

2020 Baker County Local Work Group Meeting
February 20, 2020
Baker County Library
10:00 am-noon

Misty Beals opened the meeting with welcomes and introductions. Misty presented an overview of how the local work group process works and how future projects are derived from input from the local work group meeting. Also presented was a snapshot of 2018 and 2019 EQIP projects and funding pools.

Partner updates were then presented as follows:

- Tri-County Weed: Working on weed spraying this spring with a focus on the Baker PAC area for Sage Grouse. Also partnering with BLM on weed treatment projects. Also talked about the FIP partnership.
- USFWS: SGI work is continuing with spring lek counts, CCAA work and participating in the Local Implementation Team (LIT).
- ODF: Working on Burnt River Range and Baker Watershed EQIP and working on new Fire Management Plan projects.
- ODFW: continuing work in the Keating area with the Sage Grouse Initiative. Working on fawn and calf counts this spring, as well as lek counts.
- Powder Basin Watershed Council: Working on stream monitoring in Halfway and working on the Powder River fish habitat restoration project through Baker City.
- Baker County SWCD's: submitting grants for irrigation and livestock water.
- Baker LIT: organizing and administering the Baker County FIP for sage grouse, partnering with NRCS also.

Misty Beals then moved the meeting towards the landowners and partners present and asked for resource concerns and/or project ideas for the future:

Resource Concerns brought up:

- A.** Mapping infrastructure for fire suppression- RE: water projects
- B.** Forest Health-Moth spraying in the forest
- C.** Irrigation efficiency: big picture and take in to account the negative effects of large conversion projects.
- D.** Using prescribed burning as a tool.
- E.** Roads and access in Baker County
- F.** Working on a Bull Trout FIP in the Halfway area in the future.

Potential Project listed by Participants:

1. Powder Basin Watershed Council is interested in partnering on a FIP project in Halfway/Pine Creek watershed to benefit Bull Trout and Bull Trout Habitat.
2. ODF and the Rural Fire Protection agencies would like to start a coordinated effort to map and inventory water sources that could be used for fighting wildfires. There was discussion to start meetings to coordinate the creation of a possible database.
3. Forestry work in the Sparta area was discussed. Need to coordinate with ODF and USFS on a possible Joint Chiefs Project.
4. East Eagle Irrigation was discussed briefly. It will be put on hold for 2020 due to limited EQIP funds.

Meeting ended at 11:30 am.