



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
CPW Area Office-0088 Wildlife Way in Glenwood Springs, CO
Wednesday May 10, 2017
1:00pm

Introductions: **Members attending the meeting were:** Hilary Boyd/BLM, DWM Darren Chacon/CPW, Pat Luark/Livestock Grower, Scot Dodero/Livestock Grower, Jim Nieslanik/Livestock Grower, Phil Nyland/USFS and Samantha Sorensen/Admin. **Guests attending the meeting were:** DWM Brian Gray/CPW, DWM Dan Cacho/CPW, AWM Perry Will/CPW, Pat Tucker/HPP Coordinator, Charlotte Hood, Calvin Roberts and Fred Kuersten.

General Public Comments: N/A

Budget Report: Samantha presented a remaining budget of \$70,957.50 for FY17 and \$194,537.00 for FY18.

Old Business: Minutes from the meeting held on April 6, 2017 were presented and approved as written.

New Business: Canyon Creek Habitat Improvements: Tabled

Hood Ranch Habitat Improvements: Charlotte Hood presented her proposal to the committee. She passed around photographs of the brush clearing completed at the end of last year as well as pictures of more aspen trees that had fallen over the winter. She would like to rent an excavator to move the downed trees on approximately 15 acres and open up migration paths for elk. She asked HPP to reimburse the ranch for rental and fuel costs. Phil inquired as to whether Garlon was the right herbicide for the job and suggested contacting NRCS. Dan pointed out it's what they'd used previously and seemed to be working fine. Hilary contacted Kristy Wallner with the BLM and she stated that Garlon would be what she'd recommend. The committee approved to reimburse the ranch up to \$4680.00 for equipment rental and fuel costs.

Piffer Fence: Tabled

Rifle Creek Fence: Fred Kuersten presented the proposal and let the committee know he'd be asking for funds out of next fiscal year. John Powers has been working with Steve Jaouen from NRCS and he will not have paperwork ready until next fiscal year; NRCS contribution unknown at this point. Powers would like to replace an old fence with a wildlife friendly fence. Brian pointed out that the new fence would keep livestock out of the riparian area and reduce

conflicts with deer. The committee approved to reimburse Powers up to \$3,375.00 (FY18) for fence materials (not to exceed \$1.25/ft.) needed to construct a 4 strand fence that includes a vinyl coated top wire.

Red Gate Fence Replacement: Calvin Roberts presented his proposal to the committee. Calvin explained that he has a 50-60 year old sheep fence that has sustained deer and elk damage. He would like to install field fence with white vinyl coated top wire. He also plans to clip down top wire in 7 areas to provide easier crossing locations for big game. Scot asked if Calvin could install a gate in the corner but Calvin voiced concern regarding cost. The committee expressed that a few gates left open during certain times of the year would allow safe passage for fawns and calves. The committee approved to reimburse Calvin Roberts up to \$2,622.12 for fence materials (not to exceed \$1.25/ft.) and they will also purchase 3 gates from CPW Game Damage. Calvin agreed to work with Brian on gate placements and will still plan to do drop downs. Materials will be paid for out of FY17 but work will not begin until October.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: HMP-Expires May 1, 2018: Darren let the committee know that their habitat management plan will expire next year. Pat Tucker explained there's no need for a complete rewrite; it's an opportunity for the committee to update information and change things that have not worked out. The committee has ample time to discuss any changes but the reworked HMP will need to be approved by State Council and the Wildlife Commission.

Pat Tucker touched on the HPP expansion that will take effect at the beginning of next fiscal year. He explained that in the past HPP's primary focus had been on fence and forage conflicts. Those will remain the top priority but the second half of the statute allows committees to approve projects that assist CPW with meeting game management objectives (deer, elk, pronghorn and moose).

Pat Tucker also mentioned that the annual State Council meeting is scheduled for December 5, 6 & 7.

The next meeting will be held on July 13, 2017 at 1:00pm in either Eagle or Gypsum.

Roundtable: N/A

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:08PM.