



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
South Park Committee
July 6th, 2017
Fairplay Fair Barn

Committee members present:

- John Woodward, Livestock grower (via phone)
- Tyler Stoltzfus, CPW
- Webb Smith, Livestock grower
- Randy Tingle, Sports person
- Christine Cloninger, BLM
- Steve Allard, Livestock grower
- Sheila Lamb, USFS

Administrator: Hanna Cook, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Shannon Schaller (CPW-Biologist), Kirk Weaver (Landowner), Daniele Garner (Landowner), Patty Knupp (NRCS), Mark Lamb (CPW-AWM), Dawson Swanson (CPW-DWM)

Meeting called to order by John Woodward at 10:15 AM

General Public Comments

None

Budget Report

2017 and 2018 budget reports were reviewed. Funding for projects approved at past meetings for the 2018 fiscal year are: James Mark Jones Habitat Project (\$12,999), Dennis Springer fencing project (\$4,697), and the second phase of the USFS fence removal project (\$5,000).

Old Business

Project Evaluations: All evaluations have been sent out. All evaluations must be entered by September 1st to avoid suspension of committee work.

New Business

HPP Expansion

The HPP expansion has gone into effect as of July 1st and committees can review new research and monitoring proposals that are aimed at assisting with game management objectives. Local committees can decide how they would like to approach any new

proposals they receive and if they would like to outline any special processes or requirements for proposals involving game management objectives.

The committee agreed that these projects should be handled on a case-by-case basis rather than place any strict guidelines on them. As with all projects, these applications should be submitted to Hanna about one week before the meeting so that she can send them out to committee members for review.

Kenosha Pass Elk Herd Management Plan-Shannon Schaller

CPW is writing a new Elk Herd management plan for DAU E18. Plans are generally revised every 10 years and the last plan for this DAU was written in 2007. CPW is working on setting population and sex ratio objectives and figuring out how those objectives can be reached, including how many licenses are sold each year. Objectives should be balanced between what the public wants and what the herd is biologically capable of. There will be a public meeting in Fairplay on August 11th where the public will be able to voice opinions about what they would like to see for the elk population in the area. There will also be a public survey available, and that should be open at the time of the public meeting. A draft of the plan will be sent out to local agencies for review (i.e. HPP, USFS, BLM, etc.) before final approval is given. The South Park HPP committee will be asked to write a letter of support once the draft plan is reviewed and approved by committee members. Shannon is anticipating a small increase in elk population objectives (currently 1,800-2,200 elk, with a target of 2,000) and the same sex ratio objective as is currently in place, but they want to get opinions from the public and local agencies first.

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

Lodi Ranch Water Development-Kirk Weaver

This project was not presented.

Golding Weed Spraying Project-Webb Smith

Webb Smith is asking for \$3,000 for about 50 acres of weed spraying to control thistles. Teller Park Conservation District will complete the spraying. This will allow native grasses to regenerate, which will improve forage for wildlife and livestock. The committee would like to see a partner/cooperator match for the costs. Webb will discuss a 50% match with the landowner.

The committee approved the project for \$1,500 contingent on a \$1,500 match from Webb and/or the landowner.

*****Update-the 50% match has been secured and project will be completed this summer.**

Committee meals

The committee will allocate \$500 for meeting meals.

Committee Operating Expenses/ Committee Recognition

The committee will allocate \$1,000 for committee operating expenses and recognition for committee members.

Landowner Fencing Supply Program 2018

DWMs or committee members can give vouchers to qualifying landowners. Landowners can receive materials from the SPHPP stockpile or apply for reimbursement for purchases of fence materials. Limit \$350 reimbursement per landowner. Materials will

be limited to \$350 value, plus white vinyl wire can be added to the materials if the landowner agrees to install it. Landowners must own at least 160 acres and be involved in agricultural production or livestock operations. Landowners must allow a reasonable number of hunters and may not charge more than \$500 per gun for hunting access. Any exceptions must be brought to the committee for approval on a case-by-case basis.

The committee approved the continuation of the landowner fencing supply program for FY 2018. The total project limit is \$8,000, with a limit of \$350 per landowner. Landowners can be reimbursed for purchases or receive materials from the SPHPP stockpile.

****Note-all FY 2017 vouchers are void. Only FY 2018 vouchers should be used.**

Landowner Herbicide Program 2018

DWMs or committee members can give vouchers to qualifying landowners. Landowners can be reimbursed for the purchase of herbicide. Landowners must own at least 160 acres and be involved in agricultural production or livestock operations. Landowners must allow a reasonable number of hunters and may not charge more than \$500 per gun for hunting access. Any exceptions must be brought to the committee for approval on a case-by-case basis. In previous years the voucher limit was \$150 but the committee would like to increase that amount to account for increased herbicide costs.

The committee approved the continuation of the landowner herbicide program for FY 2018. The total project limit will be \$2,500, with a limit of \$250 per landowner.

****Note-all FY 2017 vouchers are void. Only FY 2018 vouchers should be used.**

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion

Tyler notified the committee that Karl Copeman is looking into the possibility of hiring a contractor with a skidsteer to help with cleanup efforts on the JMJ SWA project site. The committee is interested in seeing a project proposal at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:09 AM

The next meeting will be held on September 28th at 10:00 AM at the Fairplay Community Center.

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