

Rich County CRM meeting 1/6/2011

Attending

Randy Wood	UDWR
*Mike Welch	QRM
*Wes Tingey	Grazer/landowner
*Ben Argyle	Grazer/landowner
Kevin Bunnell	UDWR
*Norm Weston	Rich Co. Commission
*Reed Groll	Grazer/landowner
*Lee Jones	Sportsmen Rep.
*Alan Bass	BLM
*Scott Chamberlain	SITLA
Larry Crist	USFWS
Drew Crane	USFWS
Traci Allan	BLM
Casey Cardinal	USU
*Troy Forest	UDAF-GIP
*Jamison Jewkes	NRCS
Brady Thornock	UACD
*Stu Wamsley	Grazer/landowner
*Scott Walker	UDWR
Masako Wright	UDWR
Scott McFarlane	UDWR
Rick Danvir	DLL
Darren Dubloois	UDWR
Todd Black	USU/EXT

*=voting CRM board

Meeting was called or order shortly after 6PM Commissioner Weston chaired the meeting.

The bulk of the meeting was to discuss the UDWR and USFWS proposal with DLL to release black-footed ferrets on DLL as an experimental population.

UDWR Masako Wright gave the UDWRs proposal (attached). Which gave basic ecology and biology of the ferret where they were to be released when, how many etc. and answered questions.

Drew Crane and Larry Crist USFWS discussed the experimental clause under which the ferret would be released. Shared cases where other releases have taken place and answered questions.

There was much discussion among the group mostly dealing with 'what if' scenarios. These were all addressed and answered by USFWS, UDWR, BLM, and DLL.

Discussion and presentations ended around 715PM. Many of the participants of the meeting left while the CRM board had further discussion on the issue.

Group Discussion Commissioner Weston asked for direction from CRM to the County Commission. Mike Welch made a motion that CRM would make a recommendation to the County that they should pursue the release and have open public forums/scoping meetings and discussion. This motion was seconded by Stu Wamsley and was passed by the board with Scott Walker abstaining and Reed Groll voting against the motion.

The Rich CRM voted unanimously to recommend that the Rich County Commission hold a public hearing regarding the ferret introduction. There was some discussion about risk, but there was also an attitude expressed that this seemed the right thing to do, and perhaps it could have positive benefits to the grazers and landowners of the county

- It is important to the CRM that the boundaries of the project area (DLL boundary) remain constant through time, it doesn't get bigger. (Ben Argyle suggested no boundary change for at least 100,000 years!).
- The CRM feel that the current CRM members and current agency personnel are on the same team, but expressed concern that as personnel change through time, we need to be sure the terms of this project are clearly recorded and not subject to change or reinterpretation.
- Finally, some members of the CRM would prefer the ferret project is **not** referred to as a **re**-introduction. They are OK with introduction, or project, but are uncomfortable with the "**re**" part.

As pertaining to matters of Business, several board member positions have been vacated over the past several months due to agency people taking other positions.

Alan Bass (BLM) took Mike Gates position

Jamison Jewkes (NRCS) took Thomas Hoskins position.

Scott Chamerlain (SITLA) was recognized as having a position on the Board

Lee Jones (Sportsmen) was also recognized as having a position on the Board.

The latter 2 positions were always there but to date did not have representation.

Next meeting scheduled for 7 April 2010 6:00 PM Randolph Senior Center.