

UTAH | Trust Lands History

Trust Lands Management 1896 – 1994



1896 Board of Land Commissioners

1921 Office of State Land Commissioner

1925 State Land Board

1967 Department of Natural Resources
State Land Board

1978 Division of State Lands and Forestry
Board of State Lands and Forestry



1980s

- Jensen v Dinehardt
Utah Supreme Court
Proceeds to Uniform
School Fund, not
Permanent Fund
- \$41 million Permanent
School Fund raid
- Management criticism
- 1985 Constitutional
Amendment



≡ SECTIONS

Deseret News

DID TRUST-FUND 'RAID' COST UTAH DEARLY?

By Twila Van Leer, Education Editor
Published: July 11, 1991 12:00 am

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Utah's schools lost \$4 million to \$6 million per year -- in perpetuity -- when its permanent school trust fund was "raided" in the early 1980s, a California researcher says.

During the late Gov. Scott M. Matheson's term in office, the shift of more than \$37 million from the permanent account was authorized, dropping the fund from about \$66 million to about \$30 million, said Jon A. Souder. Some income from mining royalties also bypassed the fund and went directly to beneficiaries, decreasing the burden on the state's general fund. The total -- about \$72 million -- gave the beneficiaries short-term relief during some tight budget years but reduced the interest-earning potential forever, said Souder.

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1990s

- Call for Management Restructure
- Legislative Task Force
- Citizen Task Force

1994 SITLA

- Quasi-independent state agency
- 7-member independent board
- Entirely self-funded
- At-will employees
- Procedural exemptions



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Trust Lands are not Public Lands

Natl Parks Conservation
Association v. State Lands
Utah Supreme Court

Utah Supreme Court ruling incorporated legally-binding trust principles into SITLA statute:

- Land managed for financial support of beneficiaries
- Duty of undivided loyalty
- 'beneficiaries do not include other governmental institutions, the public at large, or the general welfare of the state'



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Late 1990s

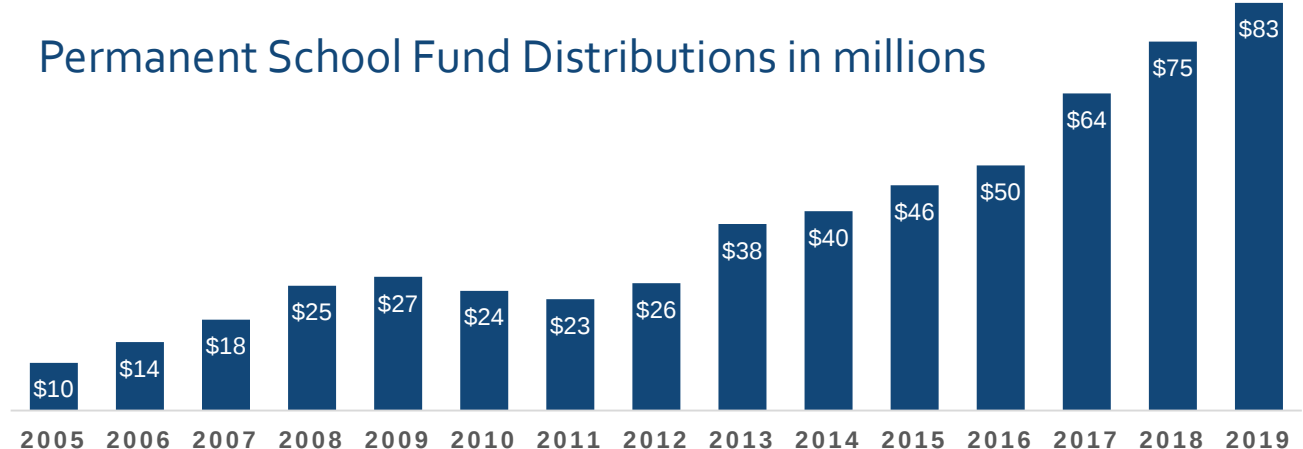
- School Children's Trust Program administers distributions
- Permanent funds flow to districts, schools directly
- School Community Councils: Parents, teachers, principal - determine best use
- All districts share 10% base, remaining 90% distributed per-pupil



