



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Middle Park HPP Committee

RMNP Kawuneeche Visitor Center- 16018 US Hwy 34 Grand Lake, CO

March 16, 2022

1:00 pm

Middle Park HPP Members Present: Jeromy Huntington- CPW, Chuck Alexander- Livestock Grower, Doug Bruchez- Livestock Grower, Dave Hammer- Livestock Grower, Conway Farrell- Sportsman, Tiffany Rubalcaba- BLM, Chris Clatterbuck- NPS

Guests: Serena Rocksund- CPW, Gene Abram- CPW, Jake Kay- CPW, Amy Sidener- GCDNR, Katlin Miller- MPCD, Carol Morales, Terry Pratt, Kat Gray, Jeni Windorski, John Drake

Introductions: Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report: The budget at the start of the meeting was \$68,750.00.

Old Business:

1. The minutes from the December 15th meeting were approved as written.
2. High Country Rural Living and Land Management Guide- Katlin Miller presented an educational brochure put together by the Middle Park Conservation District at the December meeting. The brochure provides an abundance of information for landowners in Grand and Summit counties and includes HPP information and wildlife friendly fence diagrams and links. The committee reviewed the brochure since the last meeting and found there to be great HPP content and thought it would be a great way to spread awareness of the program. The project was approved for up to \$3,000.

New Business:

1. Morales Weed Control- Carol Morales presented a weed spraying project to mitigate noxious weeds on their property. The project aims to hire a contractor to perform the work and combat the oxeye daisy infestations. The project was approved for up to \$900.
2. Tillotson Weed Control- Terry Pratt presented a weed spraying project to continue the ongoing weed control over the last three years. The committee has assisted with the project in previous years and is pleased to see the continued work and progress against noxious weeds in the area. The project was approved for up to \$2,000.
3. USFS Ruby Ranch Habitat Improvement- The committee reviewed a habitat project to remove down timber on the Ruby Ranch Subdivision and Eagles Nest Wilderness Area outside of Silverthorne. The project aimed to clear approximately 20 acres of dead lodge pole pines for fuels mitigation in an area that serves as elk winter range and elk production area. The committee shared concerns with the project applicability to HPP and the associated high cost. Overall, the committee did not feel it was a good fit for

the program. The committee recommended seeking support from other organizations that might better align with the project goals. The project was denied approval.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:

1. FY22 Herbicide Voucher Program- The committee approved up to \$600 per voucher with a total budget allocation of up to \$12,000.
2. Meeting Schedule- The committee tentatively approved the following meeting dates and associated locations:
 - May 18, 2022 - CPW
 - July 5, 2022 - BLM

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 pm.