

Thunder Basin National Grassland
Cooperative Working Group
Meeting 1: February 27, 2017

Group 1:

- State designated pest
- Representative of land owners
- Protect historical, cultural, and socio-economic viability of citizens, landowners, and leases of represented group *
- Reduce damage to rangeland *
- Protection of private property rights
- Protection of environmental integrity of TBNG *
 - i.e.: GSG habitat, air and water quality
 - Functioning ecosystem
- Physical health and well-being of citizens *
- Balancing local/regional/national interests in social/cultural/legal/ecological/economical governing *
- Short and long term protection of land asset values *
- Keep pdog and other TES species from being listed *
- Good neighbor policy
 - Manageable levels of species
- Want to see accountability from USFS
 - Show of effort *
 - Explaining reasoning
 - Addressing long-standing issues
 - More 'why' than 'why not'
 - Progress timeline, with check points
 - Planned list of management actions
 - Transparent/public info
- Protecting environmental integrity of area
 - Intrinsic value
 - While accounting for changing demands, use, and balance *
- Adequate staffing levels
 - County level
 - USFS level
- Managing work loads
- Good stewards of tax payer \$
- Protect interests of sportsmen and oil/gas *
- No more regulations
 - i.e.: if BFF is re-introduced
- Governmental relations

Group 2:

- Economy, Ecology & Culture
- Economic impacts – too many user groups and neighbors *
- Ecological sustainability – impacts to agency resources on inability to focus on other areas *
 - Impacts to tourism – For example to hunters, because of lack of forage and fewer antelope *
- Health and safety concerns – public, private, wildlife, and live stock
 - Ex: Dust and visibility on roads
 - Ex: False alarms – wildfire that isn't there *
 - Related impacts to livelihood, culture, and communities
- Interested in being engaged in management of TB – don't want unintended consequence from (ex) ESA listing – ripple effects*
- Long term sustainability – including the ranching livelihood and culture *
- Interested in finding solutions, implementing them, and working together. Great success stories already exist with other issues.
 - Before the next plague epidemic
- **Want to see action**

Group 3:

- Managed since time of homesteading – cultural/historic value
- Constantly dealing with constituents to be better stewards
- Mandated by WY state law to manage for pdogs
- Have to deal with public frustration
- Inequity – some people being responsible and other not
 - Leads to inefficiency, lack of productivity, and wasted money
- Economics and resources are important *
- To ensure habitat quality for pdogs and obligates *
- To discontinue loss of big game species and populations *
- To reduce forage competition
- To manage appropriately so as to prevent ESA listing *
 - In no one's interest
 - Obligates listed too
 - So we can focus on other issues, for once

Group 4:

- Interested in ecosystem sustainability
- Helping county boards implement their statutory obligations
- Ranching and grazing are a big part of the state's economy (that's impacted by pdog management)
- Interested in maintaining healthy wildlife populations
- Maintaining multiple use on TBNG
- Protection of private property rights

- Aesthetics
- Water quality and stream/riparian area protection (impacts of erosion)
- Negative public perception/lack of knowledge/education
- Driving management decisions based on local input
- Minimizing potential health impacts to the public
- Land/property values
- How is public funding being spent?
- Livelihoods of private landowners
- Public perception of health of pdog populations
- In relation to other species of importance, such as BFF
 - Would like to know who pays for this
- Short-term and long-term solutions
- Recreation opportunities (specifically shooting) and advertising recreational shooting
- Wildlife viewing opportunities
- Seeing USFS get better management tools
- Avoiding pdogs and associated/dependent species from being federally listed
- Carefully thought out reintroduction (or not) with demonstrated ability of all landowners to manage these issues
- Weed control (preventing/mitigating invasion)
- Would like better information on financial needs and where implementation should occur
- Learning about most effective control methods for pdogs