

**UINTAH BASIN
ADAPTIVE RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PLAN
(UBARM)**

LOCAL WORKING
GROUP FOR THE
GREATER SAGE-
GROUSE

Planning/update
meeting

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2005

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Place: State & County Building, South Conference
Room**

Members Present:

1. Mike Bodenchuk, USDA Wildlife Services
2. Stephanie Tomkinson – Questar Exploration & Production Co.
3. Carlyle Rollins, USDA Wildlife Services
4. Boyd Kitchen, USU Extension
5. Brian Maxfield – UDWR
6. Debra Domenici – Kerr McGee
7. Dixie Sadlier – BLM VFO
8. Jim Brown – NRCS
9. Darlene Burns – Uintah County
10. Sherel Goodrich – USDA Forest Service
11. Russell Tomlinson – Uintah County Extension
12. Shon McKinnon – Newfield Production Co.
13. Sarah Lupis – USU Extension
14. Rod Harrison – Duchesne County Commissioner

Information Presented

- Brian Maxfield – 2005 Lek Counts & Translocation Update, & Habitat Enhancement Projects
- Sarah Lupis – Overview of Progress and Next Steps

Discussion Highlights

Brian Maxfield, UDWR, gave an update on 2005 lek counts. Almost all existing leks are active and numbers are up substantially. Several new leks were found and some leks that have been inactive for 10 years are now active. Brian says the increased monitoring helped with this years count. The UDWR is working with the tribe to get their lek count data.

The translocation project was a success. The translocation team caught 35 hens in 3 nights. All were collared and moved to the Strawberry Valley project area where they have remained. Nine hens were seen on the lek with males. The hens are now nesting. The Strawberry Valley Sage Grouse Group has over 100 birds collared.

In an effort to help protect sage grouse eggs from Raven

predation, Wildlife Services and DWR placed 800 poisoned eggs out in weekly treatments over a 5 week period around leks and nesting areas. The treatment appears to be working quite well as noticeably fewer Ravens are being seen.

Brian updated the group on several habitat enhancement projects in the basin. All projects are looking very good right now.

Sage grouse hunting boundaries have been realigned. The UDWR can provide more info on the new boundaries.

The group approved the meeting minutes from 03/03/2005.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be sent out to group members before the next meeting. This MOU needs to be reviewed, signed, and returned at the next meeting.

The group then discussed the progress made on the plan and what we need to focus on next. Sarah Lupis will have section 1 of the plan sent to the group before the next meeting. We need to review and be prepared to make comments or suggestions at the next meeting. We will also discuss chapter 2 and 3 at the next meeting.

Next meeting

Date: Thursday, July 21, 2005

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Place: State & County Building on Main Street in Vernal,
UT, North Conference Room**

Follow-up Needed

Darlene Burns will give Sarah a copy of the county plan.

Brian Maxfield and Mike Bodenchuk have assignments; Sarah will contact them for their information.