%	745	6.3%	1,360	11.5%	351	3.0%	2,997	25.3%	400	3.4%	2,671	22.5%	3,248	27.4%	11,846	25.9%
1997	52	0.4%	778	6.1%	1,675	13.1%	350	2.7%	3,164	24.8%	416	3.3%	2,933	23.0%	3,392	26.6%	12,760	26.5%
1998	54	0.4%	767	5.7%	1,793	13.4%	363	2.7%	3,241	24.2%	468	3.5%	3,114	23.3%	3,565	26.7%	13,365	26.5%
1999	63	0.5%	937	6.9%	1,810	13.3%	351	2.6%	3,156	23.2%	455	3.3%	3,190	23.4%	3,655	26.8%	13,617	26.0%
2000	58	0.4%	880	6.3%	1,714	12.2%	358	2.5%	3,190	22.7%	454	3.2%	3,656	26.0%	3,760	26.7%	14,070	25.8%
Change	-78.7%		482.8%		447.6%		41.5%		252.1%		305.4%		646.1%		182.1%		267.4%	
Share of Growth	-2.1%		7.1%		13.7%		1.0%		22.3%		3.3%		30.9%		23.7%		100%	22.8%

Note: TCPU = Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities; FIRE = Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate. Figure at intersection of Share of Growth row and Share of Region column is the county's contribution to the region's growth.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services and BEBR calculations.

Table 2b
Iron County Nonagricultural Employment by NAICS Sector, 2001–2006

Year	Mining		Construction		Manufacturing		TTU		Information		Financial Activity		Prof. & Bus. Services		Ed. & Health Services		Leisure & Hospitality		Other Services		Government		Total	Share of Region
	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share	No.	Share		
2001	34	0.2%	868	6.2%	1,496	10.7%	2,546	18.2%	110	0.8%	513	3.7%	1,654	11.8%	1,066	7.6%	1,494	10.7%	265	1.9%	3,914	28.0%	13,960	24.7%
2002	3	0.0%	885	6.3%	1,446	10.3%	2,490	17.7%	129	0.9%	576	4.1%	1,674	11.9%	1,177	8.3%	1,514	10.7%	323	2.3%	3,890	27.6%	14,107	24.3%
2003	3	0.0%	909	6.4%	1,497	10.6%	2,569	18.2%	110	0.8%	604	4.3%	1,317	9.3%	1,221	8.7%	1,563	11.1%	337	2.4%	3,978	28.2%	14,108	23.6%
2004	3	0.0%	1,029	7.0%	1,598	10.8%	2,677	18.1%	95	0.6%	577	3.9%	1,329	9.0%	1,311	8.9%	1,686	11.4%	304	2.1%	4,166	28.2%	14,775	22.9%
2005	7	0.0%	1,429	9.1%	1,705	10.8%	2,865	18.2%	101	0.6%	643	4.1%	1,339	8.5%	1,421	9.0%	1,806	11.4%	326	2.1%	4,140	26.2%	15,782	22.5%
2006	58	0.3%	1,839	10.9%	1,785	10.6%	3,022	18.0%	123	0.7%	784	4.7%	1,272	7.6%	1,591	9.5%	1,804	10.7%	334	2.0%	4,194	25.0%	16,806	22.2%
Change	70.6%		111.9%		19.3%		18.7%		11.8%		52.8%		-23.1%		49.2%		20.7%		26.0%		7.2%		20.4%	
Share of Growth	0.8%		34.1%		10.2%		16.7%		0.5%		9.5%		-13.4%		18.4%		10.9%		2.4%		9.8%		100%	14.9%

Note: TTU = Trade, Transportation, and Utilities. Figure at intersection of Share of Growth row and Share of Region column is the county's contribution to the region's growth.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services and BEBR calculations.

Wages

Total inflation-adjusted wages in Iron County quadrupled from 1970 to 2006, from \$103.7 million to \$414.4 million (in constant 2006 dollars) (Table 3). In spite of this growth, the county's share of total wages in the region declined over the period, from 42.0 percent to 20.5 percent. Inflation-adjusted average monthly wages also declined, by 8.9 percent, from \$2,256 to \$2,055. In 1970, 1980, and 1990 monthly wages in Iron County were above the regional average, but by 2000 they had slipped below and were 92.2 percent of the average in 2006.

Table 3
Real Wage Trends in Iron County, 1970–2006

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2006	Change
Total Wages (millions)	\$103.7	\$154.0	\$183.9	\$323.7	\$414.4	299.6%
Share of Region	42.0%	37.0%	29.5%	24.1%	20.5%	-21.5%
Share of State	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	0.1%
Average Monthly Wage	\$2,256	\$2,269	\$2,002	\$1,917	\$2,055	-8.9%
vs. Region Average	105.0%	104.9%	103.6%	93.3%	92.2%	-12.8%
vs. State Average	79.2%	82.7%	77.9%	67.8%	71.3%	-7.9%

Note: Wages are in constant 2006 dollars.

Source: BEBR calculations based on Utah Department of Workforce Services data.

Looking at total wages by industry (Table 4a), in 1970 government was by far the dominant sector in the county, paying 35.5 percent of total wages. The next closest industries were trade and mining, paying 19.1 percent and 11.8 percent, respectively. By 2000, government's share had declined to 31.1 percent, trade to 16.7 percent, and mining to 0.7 percent. However, service sector wages now accounted for 19.9 percent of total wages (up from 7.2 percent in 1970) and manufacturing paid 16.2 percent (up from 7.8 percent).

By 2006 (Table 4b), under the NAICS industry classification system, government's share of total wages had declined to 27.4 percent, though it was still the largest; trade, transportation, and utilities paid 17.9 percent and manufacturing paid 13.2 percent. The service sectors combined paid 21.9 percent of total wages, with education and health services, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality services contributing the larger shares.

From 1970 through 1994, mining jobs tended to have the highest monthly wages in Iron County, followed closely by those in the transportation, communications, and public utilities (TCPU) sector (Table 5a). In 1995 this situation switched, with TCPU jobs paying the highest wages followed by mining. From 2001 to 2006, under the NAICS classification, mining, manufacturing, and financial activity jobs paid the highest wages, with the government, information, and construction sectors also paying above-average wages (Table 5b). As of 2006, financial activity jobs paid the highest wages, while leisure and hospitality jobs paid the lowest.

Table 4a
Total Nonagricultural Wages in Iron County by SIC Sector, 1970–2000
(millions of current dollars, except where noted)

Year	Mining		Construction		Manufacturing		TCPU		Trade		FIRE		Services		Government		Total	
	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Current \$	Constant \$
1970	\$2.3	11.8%	\$1.2	6.2%	\$1.5	7.8%	\$1.9	9.8%	\$3.7	19.1%	\$0.5	2.6%	\$1.4	7.2%	\$6.8	35.5%	\$19.3	\$103.7
1980	\$3.9	6.2%	\$3.9	6.2%	\$5.0	8.0%	\$8.1	13.1%	\$11.2	18.0%	\$3.0	4.9%	\$6.0	9.7%	\$21.2	34.0%	\$62.4	\$154.0
1990	\$5.2	4.5%	\$3.2	2.7%	\$12.9	10.9%	\$14.3	12.2%	\$20.9	17.8%	\$3.1	2.6%	\$18.4	15.6%	\$39.6	33.7%	\$117.6	\$183.9
1991	\$1.7	1.4%	\$3.8	3.2%	\$13.9	11.6%	\$9.7	8.2%	\$23.6	19.8%	\$3.5	3.0%	\$20.1	16.9%	\$42.7	35.9%	\$119.0	\$178.2
1992	\$1.2	0.9%	\$10.0	7.4%	\$16.8	12.5%	\$8.2	6.1%	\$25.8	19.2%	\$3.9	2.9%	\$22.5	16.7%	\$46.3	34.4%	\$134.5	\$194.9
1993	\$1.3	0.9%	\$9.2	6.2%	\$18.3	12.5%	\$9.2	6.2%	\$28.8	19.6%	\$4.5	3.1%	\$26.1	17.8%	\$49.8	33.8%	\$147.1	\$206.9
1994	\$1.1	0.6%	\$9.3	5.6%	\$21.6	13.0%	\$10.6	6.4%	\$32.5	19.5%	\$5.5	3.3%	\$30.4	18.2%	\$55.7	33.4%	\$166.7	\$229.2
1995	\$2.5	1.3%	\$11.7	6.2%	\$27.1	14.3%	\$11.5	6.1%	\$35.0	18.5%	\$6.3	3.3%	\$35.4	18.7%	\$60.1	31.7%	\$189.5	\$254.0
1996	\$2.6	1.3%	\$12.8	6.2%	\$31.3	15.1%	\$11.3	5.4%	\$37.2	18.0%	\$8.1	3.9%	\$38.1	18.4%	\$65.5	31.7%	\$206.9	\$270.1
1997	\$1.5	0.6%	\$14.6	6.3%	\$38.1	16.5%	\$12.3	5.3%	\$41.4	17.9%	\$8.7	3.8%	\$43.8	18.9%	\$70.9	30.7%	\$231.2	\$294.7
1998	\$1.4	0.6%	\$14.9	5.9%	\$43.7	17.4%	\$12.6	5.0%	\$43.9	17.5%	\$10.0	4.0%	\$47.0	18.7%	\$77.0	30.7%	\$250.6	\$313.5
1999	\$1.8	0.7%	\$17.8	6.8%	\$45.1	17.1%	\$12.6	4.8%	\$45.7	17.4%	\$10.1	3.8%	\$49.2	18.7%	\$80.9	30.7%	\$263.2	\$320.5
2000	\$2.1	0.7%	\$18.8	6.8%	\$44.7	16.2%	\$13.3	4.8%	\$46.0	16.7%	\$9.8	3.6%	\$54.9	19.9%	\$85.6	31.1%	\$275.1	\$323.7

Notes: TCPU = Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities; FIRE = Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate. Constant-dollar figures are in 2006 dollars.
Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services and BEBR calculations.

Table 4b
Total Nonagricultural Wages in Iron County by NAICS Sector, 2001–2006
(millions of current dollars, except where noted)

Year	Mining		Construction		Manufacturing		TTU		Information		Financial Activity		Prof. & Bus. Services		Ed. & Health Services		Leisure & Hospitality		Other Services		Government		Total	
	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Wages	Share	Current \$	Constant \$
2001	\$1.2	0.4%	\$18.4	6.5%	\$42.2	14.9%	\$51.4	18.2%	\$2.5	0.9%	\$11.5	4.1%	\$24.7	8.7%	\$20.1	7.1%	\$13.0	4.6%	\$4.7	1.7%	\$93.2	32.9%	\$283.0	\$321.3
2002	\$0.1	0.0%	\$19.3	6.5%	\$40.5	13.7%	\$52.2	17.7%	\$2.8	1.0%	\$14.5	4.9%	\$25.4	8.6%	\$22.3	7.5%	\$14.4	4.9%	\$6.0	2.0%	\$98.1	33.2%	\$295.8	\$329.5
2003	\$0.1	0.0%	\$20.7	6.9%	\$41.8	14.0%	\$54.3	18.1%	\$2.5	0.8%	\$17.2	5.7%	\$19.1	6.4%	\$23.7	7.9%	\$15.2	5.1%	\$6.3	2.1%	\$98.5	32.9%	\$299.4	\$326.5
2004	\$0.1	0.0%	\$24.1	7.4%	\$47.3	14.5%	\$58.1	17.9%	\$2.0	0.6%	\$17.7	5.4%	\$19.3	5.9%	\$26.4	8.1%	\$16.2	5.0%	\$6.4	2.0%	\$107.8	33.1%	\$325.4	\$346.8
2005	\$0.2	0.1%	\$35.6	9.8%	\$50.9	14.0%	\$65.5	18.1%	\$2.5	0.7%	\$22.4	6.2%	\$22.5	6.2%	\$28.6	7.9%	\$18.6	5.1%	\$7.0	1.9%	\$108.7	30.0%	\$362.5	\$374.9
2006	\$1.2	0.3%	\$48.7	11.7%	\$54.7	13.2%	\$74.1	17.9%	\$2.9	0.7%	\$28.7	6.9%	\$27.3	6.6%	\$36.4	8.8%	\$19.1	4.6%	\$7.7	1.9%	\$113.7	27.4%	\$414.4	\$414.4

Note: TTU = Trade, Transportation, and Utilities. Constant-dollar figures are in 2006 dollars.
Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services and BEBR calculations.

