

Notes for the November 21st CRM Meeting in Park Valley

Attendees: Commissioner Hadfield, Jay Tanner, Ken Spackman, Mark Anderson, Jay Carter, Clint Hill, Brad Jessop, Jeff Schick, Mellissa Wood, Eric Spencer, Bracken Henderson, Dustin Ford, Gabe Murray, Ben Nadolski, Josh Dallin, Calee Lott, Chad Wilson, Diane Tanner; Distant Location attendees: Loren Poppert, Dave Dahlgren, Scott Chamberlin, Julie Tanner, Karl Fleming

Welcome from Chairman Commissioner Jeff Hadfield

Calee Lott and Diane Tanner updated the CRM Voting Board and the group voted to accept the changes in the Voting Board. Motion made by Jay Tanner Seconded by Mellissa Wood.

Sub Committee Updates:

Wildlife: Alan Smith has requested WRI money for 5 small Guzzlers and one large guzzler. He has also requested from the county to have roads clearly identified so people know what they can and can't do on the roads and who is responsible for maintenance. Commissioner Hadfield said that he would meet with Bill Gilson to classify the roads.

Rangelands: Clint Hill presented 4-5 project to the committee that will be submitted to WRI for funding. He and Calee have worked on applications for those projects. Last year they applied for Keg Springs water sensors which will be installed after the tree projects are accomplished in 2019 or 2020. Water systems will be installed on private lands, and Lucin. EQIP and GIP will help with the work on private ground. We are doing some lop and scatter and range water systems. They have applied for and installed a water line to get to the Lucin pond. Next year they hope to fix the rest of the line but it will depend on if DWR will fund that. There is also an area that was burned that they plan on masticating trees to clear it out.

Brad Jessop had a power point showing areas around the Warm Spring Hill, Immigrant Pass, and Dry Basin. The BLM has hired contractors to clean out some of the area where there has been fire but, because of the other fires around the state they've been delayed getting the 4000+ acres done. They are hoping to have it accomplished by the middle of March. The BLM objective is primarily motivated to preserve habitat. They are working to improve under story where the juniper has encroached the sage grouse habitat. The power point is available on the link below. Calee showed where the cultural clearance has been (Purple area on presentation). On the Etna side most of it can be done with lop and scatter. The BLM broke it down in allotments and decided to work on Dairy Valley. Trees there aren't that thick and most of the area won't need seeding. Discussion ensued about whether or not the allotments would need to be rested and about proper plans for best results.

Ken Spackman raised a question as to the possibility of treating some of the older sage brush that the grouse won't use. Could the brush be treated so it is something the birds

would use? Dave Dahlgren said that Eric Thacker has done research on that and thought with his study, the state might look in to it.

Water: Jay Tanner said that there are folks from the Senate and the House that are starting to encourage money for water storage in the west. He said to keep in mind to work with water companies in planning for storage and water recharge. The beaver project is moving along with structures being placed but no beavers are in the area yet.

Bird Tour: Diane said that she, Jack Greene and John Bellmon came out in the Grouse Creek area looking for areas to bring the tour. They have a route and plans for an evening with Cowboy poetry, owling, star gazing, food and lodging. The next day will be filled with birding, stories and food.

Melissa Wood from the BLM - Emergency Stabilization and Rehab. from the BLM talked about several fires in the area that the BLM helped to contain and are soon reseeding in areas. The BLM is also putting up fences in the seeded areas to protect the seedings. They are also rebuilding fences that were burnt and putting in troughs. All the fires that were in West Box Elder were put out within 12 hours, which was amazing. The county really worked hard on the fires too. The county is training the folks in the CRM area to learn how to use the fire equipment like hoses and trucks.

Ben Nadolski from the DWR Reauthorization of states sage grouse conservation plan. Please look at the presentation.

<http://utahcbcp.org/localworkinggroups/WestBoxElder-WBECRM/westboxelder>