**Utah State
Board of
Education**

School Children's Trust Office,
Utah State Board of Education

Permanent School Fund Distributions in millions

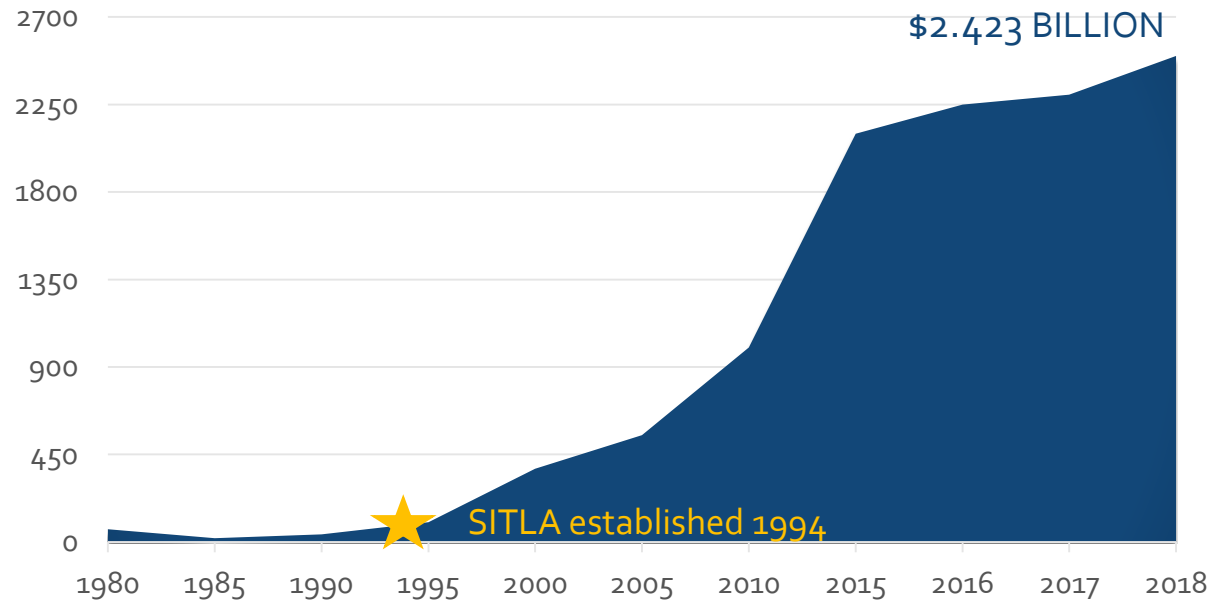


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1985-2019

- Six constitutional amendments passed by voters
- Permanent School Fund growth
- SITLA marks 25th anniversary

