



**HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES**  
**Colorado Parks & Wildlife 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs**  
**August 28, 2017**  
**6:00pm**

**Introductions:** **Members attending meeting:** Darren Ebaugh/Sportsperson, AWM Kris Middledorf, Nita Herold Naugle/Livestock Grower, Kathy McKinstry/BLM, Larry Monger/Livestock Grower and Samantha Sorensen/Admin. **Guests attending the meeting:** DWM Jack Taylor, DWM Andrea Sponseller, Libbie Miller/CPW, Dillon Middledorf and Avery Middledorf.

**General Public Comments:** N/A

**Budget Report:** Samantha presented committee members with a budget report which showed a remaining balance of \$44,781.99.

**Old Business:** Minutes from July 11th were presented and approved as written.

**New Business:** Dean Rossi Stackyard: Andrea Sponseller presented the proposal on Dean Rossi's behalf. Dean is eligible for a stackyard through Game Damage but he would like to use hog panels and is asking HPP to pay the difference in cost. Andrea ran the design by Chris Kloster and he believes it would take approximately 38 panels to complete. Dean would construct the stackyard therefore contributing to over half of the project cost with in-kind money. Andrea explained that the property is located just off 131 before the rock formations outside Yampa. There have been elk on his property this summer where they typically are not seen. Chances are Dean will need more stackyards in the near future and elk may continue to get into stacked hay elsewhere on the property. Andrea pointed out that the Rossi's allow public access for fishing. Libbie was asked if there would be any negative impacts on sage grouse and she said that since there is not a lek in the area then no. The committee approved up to \$2100.00 for the project.

**Distribution Hunts:** Jack Taylor presented committee members with a proposal packet. Jack explained that if the committee were to approve the use of distributions hunts then it would be much more streamlined than if they were to use damage hunts. When issuing damage hunts DWMs are required to go through the same lengthy administrative process with each individual

request. If the committee were to approve the requested 90 distribution hunts then they would replace the need for damage hunts and allow DWMs to issue tags much more quickly and efficiently. Libbie inquired as to whether or not the dates listed in Jack's proposal fell within regulations. It was determined that they did not but the appropriate changes would be made. Kris voiced concern over how distribution hunts could become a slippery slope but also realizes the need to try and redistribute elk. Kris asked Jack to do some research and monitoring so that he can report back to the committee once the distribution hunts have ended in late February. The committee unanimously approved the use of distribution hunts.

**Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:** USFWS Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program: Samantha explained to the committee that Bob Timberman did not get back to her about attending tonight's meeting but she'd included a write up about the program in their member packets.

Review FY17 Evaluations: Samantha distributed completed FY17 project evaluations to committee members. After some discussion and review it was decided that the completed evaluations were sufficient.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday October 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 6:00pm.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM.