

**LA PLATA/ARCHULETA AND SOUTHWEST INDIVIDUAL POPULATION AREA  
ACTION PLAN  
JUNE 2009**

The Implementation Planning Workshops (IPW) for the SW IPA was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> in Cortez and the LPA IPA meeting was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2009 at the Durango Recreational Center. Participation was open to anyone interested in prairie dog conservation and management. Only one participant attended the SW IPA and so the meeting was cancelled. Eight participants representing CDOW, BLM, USFS, Farm Bureau, conservation groups, and private property owners met and ranked the issues affecting GUPD in the LPA IPA. Attendees at the LPA IPA meeting reviewed issues that could negatively impact the GUPD and ranked their significance in the LPA IPA. The issues ranking process resulted in disease, lack of information on taxonomic status and population structure, and lack of information on population status and trends being ranked as the highest potential threats to GUPD in the LPA IPA.

The participants at this workshop did not review or prioritize strategies. At this time, GUPD populations appear to be doing well in both the SW and LPA IPA and there does not appear to be a need to implement strategies for conservation. Due to limited resources and staff, prioritization of GUPD IPAs has been undertaken to ensure that the most vulnerable GUPD populations are managed. The highest priority populations for management are the GU IPA, SP IPA, and SLV IPA. If GUPD populations in the SW or LPA IPA start to decline or threats increase to a level impacting GUPD population viability, strategies will be prioritized with input from stakeholders and implemented as appropriate.

The CDOW will hold annual meetings in the SW and LPA IPA to update the community on the status of the GUPD in the IPA.