Table 5a
Average Monthly Nonagricultural Wages in Iron County
by SIC Sector, 1970–2000
(current dollars, except where noted)

Year	Mining	Const.	Mfg.	TCPU	Trade	FIRE	Services	Gov't.	Total Average	
									Current \$	Constant \$
1970	\$695	\$655	\$401	\$625	\$339	\$375	\$235	\$427	\$419	\$2,256
1980	\$2,040	\$1,115	\$922	\$1,655	\$618	\$855	\$773	\$935	\$919	\$2,269
1990	\$2,802	\$1,223	\$1,483	\$2,895	\$845	\$1,234	\$999	\$1,408	\$1,280	\$2,002
1991	\$2,258	\$1,304	\$1,605	\$2,471	\$903	\$1,254	\$1,017	\$1,385	\$1,242	\$1,861
1992	\$3,449	\$1,991	\$1,618	\$2,242	\$904	\$1,338	\$1,081	\$1,494	\$1,311	\$1,900
1993	\$3,403	\$1,647	\$1,784	\$2,585	\$928	\$1,367	\$1,094	\$1,483	\$1,319	\$1,856
1994	\$5,167	\$1,333	\$1,857	\$2,682	\$996	\$1,420	\$1,077	\$1,536	\$1,346	\$1,851
1995	\$2,434	\$1,403	\$1,876	\$2,731	\$1,009	\$1,577	\$1,134	\$1,602	\$1,400	\$1,876
1996	\$2,925	\$1,433	\$1,918	\$2,676	\$1,034	\$1,693	\$1,190	\$1,680	\$1,456	\$1,900
1997	\$2,372	\$1,559	\$1,898	\$2,925	\$1,090	\$1,742	\$1,243	\$1,743	\$1,510	\$1,925
1998	\$2,235	\$1,618	\$2,032	\$2,884	\$1,129	\$1,784	\$1,257	\$1,800	\$1,562	\$1,955
1999	\$2,362	\$1,587	\$2,077	\$2,993	\$1,206	\$1,841	\$1,285	\$1,845	\$1,611	\$1,961
2000	\$2,953	\$1,777	\$2,172	\$3,097	\$1,203	\$1,798	\$1,251	\$1,896	\$1,629	\$1,917

Notes: TCPU = Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities; FIRE = Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate. Constant-dollar figures are in 2006 dollars.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services and BEBR calculations.

Table 5b
Average Monthly Nonagricultural Wages in Iron County by NAICS Sector, 2001–2006
(current dollars, except where noted)

Year	Mining	Const.	Mfg.	TTU	Info.	Fin'l. Act.	Prof & Bus.	Ed. & Health	Leisure & Hosp.	Other Svcs.	Gov't.	Total Average	
												Current \$	Constant \$
2001	\$2,889	\$1,763	\$2,352	\$1,684	\$1,908	\$1,875	\$1,246	\$1,568	\$727	\$1,474	\$1,985	\$1,689	\$1,918
2002	\$1,880	\$1,821	\$2,336	\$1,748	\$1,825	\$2,102	\$1,266	\$1,580	\$795	\$1,543	\$2,102	\$1,748	\$1,946
2003	\$2,469	\$1,893	\$2,328	\$1,762	\$1,922	\$2,367	\$1,208	\$1,620	\$808	\$1,561	\$2,063	\$1,768	\$1,929
2004	\$2,543	\$1,956	\$2,464	\$1,808	\$1,774	\$2,555	\$1,210	\$1,679	\$799	\$1,765	\$2,157	\$1,835	\$1,956
2005	\$2,968	\$2,078	\$2,488	\$1,906	\$2,037	\$2,902	\$1,401	\$1,677	\$858	\$1,787	\$2,187	\$1,914	\$1,980
2006	\$1,766	\$2,206	\$2,554	\$2,043	\$1,971	\$3,046	\$1,790	\$1,906	\$883	\$1,917	\$2,258	\$2,055	\$2,055

Notes: TTU = Trade, Transportation, and Utilities. Constant-dollar figures are in 2006 dollars.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services and BEBR calculations.

Agricultural Employment

The preceding discussion focused on nonagricultural employment, but agriculture is a significant activity in southwestern Utah. The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) publishes county-level employment data back to 1969, breaking down total employment into farm employment and nonfarm employment. Table 6 presents the BEA numbers for total employment and farm employment in Iron County for 1970 through 2005 (2006 data are not yet available). These figures do not coincide with the DWS nonagricultural employment numbers because the BEA uses a different accounting method. The BEA includes proprietors employment, that is, self-employed farmers and other small-business owners, and private household workers, e.g. domestic servants; whereas the DWS reports only wage and salary employment based on company payrolls. Therefore, subtracting farm employment from total employment in the table below will not give figures that match the total nonagricultural employment numbers in the tables above.

Table 6
Iron County Farm Employment, 1970–2005

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Change
Total employment	5,202	7,376	10,263	19,149	19,386	19,598	19,815	20,646	21,955	322.0%
Farm employment	676	536	570	595	598	566	589	575	578	-14.5%
Share of Total	13.0%	7.3%	5.6%	3.1%	3.1%	2.9%	3.0%	2.8%	2.6%	-10.4%

Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Although farm employment's *share* of total employment declined in every county in the region over the study period, the *number* of farm jobs grew in three counties: Beaver, Garfield, and, somewhat surprisingly, Washington. Iron County had a significant share of total employment in farming in 1970, with 13.0 percent, but by 2005 farm jobs had fallen to 2.6 percent of total employment.

Occupations

To get a better picture of what Iron County residents do, BEBR looked at the Census Bureau's occupational distribution of the civilian workforce aged 16 and older, which is given by place of residence (Table 7).

In 2000, nearly equal shares of county residents worked in management, professional, and related occupations (27.5 percent) and in sales and office occupations (28.5 percent). About 16 percent of the population were engaged in service occupations, and 13 percent in both construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations and production, transportation, and material-moving occupations. Iron County women were highly concentrated in sales and office occupations (40.6 percent), with 23.3 percent in office and administrative support occupations and 17.3 percent in sales and related occupations. A further 12.1 percent of women were employed in education, training, and library occupations. Iron County men were more evenly distributed among the occupations; 15.4 percent worked in construction, 14.2 percent were in sales and related occupations, 9.4 percent in transportation and material-moving occupations, 9.1 percent in management occupations (excluding farmers and farm managers), and 8.5 percent in production occupations.

Major Employers

Southern Utah University is of course a major employer in Iron County, if not the single largest employer, but there is also a significant manufacturing cluster in Iron (Table 8). As early as 1970, the Coleman Co. was one of the county's major employers. Interstate 15 and the Union Pacific rail line, running west and south through Las Vegas to Los Angeles and north to Salt Lake City, have supported this industry's growth in the county.

**Table 7
Occupational Distribution by Sex for Employed Residents of Iron County, 2000**

Occupation	Total	Male	Female
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	15,484	8,484	7,000
Management, professional, and related occupations	27.5%	26.7%	28.3%
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	10.6%	13.1%	7.6%
Management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	6.9%	9.1%	4.2%
Farmers and farm managers	1.3%	2.2%	0.1%
Business and financial operations occupations	2.5%	1.8%	3.3%
Business operations specialists	0.9%	0.6%	1.3%
Financial specialists	1.6%	1.2%	2.1%
Professional and related occupations	16.8%	13.6%	20.7%
Computer and mathematical occupations	0.8%	1.2%	0.2%
Architecture and engineering occupations	1.3%	1.8%	0.6%
Architects, surveyors, cartographers, and engineers	0.7%	1.0%	0.3%
Drafters, engineering, and mapping technicians	0.6%	0.8%	0.3%
Life, physical, and social science occupations	0.7%	0.9%	0.6%
Community and social services occupations	1.4%	1.1%	1.8%
Legal occupations	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%
Education, training, and library occupations	8.4%	5.4%	12.1%
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	2.7%	1.9%	3.7%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners and technical occupations	1.9%	1.6%	2.2%
Health technologists and technicians	0.8%	0.3%	1.5%
Service occupations	16.2%	11.2%	22.4%
Healthcare support occupations	1.7%	0.4%	3.2%
Protective service occupations	1.0%	1.4%	0.6%
Fire fighting, prevention, and law enforcement workers, including supervisors	0.6%	0.9%	0.2%
Other protective service occupations, including supervisors	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%
Food preparation and serving related occupations	6.6%	3.8%	9.9%
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	4.3%	4.6%	3.9%
Personal care and service occupations	2.7%	0.9%	4.8%
Sales and office occupations	28.5%	18.5%	40.6%
Sales and related occupations	15.6%	14.2%	17.3%
Office and administrative support occupations	12.9%	4.3%	23.3%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.7%	2.5%	0.8%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	13.0%	23.1%	0.8%
Construction and extraction occupations	9.0%	15.7%	0.7%
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers	1.2%	2.2%	0.0%
Construction trades workers	7.5%	13.2%	0.6%
Extraction workers	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	4.1%	7.4%	0.1%
Production, transportation, and material-moving occupations	13.1%	18.0%	7.1%
Production occupations	7.3%	8.5%	5.7%
Transportation and material moving-occupations	5.8%	9.4%	1.4%
Supervisors, transportation and material-moving workers	0.3%	0.5%	0.0%
Aircraft and traffic control occupations	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%
Motor vehicle operators	3.0%	4.9%	0.8%
Rail, water and other transportation occupations	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%
Material-moving workers	2.1%	3.3%	0.5%

Note: Shading indicates shares that exceed those for the rest of the state (excluding Iron County).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

**Table 8
Major Employers in Iron County, 2006**

Company	Industry	Employees
Southern Utah University	Educational Services	500–999
Smead Manufacturing Co.	Manufacturing	250–499
Wal-Mart	Retail Trade	250–499
Convergys Cust. Mgmt.	Admin. & Support and Waste Mgmt. & Remed. Svcs.	250–499
Valley View Medical Center	Health Care and Social Assistance	250–499
Brian Head Resort	Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	250–499
Milgro Newcastle Inc.	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	100–249
American Pacific Corp.	Manufacturing	100–249
Genpak LLC	Manufacturing	100–249
Metalcraft Technologies Inc.	Manufacturing	100–249
Home Depot USA Inc.	Retail Trade	100–249
Lin's Supermarket Inc.	Retail Trade	100–249
Leavitt Group Enterprises Inc.	Finance and Insurance	100–249
Iron County School District	Educational Services	100–249
CC Nursing Home LLC	Health Care and Social Assistance	100–249
Cedar City Corporation	Public Administration	100–249

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

Commute Patterns

Iron County had net out-commuting of 357 workers in 2000 (Table 9). Washington County was not only the largest source of in-commuters to Iron, sending 544 or 53.9 percent of all in-commuters, it was also the main destination of out-commuters, attracting 677 or 49.5 percent of out-commuters. Beaver County was the second largest source and destination, sending 104 workers (10.3 percent) and receiving 187 workers (13.7 percent). Garfield and Kane counties sent 4.5 percent and 1.1 percent of in-commuters, respectively, and received 1.0 percent and 2.7 percent of out-commuters, respectively. Only 6.7 percent of in-commuters came from out of state and Coconino County, Ariz., was the largest source. It sent 12, accounting for 1.2 percent of all in-commuters. One in five out-commuters worked out of state, and major destinations included Clark County, Nev. (109 or 8.0 percent of all out-commuters), San Juan County, N.M. (26 or 1.9 percent), and Orange County, Calif. (25 or 1.8 percent).

