

**PRAIRIE DOG PANEL - PERSPECTIVE OF THE
AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY ^{TWS}**

Ken Blunt
HC 84, Box 8180, Malta, MT 59538

History of my personal involvement in prairie dog issues will be described, as well as how local citizens of Phillips County have been involved in the process since the early 1980's. The history of prairie dogs in Phillips County, and historic and present population levels will be described. Contributions and sacrifices of landowners during the past years of involvement with prairie ecosystem issues will be presented, along with a description of impacts to crop and rangeland resources due to high numbers of prairie dogs. The potential effects of the Montana Prairie Dog Conservation Plan on landowners will be addressed.