



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Uncompahgre HPP Committee

November 7th, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Uncompahgre HPP Members Present: Kelly Crane, CPW; Bobby Gray, Sportsman; Angela LoSasso, BLM; Todd Stewart, Livestock Grower

Guests: Pat Tucker, CPW; Mark Caddy, CPW; Natalie Renneker, CPW; Linda & Cady Daniels; Jerry Scharf

Introduction: The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$7,429.80.

Old Business:

1. The committee previously funded \$12,540.00 for the A Bar D Ranch Fence project, and the landowner is continuing to complete additional fence work on his own. They have been using HPP high visibility topwire on all new fence lines, and would like 1 additional roll to complete the current section. The committee approved providing 1 roll of white wire.

New Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews:

1. Linda Daniels presented a seeding proposal for 100 acres of pasture. The area is not as productive as it could be, and the landowners would like to increase forage for livestock and wildlife. The committee noted that there is not a serious lack of forage, or much forage-related conflict, in that area. The landowners are also currently completing a \$25,000 fence project with HPP, and the committee generally requires projects to be completed before a new project can be initiated. The project was denied at this time; however they noted that the landowners could apply for fertilizer in the spring.
2. The committee reviewed an application from Melvin Distel for fence crossing materials. The fence is a boundary fence between the Distels and BLM land, and elk frequently cross from the BLM and damage the fence at certain high-traffic points. The proposal involves installing fence crossings at those points, with high visibility wire along the adjacent sections of fence to help direct elk to the crossings. The project was approved for \$363.59 for materials, and the committee will provide up to 5 rolls of white wire.

3. Jerry Scharf presented a multi-phase fence project on the TL Bar Ranch. The fence is located at the boundary between private land and USFS, and currently consists of woven sheep wire. Portions of the fence are in disrepair, and the project would involve removing 13,240-feet of the fence and replacing it with wildlife-friendly fence to HPP specs. The committee noted that this was an important area for deer and elk and that it would be beneficial to remove sheep wire; however the project should be more clearly broken into phases that can be accomplished each fiscal year. The committee asked Mr. Scharf to resubmit Phase 1 of the application in the spring for funding in FY2021.
4. The committee reviewed a fencing application from Kelly Sanburg. The property is located east of Montrose, and the existing fence is partially composed of old sheep wire. The project would involve removing 2.3 miles of fence along Miguel Road and replacing it with wildlife-friendly fence. The committee noted problems with the application, including mention of keeping wildlife from getting onto Highway 50, which seem to indicate that the fence would not be wildlife-friendly. Additionally, Ms. Sanburg leases the property, and it was unclear if the landowner supported the project. Since Ms. Sanburg was not present to help answer questions about the application, the project was tabled for more information.

Roundtable:

1. The committee has used their entire inventory of high visibility wire. Pat Tucker offered to purchase another \$5,000 of wire from Kencove via State Council funding, and the committee accepted.
2. Angela Losasso informed the committee that she has accepted a new position at the BLM as a Planning and Environmental Coordinator. She is committed to remaining with Uncompahgre HPP as long as the committee feels that her role is acceptable as the BLM representative. The committee agreed that they would like Angela to remain the BLM rep.
3. The Statewide Meeting will be held in Grand Junction from December 3-5. The committee agreed to invite Doug Dillon and Austin Shelby to attend the meeting at HPP's cost.

Next Meeting: February 12th @ 6:30pm