**Table 9
Iron County Summary Commute Flows, 2000**

In-Commuting to Iron County			Out-Commuting from Iron County		
Residence County	No.	Share	Workplace County	No.	Share
Washington Co., UT	544	53.9%	Washington Co., UT	677	49.5%
Beaver Co., UT	104	10.3%	Beaver Co., UT	187	13.7%
Sevier Co., UT	89	8.8%	Clark Co., NV	109	8.0%
Garfield Co., UT	45	4.5%	Kane Co., UT	37	2.7%
Salt Lake Co., UT	45	4.5%	Millard Co., UT	35	2.6%
Utah Co., UT	28	2.8%	Utah Co., UT	32	2.3%
Davis Co., UT	16	1.6%	San Juan Co., NM	26	1.9%
Millard Co., UT	13	1.3%	Orange Co., CA	25	1.8%
Coconino Co., AZ	12	1.2%	Salt Lake Co., UT	19	1.4%
Kane Co., UT	11	1.1%	Garfield Co., UT	14	1.0%
Other	103	10.2%	Other	206	15.1%
Total In-Commuters	1,010	100%	Total Out-Commuters	1,367	100%
			Net Out-Commuters	357	

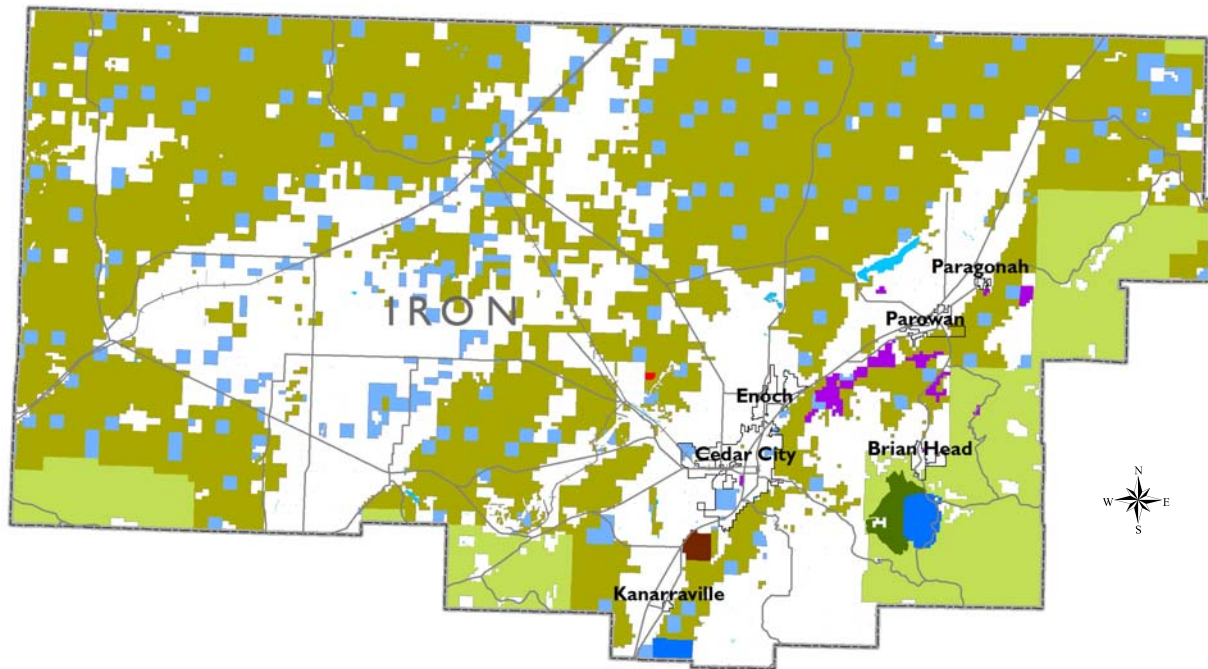
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 County-to-County Worker Flow Files.




Real Estate and Construction

Land Ownership

Among the five counties in the southwest region, Iron County has the highest proportion of land in private ownership, with more than one-third (35.7 percent) privately owned (Exhibit 3). The federal government holds more than half (57.5 percent) of the land in the county. Most of this is BLM land, but there's also Cedar Breaks National Monument, the northern tip of Zion National Park, and about 240,000 acres of Dixie National Forest. State lands make up 6.7 percent of the county, the majority of which are trust lands. However, Iron also has the second largest amount, about 8,300 acres, of state wildlife reserve in the region. Iron is also one of two counties with Paiute tribal lands, though at 2,500 acres they account for only 0.1 percent of the county's land.

Exhibit 3
Land Ownership in Iron County by Entity



Owner	Acres	Share	
 Bureau of Land Management	Federal Government	1,215,177	57.5%
 US Forest Service	Bureau of Land Management	963,347	45.6%
 USFS Wilderness Area	US Forest Service	235,911	11.2%
 National Park Service	USFS Wilderness Area	7,068	0.3%
 State Trust Land	National Park Service	8,851	0.4%
 State Wildlife Reserve	State Government	141,184	6.7%
 State Parks and Recreation	State Trust Land	132,690	6.3%
 Paiute Tribal Lands	State Wildlife Reserve	8,255	0.4%
 Private	State Parks and Recreation	240	0.01%
 Water	Paiute Tribal Lands	2,503	0.1%
	Private	754,031	35.7%
	Water	440	0.03%
	Total	2,113,335	100%

Source: Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center, last update March 3, 2007, downloaded September 19, 2007; Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

Residential Construction

In 2007 Iron County had a housing inventory of 18,127 units (Table 10). Only about one in ten housing units in the county were for seasonal or recreational use, the lowest share among the five southwest counties. The total number of occupied units in the county in 2007 was 15,387, of which 3,936 or 25.6 percent were rental units. Iron County has the highest percentage of rental units, well ahead of the 17.7 percent share for Washington County. The unusually high number of rental units is a reflection of the off-campus housing needs of students at Southern Utah University. The recent housing boom in Iron County has added significantly to the housing inventory, consequently one out of every four housing units in the county has been built since 2000.

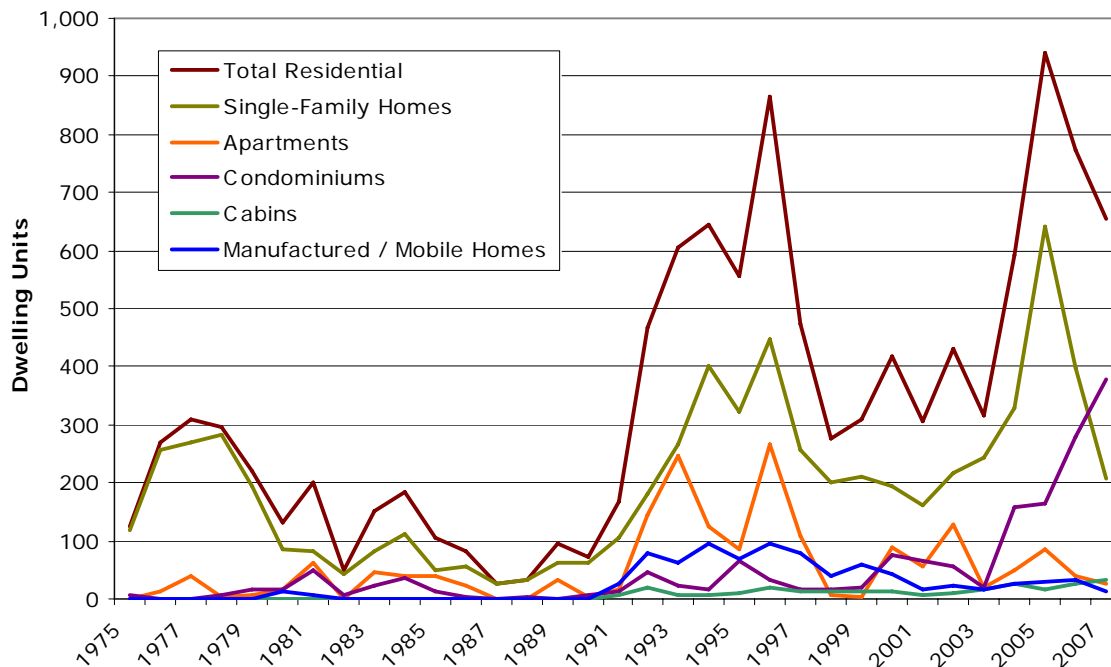
The residential construction cycle in Iron County can be divided into two distinct periods: before 1990 and after 1990. The first period is characterized by low levels of new residential construction. Between 1975 and 1990 the number of permits for new residential construction exceeded 300 units in only one year, 1977. But since 1990 the number of permits has fallen below 300 units in only two years, 1991, when permits for 168 units were issued, and 1998, when 276 units were permitted. The sudden and dramatic rise in residential construction activity is shown in Figure 1 and Table 11.

Table 10
Housing Profile for Iron County, 2007

Total Housing Units	18,127
Year-Round Housing Units	16,028
Vacant Year Round	641
Total Occupied Year Round	15,387
Owner-Occupied	11,450
% of Total Occupied Units	74.4%
Renter-Occupied	3,936
% of Total Occupied Units	25.6%
Recreation or Seasonal Units	2,099
% of Total Housing Units	11.6%
% of Units Built Since 2000	24.9%

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

Figure 1
Permit-Authorized Dwelling Units in Iron County, 1975-2007



Note: Condominiums include duplexes and twin homes.

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

**Table 11
Permit-Authorized Dwelling Units in Iron
County, 1975–2007**

	Single-Family Homes	Duplexes and Twin Homes	Condominiums	Apartments (3 or more units)	Other Shelters	Cabins	Manufactured / Mobile Homes	Total Residential
1975	120	6	0	0	0	0	0	126
1976	257	0	0	13	0	0	1	271
1977	271	0	0	39	0	0	0	310
1978	282	8	0	4	0	0	1	295
1979	194	18	0	7	0	0	0	219
1980	86	16	0	16	0	0	13	131
1981	82	50	0	64	0	0	5	201
1982	43	6	0	0	0	0	0	49
1983	81	24	0	46	0	0	0	151
1984	111	36	0	38	0	0	0	185
1985	50	14	0	40	0	0	0	104
1986	56	2	0	24	0	0	0	82
1987	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
1988	32	2	0	0	0	0	0	34
1989	63	0	0	34	0	0	0	97
1990	63	6	0	4	0	0	0	73
1991	106	12	0	17	0	7	26	168
1992	180	30	16	145	0	19	78	468
1993	265	6	18	248	0	6	62	605
1994	401	16	0	124	0	7	96	644
1995	324	44	23	87	0	10	69	557
1996	449	32	0	267	0	21	95	864
1997	256	16	0	109	0	14	79	474
1998	202	12	3	8	0	12	39	276
1999	212	20	0	4	0	14	59	309
2000	195	76	0	90	0	12	44	417
2001	162	66	0	55	0	6	18	307
2002	216	50	6	127	0	10	23	432
2003	244	2	18	21	0	15	15	315
2004	329	100	58	50	0	27	27	591
2005	643	130	35	87	0	15	31	941
2006	397	256	22	38	0	26	34	773
2007	206	244	134	26	0	33	13	656

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

nonresidential year was 1992, with \$93.8 million in new construction (Figure 2), which included the \$80 million American Pacific facility for the manufacture of automobile airbag parts. American Pacific is the highest-value manufacturing facility in Iron County history. In 1994, another large manufacturer, O’Sullivan’s Furniture, received a permit for a \$21 million manufacturing plant. Unfortunately O’Sullivan’s ceased operation in Iron County in 2001. The two highest-value retail buildings built in the county are the Wal-Mart and Home Depot. The \$9 million Wal-Mart was built in 2000 and the \$4 million Home Depot in 2004. Other large projects in recent years include the Canyon View High School for \$28 million in 1999, the \$26

The increase in new residential construction in the 1990s was partly due to a large number of new apartment units. Over a six-year period in the 1990s building permits were issued for nearly 1,000 new apartment units. The peak apartment year was 1996, with 267 new units. The new apartment activity in 1996 pushed the total number of new residential units in that year to 864, an all-time record that was not broken until 2005 with 941 units.

During the current decade the level of residential construction has been pushed higher by new condominium and duplex/twin-home construction rather than apartment construction; apartment construction has contributed but at a lower level than in the 1990s. In 2007 condominiums and duplexes/twin-homes totaled 378 units, compared with 206 detached single-family units, and accounted for 58 percent of all new residential construction.

Since 1990 building permits have been issued for 8,870 residential units in Iron County. New residential construction in Cedar City has accounted for two-thirds of these units, while Enoch City and unincorporated Iron County have captured nearly all the remaining new home construction.

Nonresidential Construction

Since 1975 Iron County has issued building permits for \$764.4 million (in constant 2007 dollars) of nonresidential construction (Table 12). The peak

million SUU Physical Education Building in 2000, and the \$19 million Valley View Medical Center (IHC) in 2001.

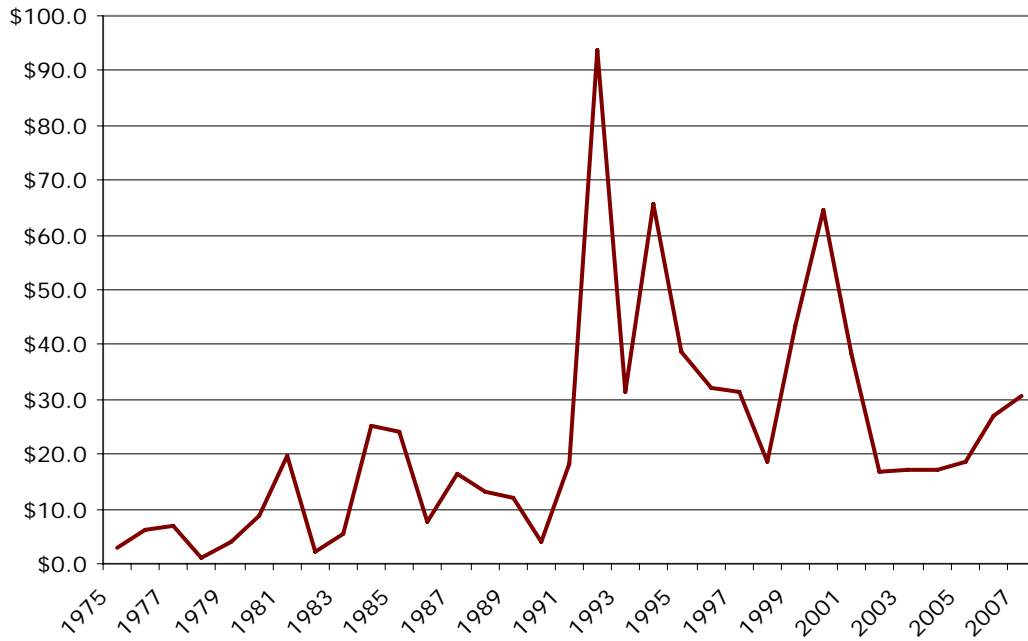
Since 1975 the leading nonresidential construction sector has been public buildings (including public schools and SUU), with \$215.8 million in new construction (Table 13). The second-ranked sector is industrial construction with \$214.0 million. These two sectors have dominated nonresidential construction with over 50 percent of permit value since 1975. Although much lower, both the retail and office sectors have respectable levels of construction activity. Since 1975 building permits have been issued for \$80.9 million in retail and restaurants and \$54.1 million in new office buildings.

