

Local Work Group

Vale, Oregon

February 6, 2020

Lynn Larsen welcomed everyone and had each person introduce themselves and say who they are affiliated with. He then showed a slide show telling about the different programs that are available.

Linda Rowe reported for SWCD with a slide show about some of the projects that are being worked on now.

Gary Faw gave a slide show presentation and a handout

Kelly Weideman gave a handout

Nicole Sullivan reported for the Watershed Council

Eric Morrison spoke about medusahead

Nicole reported for Tri State RCPP. She gave updates on Red Band Trout and Sage Grouse and gave updates on projects that are being worked on at the present time.

Kathleen Cathey, (Ron Wyden U S Senator) spoke about Soil Health Malheur CEO Bill (Community Empowerment for the Owyhee's)

Derek Sieders announced that he has a no-till drill and drilled just shy of 2000 acres this past season

The Soil Health Symposium which will be held Thursday, February 13, 2020 at FRCC was announced.

Josh Thurstad with the Vale BLM gave maps and handouts. He spoke about the 2019-2020 season; 2,000 acres of prescribed burns and 12,000 acres of handcut/mechanical (mostly juniper). Did 3,000 acres of seeding; 650 acres of fire breaks to protect from fires. They have

3,000 acres of targeted grazing and 3,000 acres of chemical treatment to do. The main project is NW Malheur Project 258,000 acres since 2015. EIS Tri State (ORNVID) – fuel breaks, prescribed fires and chemical treatments

Sergio Arispe Livestock and Rangeland ECO Systems

Working with BLM and other agencies 23,000 acres;

Removed 1,500 tons of forage

Working with permittees on Three fingers allotment to manage dormant season grazing/grazing winter annuals. Also using Google Earth Pro to monitor Animal Behavior

Phase I- research stage

Conservation Measures

Julie Unfried spoke about LIT Meetings

Jay Chamberlain Thanked other agencies for working together with the Watershed Council; announced a Watershed Field Day; gave an update on the irrigation district and the Oregon Energy Trust Grant. Also reported that the reservoir storage is good 72% full

Dave Stiefvatar has developed seed for this area; pollinator plants; announced that he can be found on FB- Malheur Co. Pheasants Forever; The deer and pheasant population is down; also talked about restoring healthy Wildlife habitat

Barry Bean spoke about Grandview and how they are cleaning the water and Brownlee Dam and the aerated runners they are using to put oxygen in the water

Taylor Rombouski spoke about hemp and the possible outbreak of volunteer hemp and the need to control invasion

