

CACOARM

Planning/scoping
meeting

Date: 2/24/2008

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Price Utah UDWR office

**Members Present: Dorrell Barker, Brad
Crompton, Roger Barton, Dean Stacey, Chris
Perkins, Jason Robinson, Todd Black**

Information Presented/Discussion Highlights

Jason Robinson (UDWR) talked to the group about the range wide listing where we are at with that and what that means to Utah. The ruling has been placed to mid summer, not sure of exact date but we won't know more until then and we don't even want to speculate as to what may or may not happen. Utah is pressing forward—business as usual. The revised/updated state-wide sage-grouse plan is being reviewed internally with the UDWR right now—upon completion the plan will be sent for final review to the state grouse committee. The plan ought to be presented to the RAC/Board within the next month or two. The plan gives the state further direction, discusses more on state wide issues and treats and gives much support to the local working groups and their efforts.

Chris Perkins gave a research update on survival, nest success, and overall production of the wildcat knolls and horn mountain project. Trapping efforts will continue through the spring and summer of 2009. Recent (1/09) winter flights showed a couple more mortalities but all remaining birds are within a mile of where they were trapped—it would appear that habitat on these 2 sites is year round habitat and that the birds do not migrate out of the area for winter/summer uses. Another winter flight is scheduled in March to determine wintering locations are scheduled for January.

Todd Black and Jason Robinson talked about the importance of having UPCD members that are part of the LWG to ensure projects presented at UPCD and mention being beneficial for sage-grouse really identify what threat and strategy they are addressing from the plan. During this past data call from the USFWS they (USFWS) were somewhat critical of projects and things we had done for and behalf of sage-grouse in that we didn't do this—we need to make sure for all

Actions Taken

LWG/UDWR sage-grouse lek viewing day is planned for April 4th 4/4 is our lek viewing days, it will be held up at Emma Park, contact Brad Crompton for more info bradcrompton@utah.gov 435-820-8921. This would be a great opportunity to bring family/friends that have never seen a grouse strut its stuff.

Summer field trip is planned for June 25th (more details coming) we will be viewing projects and discussing sage-grouse research on the Wild Cat Knolls—Chris Perkins will be in charge of

coordinating efforts so if you have something special you would like to show and tell, talk with him

It was suggested that future projects (UPCD) that discuss or list sage-grouse/sage-grouse habitat being benefited from a UPCD project be presented at a sage-grouse LWG meeting to be discussed and receive support of the LWG prior to being presented at UPCD meetings. This would ensure that best practices are used; specific threats from the plan are being incorporated into the process and being addressed in the project.

Follow-up Needed

Todd Black to follow up with a request to UPCD in regards to having future sage-grouse projects presented to the LWG prior to UPCD

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting (6/25) will be our annual summer field tour (see above).