

## Ridin' the Range Webquest Answer Key

1. What is rangeland?

*Deserts, grasslands, and tundra*

*Savanna and steppes*

*Forests, wetlands, and alpine communities*

*Prairies and plains*

2. What percentage of Utah land is considered rangeland? 80%

3. List at least two ways that Utah rangelands are used.

*Answers may include: mining, grazing, hunting, firewood collection, wildlife habitat, bird and wildlife watching, camping, hiking, skiing, driving and sightseeing, fishing, four wheeling, horseback riding, mountain biking, etc.*

4. Describe the difference between an ecosystem and a biome.

*A biome is an area of the planet that can be classified according to the plants and animals that live in it.*

*Temperature, soil, and the amount of light and water help determine what life exists in a biome. A biome is different from an ecosystem. An ecosystem is the interaction of living and nonliving things in an environment. A biome can be made up of many ecosystems.*

5. Which of the following plants are native to Utah? Check all that apply.

*Big Sagebrush*

*Shadscale*

*Quaking Aspen*

*Arrowleaf Balsamroot*

6. Define the term "invasive species."

*An invasive plant is an unwanted plant that is not native to the area of infestation and is capable of displacing native species.*

7. Define the term "noxious weed."

*A noxious weed is any plant designated by a Federal, State or county government as injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife or property.*

8. List three noxious weeds that can be found in your area.

*Answers will vary. See <http://slco.org/weeds/noxious-weeds/> for a list of Salt Lake County Noxious Weeds grouped by flower color. See [http://www.utahweed.org/PDF/FieldGuide\\_Ed4.pdf](http://www.utahweed.org/PDF/FieldGuide_Ed4.pdf) for noxious weeds in the state of Utah with maps of presence by county.*

9. List at least 10 species of Utah wildlife.

*Answers will vary. See <http://dwrcdc.nr.utah.gov/rsqis2/Search/SearchVerts.asp> for a searchable database of the more than 600 vertebrate wildlife species in Utah. Insects and mollusks can be found at <http://dwrcdc.nr.utah.gov/rsqis2/Search/SearchInverts.asp>*

10. Choose three of the species you listed and write a short description of each one's preferred habitat.

*Answers will vary.*

11. Which of the following plants and animals are on the endangered species list for Utah? Check all that apply.

*Canada Lynx*

*Mexican Spotted Owl*

*Desert tortoise*

*Utah Prairie Dog*

*Winkler Pincushion Cactus*

*Maguire Primrose*

*Paradox Milkvetch*