

Color County Local Working Group
December 12, 2012

FS/NRCS Office, Panguitch Utah

Norm McKee, John Keeler, Bryant Shakespear, Dustin Schaible, Rhett Boswell, Nicki Frey

UDWR

- 1) Gov office recommendations, hopefully will be signed by the governor, by the end of the month
 - 1) state is sticking with the 4-mile buffer around leks
 - 2) waiting to see the USFWS comments
- 2) Hatch bench treatment finished, 1200 acres, got rid of some of the thick trees and punched some holes through it; SITLA chaining 300 acres by Sandy Creek, seeded; Nile has been working with some private land in Johns Valley trying to get rid of some rabbitbrush

USU EXTENSION

- 1) Nicki will be taking be over PARM;
- 2) Skutumpah research project

BLM

South canyon project next phase is starting. Trying to get that unit finished over the winter. About 1500 acres over the winter.

Trevor Leech's property. 1200 acre pj thinning, south of Sink Valley

Sage-grouse data call from the FWS working on

Waiting on their sg planning process for the GO plan. The GO plan will be one of the alternatives provided for the BLM plan, and the other alternatives are complete and just waiting for the other plan

SWCA working on the second version of the Lease draft this week with a suggestion of a meeting in January

ALL

Now is the time to get the CCARM UPCD projects together. Send something to Rhett.

Graveyard hollow SITLA section. Rumor that SITLA was considering selling the Graveyard Hollow section.

What are the options to oppose? Or recourse options?

What about trading some lands for those, that SITLA would be able to sell with less issues of conservation?

In Iron County, SITLA is in the process of trading all their sagebrush steppe land to BLM, they don't want any part in the process.

Maybe we should invite Ron T. to the next meeting so that he can discuss the local goals of SITLA and sale plans? Then we could write a letter that explains our concerns about a possible land sale to a developer in that area.

The UDWR has actually put together a map that identified SITLA land that would be something that UDWR could manage and would want to manage.

UFBF

Utah/ AZ range workshop will be held in April.

The UFBF convention was a success, but no big issues were presented or reported. Seems like slowly more and more private land owners are becoming interested in conservation initiative.

The Heaton family was awarded the Leopold Conservation award at the UFBF!!!

GARKANE

Working on their transmission project from Tropic to Hatch. As part of the mitigation, they moved the transmission line over a few miles to avoid sage-grouse.

Still concerned about some of the things in the GO plans. May be looking at burying their powerlines if they are within 4 miles of a lek in the future.

Are there transmission corridors identified that Garkane can tap in to? Not really, they are mostly west of the service areas. Most of the infrastructure improvements will be along existing lines.

NEED TO VOTE FOR NEW CHAIRPERSON : Rhett Boswell will stay on for one more year or until the mine lease comes to a conclusion, whichever comes first.

DATES FOR 2013:

Feb. 13

April 17th

June 12th

August 21st

October 9th

December 11th