

## Notes for March 19, 2013 CRMP Meeting

Attendees: Jeff Schick, Troy Forest, Travis Mote, Client Hill, Jay Tanner , Ken Spackman, Brent Rose, Jim Christensen, Mike Miller, Paul Thompson, Wallace Keck, Bryan Morris, Diane Tanner , Distant attendees: Patti Barney, Masako Wright, Tammy Koldyke, Scott Nannenga, Anthony Von Niederhousern, Roger Anderson, Gilbert Jackson.

6:00 Meeting called to order by Chairperson Commissioner Adams. Commissioner Adams, Troy Forest and Diane Tanner attended a commission meeting in Nevada introducing a pilot program to help increase sage grouse survival. Three main ideas were the increase in suitable habitat, decrease in predation and fire breaks. Commissioner also told the CRMC about an offensive effort that Commissioner Gerber of Elko County has instigated. "Smoked Bear" the mascot of the effort, goes to schools and explains that smoke from wild fires pollutes air far more than cars and industry; it also kills thousands of animals. Grazing can be very helpful to decrease wild fires. We'd like to implement this in Utah.

### Updates on Sub-committees

Reservoir Feasibility : Jay Tanner had a phone conference with the State Department of Water about surface water and storage. Looking at the report that the DNR sent to the CRMC shows that many of the water users need to gather data on streams. Some of the information on the study was gathered a while ago. We need to look at ways to work with the DNR to go after some improvements.

Programmatic Pinyon/Juniper Control: Jeff Schick said the sub committee met on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. They need to promote some of the things they have already done. We still need to plant more sage brush seed. They have used different varieties of seed, but local seed will likely be more successful. Jeff suggested that we use Open Range Consulting to expand the modeling efforts already done. Jay mentioned that David Rowe and another fellow named Cates were looking to bid on bull hog tree grinding. They were interested in using the trees that had been chained to use for biofuel. Jeff mentioned that we really need to have landowners attend the sub-committee meetings.

### Other Speical-Status Species: Paul Thompson

The Special Status Species Wildlife Committee is moving forward to set up a meeting with landowners in Lynn Valley. Paul has been working with Jason Tracy and provided him multiple dates in late April/early May. He is

making contacts with the landowners and hopes to have a date set in the next week or so. The purpose of this meeting will be:

- provide information on what sensitive species occur in their back yards
  - provide information on what agency folks do to protect/keep these species from becoming federally listed
  - hopefully have a discussion on how we can work together
  - while agency folks are present, talk about any wildlife issues (e.g., big game, options for a walk-in-access program/fishery in Lynn Reservoir, etc.)
- Lynn will be the first of 4 landowner meetings that this committee wants to hold in the next year with the other communities being Yost, Grouse Creek, and Park Valley.

Invasive Weeds: Mike Miller said that past coordinated spray days in Park Valley have been successful and they are expanding the program in Yost and Grouse Creek this year. Clint has written a grant through the CRMP for chemicals, spraying apparatus, helicopter spraying and three day of donated time and labor. Last year landowners took advantage of the opportunity to pick up chemicals. Clint said, "If we get the grant, we need to map and report where we spray." There are 8-10 different sprays available. Weed alert signs that are weather proof need to be displayed around our western county areas. We need to concentrate on about 6 different noxious weeds. Mike said that we will schedule the spray days in mid May. The date will depend on weather. He also said that there will be help with calibration for spraying apparatus.

Wallace Keck, Superintendent of City of Rocks, said that 200,000 visitors come to the park each year. 40% of the visitors come from Utah. Utah traffic is very important. State wide brochures are being reprinted soon and they would be willing to enlarge the borders of the map to include Grouse Creek, Yost, Park Valley. These maps highlight points of interest in all the communities. Mr. Keck said that Box Elder has more to show than Cassia County. They have in Almo Id., a router to produce the brown and white signs that designate points of interest. They will work with us as soon as we have signage at highway 30 to put signage through to City of Rocks. They also have artwork that they'll donate for the signs. Some of the artwork has restrictions for use. City of Rocks is on Facebook and will promote us when we have signage up. Traffic from Nevada on SR30 would likely be the target for signage through to City of Rocks.

LuAnn thought that a rest stop in Park Valley would be very valuable and would look into using the old county shed for an option. A cell tower in the Grouse Creek area is also being looked into by Commissioner Adams.

7:45 Meeting adjourned.