



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
USFS Ranger Station-9 10 Mile Drive Granby, CO 80446
December 18, 2019
1:00 pm

Introductions: **Members present:** AWM Lyle Sidener/CPW, Chuck Alexander/Livestock Grower, Dave Hammer/Livestock Grower, Doug Bruchez/Livestock Grower (via phone), GW Horine/Sportsperson (via phone), and Admin. Samantha Sorensen.

Guests present: HPP Coordinator Pat Tucker, District Ranger Jon Morrissey, Buck McNichols, Tiffany Rubalcaba, Seth Jennings, Katlin Miller, Doreen Sumerlin, and DWM Jeromy Huntington.

General Public Comments: Dave presented Doreen with a plaque as thanks for her years of service on the Middle Park Habitat Partnership Program committee.

Budget: Samantha presented committee members with a budget report. The remaining budget was \$62,405.00.

Old Business: Approval of Minutes: Minutes from September 11th were presented and approved as written.

New Business: MPCD Clover/Alfalfa Seeding: Katlin asked the committee if they were interested in the clover/alfalfa giveaway again this year. There were some questions as to whether Katlin was seeing new people and what the seed was being used for. Katlin said it's pretty much the same people every year and the intended purpose is for use on disturbed areas. Buck mentioned that he's used his seed for a cover crop but he's also done a bunch of logging and the clover has been used on scares. Doug pointed out that he doesn't fertilize every year, but when he does he mixes the seed in. Katlin is happy with the current seed mixes and amount. The committee approved \$7500.00 for the project.

Shadow Creek Ranch Fencing: Buck had success with the last fence project and gave a tour to the State Council in July. This project has been on his mind since the sheep fence went up in 1990. He's pulled dozens of fawns and calves out of it over the years and he would like to tear it down. Beetle kill trees have been coming down on it but he may be able to reuse some posts. The plan is to prioritize the sections where elk and deer travel most; Lyle mentioned that the area is an important corridor. Dave wondered if a lay down fence might be appropriate. Buck likes lay down, but has concerns using it on a perimeter fence; plans to drop wire in sections with high travel. His proposal is for a 50/50 cost share. There were questions as to whether the neighboring HOA would participate. The committee approved a 50/50 cost share up to \$18k

with the hopes that Spring Creek will kick in; also 6 rolls of vinyl wire will come out of the stockpile. Pat asked if Buck would consider removing the barbed top wire on the third section of fence, which Buck had already planned to do. Buck will let the committee know about Spring Creek's decision at the March meeting.

MPHPP Fence Vouchers: Samantha asked the committee if they would like to fund fence vouchers at the same amount as last year. Members agreed that even though there were remaining funds last year it's best to have a buffer. The committee approved \$22,000.00 for the project.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Select 2020 Meeting Dates: March 11th in RMNP, June 10th in Hot Sulphur Springs, September 9th in Kremmling, and December 9th in Granby.

DMP Work Session-January 22nd-Draft due Feb. 15th: Samantha reminded the committee of the work session in January, she will send out an updated draft ahead of the meeting.

Roundtable: Chuck: Mentioned that elk are thick on Hwy 34 between 40 and Coffee Divide, he would like to see message signs put up. Lyle followed up with the county, they will check into it. Doug: A guy contacted him and wanted to know more about how they coordinate youth hunts because he would like to start a program in Cortez. Doug needs Ted's contact info to pass on. GW: Sold his property in Summit and moved to GJ; he would like to stay on until June. Also mentioned that he has some concerns that horses are being left on an allotment a little too long at the end of Green Mountain Reservoir.

Jon: Future USFS rep. probably won't be a wildlife bio, however they are hiring more range cons and feels that would be a better fit. In the meantime he will nominate Seth Jennings to sit on the committee.

Multiple committee members mentioned that they would like to hear a harvest summary at the March meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:03pm.