

Wayne County

Local Planning Summary

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



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**December
2003**

WAYNE COUNTY, GENERAL PLAN, 1994
&
WAYNE COUNTY, WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>Almost all of Wayne County land is controlled by federal and state agencies and are significantly affected by public land decisions. Tourism is being encouraged, but residents value, and want to protect, their rural quality of life. All water development projects are located in incorporated areas. The County would like to be involved in public land decisions. The County Zoning Ordinance is under revision until January 2004.</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>Wayne County has a tradition of grazing and agriculture, and are significantly affected by public land decisions. Mining emerged as a promising sector with the discovery of uranium, but has since disappeared. Tourism is an emerging sector (with Canyonlands and Capital Reef).</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism and recreational growth should be balanced with the County’s ability to provide services and the preservation of the rural quality of life, (p.11). • The County desires to maintain its current agricultural businesses, (p.15). • Wayne County wishes to increase the length of stay of tourists, (p.31). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Wayne County Travel Council’s primary objective is to promote tourism.
<p>Environmental Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County’s economic base is government and agriculture, (p.77). • Tourism makes a small contribution to the local economy (in 1990), but is growing, (p.80). • “The most serious infrastructure service problem is the inadequate reimbursement of law enforcement and emergency services resulting from the tourism and recreation industries”, (p.113).

<p>Social & Cultural Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We value our current customs, culture, and quality of life and are committed to deterring those aspects that will detract from it”, (p.10).
<p>Forest-Specific Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USFS staff was involved in the Natural Resource / Land Use Subcommittee (helped draft the plan), (p.4). • “Maintain multi-use” received the most votes (31) for the most important issue at a public meeting, (p.55). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Forest Service to maintain roads” received no votes.
<p>Public Lands Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97% of the land area is publicly owned, (p.2). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “It is the intent of Wayne County to prepare a document with clearly and concisely states county issues and objectives and influences the federal planning process.” • ‘The County economy is very dependant on public lands, and therefore it is in the County’s best interest that each resource be managed for the optimal economic return, but in ways which do not sacrifice the natural aesthetic values’, (p.12). • Policy to preserve traditional multiple-use of resources, (p.17). • The County believes that federal land boundaries should not be expanded without local input, (p.29).

WAYNE COUNTY TRAVEL COUNCIL, Capital Reef Area Travel Guide

<p>Summary & Key Issues</p>	<p>The Wayne County Travel Council’s primary objective is to promote tourism. The Forests have limited the amount of grazing lands available, but the lumber industry is an important part of the local economy. The County’s residential density is among the lowest, and the median age is one of the highest in the State.</p>
<p>Historical Abstract</p>	<p>Wayne County is comprised of 97% public lands with a wide range of scenic attractions: two National Parks, two National Forests, four Scenic Byways, three Scenic Backways and numerous Historic Sites. The Wayne County Travel Council’s primary objective is to promote tourism.</p>
<p>Economic Values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising livestock has always been an important economic activity; although the creation of the Dixie and Fishlake National Forests limited the amount of grazing lands in the County. • The lumber industry, State Fish Hatchery, and tourism associated with Capitol Reef National Park have become significant economically in recent years. • Agriculture is also important in Wayne County. Food products manufacturing, lumber processing, and health services are also important to the County.
<p>Regional Demographic Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County has the second lowest population density in the State, there is only 1 person per square mile. • Wayne County’s projected median age is among the oldest in the State: 31.6, compared with a state median age of 27.6 (2000). • Total personal income for Wayne County was \$41 million in 1998. Total personal income for the State is \$46.7 billion. In 1998, the County’s per capita income was \$17,231, which is 77% of the State average, and 17th highest among Utah’s counties. • Wayne County has the ninth highest unemployment rate (5.9%) among counties in the State, (the average is 3.7%) [in 2000].

SIX COUNTY ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2000

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

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