

Amazing graze: how the livestock industry is ruining the American West.

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Amazing graze: how the livestock industry is ruining the American West.

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Journal article : [Desertification Control Bulletin](#) 1988 No.17 pp.13-17

Abstract : 43% of the land area of the 11 western states of the USA comprises public lands. Privileged ranchers hold permits from government agencies which permit them to graze these lands at \$1.54 per month per cow. Since the government spends far more on grazing programmes (\$100 million in 1985) and other incentives than it takes from grazing fees (\$9 million), public forage is essential for the livestock industry.

ranchers. The situation remains like this because of the power of the ranch lack of knowledge combined with apathy among the public. Widespread catt strips the natural vegetation and results in widespread soil erosion. The wa also been damaged, leading to greater aridity. In their efforts to create favo conditions for cattle and sheep, ranchers and government agents have cause damage to the environment. Wildlife populations have been adversely effec environmental degradation, together with hunting of predators and widesp of competitors such as feral horses.

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