



Notes for the November 18, 2014 CRM Meeting

Attendees: Jed Heaton, Spencer Morris, Chris Nelson, Eric Spencer, Jeff Schick, Jay Tanner, Clinton Hill, Bryan Morris, Cathy Cannon, Larry Garahana, Charles Sanford, Kelleigh Cole, Kevin Hall, Chris Bryan, Jay Carter, Dave Dahlgren, Jim Christiansen, Ken Spackman, Mark Anderson, Diane Tanner. Distance attendees: Scott Walker, Adam Brewerton, Loren Poppert, Nate Long, Anthony Von Niederhausern, Julie Tanner

6:00 Welcome from Chairman Ken Spackman:

Range and PJ

Chris Bryan introduced phase II of the Juniper removal in Dry Basin in Park Valley. An application for the cultural clearances of Park Valley phase II will be submitted this year, as well as the project implementation work for Dry basin. Phase II Dry Basin will be submitted next year (Jan. 2016), this will be located in the Warm Springs area (north of Dry Basin). There will also be an application for a retreatment of Badger Flats submitted this round, Jan 2015. He discussed the landscape NEPA analysis for the Box Elder sage grouse management area.

Jim Christensen: Phase III in the Grouse Creek area includes 950 acres below the Buck Spring area to the Etna road West of Etna reservoir. They will start doing bull hog work.

Nate Long of the DWR said that they are working on a Juniper project in the Park Valley area, to clean up some of the old chaining's with lop and scatter while protecting the intact stands of mountain mahogany. This year's application will be for the past treatment area of R. Larsen, near Indian creek.

Invasive Weeds

Mark Anderson introduced himself. He will be the new County Weed Dept. Supervisor starting in January. The County is presently working on the Rush Skelton weed & Medusa head which is located mainly in eastern Box Elder. The Russian Knapweed and White top grant for the CRM is going well, approximately 325 acres of Knapweed was treated this fall. White top will be the focus come this spring.

Socio Economic

Kelleigh Cole introduced herself from the State Broadband council. They have been working with providers to bring cell service to remote areas in the state. At present they are working with Beehive phone to help Grouse Creek area to work on solutions to service to this area.



Kevin Hall a Beehive representative also introduced himself to the CRM. Beehive has brought internet service all through the West Box Elder remote areas. They have been contacting Comnet to help bring cell service throughout West Box Elder.

Mitch Zundel has been helping Diane Tanner get the West Box Elder County website up and going. They are looking for photos of the area recent and ancient to use on the site. Anyone who has photos is encouraged to send them to Diane to use on the website. Also histories of the various little communities would be helpful. We are also looking for residents in the surrounding areas to keep updates on current events.

Water as opposed to Reservoir Feasibility will be used now in the CRM to include more opportunities of possible projects.

Jay Tanners said that a Utah State professor has mapped the state beaver for an education campaign. He is trying to help people understand why beaver are helpful to us. He has been working with the DWR.

For the time present, the CRM has decided not to pursue getting Cloud seeding generators in Northeastern Nevada. Permits from Nevada are very hard and costly to get.

Water surveys are being taken in various drainages in the CRM area. Water companies and landowners are being asked what their needs are and making priority list of projects to help with water challenges.

Jay Tanner gave a report of what happened at the Sage Grouse Forum. There was frustration about the Gunnison sage grouse being listed as threatened when 90% of the sage grouse areas were already involved with conservation work. Our area is much the same with conservation project already happening in sage grouse lands. Noreen Walsh said the Gunnison listing doesn't mean that the same thing will happen with the Greater sage grouse.

Wildlife the name for this sub-committee has also changed to include a greater range of animals. It will still include special species and plant life.

Ken Spackman would like to get Mike Linnel to start the Raven program 60 days earlier this year to be more effective with the eggs. We need to get the ravens reduced before grouse lay their eggs. Mike said they'll likely have the same amount of man hours and chemical to use this year.

Adam Brewerton (new Co chair for the Wildlife sub-committee) said that they were going to take a new approach rather than have local town hall meetings. Instead of lectures in the towns, they decided to do more on the ground projects and field tours. He hopes to expand the sphere with the change of the sub-committee name to wildlife. The name change is problematic with plants still being in this group. The committee will have field trips for the CRM but also for school students, sort of a show and tell. They want to install ramp in troughs for small animals and work on closing up open pipe that might



injure some animals. Another project they are interested in doing is keeping ATV trails out of areas which they shouldn't be on.

Channing Howard introduced herself. She is working on an urban deer transplant project management plan. They have two places in our area that they are looking into for transplanting. They should be transplanting 200 deer, about 100 of them to west Box Elder. The deer will have ear tags and some with radio collars. They have had archers in some urban areas who volunteered to shoot some of the problem deer and donate the meat to area homeless shelters.

Jim Christenson said that the tagged deer will be shot if they end up in haystacks. They will also do blood tests on the mule deer to make sure they aren't bringing disease into our area and treat them with Ivomec.

The two spots that the urban deer will be placed are Clarks Basin and Black Hills. Studies show they will stay in the area for two years before venturing away. Loren Poppert asked if they will coordinate their effort with the US Forest Service in the Raft River Mountains.

Dave Dahlgren explained why the Disturbance Mapping of the sage grouse was required, the baseline for disturbances being taken in 2010. Having all the landowners and agency folks that knew the area made for quick and accurate work. It was surprising how much was accomplished so quickly with the all the expertise in the room.

If anyone has a problem with the name changes of sub-committees, your comments or suggestions are welcome.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.