

September 18, 2018

CRM Meeting Notes

Eric Thacker gave a presentation on West Box Elder Fuel Breaks. They have two fuel breaks they are monitoring, Badger Flat and Dry Basin. The treatment went in fall of 2016 and then was finished in spring of 2017. In their preliminary results they learned that in Dry Basin the Cheatgrass and bare ground was dominate, the plateau was effective, possibly too effective and some of the areas sagebrush is coming back. In Badger Flat that cheatgrass was less in 2017 compared to 2018, though in 2018 the cheat grass was higher in the fuel breaks. There was a reduction in non-native perennial grass from 2017 to 2018. The perennial grass cover was similar between control and breaks. They will do a final analysis and present their findings at the SRM meeting in February. The two big questions at the moment are: Are fuel breaks really worth it, and would a fuel break be more beneficial in a more resilient area?

Clint Hill gave an update about how the rangeland committee was coming on their goals. They have decided that there have been a lot of rangeland projects done in the West Box Elder County. They want to continue with the projects, but they want to have some field days where they can go out and look at the projects and see what is working and what needs some more help and collect data. He also gave an update about the weed department that treatment of weeds is getting done.

Calee Garn gave a presentation on where the CRM has been, the different committees that are included in the CRM: Rangeland, Water, Wildlife, Community & Economic Development, and Planning Involvement. Then she had questions to help assess how the committees are doing and maybe where they are struggling. She would like each of the subcommittees to meet as a group and review these questions and then we can discuss what each committee has decided at the next meeting.

There was talk about how we need to get the younger generations involved in the CRM because if they want something done, here is where they are going to be able to have the help to get projects done or even considered. The idea of having a presentation about the insurance for ranchers and landowners to be done at one of the CRM meetings was brought up to help get more people in West Box Elder county involved and notified about it.

Emily Jencso gave a fuel update for BLM. They are done surveying all wildlife guzzlers in Box Elder County, if anyone is interested in that information they need to contact the BLM.