



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Montelores HPP Committee

Phone Conference

October 5th, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Montelores HPP Members Present: Ivan Messinger, Nate West via proxy (Ivan Messinger), Tanner Young, John Sheek, Andy Brown, Eldon Simmons

Guests: Richard Marsh

Introductions, Budget, & Old Business:

1. Katie reviewed the budget and gave an update on current projects. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$72,817.34.

New Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

1. The committee reviewed Richard Marsh's pond project. Mr. Marsh is partnering with the NRCS to reconstruct an existing spring which has been degraded by drought and heavy use by livestock, and piping the water to a series of lower ponds. The proposal includes cleaning out three existing ponds which are dirty and do not hold water. The area is not being utilized by wildlife or livestock, despite being located in valuable winter range for deer and elk with good forage nearby. Additionally, the area that is disturbed will be reseeded with forage species, and fenced with wildlife-friendly fencing to prevent grazing by livestock, but still allow big game to access the forage and water. The project was approved for \$5,000.
2. The committee reviewed an updated proposal from Bonnie Loving with Montezuma County Weed Dept. The project involves reimbursing landowners for herbicide purchases to treat noxious weed infestations on private lands. The revised proposal will use HPP's funds to target landowners with larger acreages close to public lands which experience regular use by deer and elk. Additionally, only landowners that have not yet applied for the cost share program will be eligible for HPP's funds. The project was approved for \$5,000. For next fiscal year, the committee would like to have the project presented in the spring, so that additional landowners may be identified and the county can obtain a purchase order if

necessary.

3. The committee reviewed Joe Lanier's seed project. The proposal is to re-seed 300 dryland acres with native grass species to provide forage for deer and elk. The project area will not be used for agricultural operations in the future, but will help hold deer and elk off of nearby irrigated fields. The committee is interested in the project and feels that it will be beneficial to big game and ag operators; however there was no seed mix or cost share information provided with the application. The project was tabled until more information could be obtained.
4. The committee reviewed Steve Nowlin and Don Tozer's proposals for fence projects. The existing fences are old and in disrepair. They does not properly contain livestock, and presents entanglement risks for big game. The new fences would be wildlife-friendly to HPP specs. Steve Nowlin's project was approved for \$1,568.00, and HPP will provide 2 rolls of pony rail. Don Tozer's project was approved for \$780.00.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting set for November 7th at 5:30pm.