

## STAC MEETING – 2022 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER – 9 28 2022

DICK CHENEY FEDERAL BUILDING

ATTENDEE'S: Andi Neugebauer, Brian Jensen, Alyssa Ludeke, Katie Vaporis, Shawn Follum, Lee Erickson, Michelle Huntington, Jonathan Sloan, Dave

ONLINE: Anita Bartlett, Andi Bryce, Keela Deaton, Amanda, Cheyenne Love, Shawn Kirkwood, Catherine Hadley, Joan McGraw, Chet Fitzgerald, Jenny Szewc, James Bauchert, Rusty Schwartz, Jaime Tarver

The 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Stac meeting began at 10:00am on September 28, 2022, with Katie Vaporis.

Andi Neugebauer, Acting State Conservationist thanked everyone for coming and for those attending online. She wanted you to know you were invited back after subcommittee met. In office Introductions as well as online introductions were given.

Katie – Water Management Fund Pool

- Wanting Statewide
- Reach out
- Chime in with comments
- Funding
  - Michelle Huntington – Is this funding – water funding?
  - Andi N. – Yes. EQIP.
- County Sub Accounts – Nat 'l HQ. keep sub accounts as low as possible. Why we went to Division – to go back, need to make that decision.
  - Katie - Pros-Con's?
    - ◆ Amanda O'Keefe – If go to Division to County – how allocated?
    - ◆ Andi – We have formula - # acres, wildlife species, also mgmt related. We do allocate down – Sub level – not division.
    - ◆ Rusty – benefits advocate – keeps county keep competing.
    - ◆ Andi – potential to go back to County – to keep pools
    - ◆ Katie – point of having irrigation pivot vs by division can have like contracts like each other
    - ◆ Kelsey – Po Po Agie – go to Co. – 3 districts in County, needs different. Riverton – Crowheart has different priorities. County wide pool would help give flexibility to each.
    - ◆ Katie – Work out – how many to still be within limits. More at Div level and less on Co.
    - ◆ Dave P. – Perpetual – curve of more control – have some discussion later – thought.

Lee Erickson – High Priority practices sent out – no one wanted to change.



EQIP and EQIP CIC  
STAC Items - 9-28-20

## EQIP

- High Priority Practices
  - o Recommend keeping it the same in FY23. Costs right now will likely be more later when the practices are implemented and paid on.

315	Herbaceous Weed Treatment
332	Contour Buffer Strips
386	Field Border
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover
391	Riparian Forest Buffer
393	Filter Strip
449	Irrigation Water Management
512	Pasture and Hay Planting
550	Range Planting
590	Nutrient Management

No decision to change – still be top 10 priorities.

8 for CSP. 3

Top 10 –

- ◆ Mark – If we can put in minutes.
- ◆ Katie – We can do that, put in chat and Katie send out

Brian Jensen – Subcommittee



Sub-Committee\_STA  
C\_update\_9\_28\_22.ppt

Wy STAC – Wildlife Sub-committee – Comm. Mtg. WPD

1 – Assistance Large Carnivore issues

2. Invasive

CRP recommendations

Met Sept 7 and Sept 13 – Dave

NRCS Update from presentation

Herbicide

Non-lethal

Background – CIG Project

2015 – large carnivores SW Montana to reduce

Push for MT to do more

W/practice – (649)

Structure for Wildlife, bird nest, non-lethal mgmt

Current NRCS policy – not provide financial assistance

Issues – What is – animals terrestrial Habitat (from presentation)

Challenges – subcommittee talk about

Policy/lack of RC – USDA Wildlife Services, APHIS, USFWS, WGFD, etc. weasels, skunks, poultry

Where do we take \$ from to fund this? Do we cause harm w/other species?

Herbicide Treatment (imitates) – Don't pursue – Div. memos for that – if want

Focus on other resources.

2019 – signed by Gov Gordon – in EO – highlight imp part. (Highlight area)

Passed 2019 – now 2022

First time become issue in Wyo.

Situation recommended – active in spring

Work w/ Wy Game and Fish – practice on ground – similar – this gov. ex order –

Appendix 6 Authorized.

NRCS – Producer Impacts – we will work, case by case issue.

CRP Grassland Priority Areas

Priority – (Presentation)

No more 25% cares

--

State Grassland Priority Zone – CRP safe.

State acres for Wildlife enhancement

--

Mark Hogan – Thanks for presenting. Prioritize by County – Fremont Acres for grassland, 1/3 mtn and NE – carve out black hills – grassland – Annie's court

Brian – on-going beef, FSA wants to do county. List out of committees, and if want to be on.

