

**RICH COUNTY
CRM**

Date: Feb. 6, 2009
Time: 10:00am-12:00pm
Place: Randolph Senior Center

Members Present: Mitch Poulsen (Bear Lake Regional Committee), Alvin Shaul (CRM Permittee), Craig Kennedy (DL&L), Norm Weston (Chair), Mark Peterson (Farm Bureau), Tyler Staggs (BLM), Michael Gates (BLM-SLFO), Brad Jessop (BLM-SLFO), Claudia and David Cottle (Bear Lake Watch), Mike Welch (QRM), Randy Wood (DWR), Scott Walker (DWR), Bill Hopkin (UDAF), Wes Tingey (Woodruff), Ron Greer (DWR), and Lorien Belton (USU Extension; recorder)

Information Presented/Discussion Highlights

Introductions

Norm will be leaving early (at 11 am). Alvin Shaul will take over as chair for the remained of the meeting.

Partner Updates

There is no Forest Service representative currently—we need to follow up on getting Jennifer Parker involved.

The Duck Creek project is moving forward, scheduled for June 1-12. The last notices were sent via registered mail. CRM may want to send a letter in support of the project, requesting the county to be the intervenors. Duck Creek was the CRM's demonstration project, so it would be appropriate for CRM to be involved. With 8 voting members, there is a quorum here. Norm requested a motion to have the CRM request to be intervenors on the Duck Creek project in a manner determined to be appropriate. Claudia Cottle moved and Mike Welch seconded. Clarification: the level of involvement being voted on could be minimal or as much as getting involved in the hearings. Mike will abstain, all others in favor. Motion passed.

Randy Wood will be the regional wildlife manager as of tomorrow. For the Division, legislature is in session so other updates will need to wait until that finishes.

Claudia gave a website update. It is still in progress; pictures would be helpful. She offered to be the webmaster but requested that someone else manage the content decisions. Send anything to 2629 Hwy 89, Fish Haven, ID 83287. Web address will be www.richcountycrm.org. Bear Lake Watch is currently covering expenses for the website, about \$19/month. They are fine with that, but anyone applying for grants should record that (and her time working on the site) as a match.

The grant from NFWF for Duck Creek fencing and water development needs to be expended this year (by end of June). Troughs, pipeline, pump(s), and other water development expenses would be appropriate. Water development work can go in now. BLM will start their work July 16, and it would be good to have something in place to connect to. There are 3.07 miles of electric fence that need to be converted to permanent fence, and just over 2 miles that need to be constructed. Bill will follow up with Reed on the NFWF grant.

Deseret ferret project update: action is needed on this project. The group would like a draft project proposal to be presented at a CRM meeting. Everyone still has questions about protections for landowners. Craig work on this and contact Todd Black to get this on an upcoming meeting agenda.

Proposed Projects

Four new projects were presented and discussed by the group:

- Brad Jessop presented two project proposals:
 - o Otter Creek aspen regeneration
 - o Woodruff/Long Hill sagebrush treatment fuels reduction project.
- Woodruff Coop Project sagebrush project: Scott Walker presented a sagebrush treatment and seeding project for this fall. The project has been presented to UPCD already. Deseret may be able to rent equipment to make the work more efficient.
- Birch Creek: private land project for fencing, water distribution and a 300-acre sagebrush management to improve grazing on the area. This project is also in the UPCD database, but more information is needed on methods.

Scott Walker moved that the CRM accept these four projects for consideration (idea approval, not project approval). Wes Tingey seconded. It was unanimously approved. The projects will be added to the spreadsheet.

Table Updates

The group updated the project spreadsheet with PIs and will send the table for updates to each PI and to Todd Black to review minutes to find information that should be in this chart.

The following is a list of projects that should be on the list but are not on this recovered version.:

Rich Co. Allotment Consolidation Project
Woodruff Cutoff Canyon Water Project

Ferret Reintroduction
Manhead Road Fuels reduction
Upper Sage Hollow RX
Big Three
Sage Creek Fuels
Bill Hopkins Willow and Upland project
Twin Peaks Fire rehab
Lamborn Brush reduction (goat grazing)
Laketown Canyon Fuels
Stacy Alkali Fence Realignment

Also the four new projects presented above.

Next steps:

- Todd needs to update the table with what is in old minutes before sending out the table to the full group
- Then send out table to all PIs and all group members to updates, request that they:
 - o Update table with info
 - o Add any new projects and details that need to be included
- Discuss this at the next meeting: it should discussion of the projects on the table.

Several people expressed concern that the April meeting is too late to do this project review, and a full meeting would be required. The group decided to add a new March 6th meeting the added to the schedule. It will be held at 1 pm, downstairs at the senior center. Lorien reserved the space with the senior center.

An additional presentation on ferrets would also be nice for that meeting if possible.

Bill Hopkin provided an update on the Rich County Allotment Consolidation Project: It has a proposed budget of \$1.9 M for fencing, pipeline, and water developments. GIP has provided money for NEPA. There is interest in this project coming from state and national levels. There will be efforts to do publicity for the project. Goal is to raise outside money for all but 12.5% of the budget, and help the permittees with an ARDL loan to get the rest. One concern is the cost of annual maintenance, which may be near \$100,000/year. Planning for long-term management will be a critical feature of this project. They are working to develop partnerships to accomplish this.

Actions Taken

- CRM members agreed to send a letter in support of the Duck Creek project
- CRM members added the four projects listed above for consideration and addition to the project list

Follow-up Needed

- **Todd Black will need to update the spreadsheet to the extent possible from past meeting minutes and then send it to all PIs for further updates.**

NEXT MEETING: March 6, 2009; 1:00 pm at the Randolph Senior Center