

CHARLES M. RUSSELL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP MEETING

10:00 am – 3:00 pm, October 1st

VFW Hall

Jordan, Montana

Meeting Theme: Discovering and Sharing Your Working Lands Story

Join us for an interactive and collaborative workshop that will help us as a group as well as you as an individual. We will explore some nuts-and-bolts strategies for communicating effectively across broad audiences; learn to frame our stories for maximum impact; and practice how to add critical elements that make our stories stick. As a group, we will develop strategies for sharing the successes of the CMR CWG across multiple platforms, and we will explore new avenues for gaining publicity and partnerships. You will also walk away with new skills and ways of thinking that can apply to all the work you do.

Workshop leader: Suzi Taylor has been an outreach and communications professional at MSU-Bozeman for more than 20 years. Her positions have included communications leader for Extension, Agricultural Experiment Station and College of Agriculture; outreach director for MSU's Office of Continuing Education; and director of the Science Math Resource Center, which offers professional development for teachers and STEM outreach programs for youth. Taylor served for several years on MSU's Outreach & Engagement Council, and was the recipient of MSU's 2016 Excellence in Outreach award. She has developed and taught dozens of communications-related courses and workshops for students, faculty, MSU partners and lifelong learners.

10:00 Welcome and Grounding Question– Bill Milton

10:30 CMR CWG Committee and partner reports

- Charles M. Russel National Wildlife Refuge
- RSA Conservation Committee
- Rangeland Monitoring Group
- Others (Please contact PetroleumBswcTwo@macdnet.org to be added)

11:00 Storytelling Worksop Hosted by Suzi Taylor

12:00 Working Lunch, please bring \$12

2:45 Workshop Wrap-up

3:00 Adjourn

The “meeting after the meeting” will be held at the Hell Creek Bar. Please join us for no-host refreshments and some social time.

CMR NWR Community Working Group:

MISSION:

A partnership of diverse interests working to ensure the vitality of both the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and the surrounding communities.

PURPOSE:

To convene a balanced group of stakeholders to discuss natural resource management of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, recognize conflicts among user groups and agencies, identify and work collaboratively toward solutions, and provide a discussion forum for increased understanding, cooperation, and partnership among user groups, agencies and other interested parties.

CMR NWR Community Working Group Three-part Goal for the Landscape

Describe the quality of life you would like to see be predominant in the region in 5 to 10 years.

"We want this region to maintain a diversified economy within which a prosperous agriculture industry is sustained and local communities are prosperous with stable populations. We desire an atmosphere where agencies, local government, NGOs, and citizens work together to create positive outcomes for the community and citizens: focusing on common ground, mutual respect, and community-based decision making, where people are committed to the working group and access to public land is ensured for both the public and producers."

What kind of production will be needed to sustain this quality of life?

"A diversity of unique goods and services to support economic and social values will need to be produced from a working landscape that maintains its scenic value, healthy soils, and ecological integrity. We must also identify and implement best management practices that integrate local ecological knowledge, succession planning in all entities, local working groups to address challenges, incentives to practice conservation, steady tax base to support infrastructure and responsible, well-educated citizens."

What does the landscape need to look like to obtain your production?

"We desire a landscape that provides habitat for diverse and healthy wildlife populations, where further conversion of native prairie is discouraged, and where the needs of natural resource dependent industries are balanced with conservation. In short, healthy agriculture lands cooperatively managed for the benefit of the resource, wildlife, industry, and community."

CMR NWR Community Working Group Website:

<http://www.cmrcwg.org>