Table 12
Value of Nonresidential Construction by Type in Iron County, 1975–2007
(thousands of constant 2007 dollars)

	Hotels	Churches	Industrial	Hospitals	Office	Retail	Public	Other	Total
1975	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,441.6	\$876.9	\$0.0	\$466.3	\$2,784.8
1976	\$2,096.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$662.5	\$1,006.3	\$1,749.3	\$559.8	\$6,074.5
1977	\$2,464.0	\$0.0	\$2,763.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,617.0	\$0.0	\$34.4	\$6,879.3
1978	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,220.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,220.9
1979	\$0.0	\$172.2	\$509.6	\$0.0	\$1,721.5	\$1,084.6	\$6.9	\$423.5	\$3,918.2
1980	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,771.5	\$0.0	\$1,833.6	\$1,690.9	\$1,020.7	\$1,502.6	\$8,819.3
1981	\$0.0	\$56.3	\$2,172.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,190.7	\$0.0	\$11,445.8	\$19,865.1
1982	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$873.1	\$304.9	\$0.0	\$1,151.9	\$2,329.9
1983	\$3,640.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,861.4	\$5,502.0
1984	\$3,424.2	\$1,918.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$264.2	\$18,982.0	\$452.2	\$25,040.8
1985	\$6,754.0	\$0.0	\$312.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$948.9	\$15,125.1	\$785.9	\$23,926.4
1986	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,553.4	\$452.2	\$3,013.0	\$540.2	\$7,558.8
1987	\$0.0	\$2,058.2	\$576.0	\$0.0	\$373.4	\$1,120.3	\$11,582.8	\$740.8	\$16,451.4
1988	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$8,223.3	\$0.0	\$72.0	\$0.0	\$4,646.2	\$258.0	\$13,199.4
1989	\$1,093.5	\$457.3	\$51.7	\$0.0	\$1,683.5	\$4,565.1	\$469.2	\$3,756.4	\$12,076.7
1990	\$0.0	\$2,062.0	\$401.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$777.7	\$718.9	\$3,960.0
1991	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$245.8	\$0.0	\$66.2	\$4,083.8	\$11,651.9	\$2,373.7	\$18,421.3
1992	\$4,985.3	\$0.0	\$83,006.0	\$0.0	\$1,268.6	\$498.8	\$1,037.1	\$3,015.1	\$93,810.9
1993	\$2,347.3	\$574.5	\$7,643.6	\$0.0	\$552.4	\$1,322.8	\$16,439.2	\$2,514.5	\$31,394.2
1994	\$0.0	\$2,351.2	\$28,251.6	\$0.0	\$3,266.3	\$2,392.0	\$26,267.7	\$3,285.3	\$65,814.0
1995	\$0.0	\$3,241.8	\$104.8	\$637.0	\$1,938.3	\$3,593.2	\$24,372.4	\$4,831.3	\$38,718.9
1996	\$0.0	\$218.0	\$18,320.5	\$256.3	\$4,761.5	\$2,085.0	\$369.7	\$6,097.1	\$32,108.0
1997	\$7,319.4	\$7,898.2	\$473.7	\$0.0	\$4,266.5	\$4,561.2	\$3,229.6	\$3,641.8	\$31,390.3
1998	\$379.5	\$0.0	\$556.8	\$3,809.2	\$7,123.1	\$934.9	\$4.6	\$5,899.5	\$18,707.7
1999	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$665.9	\$5,496.6	\$2,651.9	\$995.6	\$30,942.2	\$2,834.6	\$43,586.8
2000	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$11,371.2	\$0.0	\$3,333.9	\$10,828.8	\$28,221.3	\$10,853.0	\$64,608.2
2001	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$949.5	\$19,638.5	\$146.5	\$2,554.8	\$12,018.3	\$3,121.0	\$38,428.7
2002	\$3,416.7	\$1,786.5	\$2,320.3	\$2,969.3	\$3,742.4	\$34.2	\$741.6	\$1,830.1	\$16,841.2
2003	\$0.0	\$3,819.0	\$4,099.3	\$2,096.4	\$1,642.2	\$688.8	\$3,134.4	\$1,652.3	\$17,132.3
2004	\$3,375.1	\$0.0	\$2,605.1	\$0.0	\$1,326.8	\$8,366.5	\$0.0	\$1,649.5	\$17,323.0
2005	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,952.8	\$0.0	\$5,058.4	\$4,856.4	\$1.2	\$5,760.1	\$18,628.8
2006	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$19,925.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,787.5	\$0.0	\$3,452.1	\$27,165.3
2007	\$0.0	\$2,935.0	\$12,724.9	\$100.0	\$700.0	\$7,955.1	\$0.0	\$6,284.7	\$30,699.7
Total	\$41,296.2	\$29,548.5	\$213,999.9	\$35,003.2	\$54,059.3	\$80,882.2	\$215,804.2	\$93,793.7	\$764,387.2

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

Figure 2
Value of Nonresidential Construction in Iron County, 1975–2007
(millions of constant 2007 dollars)



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

Table 13
Value and Share of Nonresidential Construction
by Type in Iron County, 1975–2007
(thousands of constant 2007 dollars)

	Total Value	Share
Public Buildings & Projects	\$215,804.2	28.2%
Industrial/Warehouse/Manufacturing Bldgs.	\$213,999.9	28.0%
Other	\$93,793.7	12.3%
Retail, Mercantile, Restaurant	\$80,882.2	10.6%
Office, Bank, Professional Bldgs.	\$54,059.3	7.1%
Hotels & Motels	\$41,296.2	5.4%
Hospital & Institutional Bldgs.	\$35,003.2	4.6%
Churches & other Religious Bldgs.	\$29,548.5	3.9%
Total	\$764,387.2	100%

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

Higher Education

One of the factors driving the current study was a desire to better understand the role of higher education in economic development, that is, how Southern Utah University and Dixie State College contribute to the region's economic growth. In a review of recent research on the regional economic impacts of universities,¹ Joshua Drucker and Harvey Goldstein list eight outputs of research universities that may influence economic development: creation of knowledge, human-capital creation, transfer of existing know-how, technological innovation, capital investment, regional leadership, knowledge infrastructure production, and influence on the regional milieu. Since neither Southern Utah University nor Dixie State College are research universities, their effects on the regional economy are likely to be confined to human capital creation, capital investment, regional leadership, and influence on the regional milieu.

The Utah Shakespearean Festival, affiliated with SUU, was originally established to capitalize on the large number of summer visitors to the nearby national parks. It has since evolved into a tourism draw in its own right, with a season running from June through October. The Festival's web site notes: "The Festival has grown from a budget of under \$1,000 in 1961 to over \$6 million today.... In 2002 alone, direct and indirect expenditures by the Festival and its patrons were estimated at nearly \$64 million. In the first year of operation, the Festival attracted 3,276 visitors."² In 2006, over 124,000 attended.

Degrees Awarded

SUU is training future teachers and businesspeople. Of the 868 bachelor's degrees awarded in 2007, 185 were in education and 135 were in business and marketing (Table 14). Health professions, biological/life sciences, communications, and psychology were also popular, ranging from 50 to 86 degrees awarded. The most popular of its eight master's degrees³ is that in education, representing 142 of the 204 degrees awarded in 2007. SUU also awarded 168 associate's degrees in 2007, most of which (148) were in general studies. As of fall 2007, SUU employed 1,149 FTEs.

Since the 1981–82 academic year, the total number of degrees awarded at SUU has increased 315 percent, from 301 certificates and degrees in 1982 to 1,250 in 2007 (Exhibit 4). SUU has seen its greatest growth in master's degrees, which have increased a hundredfold from two awarded in 1986 to 204 in 2007 in business, communications, education, and arts administration. In 2007, Dixie awarded about as many associate's degrees as SUU awarded bachelor's degrees, 864 vs. 868, with each representing roughly two-thirds of each school's total.

¹ Drucker, Joshua, and Harvey Goldstein. "Assessing the Regional Economic Development Impacts of Universities: A Review of Current Approaches." *International Regional Science Review*, vol. 30, no. 1 (January 2007): 20–46.

² <http://www.bard.org/about/quickfacts.html>; accessed August 28, 2007.

³ According to the university's web site, SUU offers master's degrees in accountancy, arts administration, business administration, education, forensic science, professional communication, public administration, and sports conditioning and performance.

Table 14
Southern Utah University Degrees Awarded by Type and Field of Study, 1990–2007

Field of Study	1989–90	1990–91	1991–92	1992–93	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07
	Certificates																	
Agriculture & Natural Resources	2	3	5	5	5	2	4	6	4	7	4	14				1	3	
Business & Marketing	5	13	4	15	5	2	2	4	8	2	19	11						
Computer & Info Sciences																3		
Engineering & Related Technologies																3	4	5
Other Vocational Studies [†]						12	15	11	6	5	12	6					3	
Social Sciences & Public Admin.																7	8	5
Total Certificates Awarded	7	16	9	20	10	16	21	21	18	14	35	31	17	7	6	14	18	10

Note: certificates and diplomas greater than one year but less than four years.

Associate's Degrees																		
Agriculture & Natural Resources		5	1	6	4	1	3	6	7	1	5	1	2	6	3	2	2	1
Business & Marketing	23	13	14	12	26	13	19	17	14	3	22	14	10	9	2			
Computer & Info Sciences											9	1	2	1	3	1	1	1
Engineering & Related Technologies							8	7	6	5	4			5	6	7	5	4
Home Economics														7	6	5	2	1
Law & Legal Studies									8	2	5	3	1	3	6	7	1	4
Liberal Arts & Sciences/Gen. Studies																	70	148
Other Vocational Studies [†]	54	34	51	39	47	43	24	45	49	44	43	44	30	9	11	8	10	8
Visual & Performing Arts													17	7	8	3	3	1
Total Associate's Degrees Awarded	77	52	66	57	77	57	54	75	84	55	88	63	62	47	45	33	94	168

Bachelor's Degrees																		
Agriculture & Natural Resources			3	6	6	3	10	6	10	17	12	7	6	15	16	9	11	11
Architecture & Related Studies		4																
Biological Sciences/Life Sciences	19	23	26	21	24	31	36	56	60	51	44	39	45	38	35	53	63	75
Business & Marketing	96	113	102	101	104	89	114	121	165	140	140	134	128	133	119	120	141	135
Communications	32	30	41	37	35	35	40	44	43	61	57	86	71	84	81	77	55	53
Computer & Info Sciences									8	26	35	32	52	42	38	21	22	10
Education	199	219	259	226	267	276	285	270	299	291	305	300	239	305	232	227	203	185
Engineering & Related Technologies	14	11	15	14	11	10	9	12	15	8	14	15	12	9	15	15	19	16
English Language & Literature	8	9	10	9	12	12	13	15	18	21	5	12	28	10	7	15	11	11
Foreign Languages	8	9	9	8	12	13	16	14	20	21	13	17	14	10	9	16	13	14
French (Canadian) Language & Lit.														8	15			
Health Professions														1	4	14	52	86
History																11	17	11
Home Economics		5	4	5	7	9	4	15	16	14	23	23	28	27	26	31	26	37
Mathematics	11	7	6	9	15	13	17	10	6	9	3	1	7	3	6	2	2	6
Other*	14	4	4	7	8	1	5	3	1	9	7	5	15	6	15	13	18	12
Other Vocational Studies [†]					1	5	15	19	24	40	30	44	44	56	64	45	66	59
Physical Sciences & Science Tech.	5	6	5	6	9	11	15	12	23	5	17	7	15	6	6	18	16	16
Psychology	28	43	33	27	54	42	45	53	39	33	46	57	53	35	49	55	72	50
Social Sciences & Public Admin.	20	24	47	38	37	44	33	56	67	64	56	63	61	46	43	57	56	39
Visual & Performing Arts	16	20	21	17	22	26	14	28	32	32	32	29	44	39	39	55	36	42
Total Bachelor's Degrees Awarded	470	527	585	531	624	620	671	734	846	842	839	871	862	873	819	854	899	868

