

## Rich County CRM Field Tour Notes

Date: Sept. 4-5, 2013

Attendees: 21 (Organizations: Region 6 USFWS Staff, UDWR, Box Elder and Rich County Commissioners, USU Extension, Landowner/Producers, UDAF GIP, BLM)

Topics: The primary purpose of this tour was to show Region 6 USFWS staff the efforts Utah was making to implement the Sage-Grouse Plan and to connect federal staff with local government and landowners. We visited multiple sites in West Box Elder County on the first day. We visited PJ treated sites across the SGMA. We saw high quality sage-grouse habitat on private lands and talked about the importance of private land conservation in our very public land state. We visited low elevation sagebrush sites in Box Elder County used as winter, lek, and nesting habitat, and how we are using fire-breaks to protect these areas. We then returned to Logan, and had a presentation by UDAF GIP on the Three Creeks project in Rich County. We talked about grazing systems and how they might influence vegetation across the landscape. We visited Rich County the following day, visiting Three Creeks along Big Creek where future projects are planned. We also visited DLL, and talked about various management practices they have used to work within sagebrush systems. During the entire 2-day tour we discussed the use of science and monitoring to help evaluate implementation of Utah's Sage-Grouse Plan and how they related to sage-grouse conservation.