

## CRMP Notes for April 17, 2012

Attendees: Buck Swaney, Bryan Dixon, Neal Artz, Janet Rose, Brent Rose, Beth Burritt, Todd Black, Avery Cook, Jay Tanner, Scott Chamberlain, Scott Nannenga,, Luann Adams, Kevin Hamilton, Bill Gilson, Bracken Henderson, Ken Spackman, Jeff Schick, Troy Forest, Mike Miller, Clint Hill, Brian Morris, Diane Tanner: Distance attendees: Karl Flemming, Anthony VonNeiderhausern, Bruce Sillitoe, Tammy Koldyke, Alan Smith, Mike Hanson, Musaka Wright, Bill Hopkin (~7:00 p.m.), Kerry Goodrich

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Co-Chair Ken Spackman. Bracken Henderson gave a report of the April 4<sup>th</sup> tour through the West Box Elder area with the newly contracted consultants, Neal Artz, Bryan Dixon, Buck Swaney, Eric Duffin and Tim Royer. Troy Forest, Bracken Henderson, and Diane Tanner also toured with the group.

The tour began at Stanrod with Vern Kempton and Jed Heaton. In Yost, Eric and Mike Spencer showed the group around. In Lynn, the tour went past the reservoir to the top of Dove Creek. The group toured through Grouse Creek and into Etna to meet with Kelly Warr. Brent Rose met with the tour group at Muddy Ranch. Royce Larson talked to the group before they signed the contract at Park Valley School during the Conservation District meeting.

Commissioner Adams reported that she had attended the BLM RAC Committee and was informed that reduced grazing will be part of the BLM's plan. The Box Elder County Commissioners have asked for Coordination and Cooperation Agency Status, and she wants to be at the table when they are writing their plan. She also serves on the Governor's State Sage Grouse Committee where they are developing a state plan which should trump or be used to develop the BLM's plan. She said they have a very good committee and are working hard. Box Elder County has been designated as "low hanging fruit" which means it is suitable for Sage Grouse, and they will probably look at increasing the number of sage grouse in Box Elder County. They have not addressed solutions to help address the sage grouse problem, but fire and predators have been listed as the two top reasons sage grouse are decreasing. Commissioner Adams asked the CRMP Committee if they would like her to make arrangements to get some of the BLM people to come to Western Box Elder County. The Committee agreed that would be a good thing to do, and it was decided to make arrangements for the June 19<sup>th</sup> CRMP Meeting.

Action item: Organize a meeting with BLM Director Juan Palma and landowners to see the work that has been done in the WBE area. It was suggested that we do it on the third Tuesday in June. Todd Black informed us there is a Sage Grouse meeting that would interfere with attendance from the Sage Grouse experts in our group. We are still trying to find a date that would work for most people to attend.

The consultant team gave a report of their review of existing land/resource management plans covering the CRM area. A copy of their presentation is available at <http://www.utahcbcp.org/htm/groups/boxelder>

Scott Chamberlain gave a history and overview of SITLA. We learned about their lands and investments and how they generate money to help fund schools and other entities they are involved with.

Bill Gilson gave a brief overview of the Weed Prevention Areas. The basis of it is to prevent problem weeds before they become established. Early detection and rapid response is one of the main weed targets of our CRM and so establishing a WPA fits well with our objectives. Intellectuals Solve Problems, Geniuses prevent them. There is a step by step user's guide available that provides help with recognizing and controlling weeds.

Bill also introduced the new Weed Foreman named Mike Miller

Bill said that a coordinated spray day would be arranged within the next two-three weeks with landowners and that Forest Service and BLM were welcome to participate. Chemicals will be distributed at the Park Valley Road Shed to landowners. The focus will be on whitetop and knapweed in the Park Valley area.

Ken Spackman mentioned that we see signs all over about aquatic hitch hikers that cling to boats and other watercraft. He proposed that we consider signage about taking care that weeds weren't spread from one area to another by four wheelers and other vehicles, including during the cooperative weed spraying activities.

Bruce Sillitoe from the BLM reviewed the Western Watershed Project/Carpenter Settlement. No interpolations were drawn on what it meant.

8:10 meeting was adjourned.