Master's Degrees																		
Business & Marketing	16	21	22	15	24	26	19	24	35	16	23	26	38	31	32	50	52	57
Communications																		1
Education							25	71	126	119	84	95	73	48	49	46	126	142
Visual & Performing Arts															7	4		4
Total Master's Degrees Awarded	16	21	22	15	24	26	44	95	161	135	107	121	111	79	88	100	178	204

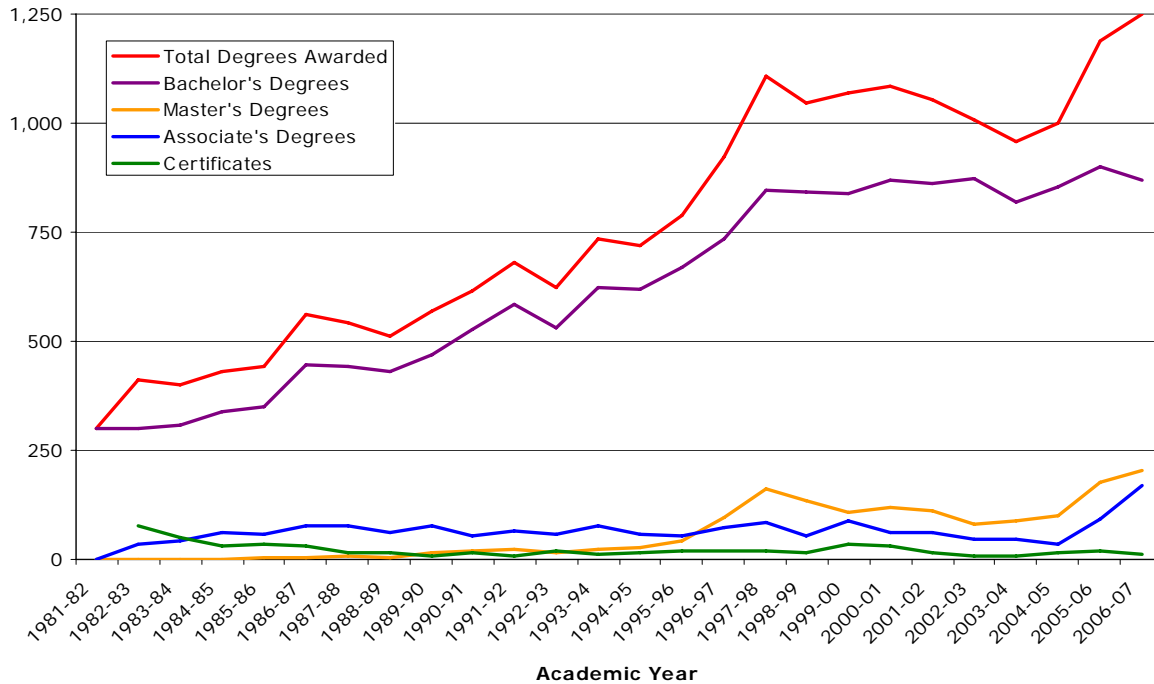
[†] Includes Personal Services, Vocational Home Economics, Protective Services, Construction Trades, Mechanics & Repairers, Precision Production Trades, Transportation & Materials Moving.

* Includes Library Science, Military Technologies, Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies, and Parks & Recreation.

Source: Utah System of Higher Education data books and National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS Completion Survey.

Exhibit 4

Total Degrees Awarded by Southern Utah University by Type, 1982–2007



Type of Degree	1981-82	1982-83	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Certificates		77	16	9	20	10	16	21	21	18	14	35	31	17	7	6	14	18	10	-87.0%
Associate's Degrees	0	34	52	66	57	77	57	54	75	84	55	88	63	62	47	45	33	94	168	394.1%
Bachelor's Degrees	301	300	527	585	531	624	620	671	734	846	842	839	871	862	873	819	854	899	868	188.4%
Master's Degrees	0	0	21	22	15	24	26	44	95	161	135	107	121	111	79	88	100	178	204	10100.0%
Total Degrees Awarded	301	411	616	682	623	735	719	790	925	1,109	1,046	1,069	1,086	1,052	1,006	958	1,001	1,189	1,250	315.3%

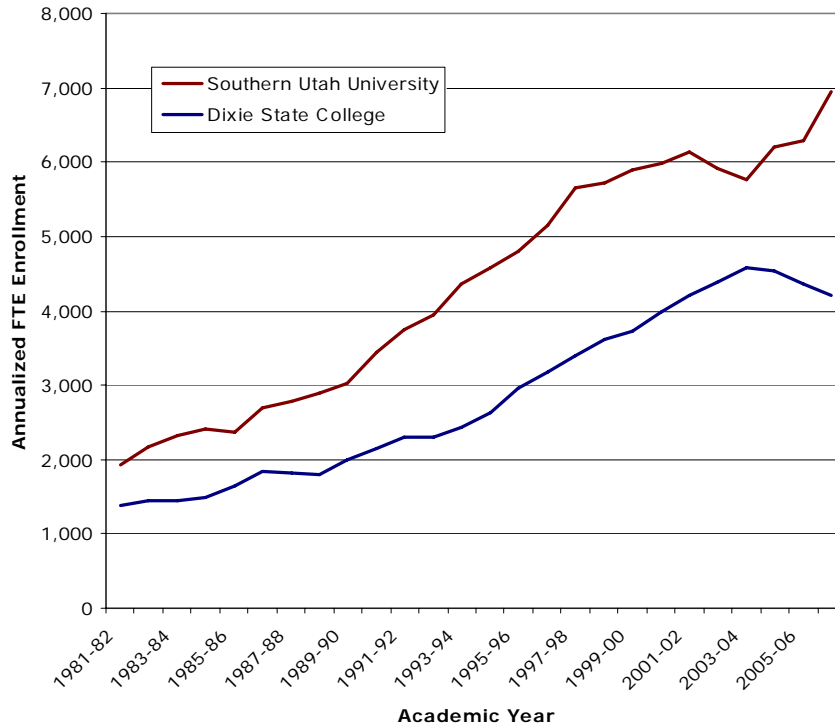
Source: Utah System of Higher Education data books and National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS Completion Survey.

Enrollment

Enrollment has more than tripled at both SUU and Dixie over the last 25 years (Exhibit 5). SUU grew from 1,921 annualized full-time equivalents (budget-related and self-support) in the 1981–82 academic year to 6,937 in 2006–07, with a slight dip in 1985–86 and a larger decline from 2001–02 to 2003–04. This represents an average annual growth rate of 5.3 percent. Dixie’s enrollment grew from 1,380 to 4,202 annualized FTEs over the period, with some stagnation from 1986–87 to 1988–89 and from 1991–92 to 1992–93. This represents an average annual growth rate of 4.6 percent.

Enrollment growth at the two institutions is projected to slow from its past pace (Table 15). In fact, both schools are expected to increase enrollment by little more than one-third by the 2020–21 academic year, representing average annual growth rates of just over 2 percent. In contrast, over the 14-year period of 1981–82 to 1995–96, enrollments more than doubled at both schools, with AAGRs of 6.8 percent at SUU and 5.6 percent at Dixie; and they grew by more than three-quarters from 1992–93 to 2006–07, with AAGRs of just over 4 percent.

Exhibit 5
Enrollment at Southern Utah University and Dixie State College, 1982–2007
 (budget-related and self-support)



Academic Year	Annualized FTE	
	SUU	Dixie
1981–82	1,921	1,380
1982–83	2,173	1,436
1983–84	2,315	1,449
1984–85	2,410	1,483
1985–86	2,361	1,646
1986–87	2,685	1,843
1987–88	2,779	1,812
1988–89	2,894	1,802
1989–90	3,034	1,992
1990–91	3,439	2,156
1991–92	3,754	2,298
1992–93	3,938	2,299
1993–94	4,352	2,438
1994–95	4,583	2,638
1995–96	4,807	2,964
1996–97	5,153	3,171
1997–98	5,646	3,389
1998–99	5,731	3,607
1999–00	5,896	3,728
2000–01	5,978	3,990
2001–02	6,134	4,212
2002–03	5,911	4,389
2003–04	5,759	4,583
2004–05	6,202	4,542
2005–06	6,300	4,372
2006–07 ^p	6,937	4,202
Change	261.1%	204.5%
AAGR	5.3%	4.6%

Source: Utah System of Higher Education data books.

Table 15
Projected Annualized FTE
 (budget-related and self-support)

Institution	2010–11	2015–16	2020–21
SUU	6,920	7,800	9,460
Share of Total	5.7%	5.8%	5.8%
Dixie	4,520	4,850	5,640
Share of Total	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%
USHE	121,673	135,402	162,188

Source: Utah System of Higher Education 2007 Data Book.

Personal Income

BEER obtained historical data on personal income from the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the U.S. Department of Commerce. The series includes the components of personal income, which are given by place of residence, and the components of earnings, which are by place of work. Data for 2006 or later are not yet available.

Personal income comprises net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and personal current transfer receipts received by the residents of the area under consideration. Net earnings by place of residence equal earnings by place of work less contributions for government social insurance plus a residence adjustment. The residence adjustment is the net inflow of the earnings of interarea commuters. That is, a negative number indicates more earnings are leaving the area with in-commuters from outside than earnings are coming into the area with out-commuters coming home. Dividends, interest, and rent account for what is often referred to as investment income. Personal current transfer receipts are defined as “payments to persons for which no current services are performed.” They generally include retirement and disability insurance benefits, medical payments (e.g., Medicare and Medicaid), income maintenance benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, veterans benefits, and federal government grants and loans to students.

Total personal income growth in Iron County averaged 4.4 percent annually from 1970 to 2005, increasing from \$179.6 million to \$799.1 million, or 345.0 percent (Table 16).⁴ Per capita personal income grew at less than one-quarter the rate, 1.0 percent annually, from \$14,584 to \$20,789. Iron County had not only the slowest per capita income growth, but also the lowest per capita income in the region. Farm income increased an average of 3.8 percent annually over the period, gaining 270.4 percent; Iron and Beaver are the only counties in the region in which farm income grew. However, its share of total personal income fell slightly, from 6.4 percent in 1970 to 5.3 percent in 2005. Net earnings grew almost fourfold, from \$136.8 million to \$545.0 million, an average annual increase of 4.0 percent. Their share of personal income declined from 76.2 percent to 68.2 percent. Investment income (dividends, interest, and rent) also saw its share of income shrink, from 14.9 percent in 1970 to 13.5 percent in 2005, this despite a 301.1 percent increase over the period. Filling the place of earnings and investment income, personal current transfer receipts grew 821.0 percent over the period, a 6.5 percent average annual rate, more than doubling their share of personal income from 8.9 percent to 18.3 percent. This is likely due to the aging of the population, resulting in more retirees who receive Social Security. From at least 1970 through 1984 the residence adjustment for Iron County was negative; it turned positive in 1985 and has remained so through 2005. There was a net loss of earnings leaving the county with in-commuters until 1985, when resident out-commuters began bringing in more earnings than left.

⁴ All figures are adjusted for inflation; dollar amounts are constant 2005 dollars.

