

Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge
Community Working Group Meeting

10:00 am – 3:00 pm, March 19, 2020
Ft. Peck Interpretive Center
Ft. Peck, Montana

Meeting Theme: Wildlife and wildlife diseases

- 10:00 Welcome and Grounding Question– Bill Milton, Facilitator
- 10:10 Self-Introductions – All Participants
- 10:40 Chronic Wasting Disease, followed by Q&A, - Scott Thompson, MT FWP
- 11:30 Sage Grouse & West Nile Virus- Mike Borgreen, BLM
- 12:00 Lunch Break – Provided by Soma Dis Deli, please plan on \$12 for lunch
- 12:45 Elk/Deer Management Coordinator, MT Elk Management Plan- Lindsey Parsons, MT FWP
- 1:30 MDT Right of Way Fences and wild animal passage- Larry Sickerson, MDT
- 2:00 Noreen Walsh, Mountain-Prairie FWS Region Director, Lisa Talcott Refuge Supervisor Introduction & Q&A
- 2:30 Partner updates, *if time allows*
- 3:00 Adjourn

The “meeting after the meeting”, no-host refreshments and social time will be at the Gateway Club.

Please Save the 2020 CMR Community Working Group Dates:

- May 21, 2020 - Circle
- July 16, 2020 – Flatwillow Hall
- September 17, 2020 - Jordan
- November 19, 2020 - Malta

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>