

Source: Statement of Charles Hardy Redd representing the Utah Cattlemen's Association and the Utah Woolgrower's Association in the Canyonlands National Park Hearings before the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs in June 1964. Adjusted for easier reading.

We want Canyonlands National Park to be established. We believe that the unique scenic beauty of this area should be preserved and protected for the enjoyment of this and future generations. As far as I am personally concerned, this is the most important issue.

Our objection to the park has been based upon the size of the park rather than to the park itself. We favor a smaller park than has been proposed. We need all the potentially taxable land possible left open for production in San Juan County and in the State.

Our plea is: Leave as much of this land as we can open to possible oil, mineral, livestock, and other production. The State and the Nation will profit as well as San Juan County from the production of these things and the tax revenue that we get from them.

As I understand it, there will be no control of predators. This is of concern to the sheepmen especially because, if this area is not hunted, it will become a breeding ground for these animals from which they can enter to the other grazing areas. We lose many millions of dollars every year to these animals and, if they are not controlled everywhere, it is impossible for us to keep on top of them.

The income from cattle, the taxes from cattle that graze on this area are of great importance to the people that have the cattle there. Therefore, the only solution is that which has been suggested here before, that the park be reduced in size to only those essential areas, and that these areas be protected with pure park status and the rest of the area be left open for production.