

CCLWG Meeting
September 21 2005
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
US Forest Service Building, Panguitch

Members Present

Adam Bronson, UDWR
Nicki Frey, USU EXT
Wally Dodds, USU EXT
Kevin Heaton, USU EXT
John Keeler, FB
Jake Shoppe, Dixie NF

Information Presented

Adam – Updates on the Alton project
Kevin – watershed tour September 22, 2005
Rough draft of the population management issues, objectives, and strategies FYI

This meeting focused on the habitat management issues, objectives, and strategies. Adam Bronson suggested that the group look at the habitat that is present in the focus areas to determine which sagebrush communities needed improvement.

It was suggested that once these areas are found, that they be prioritized so that projects can be implemented efficiently each year.

Another concern voiced was that projects should not be “pulsed”. For example, there has been a lot of activity to re-establish healthy sagebrush communities in the last few years. Efforts should be taken to continually manage sagebrush so that we do not end up with tiers of age classes due to our efforts. Rather we should work in sagebrush communities a little each year, to create a continuous age-class distribution.

The group discussed the issue of monitoring, agreeing that we need to monitor treatment areas pre- and post-treatment to determine their effectiveness. Monitoring should continue into the future to ensure that vegetation is growing as in accordance to our goals.

The group commented determined that there were no negative impacts due to wildlife grazing at present; however, this issue would be kept in mind in the future when increased forb/grass content in sagebrush communities might attract deer and elk.

Jake Shoppe mentioned that we need a way to communicate new research results among members to increase the efficiency of our efforts and to reduce redundancy. The group determined that this should occur as a meeting agenda at least twice a year.

Actions Taken:

Updated the address sheet
Passed out newsletter, population management finished sheets
Addressed the Habitat Management Issues.

Discussed need for GIS generated maps to draw up management actions on the map.

Follow-up Needed

At next meeting – look at the GIS maps to determine the status of our habitat, decide what needs be treated, and prioritize the needs. Measure the general acreage of the treatments needed.

Nicki -- find good vegetation layers for these maps.

Nicki – set up a survey card to get sage grouse information from landowners.

Next Meeting date: Thursday, October 27th, 2005. 10 am -2 pm. Lunch will be provided. Meeting will be held in Panguitch at the Forest Service building.