

SWARM Meeting minutes

August 16th, 10 –noon

Iron County Extension office

In attendance:

Nile Sorenson UDWR/NRCS

Christine Pontarolo, BLM

Sherri Whitfield, BLM

Chad Reid, USU EXT

Nicki Frey, USU EXT

I. Updates

A. CMPS renewed the contract with UDWR to continue the Local Working Groups for a year. We will consider action steps for the year at the next meeting.

B. Heather's project in Hamlin Valley doing well. Very low telemetry success, but the fence line project has collected a lot of data on predator perching.

C. Cheyenne's project in Bald Hills doing well. Following 20+ birds this summer. Gathering much needed information on artificial water use, movements, and lek attendance.

D. Wrangler fire burned the Badger Fire reseeding and was 8400 ac of PJ in upper elevations. BLM plans to reseed it. Perhaps private landowners would donate effort if state finds seeds. Need aggressive seeding to create stabilization. Looking to put green strips in along some of the roads so that it doesn't keep burning every few years.

E. 1800 acres of private land in Hamlin Valley expected to be chained in spring. Funded by the Sage Grouse Initiative

f. 250 ac lop and scatter on Spiers, Mr. Spiers will also do 170-ac discing. Might have to do some follow up spray work.

G. BLM is currently treating the M3 project. Discing the areas; might have to seed. Approximately 250 ac

H. BLM continuing to work on management plans, but waiting for the National SG guiding document before committing to anything.

I. Rabbitbrush study: A combination of MT28 and Escort at highest level was effective at killing rabbitbrush. Treated at 9.28oz/acres. Fall treatment worked best.

II. New Chairperson

Christine Pontarolo unanimously elected.