

Baker City Local Work Group Meeting
3/5/2025
Meeting Notes/Action Items

Introductions and Partners

Will Price

- Looking at partnering with BLM to do off season grazing for fuel reduction.

Whitney Rhoner

- 2 priority areas they are focused on. The Upper Burnt River and Lower Powder River.
- Applied for DNA E.coli testing and will hopefully start this summer.
- TMDL has a community meeting May 5th.

Emi

- Could be receiving more money for fires.
- Working with ODFW and a weed organization to get additional funding to help treat wildlife corridors that were burnt.
- They have additional funding to help get projects funded when money is the deciding factor if projects are funded or not.
- They are trained to use pepper balls for non-lethal control of wolves. They are also able to loan out the equipment to certified individuals.

Questions

Curtis Martin

- What is the acreage limitation to be considered a small farm? Bryce responded and adequately answered the question.

Customer Service/Outreach

Mark Bennett

- There is still a need to help producers that were affected by the wildfires, including those that relied on public lands for grazing. We need to make sure that the private lands get the support they need to be able to handle additional pressure from people that can't turn out on their allotments. – Bryce emphasized that we are continuing fire support in 2025 and that we have helped everybody that has come to us but that we need the producers to spread the word if they know of somebody that would benefit.

Curtis Martin and Mark Bennet

- Curtis and Mark expressed support for our programs and what we are trying to accomplish. They told us to let them know if there was anything they could do to get the message out that we are helping the local producers.

Will Price

- Would like to have a consistent message to have for virtual fencing. He has experienced conflicting accounts of how the program works. Bryce told him that we have the info we could send him.

Action Items

- Send Will and Cori the information on virtual fences.