The second meeting of the Area 66 Mule Deer Working Group was held on August 18th, 2014 at the WGFD Casper Regional Office. Justin Binfet began the meeting with a review of meeting minutes from the last meeting; no additions or changes were made by the team.

Justin Binfet then played a brief video for the group that outlined the North American Model of wildlife management. There were no questions or comments from the team.

An exercise was then conducted to solicit the advantages and disadvantages of general license versus limited quota season structures for mule deer. Each team member was asked to contribute three “pros” and three “cons” for general license and limited quota seasons. All comments were collected on post-it notes and tallied. A summary is attached, which illustrates common themes and perceptions of the advantages and disadvantages of the different season structures.

The remainder of the meeting focused on a discussion of the Facebook discussion group, to be used to solicit comments and opinions from the hunting public regarding Area 66 mule deer. The idea of posting Area 66 questions in a hunting discussion group already set up by Jeff Muratore and Paul Threlkeld was considered by the group. Ultimately, the group decided that it was best to initiate a separate discussion group specific to Area 66 issues and administered by the team. Paul Threlkeld, Randy Morrison, and Jeff Muratore agreed to set up the discussion group but will wait to make it “live” so that its purpose, structure and format can be agreed upon and approved by the team. In the mean time, members were asked to come up with at least one question to pose to the public for comment and discussion on the board. All questions are due via email to Heather O’Brien by Friday August 22nd.

Jeff Muratore mentioned that our group is “putting the cart before the horse” since the group has not yet constructed a mission statement. This should be a main item of discussion for our next meeting.

It was agreed that the group will need to meet again before rifle seasons in the Casper area begin to open in mid-September. Justin Binfet will put out a doodle poll to all members to figure out a
meeting date, likely to be during the first week of September. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.