**3/21/24 Grazing Monitoring Team Meeting - Possible Ways  to Help Move the FS Towards Better Grazing Management**

1- Are there areas we know well that should have physical changes that will stop cattle trespass from being a chronic problem?

a) Bird Area fences – need to get out there and walk the fence line the FS calls Pancho Canyon – can this n/s fence be moved to the east out of the floodplain so it doesn’t get wiped out in big floods?

- fence across the river at Pancho Canyon and fence across Ira Canyon – recommend these be replaced with pipe and cable fences that are more resilient to floods?

- find someone who has a drone that can help us monitor, ask UGWA and GRIP? Charmeine will ask by email.

- after we walk it ourselves, invite Naomi to walk it with us and talk about our recommendations.

- find out what the FS constraints are – monetary, time, clarity about whose responsibility it is to fix fence that is compromised. Explore ways to fund the repairs.

b) Vigil Springs configuration – north fence needs to be replaced by pipe like the rest of the fence. Need clarity on whose responsibility it is to keep the north fence fixed.

- Nancy will ask Kendall by email

c) Stone Creek – ask Quemado District ranger Randall when and if there can be cows in there.

- Nancy will ask by email.

2- Are there changes we can recommend to the FS to fix fences/gates more swiftly in remote places?

- Amigos Bravos fence riders – Marty heard the talk by Amigos Bravos at the symposium about fence riders and funding fence repairs. She will ask if they can work with us.

3- Is there anything we should be doing differently when the CBD lawsuit expires?

The CBD lawsuit settlement expires in August, 2024, as per Todd Schulke – will need to find out what that means, although Todd said that Camille is committed to continuing to follow the spirit of the lawsuit/settlement.

- we can ask Stacia to copy us on the quarterly reports she does to CBD about monitoring reports.

a) consult CBD – Marty will ask Todd if the training ever took place to train FS personnel about the proper use of stubble height in monitoring range condition.

b) consider places not in the lawsuit that are known problem areas

- Cindy Tuell had asked Marcia and I about helping with monitoring a couple of areas in uplands, Dry Creek allotment being one of them.

- we will ask other organizations about their priority areas, upland and riparian, to see if we can partner.

- Several of us will send this coordination email to other orgs

Marcia – Western Watershed

Marty – Wild Earth Guardians

Charmeine – GRIP and UGWA, NM Wild

Denise - Gila National Forest – all 6 Ranger Districts

Marty- CBD

4- How can we support HR 6314, the Voluntary Grazing Permit Retirement Act?

- Coordinate with GRIP, CBD, others on recommended allotments – covered above

- Advocate publicly! - - this should be a steering committee lead, not the grazing team

- already have a date to present to the UU, can use this presentation elsewhere, possibly at WILL’s lunch and learn program, Native Plant Society, hiking groups.

- could include in current brochure or make a specific brochure

- definitely have a Fact Sheet at the Earth Day and Centennial tables

6- Details for Friday’s field trip – went over maps and ride sharing