Table 16
Components of Personal Income in Iron County, 1970–2005

(thousands of constant 2005 dollars)

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Change
Income by Place of Residence										
Personal income	\$179,562	\$288,735	\$379,823	\$633,441	\$670,844	\$699,579	\$707,067	\$755,450	\$799,104	345.0%
Nonfarm personal income	\$168,107	\$282,830	\$363,066	\$618,776	\$646,253	\$662,265	\$667,695	\$713,922	\$756,673	350.1%
Farm income	\$11,455	\$5,905	\$16,758	\$14,665	\$24,591	\$37,314	\$39,372	\$41,528	\$42,431	270.4%
Per capita personal income (dollars)	\$14,584	\$16,566	\$18,151	\$18,646	\$19,406	\$19,794	\$19,824	\$20,732	\$20,789	42.5%
<i>Derivation of Personal Income</i>										
Earnings by place of work	\$146,223	\$213,112	\$275,925	\$453,320	\$477,706	\$507,792	\$515,264	\$551,661	\$592,060	304.9%
less: Contributions for government social insurance	\$8,951	\$18,056	\$29,165	\$49,609	\$50,834	\$52,883	\$53,993	\$58,113	\$63,778	612.6%
Employee and self-employed contributions for gov't social insurance	\$4,671	\$8,933	\$14,823	\$24,988	\$25,767	\$26,630	\$26,997	\$28,630	\$31,218	568.4%
Employer contributions for government social insurance	\$4,280	\$9,124	\$14,342	\$24,621	\$25,067	\$26,253	\$26,996	\$29,483	\$32,560	660.7%
plus: Adjustment for residence	-\$437	-\$1,886	\$3,031	\$8,708	\$10,830	\$11,097	\$12,418	\$14,245	\$16,683	-3914.4%
equals: Net earnings by place of residence	\$136,835	\$193,169	\$249,791	\$412,419	\$437,702	\$466,005	\$473,689	\$507,793	\$544,965	298.3%
plus: Dividends, interest, and rent	\$26,810	\$59,281	\$69,801	\$114,778	\$116,980	\$108,757	\$102,003	\$111,212	\$107,546	301.1%
plus: Personal current transfer receipts	\$15,917	\$36,284	\$60,231	\$106,243	\$116,162	\$124,816	\$131,375	\$136,445	\$146,593	821.0%
Earnings by Place of Work										
<i>Components of Earnings</i>										
Wage and salary disbursements	\$103,605	\$152,716	\$192,801	\$342,495	\$341,944	\$352,805	\$350,205	\$371,558	\$401,774	287.8%
Supplements to wages and salaries	\$10,601	\$28,830	\$43,351	\$77,480	\$78,698	\$86,606	\$93,132	\$103,088	\$112,059	957.1%
Employer contributions for employee pension and insurance funds	\$6,321	\$19,706	\$29,009	\$52,859	\$53,632	\$60,353	\$66,136	\$73,605	\$79,499	1157.7%
Employer contributions for government social insurance	\$4,280	\$9,124	\$14,342	\$24,621	\$25,067	\$26,253	\$26,996	\$29,483	\$32,560	660.7%
Proprietors' income	\$32,017	\$31,566	\$39,772	\$33,345	\$57,063	\$68,381	\$71,927	\$77,016	\$78,227	144.3%
Farm proprietors' income	\$7,966	\$1,843	\$13,185	\$7,013	\$17,087	\$28,500	\$31,687	\$33,215	\$32,094	302.9%
Nonfarm proprietors' income	\$24,050	\$29,723	\$26,588	\$26,333	\$39,976	\$39,881	\$40,240	\$43,800	\$46,133	91.8%
<i>Earnings by Industry</i>										
Farm earnings	\$11,580	\$6,070	\$17,024	\$15,303	\$25,213	\$37,873	\$39,989	\$42,125	\$43,021	271.5%
Nonfarm earnings	\$134,643	\$207,042	\$258,901	\$438,017	\$452,493	\$469,919	\$475,275	\$509,536	\$549,039	307.8%

Note: Earnings by place of work equals the sum of wage and salary disbursements, supplements to wages and salaries, and proprietors' income.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Retail Sales

Retail sales data indicate the level and direction of consumer activity. Retail sales per capita provide some indication of whether or not there is retail “leakage” from an area; that is, are people leaving the area or going online to do their shopping? If, for example, a county has declining sales per capita while a neighboring county has increasing sales per capita, sales may be “leaking” from the first county to the second.

The Utah State Tax Commission reports gross taxable sales by industry. The earliest year for which complete data are available is 1978, therefore BEBR analyzed changes in retail sales from 1980 to 2006. To remove the effects of inflation, all amounts were converted to constant 2006 dollars.

Iron County (Table 17) is second only to Washington County in total sales growth (205.5 percent), share of regional sales (19.6 percent in 2006), and in retail sales per capita (\$9,631 in 2006). Total sales in Iron grew from \$136.9 million in 1980 to \$418.2 million in 2006. Although the county has the largest share of regional sales outside of Washington County, it has lost market share (to Washington) since 1980, when it captured 35.0 percent of regional sales. Iron’s 2006 per capita sales were more than double those in Beaver and Garfield, and \$1,000 more than Kane County’s. However, per capita sales growth has been modest in Iron County at 23.1 percent over the period.

Retail sales in Iron are fairly well diversified across categories. In 1980, the largest category was motor vehicles and related, which accounted for 27.5 percent of total retail sales. General merchandise, food stores, eating and drinking, and miscellaneous each represented 12–14% of total sales. Building and garden, apparel and accessory, and furniture each captured less than 10 percent of sales. In 2006, general merchandise had doubled its share to become the largest category, accounting for 26.9 percent of retail sales. Building and garden also doubled its share of sales, to 20.0 percent. These were the only two categories to gain market share over the period. Food stores, motor vehicles, and eating and drinking each captured 11–16% of sales in 2006, with the remaining categories accounting for less than 10 percent each. Building and garden stores and general merchandise outlets, which includes Wal-Mart, saw the greatest sales increases, with gains of 575.4 percent and 519.8 percent, respectively.

By way of comparison, 2006 total retail sales along the Wasatch Front were \$2.3 billion in Davis County, \$11.1 billion in Salt Lake County, \$3.9 billion in Utah County, and \$1.9 billion in Weber County. Retail sales per capita were \$8,155 in Davis, \$11,165 in Salt Lake, \$8,192 in Utah, and \$8,597 in Weber. Iron County’s per capita sales of \$9,631 fell between those of Weber and Salt Lake counties, while its total sales and population were both about one-fifth of Weber’s and only about 4 percent of Salt Lake’s.

Table 17
Iron County Taxable Retail Sales by Category, 1980–2006
(thousands of constant 2006 dollars)

	Building & Garden		General Merchandise		Food Stores		Motor Vehicles		Apparel & Accessory		Furniture		Eating & Drinking		Miscellaneous		Total	Share of Region	Per Capita (dollars)
	Amount	Share	Amount	Share	Amount	Share	Amount	Share	Amount	Share	Amount	Share	Amount	Share	Amount	Share			
1980	\$12,356.1	9.0%	\$18,138.9	13.2%	\$18,306.7	13.4%	\$37,702.6	27.5%	\$5,089.5	3.7%	\$8,596.4	6.3%	\$19,594.0	14.3%	\$17,118.6	12.5%	\$136,902.7	35.0%	\$7,823
1990	\$15,219.2	8.8%	\$26,307.2	15.1%	\$44,237.8	25.4%	\$43,905.5	25.3%	\$4,173.2	2.4%	\$5,917.4	3.4%	\$18,239.1	10.5%	\$15,878.4	9.1%	\$173,877.8	26.2%	\$8,316
2000	\$30,829.2	10.8%	\$64,693.0	22.6%	\$68,422.1	23.9%	\$56,007.9	19.6%	\$3,252.9	1.1%	\$10,639.3	3.7%	\$32,224.7	11.3%	\$20,343.3	7.1%	\$286,412.3	22.1%	\$8,404
2001	\$26,532.4	9.2%	\$78,816.3	27.5%	\$54,540.5	19.0%	\$58,670.8	20.4%	\$3,177.1	1.1%	\$9,581.6	3.3%	\$34,178.3	11.9%	\$21,590.5	7.5%	\$287,087.4	21.3%	\$8,078
2002	\$27,885.8	9.5%	\$90,908.4	31.0%	\$46,970.2	16.0%	\$58,253.8	19.8%	\$3,363.0	1.1%	\$9,455.7	3.2%	\$33,335.9	11.4%	\$23,496.1	8.0%	\$293,668.9	20.6%	\$8,130
2003	\$29,848.0	9.9%	\$95,176.1	31.7%	\$44,206.3	14.7%	\$57,443.6	19.1%	\$3,766.1	1.3%	\$11,400.6	3.8%	\$34,231.2	11.4%	\$24,318.2	8.1%	\$300,390.1	19.8%	\$7,998
2004	\$42,334.8	12.9%	\$99,590.7	30.4%	\$44,727.6	13.7%	\$60,336.9	18.4%	\$4,204.4	1.3%	\$12,790.6	3.9%	\$37,729.8	11.5%	\$25,710.3	7.9%	\$327,425.2	18.8%	\$8,412
2005	\$70,409.6	18.5%	\$105,804.4	27.8%	\$46,180.9	12.1%	\$62,178.8	16.3%	\$4,956.6	1.3%	\$14,593.7	3.8%	\$42,911.3	11.3%	\$34,233.2	9.0%	\$381,268.4	18.9%	\$9,210
2006	\$83,451.2	20.0%	\$112,416.2	26.9%	\$50,085.1	12.0%	\$67,426.9	16.1%	\$5,190.5	1.2%	\$14,602.5	3.5%	\$46,058.0	11.0%	\$38,966.1	9.3%	\$418,196.5	19.6%	\$9,631
Change	575.4%		519.8%		173.6%		78.8%		2.0%		69.9%		135.1%		127.6%		205.5%		23.1%

Source: Utah State Tax Commission; Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

Demographic and Employment Projections

The Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) produces the official population and employment projections for the state of Utah, its 29 counties, and the multicounty administrative regions. Population projections include births, deaths, and net migration, as well as breakdowns by age and sex. Employment projections include employment by industry and location quotients. The 2005 employment figures do not coincide with the DWS nonagricultural employment numbers because the GOPB uses a different accounting method. The GOPB figures include agricultural employment, proprietors employment (the self-employed), and home workers, whereas the DWS reports only nonagricultural wage and salary employment based on establishment payrolls. For example, in 2005 in Iron County, the GOPB reported total employment of 21,658 whereas the DWS reported total nonagricultural employment of 15,782. The most recent GOPB projections are the 2008 Baseline.

For the current study, BEBR aggregated the GOPB's age-based population projections into three groups: ages 0–17 years (school age), 18–64 years (working age), and 65+ years (retirement age). We include values for 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020; the amount and percent of change from 2000 to 2020; and each age group's share of total population in 2000 and in 2020. Employment projections to 2020 are by broad NAICS sector and cover the years 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020.⁵ As with the population projections, we include the amount and percent of change in each sector from 2000 to 2020; and each sector's share of total employment in 2000 and in 2020.

Table 18
Iron County GOPB Projections, 2000–2020

Population									
Age Group	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000–2020		Shares	
						Amount	Percent	2000	2020
0–17	10,617	12,769	15,950	19,228	21,716	11,099	104.5%	31.2%	31.8%
18–64	20,547	25,246	30,551	34,865	40,166	19,619	95.5%	60.3%	58.8%
65+	2,915	3,382	4,100	5,119	6,433	3,518	120.7%	8.6%	9.4%
Total	34,079	41,397	50,601	59,212	68,315	34,236	100.5%	100%	100%

Employment									
NAICS Sector	2005	2010	2015	2020	2005–2020		Shares		
					Amount	Percent	2005	2020	
Natural Resources and Mining	830	822	769	736	–94	–11.3%	3.8%	2.0%	
Construction	1,705	2,108	2,509	2,828	1,123	65.9%	7.9%	7.6%	
Manufacturing	1,703	1,855	2,131	2,415	712	41.8%	7.9%	6.5%	
Trade, Trans., Utilities	3,778	4,850	5,647	6,128	2,350	62.2%	17.4%	16.4%	
Information	180	220	256	280	100	55.6%	0.8%	0.7%	
Financial Activity	1,923	2,511	3,061	3,507	1,584	82.4%	8.9%	9.4%	
Professional & Business Services	1,880	2,423	2,914	3,289	1,409	74.9%	8.7%	8.8%	
Education & Health Services	1,953	2,698	3,464	4,225	2,272	116.3%	9.0%	11.3%	
Leisure & Hospitality	2,250	3,042	3,677	4,208	1,958	87.0%	10.4%	11.3%	
Other Services	1,207	1,569	1,879	2,155	948	78.5%	5.6%	5.8%	
Government	4,249	5,372	6,686	7,620	3,371	79.3%	19.6%	20.4%	
Total	21,658	27,470	32,993	37,391	15,733	72.6%	100%	100%	

Note: Shading indicates the age group's or sector's share is projected to increase by 2020.

Source: Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, 2008 Baseline.

⁵ Employment figures for 2000 are not available in a NAICS-consistent format.

GOBP projections for Iron County show total population doubling, from 34,079 in 2000 to 68,315 in 2020 (Table 18), second only to Washington County in rate of growth. All three age groups are predicted to grow by more than 90 percent. The 65-plus group shows the strongest projected percentage gains (120.7 percent) while the working-age group will increase by “only” 95.5 percent but will experience the largest projected absolute increase (nearly 20,000). The youth and retirement-age groups will both slightly increase their shares of total population from 2000 to 2020, from 31.2 to 31.8 percent and from 8.6 to 9.4 percent, respectively; the working-age group’s share is projected to decline slightly, from 60.3 to 58.8 percent.

Employment projections for Iron County predict growth in all sectors except natural resources and mining, which is expected to lose 94 jobs or 11.3 percent. Total employment is projected to increase by more than 15,000 jobs, or 72.6 percent, from 2005 to 2020. The fastest growing sectors are expected to be education and health services (116.3 percent), leisure and hospitality (87.0 percent), financial activity (82.4 percent), government (79.3 percent), and other services (78.5 percent). The largest absolute gains are projected in government (3,371 jobs), trade, transportation, and utilities (2,350), education and health services (2,272), and leisure and hospitality (1,958). The top four industries by employment share in 2005 were government (19.6 percent), trade, transportation, and utilities (17.4 percent), leisure and hospitality (10.4 percent), and education and health services (9.0 percent). By 2020 the top two are expected to remain the same, though their shares will have changed somewhat. Government is expected to increase its share to 20.4 percent of total employment, and trade, transportation, and utilities will have declined to 16.4 percent. Education and health services, and leisure and hospitality will be tied for third at 11.3 percent of total employment each, though there is projected to be 13 more jobs in the former sector than in the latter.

