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:
  o Cheryl Schwartzkopf (Campbell County Weed and Pest): 3,000 acres of cactus sprayed, getting authorization for another 1,900 acres
  o 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”
  o What is the group’s decision space regarding the strategy?
    • Consider possibility of strategy amendment to add decision screen(?)
  o Potential disconnect: USFS is mapping for habitat; Department of Agriculture is mapping for acreage.
  o 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?