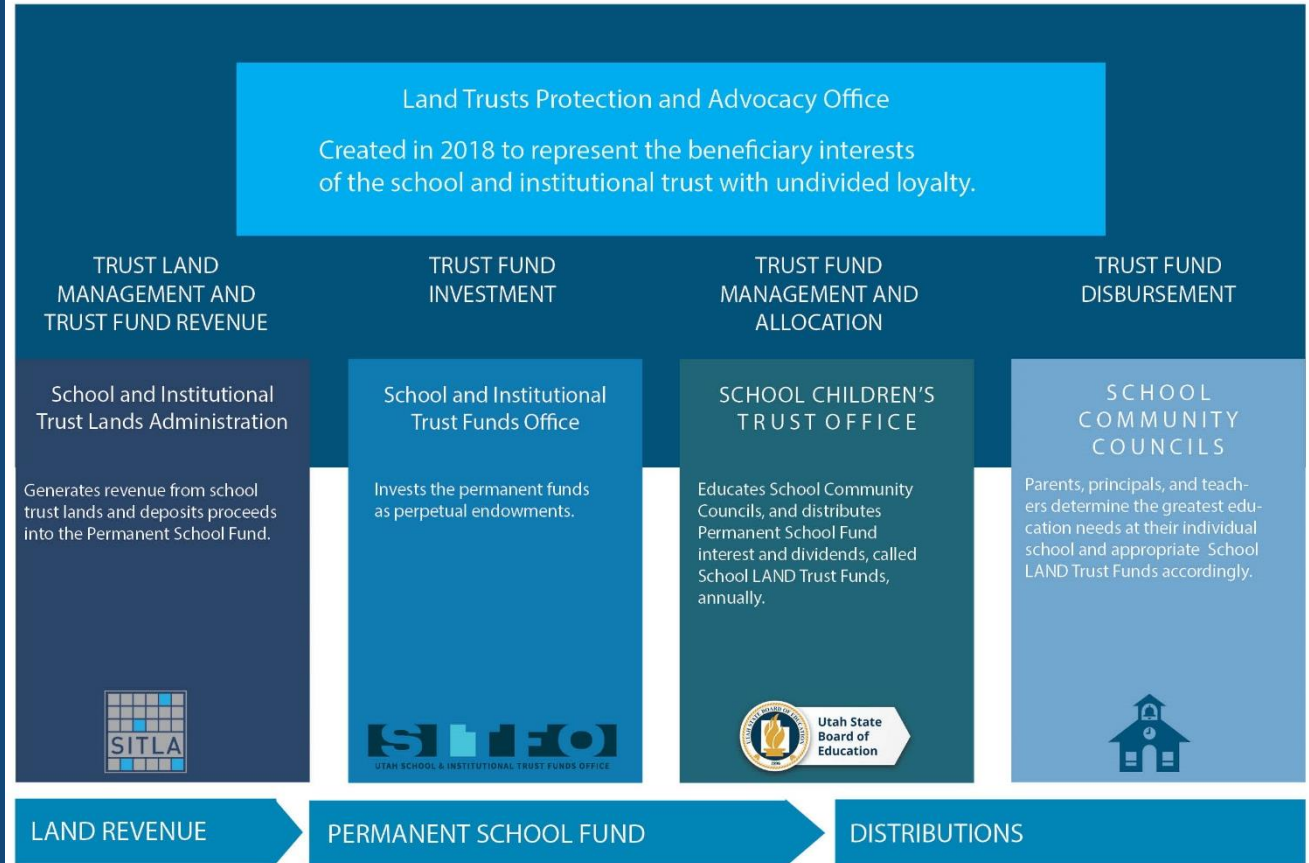
Permanent School Fund Balance in millions



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Investment, Advocacy, and Trustees

