



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Montelores HPP Committee

Dolores Public Lands Center, Dolores, CO

April 13th, 2017

6:30 p.m.

HPP Members Present: Andy Brown, CPW; John Sheek, Sportsman; Ivan Messinger, USFS; George West, Ag Producer; Eldon Simmons, Ag Producer

Guests: Ben Lanier, Joe Lanier

Introductions & Budget Report:

Committee members and guests were introduced. Katie gave a budget report and updates on current projects.

New Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews:

1. Ben Lanier presented a pond cleanout project. The property is located in a very dry area, with few water sources besides irrigated fields and stock ponds. The existing pond is approximately 100 feet in diameter, and 10-12 feet deep; and is used by both livestock and big game. The pond has accumulated large amounts of silt, which reduces water availability and causes big game to utilize other water sources on agricultural lands where they cause damage to fences and forage. The landowner would like to have the pond cleaned out and reconstructed to increase water storage capacity and availability. The project was approved for \$5,000.00.
2. Joe Lanier presented a proposal to clean out 4 ponds and install a pipeline to bring additional water into the ponds. The project area is currently a dryland pasture which will be moved into permanent pasture for livestock. The pasture experiences use by big game during transitional and winter seasons for forage, and the lack of available water causes deer and elk to utilize nearby irrigated fields instead. The proposal includes cleaning out 4 existing ponds on the pasture to increase water storage capacity, and installing a pipeline to bring water from existing irrigation into the ponds to ensure water availability for big game and livestock. The project was approved for \$7,040.00
3. Gayle Anderson's fence project was tabled until the application could be completed.

Roundtable:

1. The committee discussed the FY17 Fertilizer Voucher Program and noted that it had been successful so far. For FY18, the committee will specify that only irrigated forage fields will be considered, and not row crops. The committee will continue to refine the project guidelines for FY18, and will discuss potential changes at the next meeting.
2. The statewide HPP meeting will be December 5th – 7th in Grand Junction.

Next Meeting: May 17, 2017 - 6:30pm