Element 3. IRON COUNTY POSITIONS AND POLICIES

This section articulates Iron County’s overarching position and policies regarding the desired relationship with public land management agencies and the processes through which public lands and resources should be discussed and planned. It is intended that this element of the County’s Resource Management Plan will provide the foundation from which resource- and site-specific management plans will be developed.

Iron County public land and natural resource “management setting” priorities and considerations identified by the planning team include:

- Formal communication between Iron County and land & resource management agencies;
- Iron County cooperation and participation with agency planning and project implementation;
- Public awareness of land & resource management agency decisions and actions, including Iron County’s participation in these processes;
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah interaction and relationships with the federal, state, and county partners in land and resource planning and management;
- Pooling resources to plan and implement natural resource projects;
- Recognition of accomplishments among the partners, as well as sharing with the public as projects are planned and implemented.

The first three issues - Communication, Coordination and Cooperation, and Public Outreach - are presented in detail in this section. The two issues of pooling resources and recognition of accomplishments were incorporated into the discussions and resulting plan sections for the three priority issues. Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah interactions and relationships were discussed at the County Resource Management Planning meetings and consensus was reached to make a stronger effort to more fully involve the Tribe in natural resource planning efforts and management activities.

For the purpose of this plan, each of the three priority issues is presented in the following sequential manner.

Current Management Settings. In layman terms, this section describes, from the County’s perspective, the existing relationships and interaction between the County and federal land management agencies. Particular emphasis is placed on the existing level of County involvement in agency planning and decision-making processes. Critical components include identifying relationships and/or processes needing improvement, along with things that are working well and should be continued.

Desired Management Settings and Conditions. Based on the issues and/or opportunities identified in the Current Management Setting, this section describes the anticipated relationships and County/agency interaction if this plan is successfully implemented. Statements articulated here could be considered the County’s “long-term” goals or objectives.

Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings. This section includes specific action to be taken by the County to achieve the desired management settings identified. Each action aligns with each management setting and describes what will be done to achieve the desired management settings.

Monitoring. This section describes the ongoing processes and/or conditions through which the County is able to evaluate progress toward the desired management setting. Depending on the issue discussed, this section identifies specific strategies that can be used by the County to monitor progress and/or describes the environment in which resource planning and agency interaction is occurring.

IRON COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ISSUE 1 - COMMUNICATION

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Setting and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Formal Communication Between Iron County and Land & Resource Management Agencies	Need for Change				
<p>Although there are periodic contacts or updates provided on projects in the planning stages, this level of interaction may be insufficient for each entity to have a clear level of understanding. Follow-up communication on accomplishments—during project implementation or after it is completed—is seldom part of the communication process. Two main areas of focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formal communication <i>between</i> County and agencies before, during and after project planning. 2. Communicating project implementation activities and accomplishments <i>from</i> agencies to County. 	<p>Iron County needs more effective communication from and with agencies, both formal and informal, before, during and after project planning. The County and agency partners need to support and provide opportunities to allow for this higher level of positive interaction and communication. This constructive change in communication will also promote greater recognition of agencies' project implementation activities and associated accomplishments.</p>	<p>A. Iron County and land resource management agencies will strive for increased and improved formal communication continually leading to a more positive "climate of trust." Mandates are not part of this communication setting.</p> <p>B. In order to achieve greater and more effective formal communication, the County is a welcomed participant and has an active voice with agencies' "pre-NEPA" discussions and prioritization, formal NEPA processes, and "post-NEPA" project reporting. This heightened level of formal communication and ability to influence both planning processes and resulting decision-making is made possible by agencies delineating processes and protocols for the County to productively integrate into and engage at such levels. Furthermore, the County understands agency out-year planning and decision-making processes leading to a proactive climate of cooperative communication.</p> <p>C. The County Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) is included on all necessary agency electronic and "snail-mail" lists.</p>	<p>Because of the close relationship between federal and state lands management and the private interests of the County, Iron County is committed to gaining greater knowledge and understanding of natural resource planning processes in coordination with applicable agencies and departments (Iron County General Plan, Public Lands Section, Pg. 17). It is Iron County's policy to have communication with Federal and State land management agencies in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Pre-NEPA discussions.</i> This will be accomplished by participating with our federal and state partners in identifying projects of interest to the County by becoming involved in the out-year project planning process to the point where such involvement is productive and helps federal and state agencies understand the County's desires. 2. <i>Formal NEPA processes.</i> The County will provide formal comments on NEPA documents that have the potential to impact the County or its citizens. 3. <i>Post-NEPA project reporting.</i> The County is interested in NEPA project accomplishments and desires regular updates from the federal and state partners via Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) meetings and Iron County Board of Commissioners meetings. Such updates will be made available to the public. 	<p>A. Iron Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) will identify with agencies a regularly scheduled agenda time for respective managers to meet with and provide updates to the Iron County Board of Commissioners, along with any necessary County staff. The information about the desired meeting frequency and agreed upon time will be maintained by the NRS, Iron County Clerk and each respective agency contact (e.g., manager's executive assistant). Potential discussion items will be suggested by the NRS and manager in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting so the manager, NRS and Iron County Board of Commissioners can be prepared for a more productive discussion. This standing agenda item should be used for project planning and implementation updates, discussion about Cooperating Agency (CA) consideration, report on accomplishments, etc.</p> <p>B. Iron NRS will communicate Iron County's desire to agency managers for pre- and post-NEPA interaction, along with regular NEPA process participation. The NRS will work with agency managers to determine the appropriate role(s) for the County to play in these various stages of agency planning and implementation.</p> <p>C. Iron NRS will request addition to all necessary agency mail lists, which will serve as a means of formal communication between the agencies and County. The NRS will also monitor the need to remain on or be added to additional lists.</p>	<p>A. Iron County Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) will lead an annual review of this issue with agency partners. This discussion could occur at a regularly scheduled Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) meeting.</p> <p>NRS will have regular meeting schedule for each agency determined by August 2009. NRS will annually assess with each agency the effectiveness of these meetings, agenda focus, and whether frequency of meetings should increase or decrease from year to year.</p> <p>B. Iron NRS and agency managers will determine appropriate role(s) for the County to play in the various stages of agency planning and implementation—pre-NEPA, NEPA and post-NEPA—by October 2009. These agreements will be reviewed annually by NRS and managers and updated accordingly.</p> <p>C. NRS will annually review agency mail lists and determine need for removing from or adding to additional lists. It is the NRS's responsibility to ensure that the County is included on all necessary lists, though agencies are encouraged to inform NRS if</p>

IRON COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ISSUE 1 - COMMUNICATION

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Setting and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Formal Communication Between Iron County and Land & Resource Management Agencies	Need for Change				
		<p>D. Formal Iron County comments to agency scoping or other planning documents will be specific and substantive. Moreover, where possible, the County will provide alternatives or solutions to issues or decisions not agreed with. Iron County will also attempt to provide positive comment for projects it concurs with, thereby providing agencies with a clear understanding of the County’s position as well as securing standing with any particular project.</p> <p>E. Iron County and agency partners recognize the value of as well as the associated responsibilities inherent with Cooperating Agency (CA) status. As such, in advance of formally seeking this status (recognizing either entity could request this level of participation from the other), Iron County and the affected agency jointly discuss the pros & cons and costs & benefits of the County participating as a CA in any respective project.</p> <p>F. Agency representatives are integral and welcomed participants with the Iron County Resource Management Planning (CRMP) planning process.</p>		<p>D. Iron NRS will work with appropriate agency staff, County personnel, Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) and Iron County Board of Commissioners to craft and submit specific and substantive formal County comments to agency scoping and planning documents. Where possible, these comments will provide alternatives or solutions to issues or decisions not agreed with. The County will also attempt to submit positive comment for projects it concurs with, thereby providing agencies with a clear understanding of the County’s position as well as securing standing with any particular project. Agency managers and staff will avail themselves to the NRS if and when assistance is needed to better understand projects and for the County to provide more specific and substantive comments.</p> <p>E. In advance of formally seeking CA status, Iron County and the affected agency will discuss the pros & cons and costs & benefits of such an agreement. The conversation may also address the role and level of participation of the County, among other topics needed to make an informed decision about engaging as a CA. Iron County as well as the agency in question will respond in a timely manner to any formal requests for CA status, and the details of the agreement will be cooperatively created by and to the satisfaction of both the County and agency.</p> <p>F. Iron NRS will keep agency partners informed of activities of the NRAC and progress of the Iron County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) planning process and will invite agency representatives to participate with CRMP planning for items of interest (e.g., “site-specific” CRMP planning for USFS lands should include</p>	<p>and when applicable mail lists have been added, changed, eliminated, etc. The initial list will be prepared by August, 2009.</p> <p>D. The NRS will track all County comments to agencies that are generated from the NRS office. An annual report listing these formal comments (e.g., listing the agency, project title & location, date comment submitted, county position, and any major issues commented on) will be presented to the NRAC and the Iron County Board of Commissioners.</p> <p>E. Iron NRS will serve as the contact for any Cooperating Agency (CA) discussions. The NRS will then interact with and schedule the proper county and agency officials to ensure timely and productive discussions leading to a decision about formal CA status as well as the resulting appropriate County representative (most likely the NRS, but to be determined in all instances by the Iron County Board of Commissioners and during the CA agreement negotiations).</p> <p>F. As agency participation is recognized as a welcome and necessary aspect of a successful CRMP process, any agency concerns with the process or decisions should be directed to the NRS and/or discussed at either the NRAC meetings or with the Commission at the regularly scheduled meetings (see</p>

IRON COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ISSUE 1 - COMMUNICATION

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Setting and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Formal Communication Between Iron County and Land & Resource Management Agencies	Need for Change				
		<p>G. The County is informed of and knowledgeable about agencies' project planning and implementation <i>accomplishments</i>.</p> <p>H. Iron County maintains a current website about the activities of the NRS and the NRAC as well as progress associated with the Iron CRMP.</p> <p>I. Informal and regular communication between county officials & staff and agency managers & staff is encouraged by all entities, thereby increasing the familiarity and understanding of those involved with agency and county planning and decision-making.</p> <p>J. It is understood that formal communication and County positions on matters of agency planning and decision-making may be communicated by the NRS but come at the direction or under the signature of the Iron County Board of Commissioners.</p>		<p>USFS participation). Agency participation with the CRMP process is welcomed by the County, and for the agencies, regular and constructive participation is the norm.</p> <p>G. Regularly scheduled updates by agencies to the Commission (Action "A" above) should allow for sharing of planning and implementation accomplishments. In addition, the Iron NRAC and NRS will host an annual gathering to acknowledge and recognize the accomplishments of the previous year.</p> <p>H. Iron NRS and County Information Technology Department will maintain a current website about the activities of NRS and the NRAC as well as the progress associated with the Iron CRMP. This website may also be used for other purposes of communication with the NRAC, agencies and general public as determined appropriate by the NRS and NRAC.</p> <p>Iron NRS will participate with the "Iron Destiny" website development, particularly regarding natural resource issues and CRMP activities, if and when this project is reinstated.</p>	<p>Actions "A" above).</p> <p>G. Iron NRAC and NRS will determine the details of the annual accomplishments celebration and host this event.</p> <p>H. Iron NRS will regularly report the updates to the NRS webpage to the NRAC.</p> <p>Iron NRS will participate with the Iron Destiny website development at the request of the County Planner or Administrator.</p>

