



Middle Kansas WRAPS Meeting Summary Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Topeka, KS

Rick Davis, Middle Kansas WRAPS Coordinator, welcomed everyone. Attendees introduced themselves and the organization they are affiliated with. Meeting attendees included, Doug Helmke, Sherry Davis, Will Boyer, Bob Leinemann, Roberta Spencer, John Bond, Than Rhodes, Shelly Buhler, Trevor Flynn, Judy Boltman, Marilyn Johnson, Vivien Smith, and Kay Schram.

Business Meeting Topics

- Kyle Winders, Graduate Research Assistant, Division of Biology, Kansas State University presented his work on the Soldier Creek Assessment. Kyle created a model that changed land use and land cover under different management scenarios.
- John Bond, KAWS, gave a presentation on the Upland Bird Initiative, which was organized in 2008. The goals of the organization include, promotion of continuous CRP for expiring contracts, develop and distribute marketing information and educational materials to promote upland game and economics, develop more habitat improvement teams and capabilities in NE Kansas, improve brood habitat- establish more weeds, etc., establish incentives to encourage land management practices beneficial to upland birds, and obtain additional funds to support initiatives.
- Rick Davis provided an update on the Middle Kansas WRAPS 9 Element Plan, which was submitted to KDHE in December, 2009. Revisions from KDHE were noted and discussed. Rick will continue to coordinate with KDHE in revising the plan.
- Due to a project cancellation, \$4,000 of MK WRAPS funding was allocated to the Fred Provenza Workshop which is tentatively scheduled for September 25, 2010. Mr. Provenza is internationally renowned for his work in grassland management.
- Sherry Davis gave an overview of current activities in the Rock Creek Focus Group. Sherry has completed a newsletter that will be sent to rural residents in the Rock Creek watershed. The newsletter will discuss the Rock Creek watershed and promote upcoming livestock producer workshops.

- Doug Helmke, Kansas Rural Water Association, provided an update of the Source Water Protection Workshop, which was March 10 in Manhattan. The Middle Kansas WRAPS drafted a letter of support for source water protection in the Middle Kansas and forwarded it to the Kansas Rural Water Association.
- Due to additional job responsibilities with the Pottawatomie County Health Department, Scott Schwinn will no longer be able to participate in the Middle Kansas WRAPS. Doug was a member of the MK Stakeholder Leadership Team and we sincerely appreciate the time and energy he invested in establishing the Middle Kansas Wraps since its inception. Gary Larson, Shawnee County Health Sanitarian, has agreed to fill Scott's position.
- Trevor Flynn, KDHE – TMDL and Planning Section, provided an update regarding the 2010 303(d) listing for the Kansas – Lower Republican Basin, which includes the Middle Kansas. The new listing is available on KDHE's website.
- Two upcoming livestock producer workshops were announced at the meeting. The first workshop "**Improving Livestock Production**" will be held at the Cigna Center in Frankfort, Kansas, April 13, 2010. Registration starts at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. A catered meal is available for \$5.00 per person and payable at the door. Please RSVP to Mary Howell 785-292-4955 Home or 785-562-8726 Cell; by Monday April 12 to be included in the count, or e-mail marshallcofair@networksplus.net.

**Organizational Meeting of Northeast Kansas Four Season Graziers
Thursday, April 22, 2010**

Windmill Inn, 603 N. 4th Street, Seneca, Kansas

RSVP to Mary Howell for meal reservations

This meeting is to "re-kindle" the Four Season Grazing Group that previously offered livestock producers valuable information on grass management, alternative forages, grazing practices, ranch economics, water development and resource protection. The meeting kicks off at 6:30 p.m. with supper (please RSVP to reserve your meal) and will offer opportunities for participants to share stories, personal successes and challenges, and raise questions among their peers for information exchange. Watch for an additional news release in the area newspapers.

For more information, please call Mary Howell 785-292-4955 home, or 785-562-8726 cell; or contact your local extension office.

- Marilyn Johnson and Kay Schram from the **Topeka Round Up Club** were present at the March 16 MK WRAPS meeting. The Club has been working with Will Boyer, Amanda Reed, and Judy Boltman to secure a Clean Water Neighbor Grant with additional funding from the Shawnee County Conservation District. The Club owns 260 acres in the headwaters of Shunganunga Creek and would like to implement riparian area and upland BMPs. We look forward to working with the Topeka Round Up Club!

Next Middle Kansas WRAPS Meeting

The next **Middle Kansas WRAPS Meeting** is scheduled for **Thursday, May 13, 2010** at the **Topeka Roundup Club, located at 7842 SW 37th**. Weather permitting, a tour of the property is planned.

Notes submitted by Rick Davis, April 5, 2010.