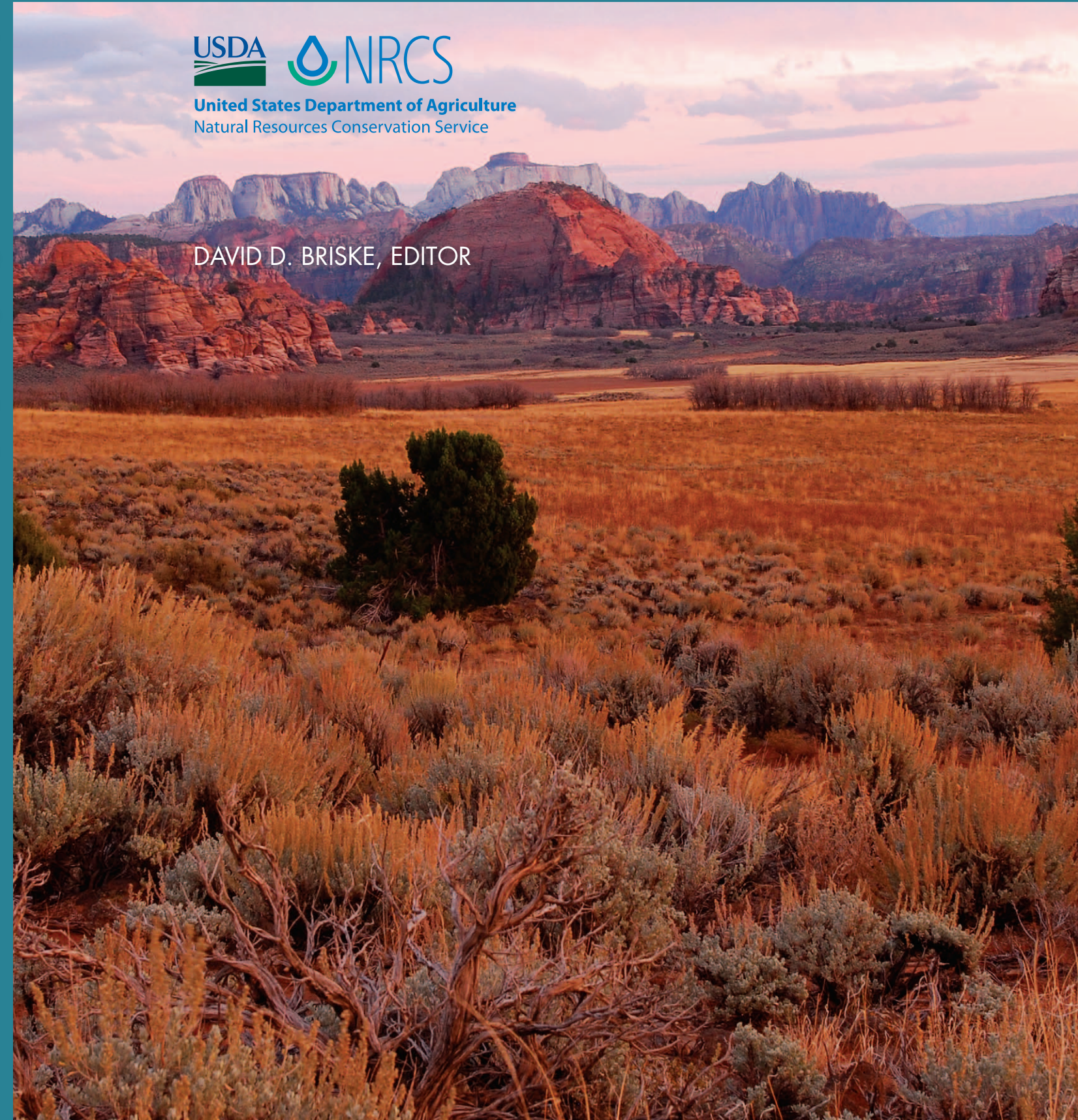


# Conservation Benefits of Rangeland Practices

Assessment, Recommendations, and Knowledge Gaps



DAVID D. BRISKE, EDITOR



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**On the cover:** "Zion Sunset" highlights several famous land forms, including West Temple, Altar of Sacrifice and the Sentinel in Zion National Park in southern Utah. Photographer: Steve Guymon, Providence, Utah; [www.steveguymonphotography.com](http://www.steveguymonphotography.com).

#### ABOUT NRCS: HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a USDA agency that works with landowners through conservation planning and assistance to benefit the soil, water, air, plants, and animals for productive lands and healthy ecosystems. Working in nearly every county in the Nation, NRCS employees understand local resource concerns and challenges to assist with conservation solutions that last. Land stewardship by private landowners is critical to the health of our Nation's environment. Science and technology are critical to good conservation. NRCS experts from many disciplines come together to help landowners conserve natural resources in efficient, smart and sustainable ways. NRCS succeeds through partnerships, working closely with individual farmers and ranchers, landowners, local conservation districts, government agencies, Tribes, Earth Team volunteers and many other people and groups that care about the quality of America's natural resources. More information about the NRCS is at [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov).



#### ABOUT ARS: LEADING AMERICA TOWARDS A BETTER FUTURE THROUGH AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency. ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination to ensure high-quality, safe food, and other agricultural products; assess the nutritional needs of Americans; sustain a competitive agricultural economy; enhance the natural resource base and the environment; and provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole. More information about the ARS is at [www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov).



The expressed goal of this synthesis is to inform deliberations of managers and policymakers regarding the current effectiveness and potential improvements to rangeland conservation practices and programs. As such, this synthesis represents a scientific assessment that was reached independently of the current position or policy of the US Department of Agriculture or the United States government.

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#### ABOUT SRM: SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT

The Society for Range Management is the professional society dedicated to supporting persons who work with rangelands and have a commitment to their sustainable use. Rangelands comprise almost one-half of all the lands in the world. They are extremely important to society for the goods and services they produce and for the ecological services they provide. SRM is dedicated to the conservation and sustainable management of rangelands for the benefit of current societies and for future generations. More information about the SRM is at [www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org).

