

Utah Wolf Working Group Charter
(04/19/04)

1) Purpose:

- a. The purpose of the Utah Wolf Working Group (WWG) is to assist the Division of Wildlife Resources in developing a Wolf Management Plan for the State of Utah. This plan will incorporate House Resolution 12, the Utah Wildlife Code, and pertinent federal regulations.

2) Authority:

- a. The Utah State Legislature and the Utah Wildlife Board have the authority under state law to direct the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) to complete a wolf management plan. UDWR has the technical capability to complete this plan.
- b. However, the Board and UDWR have chosen to convene a working group to develop this plan, in order to insure that the various stakeholder interests are adequately represented. The members of the working group were selected to represent various interests related to wolves in Utah.
- c. The authority of the WWG is limited to that of producing a draft wolf management plan by the date specified. The WWG is fundamental to the development of that plan, but the content of the plan may be altered by UDWR, the Wildlife Board, or the Utah State Legislature, prior to its approval and implementation.

3) Expectations:

- a. The WWG will produce a draft wolf management plan, ready for presentation to the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) by May 1, 2005. Following review and comment by the RACs, the WWG will submit a revised draft to the Wildlife Board in July 2005.
- b. The plan will include biological and social assessments, including a summary of public scoping meetings, issues, goals, objectives and strategies, as appropriate.
- c. The plan will include only one proposed management alternative, except that multiple damage management alternatives will be provided to accommodate USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services involvement in managing wolf depredations on livestock and domestic animals, including pets.
- d. The WWG will hold public scoping meetings in as many locations as necessary, up to 10 locations.

4) Time Frame:

- a. The WWG will not continue past the completion and presentation of the draft plan to the Wildlife Board in July 2005.
- b. Specific timing of WWG activities in drafting the plan include:
 - i. March 2005: Final draft approved by WWG, posted on website
 - ii. April 2005: WWG reviews public comment on draft, makes revisions
 - iii. May 2005: Plan submitted to RACs for review and comment
 - iv. June 2005: WWG considers RAC comments, drafts final plan

- v. July 2005: Final plan to Wildlife Board for review and approval

5) Roles and Responsibilities:

- a. Members of the WWG are expected to:
 - i. Read and learn information quickly and accurately.
 - ii. Attend meetings regularly. Each member may designate one alternate, who may attend meetings and represent the member.
 - iii. Articulate interests, concerns and perspectives on issues.
 - iv. Maintain an open mind regarding other views.
 - v. Work as a team member to address the responsibilities of the WWG.
 - vi. Participate collaboratively in group decision-making.
 - vii. Constructively manage conflict between group members.
 - viii. Communicate on a regular basis with interests the individual was selected to represent.
 - ix. Support group decisions.
 - x. Commit to participating until May 1, 2005.

- b. UDWR has contracted with Dynamic Solutions Group, LLC (DSG) as facilitators and process coaches to assist the WWG in developing this draft plan. DSG is expected to help the WWG achieve the state outcomes by:
 - i. Serving the WWG as an impartial “process” specialist, ensuring that meetings are conducted as efficiently and effectively as possible.
 - ii. Assessing the WWG’s progress in meeting agenda items set for each meeting and managing the group’s time accordingly.
 - iii. Working with WWG and UDWR to develop an agenda for each meeting, keeping a record during the meeting, and ensuring that flip chart records are distributed to WWG members in a timely fashion.
 - iv. Establishing a clear context and structured framework for deliberations.
 - v. Ensuring the participation of all WWG members by creating an environment where all parties are comfortable.
 - vi. Developing and maintaining trust and respect within the group so that all individuals can express their opinion.
 - vii. Helping identify participant interests (rather than positions) and encourage collaboration and creative thinking.
 - viii. Evoking and encouraging the creativity of the group.
 - ix. Asking appropriate questions as necessary to stimulate understanding and consensus among group participants.

- c. UDWR is expected:
 - i. To provide media resources to the WWG, including but not limited to:
 - 1. Website
 - 2. News releases
 - 3. Video
 - 4. Magazine articles
 - ii. To provide advice and counsel to the WWG.
 - iii. To notify the WWG of changing circumstances, new information, etc.

- iv. To provide clear direction to the WWG, regarding the roles, responsibilities, etc. as noted in the charter.
 - d. The technical resource persons designated to serve the WWG will provide information to the group upon request.
 - i. These resource persons should plan to attend all WWG meetings, but will not take part in WWG discussions unless asked by the group.
 - e. The general public is encouraged to assist the WWG. Several mechanisms will be used to encourage and allow public participation.
 - i. All WWG meetings will be open to public attendance.
 - ii. A series of public meetings around the state will be scheduled and conducted specifically for the purpose of obtaining input from various interests to assist WWG.
 - iii. Limited public participation periods may be scheduled during some WWG meetings.
 - iv. Public input will be solicited through the UDWR website.
- 6) *Funding and Support:***
- a. WWG operating expenses (meeting facilities/equipment/expert speakers/etc.) will be funded via the UDWR budget and various grants as needed.
 - b. Non-governmental agency WWG member travel expenses (motel/meals/mileage) will be reimbursed by the UDWR.