

# CCARM Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2021

## I. Introductions

Kirk Nicholes, Chairperson, Alton Coal LLC  
Nicki Frey, facilitator, Utah State University Extension  
Ben Donnelly, Utah State University  
Teresa Griffin – Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
C J Butters – USDA Wildlife Services  
Lisa Church – Bureau of Land Management  
Todd Miller – Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining  
Jared Reese – Bureau of Land Management  
Aidan Beers – Utah State University

## 2. Research Updates

*a. Aidan Beers* – update on sage-grouse research, focusing on temperature's impact on resource selection (recorded)

*b. Ben Donnelly* – research update on sage-grouse use of lands treated to improve sage-grouse habitat.

Discussed how grouse in this area have changed their space use, in that they are not generally or easily found in areas they used to use all the time

Drought may be changing the system

It will be good to compare the habitat that grouse did use in dry times to the habitat that we created, that they aren't really using in the summer, to determine what we are missing

Mine reclamation areas are starting to get some sagebrush in it; also experiencing sage grouse use.

*c. Steve Peterson* – free-roaming horses and potential impacts to grouse (recorded)

## 3. Jared Reese – Adaptive Management for 2021 will be meeting soon

There have been several 'hard triggers' based on the adaptive planned, in Panguitch, Bald Hills, Hamlin and Parker PSGMA.

Panguitch hit hard and soft triggers. There was 30% average lek attendance and a large % change over 4 years. The delta value (population increase) was <4 over a 4-year running average.

The next step is to meet with the adaptive management team to determine if there is anything that can be done, or if the factors are out of their control (i.e. drought).

C J – let Wildlife Services know if they need to focus in a certain place. They have been increasing raven permit # statewide.

## 4. Informational Signs

Need to update our signs from 2009.

Nick – update with BLM's new logo

Add QR code that takes us to a webpage where we can get some analytics about who is viewing our posters.

We need 3 signs -Sage Hen Hollow, Alton Sink Valley Road, and over by the hospital.

5. Next meeting:

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am. Will be a hybrid in person/zoom meeting

This is typically the meeting where we present those WRI proposals that may influence sage-grouse. The local working groups can provide input so that the applicant can improve that portion of their proposal prior to submitting it. Please let Nicki know if you will be there in person and she'll bring refreshments.

Jared will update us about the triggers and how the adaptive management meeting went.