

Food and Farm Coalition Meeting 1/26

Attendees: Abby Grundler, Tammy Sachse, Hannah Dosen, Allison Michalski, Sue Heffron, Renee Seidler, Allegra Sundstrom, Laura Meadows, Chelsea Carson, Emily Gaynor, Blakeley Adkins, Bryce Andrews, Robb Sgroi, Jennifer Werlin, Elaine Moehring, Kristin Combs

Meeting Agenda shared via chat

MEETING AGENDA: Teton Food and Farm Coalition Meeting Wednesday, January 26, 2022 12-1 pm

Zoom meeting facilitated by UI Extension Office, Driggs, ID

1. 12:00 pm – Welcome & Introductions; Review minutes (Jen W.) a. Teton regional meat processing survey: https://uidaho.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bCIPKHC8YndMbPw Survey is open until March 4, 2022.
2. 12:10 pm — Introduction of Kristin and WWA and Bryce and People and Carnivores (Kristin)
3. 12:15 pm — LDR Update - draft language and effective dates - what is expected from landowners (Kristin)
4. 12:25 pm – Bryce presentation on his experience and background working with bear conflicts and apiaries, chickens, and other attractants (Bryce)
4. 12:35 pm – Q&A (Bryce and Kristin)
5. 12:55 pm – Wrap Up and Teton Farm and Food Coalition announcements (Jennifer)
6. Adjourn at 1:00 pm

Notes from past meeting available here:

<https://www.tetonfoodfarmcoalition.org/resources.html>

Introductions from attendees and presenters.

Goal: Discuss ways to reduce agriculture and wildlife conflicts.

Krisitn Combs, WWA Director

Different communities, similar and different issues in Wyoming and Idaho areas of Tetons.

Focus on carnivores.

Increased development means decreased wildlife habitat.

Sharing local/historical knowledge with new residents amongst community

399 and cubs in town (Wilson)

Land use changes Teton County, WY: New County resolutions for protection of wildlife attractants (fruit trees, chicken coops, etc.). Goal of human safety to reduce carnivores entering town. Updates to have wildlife not reliant on urban food sources. Storage of attractants away from wildlife; electric fencing, locked storage, etc.

Bryce Andrews, Field director for People and Carnivores

Experience with large carnivore coexistence through ranching and farming.

Ordinance is proactive. Changes outcomes significantly. Props to Teton Counties for addressing this issue now, before it changes wildlife behavior.

Presentation “Best Practices for Electric Fences with Bears” (will be made available)

Fence layout. Maintaining voltage. Ground fence, low wires to discourage digging. Good energizer, capable of delivering shot the would turn a bear away. Designing worksheet included. Pricing breakdown, wire is cheap, brackets are expensive.

Poultry has need for electric fencing in grizzly habitat. Issues with large acreage. Forecasting predator activity. Specific risks and needs with carnivore presence addressed for every operation.

Livestock carcass disposal. Not attracting carnivores.

Multipurpose fencing. Ungulates and orchards can also protect against carnivores which may not be a concern for landowner though still prevents predators entering human areas.

Electric mats for protecting specific areas.

Q and A

Protection for compost; similar design to carcass disposal sites. 5 wire fences on perimeter.

Cost of materials, cheaper when buying more supplies.

Fence can be installed on own or by contractors. Workshop on installation.

Incidents of bears jumping fences with snowfall. Timing of practices to reduce wildlife conflicts.

February 23rd, 2022 next meeting. No topic assigned.