

PARM Field Tour

August 25, 2020

9AM to 3PM

Meet at the park in Loa

All COVID protocols were followed

After signing in everyone, we left the park for Floyd's Pond. We stopped and talked about possible treatments in Three Buttes pasture and the areas that are still recovering from spike treatment (2011 and 2012) in the Parker Lake Pasture. We then went to Nick's Pasture cattle guard and talked about potential treatments in Nick's and South Pasture. We traveled to Red Knoll, had lunch, and then talked about potential treatments on the north end of Parker Lake Pasture and Red Knoll Pasture, then moving around the base of Pine Peaks and onto the north end of SITLA land before getting to the Cedar Groves. Lastly, we stopped on the Fishlake Triangle cutoff road and discussed the BLM and the programmatic NEPA process they are currently doing for all the BLM lands on the north end of Parker and wrapping around to the northeast from the Fishlake Triangle to Tidwell slope. The NEPA should be completed this year and WRI proposals developed for January 2022 applications.

Dave Dahlgren committed to preparing a first draft of a map proposing spike treatment areas across the upper elevations pastures on Parker. We talked extensively of treatment area, distribution (creating resource patches), and active ingredient rate. We decided to treat areas from 20 to 200 acres and spread them out across the mountain, ensuring enough intact sagebrush is left for sage-grouse habitat needs. We also talked about staggering treatments through years so that there is a diversity in timing of sagebrush recovery available to the grouse and other animals. We also talked about teaming up water development/improvement projects with treatments to provide adequate water for the livestock and wildlife where treatments occur. We discussed having treatments that are farther away from water to help draw the livestock across the pastures and spread out utilization.

The proposed 1st draft of the map has been developed and is presented below, along with our attendees list.

Attendees: David Dahlgren, Trent Wilde, Scott Chamberlain, Ryan Jones, Julie Weber, Roger Brian, Tom Tippetts, David Christianson, Levi Watkins, Brant Hallows, Joe Chigbrow, Kaya Kukulka, Cjay Butters, and Jim Lamb.

