



## **HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES**

**October 19th, 2017  
Bosque Del Oso Shop**

Committee Members present:

- Mike Trujillo, Colorado Parks and Wildlife AWM
- Paul Crespín, USFS
- Terry Everhart, Livestock Grower
- Dave Gilbert, BLM
- Kenn Lutz, Livestock Grower
- Arlie Riggs, Livestock Grower
- Dwaine Robey, Sportsman
- John Stroh II, Livestock Grower

Administrative Assistant:

- Hanna Cook

Guests: Allen Vitt (CPW-Terrestrial Biologist), Bill Velarde (CPW-Wildlife Technician), Bill Toupal (Landowner), Joy Toupal (Landowner), Paul Coe (Sportsman)

**Meeting called to order by John Stroh at 10:14 AM**

### **Introductions General Public Comments**

None.

### **Budget Report**

The 2018 budget report was reviewed.

### **Old Business**

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

New project applications available online.

### **New Business**

#### **DAU Plan rewrite for D-34**

Allen Vitt will be revising the DAU plan for D-34. DAU plans (AKA Herd Management Plans) set population and sex ratio objectives for deer and elk. The committee is only being asked to review the plan for D-34 (Deer), and the plans for E-27 and E-28 (Elk) will be revised at a later date. The committee received a draft and an executive summary of the new DAU plan for review. Allen Vitt told the committee that the objectives in the new plan will stay the same as the current population objectives, especially considering the current population studies that are

underway in the area. Public meetings have been held and surveys have been sent out to gauge public support for the plan. Overall the response has been positive. The committee will be asked to write a comment letter before the draft plans go to the wildlife commission for approval. These plans are in effect for 10 years, but can be revisited sooner if necessary. **The committee has heard and considered the draft plan presented by Allen Vitt and have voted to write a letter of support for the plan to keep population and sex ratio objectives the same.**

### **Project Application Proposals and Reviews**

#### **Bill Toupal Noxious Weed Project**

Bill Toupal thanks the committee for funding his re-seeding project last year. He currently has issues with noxious weeds on his property that need to be sprayed to allow forage to regenerate. Bill has spoken with Shelley Simmons, a noxious weed specialist with the Purgatoire Watershed Weed Management Collaborative, who has told him that the weeds need to be sprayed quickly to prevent spreading. This will be done using both spot spraying and broadcast spraying techniques, and should not harm the newly re-seeded area. Shelley Simmons will monitor the progress to ensure that it is effective. The committee members are concerned that this project does not fit into this committee's mission. In addition, weed spraying is something that needs to be done regularly, and if the committee starts to fund these projects regularly then there will not be enough funding for other projects. With these concerns in mind the committee decided that this project would not be a good fit for them at this time. There will be further discussion about other ways in which the committee can help with noxious weed problems within the committee area, such as working with the local weed districts.

**The project was denied.**

### **Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion**

Mike Trujillo told the committee that CPW is exploring the possibility of moving forward with another financial sustainability bill this year. More information will come when a decision is made.

The HPP annual meeting will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> in Grand Junction this year. Invitations and registration information will be sent out soon.

Paul Crespin announced to the committee that he will be retiring soon, and is planning to step down from the Sangre de Cristo HPP committee and the HPP State Council at the end of the year. He will be considering potential candidates to replace him as the USFS representative. The committee thanks Paul for his years of service to HPP and the community.

The committee would like to have discussions about how to implement an educational program for the community. They will continue to discuss this in the future.

The committee thanks Bill Velarde for cooking a delicious lunch for everyone.

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM**

**The next meeting will be held on: January 23rd at 10:00 AM, Pueblo Hunter Ed Building**

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