

Project No. and Title: WDC54: Social and Economic Sustainability of Rangeland-based Operations and the Communities that Rely on Them
Period Covered: 10/01/2020-09/30/2021
Date of Report: 9/17/2021
Meeting Dates 09/10/2021

Participants:

John Ritten, University of Wyoming
Greg Torell, New Mexico State University
JD Wulfhorst, University of Idaho

Brief Summary of Minutes:

Discussed how best to proceed for full proposal development.

We agreed the following objectives will form the basis of full proposal development.

1. Increase knowledge about impacts of and responses to potential external threats to ranching operations in the western U.S.
2. Better understand the linkages between ranch and rural community sustainability.
3. Increasing communication and cooperation among land grant universities and research partners (government agencies, landowners, NGOs, etc.) in the West.
4. Conduct collaborative research to strengthen our understanding about how current and anticipated future stressors impact working ranches and the rural communities they are a part of.

Proposed participants beyond regional land grant university personnel include the PNW, NP, and SW climate hubs.

Our plan is to have a facilitated meeting in Las Cruces sometime between 2/14-3/18 to develop full proposal (this will be the FY22 annual meeting).

We will send a Doodle to group to confirm dates by 11/15 to set official dates of next annual meeting.

The purpose of this meeting was to determine the interest in developing a new multistate research (W) proposal. Attendees agreed to develop such a proposal and have tentatively titled it "**Social and Economic Sustainability of Rangeland-based Operations and the Communities that Rely on Them.**" The group proposes to meet sometime between 2/14/2021-3/18/2021 in Las Cruces, NM to finalize the proposal. The new proposal will be submitted to the Western directors upon completion.

Impacts:

None to date, development committee

Publications:

None to date, development committee