

## CCARM Meeting Minutes

12/14/2011

Noon - 2:00

In Attendance: John Keeler, Norm McKee, Nile Sorensen, Wally Dodds, Clint Wirick, Rhett Boswell, Kevin Heaton, Nicki Frey

1. Updates: Nicki has a new job.

Kevin looked into sign for turn off to Alton. Alton Coal has purchased an informational sign and is planning on putting it up. Group thinks that putting up the sign at the John's Valley crossroads.

Nile: Alton project on Brammel's property was finished this year. Included dozing and drill seeding. Still need to fly some koshia/sage seed this winter. Funded by BLM on their side and UPCD on private side.

Had a couple sign-ups for SGI, one in Grass Valley and one in John's Valley.

Rhett: Hatch Bench funding still has \$30,000 of work. UDWR decided to hold off until they can get all the funding. Will have to start from scratch and phase it, because the UPCD doesn't care for carry over funding.

Clint: The 3 SWAT people have been hired for Ogden, Roosevelt, and Randolph. Ready to go.

2. Open House: or no open house?....

Could we piggy back onto another group event that already draws people?

Can we do something during quilt days?

Can we put something together to take around to the local schools?

Can we tag it on to going to a lek to watch them strut? Boy Scout merit badge?

Can some of it be tied into the Natural Resource Days (elementary school)? Incorporate some SG curriculum into the NR Days? Taking students to a sage-grouse lek? Division could provide spotting scopes. Could work something into the Watershed Days that works with Freshmen?

Have a sign up to go see the grouse after the NR Days. Have county vehicles to take the kids out to see the grouse.

Both occur in the spring.

We'll keep talking with Wally and Kevin about these projects.

3. Project Selection:

We reviewed the minutes from last meeting and the projects proposed.

Sounds like we are supporting this project north of Panguitch. Somewhere near 5-mile. Wally thinks it's an area that would need the city's authority to use the water. We can create a proposal; it probably

would not get funded this year because we don't have NEPA for FS or BLM, but it will at least get started.

4. Misc. Norm : Discussing idea of BLM swapping land with SITLA in order to preserve SITLA lands that are crucial for sage-grouse. Then SITLA can sell those swapped lands if they want to, and BLM had stewardship of the important lands.

Kevin: land swapping can also create some problems too. Need to make sure that we aren't exchanging one problem for another.

Rhett: How could this group address this? Could we make a map of SITLA lands that we would like to see protected? Then write a letter proposing a land swap. We would need to get together and identify SITLA lands that we are interested in.

Nicki: We can make a better effort to make sure that Ron Torgeson comes to the table. We can start a conversation with him.

John: starting point would be working with SITLA and BLM to create project proposals and submit them to UPCD. Start discussion that it doesn't make sense to start projects that will benefit sage-grouse on adjacent lands, if SITLA can sell them without consulting their surrounding owners.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Consider SITLA lands that are important to CCARM that we would like to see swapped or protected somehow. Put time on next meeting's agenda to address this.

Nicki, Rhett, Wally and Kevin will work together to pull something together for Educational days.