



## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

### White River HPP Committee

CPW Office- 73485 Highway 64 Meeker, CO

October 14, 2021

5:30 pm

**White River HPP Members Present:** Bailey Franklin- CPW, Jim Brennan- Livestock Grower, Lenny Klingsmith- Livestock Grower, Angelo Theos- Livestock Grower, Rich Parr- Sportsperson, Mary Taylor- BLM, Curtis Keetch- USFS

**Guests:** Mike Swaro - CPW, Chris Uphoff

**Introductions:** Committee members and guests were introduced.

**Budget Report:** The budget at the start of the meeting was \$35,763.57.

**Old Business:** The minutes from August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as written.

### **New Business:**

1. Oak Ridge/Jensen/Square S SWA Weed Spraying- Mike Swaro presented a weed spraying project for 3 State Wildlife Areas to continue ongoing work to manage noxious weeds and improve overall range health. The continuation of this annual project serves to improve big game habitat and provide more available forage for wildlife. The project targets hard to access areas with horseback and backpack weed spraying application. The properties have a variety of noxious weeds including hounds tongue, thistle, leafy spurge, mullein, knapweed, and yellow toadflax. The project was approved for \$17,250.00 from State Council funds.
2. Flag Creek Brush Thinning- The committee reviewed a brush thinning project that entailed the mechanical thinning of approximately 50 acres on Flag Creek Ranch. The project area maintains mature mountain shrubs and aspen stands and lacks adequate, desirable forage for wildlife and livestock. The project would mechanically mulch the mountain shrubs and aspens to reduce the dense over story and promote growth and forage availability within the project area. The project was approved for up to \$5,000.00.
3. M/R White River Ranch Berryman Water Development- Lenny Klingsmith presented a water development project for a new well that would be used to fill 4 tire tanks. There is currently waterline infrastructure in place that includes a cistern and the 4 tanks, however, the existing well has dried up and no longer serve as an adequate water source. With the addition of a functioning well, the existing waterline system will be able to provide water to the 4 separate tanks for the benefit of both livestock and wildlife. Lenny Klingsmith abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for \$11,623.74 contingent upon the successful drilling of a producing well.

4. Uphoff Water Development- Chris Uphoff presented a water development project that would build upon previously completed projects that implemented a new well and cleared a significant amount of brush through hydro axe work. This project would pipe water from the new well that has already been drilled to 2 new tire tanks on top of a ridge. With the lack of water availability on the ridges, livestock and wildlife have had to travel through steep and rugged terrain to water. The project was approved for up to \$16,338.98.

**Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:**

1. Inventory Purchases
  - a. Wire Accessories- The committee discussed the need to replenish inventory of safety loop connectors and kiwi strainers to assist in the installation of the white vinyl wire in inventory. The committee approved the purchase of the wire accessories for a total of \$467.50.
  - b. Punchy Water Tanks- The committee discussed the purchase of the Punchy Cattle Water Tanks that were tabled at the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. BLM agreed to fund \$10,000.00 worth for the tank purchase. The committee acknowledged the high cost of freight associated with the tank delivery from the vendor. The committee approved the purchase of 3 tanks for up to \$16,800.00 with the intent of finding an alternate freight option to reduce cost.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm.