

Notes on the CRMP Meeting on Feb.21, 2012

Attendees: Commissioner Adams, Jason Yerka, Bracken Henderson, Erik Spencer, Jason Tracy, Patti Kimber, Ken Spackman, Brent Rose, Janet Rose, Clayton White, Jeff Schick, Troy Forest, Avery Cook, Brian Wing, Jay Tanner, Todd Black, Cole Selman, Laura Selman, Fred Selman, Bill Gilson, Lance Westmoreland, Spencer Morris, Diane Tanner, David Morris,
Distance attendee: Scott Nannenga, Bruce Sillitoe, Anthony Von Niederhausern, Bill Hopkin, Masako Wright, Wayne Martinson, Karl Fisher, Kerry Goodrich, Patti Barney, Scott Walker, Scott Chamberlain, Alan Smith, Kevin Hamilton

6:00 Commissioner Adams called the meeting to order.

Sage Grouse Comment cards deadline has been extended to March 23rd. Todd Black said that the State is working at the Governor's office level to solidify guideline to address the Sage Grouse threat. These guidelines will be put together by a technical team to have our state's own recommendations in place so that the BLM will adopt these recommended guidelines.

It was decided that the final nomination of making West Box Elder as an IBA wait until the State Priority Habitats Map for Greater Sage Grouse is made public. Then these areas could be included in the West Box Elder IBA if the committee decides to support this designation.

Wayne Martinson said that he will wait until the Utah Priority Habitat Maps for Greater Sage-Grouse are out until working to finalize the lands that will be included in the West Box Elder Important Bird Area (IBA) Nomination. After these maps are out he will contact the landowners and land Managers who have lands included in the priority area and ask for their permission to include these lands in the IBA. This nomination will then be shared with the committee and it will be asked to support the nomination.

There is also a correction from past notes that the IBA is an Important Bird Area and not an International Birding Area.

Seven Proposals were sent in on Feb.3. A committee has narrowed it down to three proposals. Bracken Henderson explained that each proposal was judged on their approach to writing of the CRMP and what they proposed to accomplish according to their budget. The official selection will be made on March 7th by the West Box Elder Conservation District in their board meeting.

Luann announced that Mitch Zundell has been hired to head up the County's Economic Development Department. He will start next week.

Jason Yerka, director of Box Elder Business Resource Center addressed us in the area on Economic Development. It was very informative. He has an office in Brigham and is available to help with business start up, expansion and growth, general consultation and one on one market planning. There are training classes available and help with website set up. Greatest part of the whole thing is there is no cost. brighamcity.usu.edu 435-919-1235

Progress in the Noxious Weeds is really taking off. Bill Gilson has been consolidating mapping from the BLM and Forest service. Lyle Holmgren has a website up now that has the weeds mapped and needing further input from those out on the land to send in more information as to locations of differing noxious and invasive weeds.

This year there will be a cooperative spray day possibly on May 18-19 depending on the weather and conditions of the range. The county will supply chemical and helps with calibration and application amounts for differing sprayers. It won't be just a two day event but left over chemical will be given to our area to use. Anthony Von Niederhousen commented that some Idaho counties would join in with the West Box Elder on the days we choose to spray. Also the CWMA would come and join in with our area.

Contact Brain Morris and Ken Spackman with the acreage you will be spraying so we can get the proper amount of chemical for property.

Remember weeds are experienced over ownerships and jurisdictional boundaries.

Bill Gilson reminds us that early detection and rapid response is the key, so gear up now and get ready to attack those weeds!!!

Luann said that Senate Bill 61 has passed and there will be additional money in our state to combat invasive species. She reminded Leonard Blackam, Agricultural Commissioner, that we are a large county with lots of weeds needing lots of money. See presentation on the USU website below.

Troy Forest went over the big picture for our rangelands. He says rangeland management is part Science and part Art. He show photos of pastures that had been grazed the whole season and those that had a shorter term grazing period and longer rest periods. The difference was clearly shown in the long-term health of the rangelands. See presentation on the USU website below.

<http://www.utahcbcp.org/htm/groups/boxelder>