



SUCCESS STORY - PANORAMALAND RC&D

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TITLE: Habitat Credit Exchange Program

STORY DESCRIPTION:

Panoramaland, Color Country RC&D and Partners have developed the Habitat Credits Exchange Program, a habitat bank. The HCEP is one facet of a multi-pronged effort working towards habitat & species conservation and future delisting of the Utah prairie dog, a species listed as *Threatened* under the provisions of the ESA.

TOTAL PROJECT VALUE:

To date \$552,000

RETURN ON FEDERAL INVESTMENT:

100% return is estimated. We anticipate doubling the original grant investment and to be self-funding by 2012 year-end.

OUTCOMES:

This innovative market-based recovery credit system provides financial incentives for private agricultural producers to voluntarily preserve habitat through conservation easements while retaining title and agricultural use. This approach will provide clearance from ESA, accelerate development, and speed permitting time while it also advances recovery prospects for this species by facilitating private agricultural producer involvement thus provides contribution to the recovery and delisting of the species.

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YOUTH INVOLVEMENT:

School groups and the general public participate in the annual Natural Resources Festival which is attended by school groups and the general public from central Utah. Exhibits are sponsored by a variety of national, state and regional organizations involved in natural resource management. The two day event is located at the Event Center in Richfield Utah. Our council cosponsors an exhibit featuring the Utah Prairie Dog program and recycling efforts with the Utah State University Extension.

PARTNERS, FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS WHO ASSISTED WITH YOUR PROJECT:

The program is the result of a multi-stakeholder public involvement process originating from a Conservation Innovation Grant awarded to Environmental Defense Fund from Natural Resource Conservation Service, with Utah Farm Bureau Federation participating as a primary collaborator to recover and delist UPDs.

Funding partner organizations include: USDA/NRCS, Environmental Defense Fund, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Cooperating partner organizations include: Fabian & Clendenin, Utah Farm Bureau; University of Southern Utah Extension, Iron County Home Builders Association, NRCS, UDWR, UDNR, Iron County, UPDRIP-Utah Prairie Dog Recovery Implementation Program, ESMF-Endangered Species Mitigation Fund, Color Country Resource Conservation & Development, Panoramaland Resource Conservation & Development and U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

Prefer your success story to be an oral presentation, poster presentation, or printed story?

Printed Story