

Cooperative Working Group Meeting October 11, 2017

- Introduction: Need to determine how many prairie dogs are needed, and where they are needed, in 2018
- Updates:
 - Cheryl Schwartzkopf (Campbell County Weed and Pest): 3,000 acres of cactus sprayed, getting authorization for another 1,900 acres
 - Shane Walker (USFS): Will continue monitoring plague; continuing not to dust prairie dogs
 - Authorized Converse, Campbell, and Weston counties' Weed and Pest Districts to lethally control ~ 6000 acres of prairie dog colonies
 - Spring Creek vegetation treatment planning met
 - Noxious weed spraying
- Review of the "Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Conservation Assessment and Management Strategy for the TBNG"
 - What is the group's decision space regarding the strategy?
 - Consider possibility of strategy amendment to add decision screen(?)
 - Potential disconnect: USFS is mapping for habitat; Department of Agriculture is mapping for acreage.
 - Need agreed-upon methodology to achieve common goals for planning and implementation.
 - Forest Service has committed.

Flipchart Notes:

- Collaborative learning workshop proposed 6,000-acre prairie dog management area
- USFS took maps to grazing associations who treated all acres requested, bar one.
- Options: Long term/ short term; in strategy/ not in strategy?