

**South Central Sage Grouse Working Group  
Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2006  
BLM Building, Rawlins Wyoming**

**Attendees:**

Randy Phipps, Tom Clayson, Jack Berger, Frank Blomquist, Glen Leavengood, Barbara Parsons, Roger Cox, Tim Woolley, Karen Larsen, Chris Burkett

**Guests:**

Justin Williams (Wyoming Department of Agriculture)  
Cameron L. Aldridge (U.S. Geological Survey)  
Kate Schoenecker (U.S. Geological Survey)

**Start Time:** 8:45

**Introduction and Preliminary Items:**

Chris Burkett introduced himself to the group members present. Chris will take over the facilitation duties for this group.

**Minutes from the September Meeting:**

The meeting minutes for the September 21 meeting were reviewed and approved by the workgroup.

**Public Comment:**

No members of the public chose to provide comments at this meeting.

**Where are we and where do we go from here?**

The group reviewed two tables of commitments which were developed by group members. The first was for the Mineral and Energy Goals. The second was for the Education and Information Goals. In both cases, members reviewed the text for each project and worked with Tim W. to determine which of the Goals/Objectives/Actions were being addressed. In several cases, project text was modified to better articulate the group's goals. The Mineral and Energy projects were adjusted in real time and Tim will incorporate this information into the group's plan. Between now and the next meeting, the Education and Information table will be expanded to better articulate the group's communications goals within the project description.

**Implementation Strategy:**

The group took this opportunity to discuss a variety of procedural issues including the schedule of completion for this plan and the upcoming public comment period. The group indicated they would like to have a finalized plan go to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission during their June 2007 meeting. This means the draft plan will need to be finished in March 2007 and be distributed for public review in either late March or early April.

**Tim indicated he would speak with Tom C. regarding the methods used by other groups to facilitate the public review.**

The group also discussed the \$134,000 that has been allocated for sage grouse work in this part of the state. The group decided some of money needs to be used on projects. **Before the next meeting, group members are asked to consider the types of projects that should be funded by the workgroup and be prepared to discuss this issue at the next meeting.**

**Guest Presentation:**

Cameron Aldridge and Kate Schoenecker provided the group with a presentation on the Stratton Sagebrush Ecology Research Site and the types of research that have been executed at this site. They also presented the group with a research proposal to assess various grazing treatments on vegetation and wildlife communities across managed burns and habitat controls. A copy of this proposal and a copy of their PowerPoint presentation will be retained as part of the meeting record.

**Remaining Sections:**

Tim indicated he needs information from group members so the following sections of the plan can be completed:

- Livestock Grazing
- Predation
- Education and Information

**It is VERY IMPORTANT that those responsible for these sections provide them to Tim by Dec. 1 so he can incorporate those sections into an updated version of the table which he will distribute (via email) before the December meeting.**

**Future Meetings:**

The group tentatively scheduled meetings on December 14, 2006 and January 18, 2007. Both are to be held at the BLM office in Rawlins.

At the December meeting, the group would like to:

Review the final sections of the plan which Tim will update with information provided by Dec. 1 (see above), and

Review and prioritize the types of projects the group is interested in funding with the funds appropriated by the Legislature.

Prior to the January meeting, Tim will finalize the draft plan and distribute it to the group for review. At the January meeting, the group will review the draft plan and identify necessary changes.

Meeting Adjourned at 2 p.m.