



# Teaching the Teacher Ag Teacher Range Camp



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## Purpose

This program was designed to meet the requests of Utah High School Agriculture Teachers. With funds secured through a WSARE mini grant we were able to provide a 3 day hands on camp for Ag Teachers to learn more about Natural Resources and Rangeland Management.



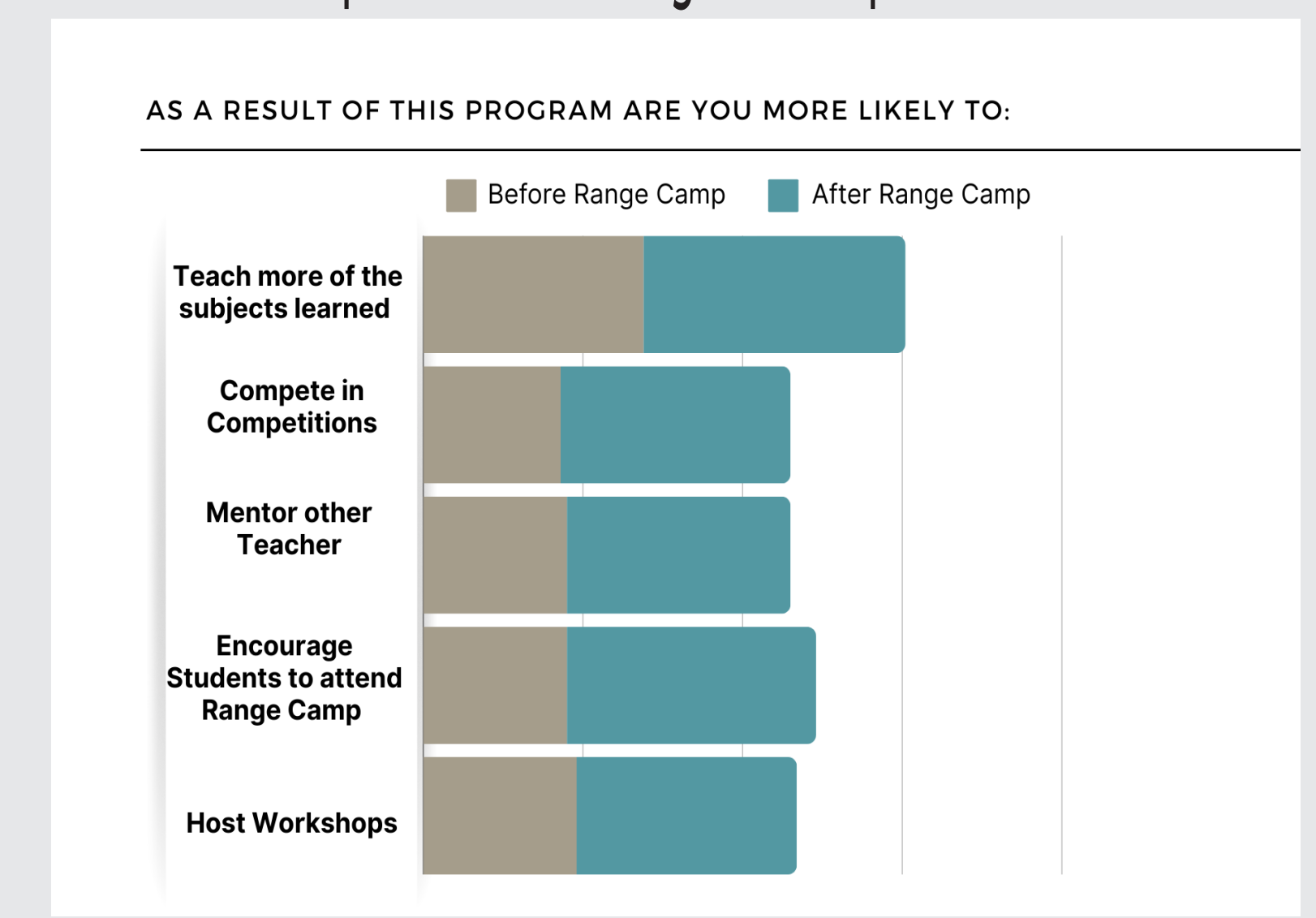
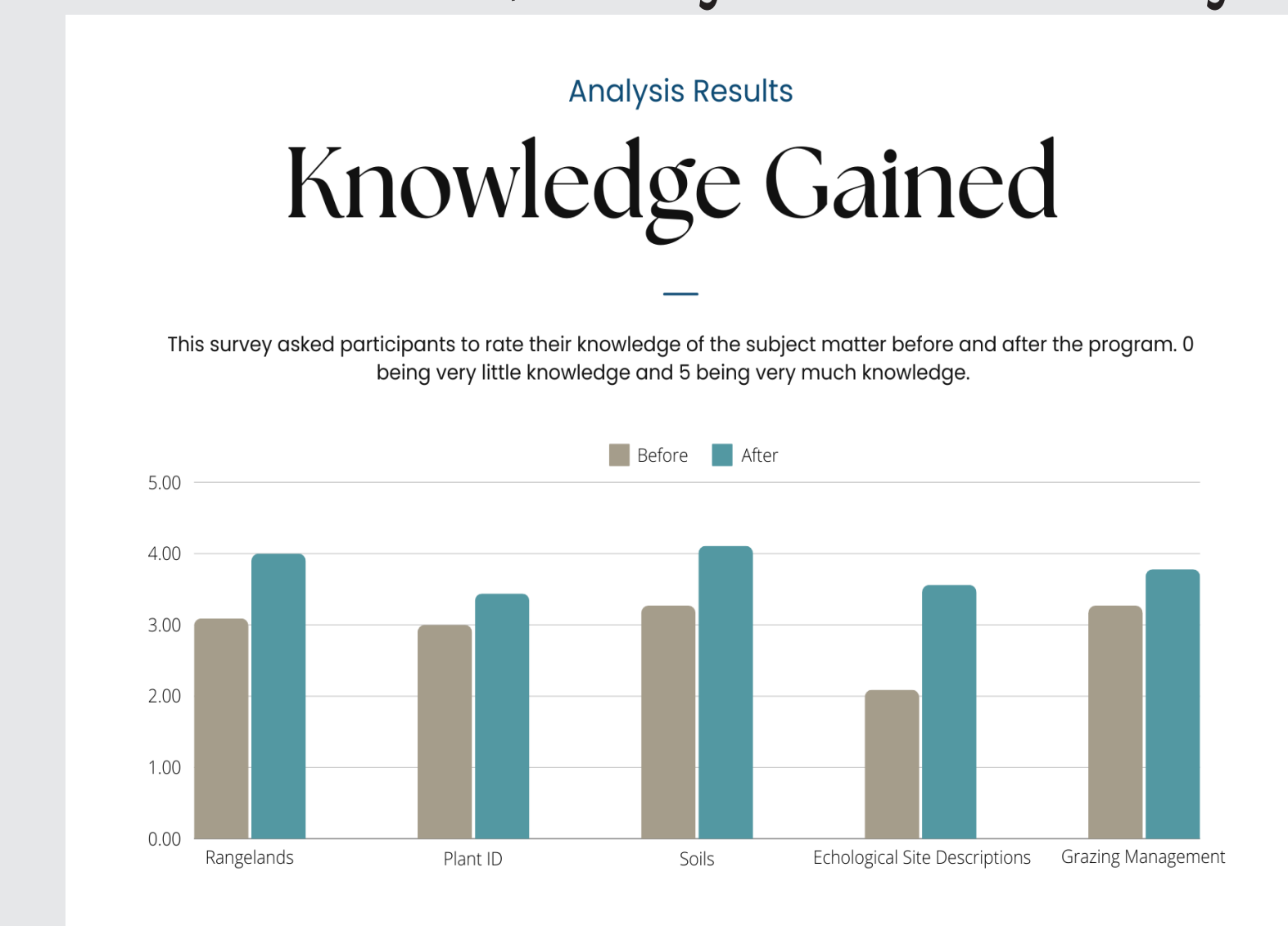
## Camp

