

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

LOCAL WORKING
GROUP FOR THE
GREATER SAGE-
GROUSE

Planning/update
meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2004

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

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

Members Present:

Sherel Goodrich – USDA Ashley National Forest

Brian Maxfield – UDWR

David Allison – Consultant (Uintah County/UBAOG)

Scott Chew – Rancher, Landowner

Stephanie Tomkinson – Questar

Todd Black – USU Extension

Boyd Kitchen – USU Extension

Mike Tamlllos – USDA Wildlife Services

Scott Chamberlain – SITLA

Steve Strong – BLM VFO

Bart Zwetzig – BLM VFO

Carlyle Rollins – USDA Wildlife Services

Renee Chi – USFWS

Information Presented

- Mission Statement discussion
- Individual assignments: discussion/progress report

Discussion Highlights

Sherel Goodrich discussed: history of sheep and cattle grazing; historical treatments of sagebrush (including 2-4-D) and how the process started to slow when NEPA was introduced; 20 year recovery for sagebrush; target was 100% treatment; spike treatments.

We would like to graph/trend the relationship between grazing, land management treatments, and greater sage-grouse numbers. Greater sage-grouse numbers start around 1960 so that is probably where we should start.

Historical data is critical, a couple of ways to gather such data may be to review old newspapers and/or interview some of the original homesteader families that are still around. Some of the specific categories that we would like to trend are:

- Wildlife – big game, predators, lagomorphs

- Land use – recreation, grazing (homesteading), industry (oil and gas)
- Socio-economics
- Fire history

Brian Maxfield discussed brood surveys. Number are good, most are up – around 4 per mother hen.

Dave Allison presented a draft mission statement, it will be sent in a separate email to the working group as these minutes are sent to the working group and an information only group.

Todd Black will discuss the conservation plan with all 3 county commissions (Uintah, Daggett, and Duchesne) and bring them up to date.

Todd has invited the sportsman's conservation group to attend our working group meetings.

Todd discussed where Moffat County is with their plan. They are very close to a final draft. They have been working on their plan since 1996.

Steve Strong will provide a description of the vegetation in our area. This will help Brian give more info on greater sage-grouse numbers and how it relates to specific habitat.

Actions Taken

New assignments were made.

The mission statement was discussed.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 6, 2004, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM State & County Building on Main Street in Vernal, UT, North or South Conference Room.

Follow-up Needed

- Todd will update the tri-county commissions on the status of our conservation plan.
- Individual assignments will be emailed in a separate email.
- Completed assignments should be emailed to Todd or brought to the next meeting on a CD.

