

Minutes : Tuesday April 26, 2005  
Start 10am  
Place: Iron County Extension

**Members Present:**

Nicki Frey, USU EXT  
Becky Bonebrake, BLM  
Chad Reid, USU EXT  
Vicki Tyler, BLM  
Joe Jenson, BLM  
Jeff Grandison, UDWR  
Jim Guymon, local resident  
Roger Carter, WS  
Charles Esplen, local resident  
Mark Nelson, USU EXT  
Laura Romin, USFWS

**Info Presented:**

UPDATES:

1. We did not receive the EQIP grant under the national funding. However, Tom Simper re-submitted the proposal under a new RFP for sage grouse management.
2. Jeff Grandison distributed charts on lek counts in Beaver and Iron County that incorporated most of this spring.
3. Roger Carter noted witnessing a coyote pack killing grouse at a lek during a WS fly-over to control coyotes.
4. As per the discussion of the new working group boundary lines, the BLM office in Fillmore would like them to stay as outlined in the UDWR plan.
5. Chad Reid announced a range school to be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cost is \$20, with dinner included. Class begins at 8:00 am. Speakers include Fred Provenza, Jim Bowns, and Charles Kay. Please call Chad (435.586.8132) if you are interested so that he can have a head count.

**Next Meeting Date:** Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10am, at Iron County EXT office.

**Actions Taken:**

HAMLIN VALLEY

1. Status of monitoring: Jim Davis has agreed to do the permanent vegetation survey lines in Hamlin Valley. Nile Sorenson has made this area the first priority.

2. Hamlin Valley Project: The BLM discussed their Hamlin Valley Project, which will incorporate sage-grouse management, horse management, grazing (permit renewals, management), fuels reduction, and fire management, to name a few, throughout the valley. This is in contrast to having a management plan for each entity. The Hamlin Valley Project has invited Nicole Frey to represent SWARM and Tyler to represent UDWR at the planning meetings. **Benefits discussed:** all grazing permit renewals will be conducted with future plans in mind, permittees will be involved with HVP and SWARM, all NEPA will be concluded for the entire valley (allowing future SWARM endeavors to occur without more paperwork), SWARM will be involved with future planning for BLM, management practices will be balanced among management species. **Drawbacks discussed:** management practices cannot help all species all of the time, some practices will conflict with SWARM agenda, pushback of implementing SWARM Hamlin Valley projects from this fall until spring 2006.

MOU/SOP: As several people were missing from last months meeting, we will redistribute the MOU and SOP for review.

MANAGEMENT PLAN SECTION 3: Began identifying strategies for each issue identified in Section 2 of the SWARM management plan. We discussed the following issues: predation, sensitive species, population objectives for sage grouse, lethal parasites and diseases.

**Follow-up Needed:**

Nicki – look into how the management plan will be finalized for SWARM. Make contact list for next meeting. Update the issues/strategies chart.

All members: Review SOP and edit. Bring questions and edits for discussion to next meeting.

All members: review the signature sheets for your agencies. If acceptable, please have appropriate person sign the page. If not acceptable, email Nicki with suggested changes.

All members: Choose dates for field trips to Hamlin Valley for Hamlin Valley Project team and SWARM team and permittees in the study area.