FSA's call.

Dave – If poss. for FSA County in NE – happy to provide file – not be focused co boundaries.

Brian – Think we can prioritize

Andrea Bryce – not sure can add additional layer – for priority Zone – haven't heard back – does not know

Andi N – Thanks Brian.

Katie – Andi will email after meeting – Andi need to update



STAC  
Actions\_FY22.docx

Katie – High Priority Practices – see attachment

If you want others – let us know. Can also be program neutral, set priorities for the state.

Tim Grosch filled role Easement Coordinator

Monte Busch from Greybull – RCPP/CSP Program Manager

Lee Erickson – EQIP/AMA Program Manager

Katie – 8 State Priority Resource concern categories FY-2023

If discussion – concentrated Erosion, degraded, full list stay with these. If you want others let us know.

Andi – CSP

Katie – For CSP – 8. Can also be program neutral. Set priorities for the state.

Andi – CSP Applicator – evaluate resource concerns,

Katie – Anyone have issues – none in room. Raise hand. Safe to say STAC approved. We do have Equip EQIP CIC

Andi – What's CIC

Equip CIC – Not many applications in FY22. Priority, Resource, concern category

Katie – CIC stands for "Conservation Incentive Contract". Want to see more?

Question – Any PC feedback in chat? Any missing not working?

Katie – Any DC want to chime in? Want to see change?

Andrew Cassiday – works appropriately well, concerns. Address needs. CSP challenge being Nat'l. program. No need to adjust anything.

Katie – 3 categories – from resource. EQIP CIC, categories, soil quarterly limitations, source water depletion. Chosen from? Had to just pick 3, this we thought fit all counties.

DC – tell us if ?'s, thought on EQIP CIC. Bridge between EQIP– CSP.

Katie – No more questions? CIC – feel free to email Katie, [Katelyn.vaporis@usda.gov](mailto:Katelyn.vaporis@usda.gov)

Can get subcommittee together.

Still ahead:

Andi recap – talk about why here

Water Mgmt fund pool at last Stac meeting to reduce money, impact one way or another.

Same with sub accounts. Consider look in FY2024 – see what works for most – best decision. Appreciate Brian Jensen – large predator acct. Brian can – herbicide – sagebrush habitat. If run into issues – NRCS can help workaround – CRP designations – working w FS recommendations. Send email with attachments.

Break –

Katie – Stac Actions – Follow up (see attached)

Andi – Hopefully Geologist woes resolved soon.

Michelle Huntington – Miss Mark – most hers – pmt schedule on pipe, beat drum, they don't purchase by #. Appreciate it.

Andi – Make logical.

Mark- support as well, great in NE. Producer ap 3" water line if pipe size limitation – way to expand?

Andi- Dig into it with Shawna – who did design, didn't consider if 2" pipe works, and want to go to 3"

Mark- producers go to larger -fill tanks of

Andi – Shawn said leak was future expansion or how long to fill tank.

Mark/Andi – Comments?

Andi – Pile / no burning. Burning issue. Do have tools – need to clarify a few items – can pile not burn- from Forest plan – consolidated burn – talking to State Forestry – have them help burn plan. "Pile & burn" we to provide burn plan. Write burn plans for us.

Jonathan – Shorten, ordinance – back for review, weather conditions. Progress get signature.

Andi – Part of – can we pay for pile/burn? Talk partner with Forestry.

Last call for something we missed?

Dave – appreciate putting this out. Helpful in tracking, format helpful. Thank you.

Andi – Group action!

Comments – 0

Katie – presentation. GARC Geographic Area Rate Cap to go along with wetland easements. Have not had any come. WRE Tim has more experience to help.

2014- have not had to go forward.

Proposal (presentation) – appraisal only state. WY unique opportunity for land owners 85% of fair market value,

Katie – but not exceed 5,000.

2014- STAC agreed on – Welcome to get STAC feedback. Waiting to hear back from Idaho. Otherwise, all agreed. Examples from FY21 – further restrictions (presentation) WRE's 30 – from Katie, 30-year easement with right.

SD – did area wide market analysis rather than end (presentation)

Katie - ?'s/concerns

Michelle Huntington – Repeat Easement – Tim Grosch

Katie – Further discussion?

Justin – Dept Cardill – use RCPP for program district being excluded

Katie – Not to our knowledge

Andi – confusion water mgmt entity

Justin – That will help.

Andi – Tentative date Jan 25. 10-3:00

Maybe still no State Conservationist

In closing, thank you. Appreciate feed back to make things better for DC's and producers.

12:02 conclude.

Michael – Omail?

Emails for committees and new