- 3.5 days in June
- Housing and Food Provided- Bear Lake USU Training Center
- Transportation to field sites provided
- Plant press kit provided
- Plant Identification materials provided
- 1/2 day of class presentations
- 2 days of field visits and hands on learning activities
- 1/2 day of Rangeland CDE discussion



## Results

Post evaluations indicate that the first Ag Teacher Range Camp was very successful. The majority of the thirty participants state they would attend again if given the opportunity. All participants gained knowledge in rangelands, plant identification, soils, ecological site descriptions, and grazing management. Participants are more likely to teach more of the subjects learned, compete in competitions, mentor other teachers, encourage students to attend range camp, and host workshops after attending the camp.



## Objectives

- Provide hands on experiences for teachers
- Design a Natural Resource/Rangeland based curriculum
- Learn from Industry professionals about careers in Natural Resources/Rangelands
- Encourage teachers to participate in the FFA Rangeland CDEs Career Development Events)
- Improve the quality of knowledge transfer from teachers to students

## Conclusion

By providing educators with hands on experience it provides them with tools to better understand the concepts of Natural Resources and Range Management. This understanding then translates to the classroom where they can foster an environment of learning and exploration into future careers in natural resource related fields. Teachers that have a better understanding of the Range CDE are more likely to mentor and encourage their students to participate in the event. Students that participate in the Range CDE can demonstrate real-world problem-solving skills involving issues faced by land managers on western rangelands, which can lead to interests in careers in natural resources.