

Rich County CRM

Agenda

5 January 2012

Partners meeting and research update
2-5PM at the Senior Center in Randolph

Welcome/Introductions

Norm Weston

Meeting started at 2:15 and Adjourned at 4:20

Attendees:

Todd Black	USU/EXT
Norm Weston	Rich County Commission
Reed Groll	Rancher/landowner
Wes Tingey	Rancher/landowner
Masako Wright	BLM/WILD-BIO
Paul Corrigan	BLM/Fuels
Brady Thornock	UACD
Jamison Jewks	NRCS
Mellissa Rosenham	BLM/RS
Chandler Mundy	FS
Patti Barney	NRCS watershed planner
Randy Wood	UDWR
Riley Peck	UDWR
Wayne Martinson	Utah Audubon
Howard Thomas	UTFB
Mark Peterson	UTFB
Joan Degiorgio	Utah TNC
Claudia Cottle	Bear Lake Watach
Mitch Poulson	Bear Lake Regional Comission
Troy Forrest	Utah GIP
Bill Hopkin	Utah GIP
Karl Fleming	USFWS Private lands program
Rick Danvir	DLL
Scott Chamberlain	Utah SITLA

Research proposals/research updates

Todd Black

Todd gave a research update. Research for Pygmy rabbits by BYU on the Ruby pipeline corridor continues. Roby gave a report on the research at our landowner appreciation meeting last month. The sage-grouse lek attendance study is completed, Michael Guttery has finished the final report/presentation and is working on a few modifications as recommend by the UDWR. When these are finalized it will be posted on the CBCP web page at <http://utahcbcp.org/htm/groups/richcounty> additional past research projects USU student thesis/dissertations have also been posted and updated on this web page. 2 additional USU research projects are continuing and under way. One is looking at sage-grouse movements and habitat use on the Bear Lake Plateau, this is a joint research

project with Idaho Fish and Game, Casey Cardinal is in her final field season (3 field seasons) and will complete her thesis fall of 2012 and provide the CRM with an update. Another sage-grouse research with USU/DLL/NRCS is underway looking at sage-grouse habitat uses on DLL and 3 creeks allotments looking at how the grouse are using/avoiding any habitat treatments and responses to grazing. Seth Dettenmaier gave his project proposal to the landowners at the landowner appreciation dinner last month.

Partner updates (update project database)

UDWR Habitat, Big game sage-grouse Scott Walker/Randy Wood
Randy gave updates on completed projects (see project table). Antelope plan is underway numbers of harvest etc. to still be updated later next month. Sage-grouse counts will continue this year. Last year many were missed due to the weather. Riley Peck will be coordinating those.

BLM habitat projects Traci Allen/Paul Corrigan
BLM fuels crew is conducting a fuel load reduction project on the south side of the Crawford mtns. Paul gave an update on that and possible future projects in that area. The group discussed the project and the possibility of touring the project later this summer. Masako Wright gave the group and update with the BLM IM's regarding the current direction and plans for sage-grouse. Most all of the BLM's LUP will be re-evaluated/updated through public process. See http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/info/newsroom/2011/december/blm_issues_greater.html for the IMs and pdf attachment for upcoming BLM scoping meetings.

USFS habitat projects Jenifer Parker/Chad Mundy
Chandler Mundy gave an update on the FS projects. They are still working on controlled burns and fencing projects on the otter creek allotments and 3 creek allotments.

NRCS projects SGI Jamison Jewks/Taylor Payne
Jamison updated the project table database (see attached). Also announced NRCS SGI personell (Taylor Payne) to the area and that there were interested landowners in signing up for the project. Also a new project with sagebrush reduction in Rich County with a private landowner which will be added in the project table.

GIP 3 creeks update Troy Forest
3 creeks project continues, EIS/NEPA documents are still being prepared and are to the FS and BLM in various stages. Public comment will be coming out within the next year (likely). Fencing maintenance and water line maintenance are ongoing and much is has already been completed. Additional funding for the OM phase of the project has been verbally committed from the state Department of Environmental Quality water quality board for additional funds.

USFWS updates Karl Fleming
None

Rich County
Still waiting for Mitch's notes

Mitch Poulsen/Norm Weston

TNC

Joan Degiorgio

Joan talked to the group about a project that TNC is working with NRCS on signing up landowners and talking to landowners about Riparian Habitat Easements on the property. They are working with Utah Farm Bureau on this effort as well to look at possibilities of getting unused or lightly used lands along riparian areas of the Bear River and tributaries and have these areas enrolled as conservation easements. Efforts will be made over the next year to have continued discussion with individual landowners.

Audubon

Wayne Martinson

Wayne discussed the Important Bird Area (IBA) program and Global (IBA) that the Audubon Society is doing. DLL is already designated as an IBA and the Utah Audubon would like to include private and public lands in other parts of Rich County. Wayne will work with state and federal land managers and the county to update them on these efforts and process.

Next meeting

Sage-grouse subcommittee updating/reporting on the sage-grouse plan Future meeting.
Meeting to be held Thursday March 1st 2:00—5:00 PM Randolph Senior Center.

Other--

Field tour--ideas where when.

Discussed holding off setting date and time until our May 3rd meeting. We did talk about possibly touring the BLM's work on the south side of the Crawford Mtns.