**Colorado Southwest District**

**BLM Resource Advisory Council – 12/12/19**

**Dumping**

Field trip the previous day provided evidence that dumping is getting worse.

BLM spends about $100,000/yr on garbage removal on the Western Slope

BLM’s Approach

* Education – schools, recyclers
* Marketing – bounty, reward, tip line Should the partners set up a shared tip system with 1 phone number posted everywhere?
* Partnerships
* Enforcement – too large of an area with too few personnel to catch in the act. Can track down and levy fines if personal info is dumped.
* Working with landfills

Picking up garage takes up most of volunteer time. When groups adopt a designated area, they find it’s not getting better. Each year they pick up as much as the year before. 10 groups picked up garage on BLM land near Grand Junction this year.

Good Examples:

* Montezuma County had a free tire drop off week. Brought in grinder to recycle on the spot then used chipped rubber for playgrounds, etc.
* Garfield County has a good hazardous waste program.

Ideas:

Suggestion to place roll off dumpsters at popular dumping areas was rebuked since it would send a message that it’s OK to take your garbage to BLM land.

Western Slope does not produce enough garbage to make recycling and hauling efforts economically feasible. Mattress example.

Recycle Colorado Western Slope Working Group – quarterly meetings, plan to submit applications for funding.

Large trash companies need to be involved.

The international recycling market has changed. China paying a lot less, taking less.

Marketing slogan should be used by all partners.

Fines for dumping should be used for remediation, not put into general fund.

Backcountry horse group recycling twine trying to get a land fill to store it.

Think outside the box – Ashes to Art example.