ISSUE 2 – COORDINATION AND PARTICIPATION

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Settings and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Coordination and Participation with Agency Planning and Project Implementation	Need for Change				
<p>Cooperation and participation by the County with agencies’ planning and project implementation can be lacking, especially during pre-NEPA planning processes. The nature of how projects are determined can be complex or initiated by events beyond the control of land managers (e.g., wildland fires, emergencies, etc.). However, other project concepts go through internal agency processes to prioritize them before NEPA is initiated. Participation and cooperation among both parties at this stage of planning is lacking and desired by County officials.</p> <p>Although the federal agencies try to keep County officials and the public informed of NEPA processes and documents via public notices through websites, mailings and open houses, sometimes this is not sufficient to allow for well thought-out decisions or input. At the same time, prior to the hiring of the new Iron County Natural Resource Specialist, the County may not have had the capacity or expertise to either fully cooperate or even participate through the NEPA process. And the County may not have even been able to provide comments of substance for</p>	<p>Iron County needs the opportunity to be more involved with agencies’ planning and resulting project implementation before (“pre-NEPA”), during, and after (“post-NEPA”) formal NEPA processes. The County and agency partners need to support and provide opportunities as well as improve the capacity for this earlier and greater degree of participation and collaboration, including the use of Cooperating Agency status. This constructive change in participation will also promote greater understanding of agencies’ planning processes, decision-making, project implementation and associated on-the-ground accomplishments.</p>	<p>A. In order to achieve greater and more effective formal cooperation and participation, the County is a welcomed participant and has an active voice with agencies’ “pre-NEPA” discussions and prioritization, formal NEPA processes, and “post-NEPA” project implementation, where desired and appropriate. This heightened level of formal participation and ability to influence both planning processes and resulting decision-making is made possible by agencies delineating processes and protocols for the County to productively integrate into and engage at such levels. Furthermore, the County understands and is involved with agency out-year planning and decision-making processes leading to a proactive climate of cooperative participation. <i>(see Issue 1, Desired Management Setting, “B”, p. 45)</i></p> <p>B. Formal County comments, a key component of NEPA participation, to agency scoping or other planning documents will be specific and substantive. Moreover, where possible, the County will provide alternatives or solutions to issues or decisions not agreed with. The County will also attempt to provide positive comment for projects it concurs with, thereby providing agencies with a clear understanding of the County’s position as well as securing standing with any particular project. <i>(see Issue 1, Desired Management Setting, “D”, p. 46)</i></p> <p>C. Iron County and agency partners recognize the value of as well as the associated responsibilities inherent with Cooperating Agency (CA) status. As such, upon agreement to pursue this formal status for any particular project, the County and affected agency jointly determine the scope and parameters of the agreement. The resulting Cooperating</p>	<p>It is Iron County’s policy to participate and cooperate with the with Federal and State land management agencies in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Pre-NEPA discussions.</i> This will be accomplished by participating with our Federal and State partners in identifying projects of interest to the County by becoming involved in the out-year project planning process to the point where such involvement is productive and helps federal and state agencies understand the County’s desires. <i>Formal NEPA processes.</i> The County will provide formal comments on NEPA documents that have the potential to impact the County or its citizens. <i>Post-NEPA project reporting.</i> The County is interested in NEPA project accomplishments as they move through the implementation phase. Iron County desires regular updates from the federal and state partners via NRAC meetings and Iron County Board of Commissioner meetings. Such updates will be made available to the public. <i>(see Issue 1, Policy Statement(s), p. 45)</i> 	<p>A. Iron Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) will work with agency managers to determine the appropriate role(s) for the County to play in the various stages of agency planning and implementation. Agency managers will welcome appropriate County participation with their respective planning and project implementation and will delineate, with the Iron NRS, the processes and protocols for the County to productively integrate into and engage at the desired levels. The Iron NRS office will undertake and manage a county-wide prioritization process of natural resource issues to assist with agencies’ out-year planning. This endeavor will include both agency and public participation and input.</p> <p>B. Iron NRS will work with appropriate agency staff, County personnel, Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) and the Iron County Board of Commissioners to craft and submit specific and substantive formal County comments to agency scoping and planning documents. Where possible, these comments will provide alternatives or solutions to issues or decisions not agreed with. The County will also attempt to submit positive comment for projects it concurs with, thereby providing agencies with a clear understanding of the County’s position as well as securing standing with any particular project. Agency managers and staff will avail themselves to the NRS if and when assistance is needed to better understand projects and for the County to provide more specific and substantive comments.</p> <p>C. Upon agreement to pursue Cooperating Agency (CA) status, Iron County, most likely represented by the NRS, and the affected agency will jointly determine the scope and parameters of the agreement. The resulting CA agreement for each specific project will be cooperatively created by and to the satisfaction of both the County and</p>	<p>A. Iron Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) and agency managers will cooperatively determine appropriate processes and roles for the County to play in various stages of project planning and implementation—pre-NEPA, NEPA and post-NEPA—by end of 2009. These process “agreements” will be reviewed as needed by NRS and agency managers and updated/refined accordingly. Iron NRS and the Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) will determine the process for the county-wide prioritization of natural resource issues to assist with agencies’ out-year planning by the end of 2009. This initiative should be reviewed annually by the NRAC and agency partners and resulting adjustments made to the prioritization process.</p> <p>B. The NRS will track all County comments to agencies that are generated from the NRS office. An annual report listing these formal comments (e.g., listing the agency, project title & location, date comment submitted, County position, and any major issues commented about) will be presented to the Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) and the Iron County Board of Commissioners.</p> <p>C. The NRS will track all Cooperating Agency (CA) agreements. An annual report listing these agreements, along with the pros & cons, of the participation will be presented to the NRAC and Commission. Existing CA agreements should be reviewed at least annually, at the direction of the affected agency and with the cooperation of the</p>

ISSUE 2 – COORDINATION AND PARTICIPATION

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Settings and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Coordination and Participation with Agency Planning and Project Implementation	Need for Change				
<p>documents available for input. The County has also not been able to actively and fully take advantage of official Cooperating Agency (CA) status.</p> <p>Three main areas are therefore emphasized:</p> <p>1. <i>Pre-NEPA</i> participation/cooperation – how to more fully involve the County in pre-NEPA processes?</p> <p>2. <i>NEPA</i> planning processes – is current NEPA involvement with and by the County sufficient or can it be improved; also, are there opportunities to better take advantage of CA status?</p> <p>3. <i>Post-NEPA</i> participation/cooperation – What are the County’s interests and abilities to partner in project implementation, and how to communicate project implementation and accomplishments during or after the project is complete?</p>		<p>Agency agreement is cooperatively created by and to the satisfaction of both the County and the agency. <i>(see Issue 1, Desired Management Setting, “E”, p. 46)</i></p> <p>D. Agency representatives are integral and welcomed participants with the Iron County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) process as well as other issues and activities inherent to the NRS office that affect public lands and natural resources. <i>(see Issue 1, Desired Management Setting, “F”, p.46)</i></p> <p>E. The County and agency partners continually seek opportunities to cooperate with public outreach regarding project planning and implementation <i>accomplishments</i>. <i>(see Issue 1, Desired Management Setting, “G”, p. 47)</i></p>		<p>the agency. Any CA agreements should be regularly reviewed and updated as necessary to the satisfaction of both the County and agency.</p> <p>D. Iron NRS will keep agency partners informed of activities of the NRAC and progress of the Iron County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) planning process and will invite agency representatives to participate with CRMP planning for items of interest (e.g., “site-specific” CRMP planning for U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands should include USFS participation). Agency participation with the CRMP process is welcomed by the County, and for the agencies, regular and constructive participation is the norm. Iron NRS will review, update and utilize, where appropriate, the previously drafted “Iron County Cooperating Agency agreement, which was developed for use with the BLM. The <i>Iron County Cooperating Agency</i> agreement should be considered a template for other agencies’ use, and it should be modified according to the satisfaction of both the County and affected agency. The Iron RAS may serve as an intermediary for, and coordinate where appropriate, natural resource issues and activities impacting other county departments (e.g., P&A, Road Department, etc.), agency partners or other local government (e.g. city government).</p> <p>E. Iron NRS will work with agency managers and public affairs officers to identify opportunities to jointly provide public outreach regarding project planning and implementation <i>accomplishments</i>.</p>	<p>NRS or other appointed County representative, and updated to the satisfaction of both the County and the agency.</p> <p>D. As agency participation is recognized as a welcome and necessary aspect of a successful County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) planning process, any agency concerns with the process or decisions should be directed to the NRS and/or discussed at either the NRAC meetings or with the Commission at the regularly scheduled meetings <i>(see Issue 1, “A”, p. 45)</i>. The review and updating of the existing “<i>Iron County Cooperating Agency</i>” agreement will be accomplished by end of 2009. Regular updates to this agreement should occur as necessary and to the satisfaction of both the County and affected agency. Existing “<i>Iron County Cooperating Agency</i>” agreements should be reviewed at least annually, at the direction of the NRS and with the cooperation of the affected agency, and updated to the satisfaction of both the County and the agency. Iron NRS should regularly report to the NRAC any intermediary or coordination roles with other county departments or local government on behalf of the agency partners.</p> <p>E. Iron NRS and agencies will create and begin implementation of a public outreach plan for jointly providing public information regarding project planning and implementation <i>accomplishments</i> by end of 2009. This public outreach plan should be reviewed and updated annually and cooperatively by the participating agencies & County NRS.</p>

ISSUE 2 – COORDINATION AND PARTICIPATION

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Settings and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Coordination and Participation with Agency Planning and Project Implementation	Need for Change				
		<p>F. The Iron Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) or members of the Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) may participate on behalf of the County with agency planning and project implementation, but formal County appointments or decisions come at the direction or under the signature of the Iron County Board of Commissioners. <i>(see Issue 1, Desired Management Setting, “J”, p. 47)</i></p> <p>G. The County continually seeks opportunities to actively participate with agencies’ project implementation, beyond planning participation. This may be done by bringing other resources to bear, including funding, where possible and in the interest of the County.</p>		<p>F. All formal County appointments or decisions for the Iron County NRS or members of the Iron NRAC to participate on behalf of the County with agency planning and project implementation will come at the direction or under the signature of the County Commission.</p> <p>G. The NRAC and NRS will continually seek opportunities to actively participate with agencies’ project implementation, beyond planning participation. Bringing County or other partner resources to bear, including funding, where possible and in the interest of the County, will guide these considerations.</p>	

ISSUE 3 – PUBLIC AWARENESS

Current Management Settings		Desired Management Settings and Conditions	Policy Statement(s)	Actions for Achieving the Desired Management Settings	Monitoring
Public Awareness of Iron County and Land & Resource Management Agency Decisions & Actions	Need for Change				
<p>This issue goes along with the previous, but it is more focused on providing information regarding natural resource planning, decision-making and project implementation, along with County involvement or cooperation with the agencies, to the citizens of the County (as well as the general public). Currently, the information regarding natural resource planning and implementation can be scattered and difficult to find. Moreover, there does not seem to be a concerted regular or cooperative effort to share natural resource issues and updates with the public.</p>	<p>Information about natural resource planning, decisions and resulting project implementation in Iron County should be readily available. The County and agencies need to cooperate to more effectively share natural resource issues and information, particularly planning and project accomplishments, with the public.</p>	<p>A. Iron County will identify and provide public outreach activities that are distinct from but complementary to agency initiatives.</p> <p>B. The County and agency partners jointly and continually seek, identify and execute cooperative initiatives for providing public information regarding natural resource planning, decisions and resulting project implementation. Planning and project <u>accomplishments</u> are a particular emphasis of this mutual PR effort. <i>(see Issue 2, Desired Management Setting, "E", p.49)</i></p>	<p>It is the policy of Iron County to have, in cooperation with federal and state land management agencies, a workable outreach program that consistently and effectively informs county residents about land and resource management planning and project implementation activities in the county.</p>	<p>A. Iron Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) & Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. manage the Iron County NRS office's website; 2. support and participate with the Iron Destiny project and website development; 3. initiate a public polling process regularly assessing residents' natural resource management priorities. <p>B. Iron NRS will work with agency managers and public affairs officers to identify opportunities to jointly provide public outreach (participation and visibility at county-wide events such as fairs) regarding natural resource planning, decisions and resulting project implementation in Iron County. Planning and project implementation <u>accomplishments</u> should be a particular emphasis of this action.</p>	<p>A. Iron Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regularly report the updates on the NRS website to the NRAC 2. Report to the Iron County Natural Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) any participation with Iron Destiny 3. Develop the public polling process with the NRAC and initiate by October 1, 2009. Regular updates should be provided to the NRAC. <p>B. Iron NRS and agencies will create and begin implementation of a cooperative public outreach action plan by end of 2009. This public outreach plan should be reviewed and updated annually by the participating agencies and NRS.</p>

Element 4. Resource- and Site- Specific Planning

The next step in the Iron County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) process is to utilize the CRMP to initiate natural resource- and site- specific planning. The Iron County Resource Advisory Council (NRAC) will undertake a planning process for specific natural resource and sites in the County. Natural resources to be included in the planning will be determined and prioritized based on criteria established by the NRAC and will involve public input. Resource- and site- specific plan development may require planning committees with partners such as interested federal & state agencies, special interest groups (existing committees & councils, and organizations within the County promoting a specific natural resource interest), university expertise, municipalities, etc. The makeup of the potential planning committees created by the NRAC will depend on the particular resource and/or site as well as the level of interest from the public. Duration of the plan development will depend on the resource and the associated complexities. Public outreach will be an important part of the resource- and site- specific plan development, implementation and monitoring, and it will serve to keep the public informed as the overall CRMP is written and adopted.

For more information about the Iron CRMP, NRAC, or anyother aspects of the County's natural resource planning and agency participation, please contact the Iron County Natural Resource Specialist at 435-865-5357 or email at mworthen@ironcounty.net.