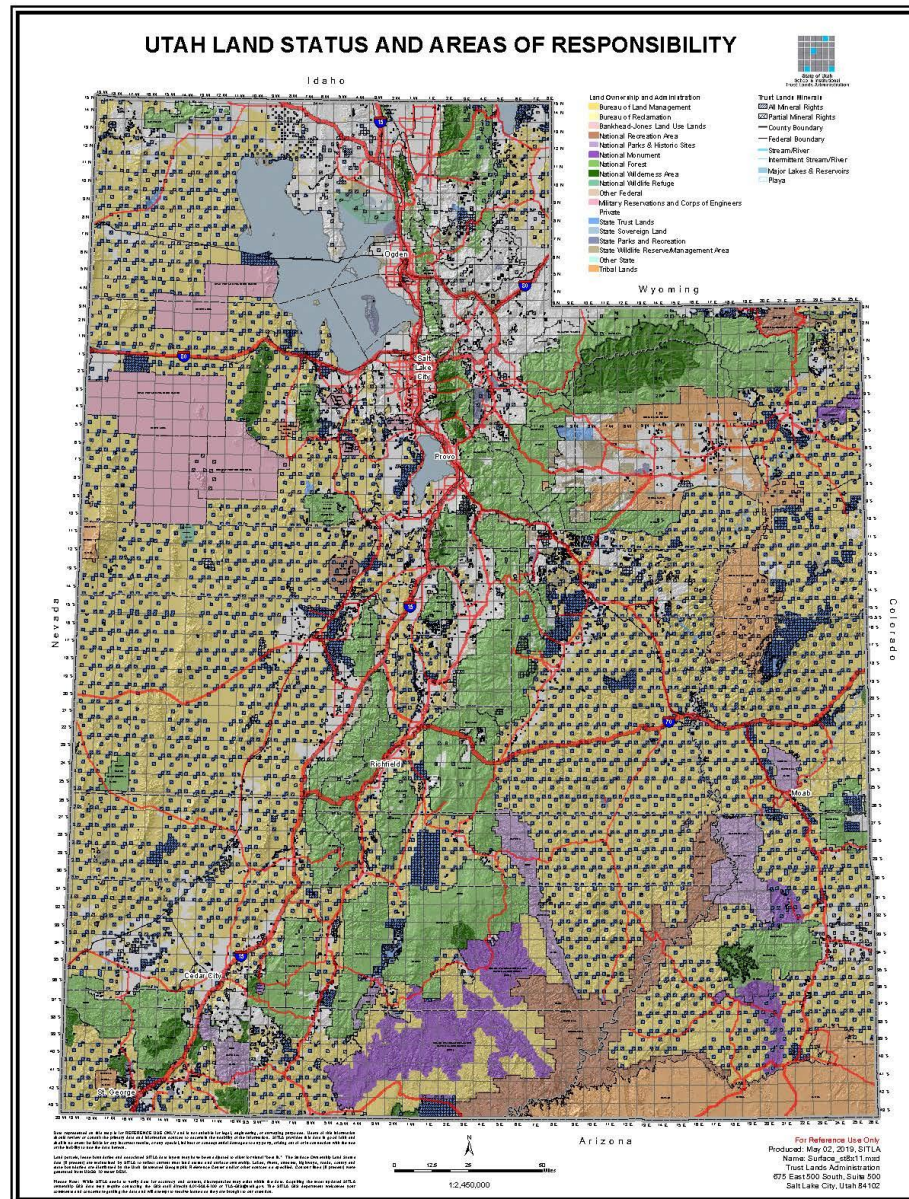
- SITFO | School and Institutional Trust Funds Office
- Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy Office
- SITLA Board of Trustees nomination process



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Relationships

- Beneficiaries
- Legislature
- Public



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Challenges

- Social Ownership
 - Trust lands v. public lands
 - OHV surcharge
 - Hunter Access Agreement
 - Historic v. new use



Utah's latest land battle pits ranchers against not the feds but the state



(Brian Maffly) The Salt Lake Tribune) Cattle graze on the field owned by the Aqueduct Plateau in the Dixie National Forest. Citing the importance of livestock to the state's culture, economy and heritage, many ranchers pushed a resolution to preserve grazing on state trust lands and are resisting an initiative that would transfer private property owners to accommodate historic cattle operations.

Kanab residents are fractured over a proposed Utah sand mine



(Photo courtesy of Bear Friends Animal Society) This photo from a May trip to Red Knoll near Kanab shows some of the landscape in the area of a proposed sand mine, which would provide material to use in fracking operations in the Uinta Basin.



By Brian Maffly • Published: 1 day ago
Updated: 22 hours ago

Proponents of a sand mine outside Kanab won support from two local boards recently, but they have a long way to go before convincing many residents — particularly those who moved there to retire or run tourism businesses — that their project won't harm the community and undermine an economy dependent on the the geological wonders that abound in this corner of southern Utah.



By Brian Maffly • Published: November 5, 2016
Updated: November 05, 2016

Born in Garfield County on his grandfather's birthday 87 years ago, James Robert Ott was named after the patriarch who was among the first to homestead near the Utah settlement of Cannonville, where the family continues to run cattle just north of what would

HaugsGondogsBord7@meunphill... be Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

