Notes from the April 17th CRM Meeting


Welcome from Commissioner Hadfield

Mark Anderson said the County Weed Spray days will be on April 24 in Park Valley, the 25th is Grouse Creek and the 2nd of May for Yost. Mark said that they are in the process of building a crew to work on Knap weed in the Dove Creek area and Etna. Mark said the weed board will be working with BLM and others on problem areas. There will be a drawing for two weed sprayers.

Diane Tanner gave details of the Bird Tour that is coming this May 11th and 12th. In the evening of the 11th there will be a meal prepared, owling, Shoshoni tales, and star gazing. Birders will be out early in the morning and fed a breakfast at the Box C Ranch. Lunch will be available at Gone Country Store. After lunch, will be a projects tour.

Scott Shahverdian has been working on finding beaver communities to locate in the beaver dam analogues. Scott let folks know that they want landowner in put and that if problems arise, they will work on those problems. Their goal is to have two colonies in the area.

The county fire marshal has hired two people to complete a survey of water sources that can be used for firefighting. They will start in the Lucin area and work east. They would appreciate people to help out with information.

Jay Tanner gave an update on the Lucin water project. Now that the water lines are getting water to the ponds, the next effort is to restore the habitat so the migratory songbirds will use the area. Jay
said that there is an advocacy group called Family Farm Alliance which is helping to develop greater water storage. Data is collected with weather scan technology; however, some questions arose about the accuracy of the amount of moisture measured.

Justin Small reported on the sage grouse. The numbers are down some of which is expected, according to the 10 year cycle studies that have been done.

Alan Smith reported that of the 5 guzzlers approved sites, only two will be done, because the other proposed sites are too close to a lek. Alan said that better reporting was needed before they install the other three guzzlers.

Ted Fredrick from the Utah Dept. of Vet and Military Affairs along with Col. Frickle and Chris Robinson came to explain the National Defense Authorization Act of 2007 allowing the UTTR to temporarily close some BLM Lands for military testing. The gentlemen explained that test flights would be run in our area. More information will be coming.