



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Gunnison Basin HPP Committee

Conference Call

November 7, 2019

8:00 p.m.

Gunnison Basin HPP Members Present: Paul Mowery, Livestock Grower; Nick Gallowich, CPW; Matt Vasquez, USFS; Shane Cox, Livestock Grower; Kathy Brodhead, BLM; Navid Navidi, Sportsman

Guests: Tara DeValois, Greg Peterson

Introductions & Budget:

1. Committee members and guests were introduced. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$26,369.32.

Old Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

1. The committee reviewed a revised application from Greg Peterson for a fence project on the Sage Hen BLM Allotment. The allotment is currently unfenced on the western boundary, and cattle use the Cochetopa Canyon slopes to travel down to Cochetopa Creek. The slopes include about 680 acres of big game winter range, and are heavily utilized for forage. Livestock grazing reduces the amount of forage for big game, and also negatively impacts habitat work recently completed for Gunnison Sage Grouse. The committee discussed concerns about the cost of the fence given the length of time livestock is present on the permit, and whether the canyon slopes represented significant big game habitat. Livestock are generally present in the spring and early summer, which leaves sufficient regrowth time to provide fall and winter forage for big game. The committee felt that \$5,000 was a low investment cost for 2.8 miles of wildlife-friendly fence, and determined that the canyon received sufficient big game use to justify the fence. The project was approved for \$5,000 of labor, and the committee will also provide 6 rolls of high-visibility wire.

Other Business:

1. The committee approved inviting Jamie Nogle (NWTF) and Andy Spann (UGRWCD) to attend the Statewide Meeting at the State Council's cost.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 29th @ 11:00am