

**Minutes – Meeting 6**  
**Lander/Green Mountain Mule Deer Working Group**  
**January 26, 2015**  
**6:15 PM – 8:45 PM**  
**Lander, WY**

**Members In Attendance:** Jared Oakleaf, Katie Erickson, Rowdy Anderson, Stan Harter, Harold Schultz, Marla Lemm, Brad Hovinga, Joe Hutto, David Killebrew

**Absent:** Ember Oakley, Travis Stevenson, Ken Metzler

**Public attendance:** Bruce Campbell, Colby Erickson, Steve Agueda, Ron Smith, Sue Oberlie, John Coffman, Walt Olson, Joey Faigl

**Game and Fish personnel:** Richard Klouda, Brady Frude, Daryl Lutz, Brad Gibb, Linnea Sailor, Teal Joseph, Amy Anderson, Jessica Beecham

**Facilitator:** Rene Schell

6:15 Welcome-minutes and agenda approval.

Minutes and Agenda approved. Rowdy asked about where we sit with the addition of Ron Smith as a member. It was discovered that since he would be representing Wyoming Wildlife Federation and we already have a representative from there, that would not be a good fit.

6:20 Review of December Meeting – *Rowdy Anderson/Harold Schultz*

Public at the meetings thought removing antler point restrictions was a good idea, increasing the white tail season is good idea, they support the youth hunting recommendations. All in all, there was support for the working group and their recommendations. People appreciated diversity of the working group.

6:30 Launch into work on long term recommendations – *led by Rene Schell*

- The group prioritized long term recommendations (Harold with group assist)
  - **Consensus on order of recommendations = all 5's**
    1. **Research**
      - a. Harter mentioned as long as habitat research is included.
      - b. Hovinga mentioned it's imperative to know what deer are doing (research) to know where to focus habitat efforts.
    2. **Intensive Mgmt**
      - a. Harter says habitat likely more important, but season structure is more of an immediate need
    3. **Hunting Season Structure**
      - a. Oakleaf mentioned limited quota has many options, he is interested in exploring resident regions

#### 4. Habitat

- a. Killebrew requests ~30 min next public meeting in March to educate public why the group doing what we're doing.
- b. If direction is becoming clear by then it may be a good time for game and fish to let the public know the direction the group may be headed. In addition, we have many publications ready to handout on education.

Working Group: Please visit <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/web2011/wildlife-1000398.aspx> for the fact sheets that can be handed out.

#### 5. Education

#### 6. ATVs

7. Predator management Oakleaf says don't consider them ISIS, but actively manage

#### 8. Game and Fish presence

- The group looked at the approved timeline/roadmap, and was reminded that they can extend some if needed. What are some ways the group proposes to work on these recommendations with a limited timeframe?
  - Anderson – break into subgroups that meet separately each month and reconvene at monthly meeting
  - Schultz – We don't have to make recommendations on all categories. Would rather make three or four very good recommendations's rather than slog through all eight.
  - Killebrew – can we combine some of these ie, ATVs + Int Mgmt
  - Killebrew- we need to just get started, pick top two, see how it goes, and then see if we need to adjust
  - Lemm – Would prefer more meetings in spring & summer (“slow time”) so not bogged down in fall
  - Oakleaf – need more scope/scale with these topics so we can better identify what the time requirements may be
- Order of Operations (dealing with the recommendations as a group in the order prioritized): **CONSENSUS = seven 5's, one 4, one 3**
  - Hutto – go down priority list
  - Schultz – go in order and adjust as we go along
  - Anderson – come prepared if we know what topic we are going to handle, with some recommendation's thought of and ready to discuss
  - Lemm – pick two topics per mtg. Maybe one “easy” & one “hard” so if the group gets bogged down in one they can break and discuss the other
  - Anderson – decide at end of each meeting categories to tackle at the next meeting, so they can prepare
- Group decided these are the “hard” and “easy topics:

- “HARD” – intensive mgmt, ATVs, hunt season structure, predator management, habitat
- “EASY” – education, research, Game and Fish presence
- The group was asked to begin to look at their priority #1, research, and begin to throw out possible recommendations.
  - Hutto: Game and Fish to better understand migratory behaviors (corridors & stopovers if available) and how they apply to the MD in these areas; understanding transitional areas – where they are and how deer use them, and under what circumstances they use them (forage, weather, capacity)
  - MD from these areas be collared to study migration routes; study mortality factors (also via collars)
  - Oakleaf: Link collar study to a management response that is comprehensive (would cover several factors ie season structure, habitat, ATV use, road closures)
  - Harter: vegetation analyses – better mgmt of habitat if we know habitat quality in each range

7:30 Break

7:45 Presentation from Muley Fanatic Foundation of Wyoming – *Josh Coursey*

8:20 Public Comments

Ron Smith: spoke on cooperative habitat projects for the working group and his bighorn sheep/Sinks Canyon reintroduction proposal. He will present at the next meeting.  
Walt: need to think about *managing* research projects...the how-to's; Muley Fanatic program is how we should manage our research based goals

8:30 Wrap Up

- Next meeting date doodle poll it; RMEF has most/all Mon's in Feb, so we will aim for a Thursday date.
- Topics for next meeting agenda
  - Oakleaf: What is status/results of public survey? Daryl and Rene will investigate and email group tomorrow
  - Easy = Research; Hard = Intensive Management. Working Group COME WITH RECOMMENDATIONS IN HAND on these two topics.
  - Habitat – Ron Smith 10-15 min
- Feedback
  - Meet regularly so there's no cobwebs between meetings
  - Utilize old space (Game and Fish Office) so we can meet for entire 3 hours.

8:45 Adjourn