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## **UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY'S ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT**

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Wildlife damage management is the buffer between wild animals and people. This field attempts to enhance human-wildlife relations by resolving conflicts between humans and wildlife and increasing the positive values of wildlife. In 1990, Utah State University realized that its students' education in this area was lacking and created an academic program in wildlife damage management with the support of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services. Two years later, USU's program expanded and became the Jack H. Berryman Institute for Wildlife Damage Management which is part of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and the College of Natural Resources. The Berryman Institute has education, research, and extension components. The Berryman Institute currently has 17 faculty members, 29 graduate students, and 11 undergraduates. During its last biennial period, Berryman Institute members organized 12 national symposia, presented 99 papers and seminars at scientific meetings, and published 48 papers. Six courses in wildlife damage management were conducted last year: Principles of Wildlife Damage Management, Techniques in Wildlife Damage Management, Urban Wildlife Management, Wildlife Fertility Control, Predator Ecology and Management, and Directed Readings in Wildlife Damage Management.