



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

San Juan Basin HPP Committee

Phone Conference

March 28, 2022

6:00 p.m.

San Juan Basin HPP Members Present: Anthony Garcia, USFS; Mike Schmidt, BLM; Dan Huntington, Livestock Grower; John Gardner, Sportsperson; Jesse Montoya, Livestock Grower; Aran Johnson, SUIT

Guests: Michael Blanck, CPW

New Business:

1. Aran Johnson presented a collar purchase proposal for Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Increased and/or changing patterns of land use, hunting pressure, and climate changes may affect elk migration routes and timing, which could have long-term impacts on elk populations, hunting, and conflicts with private lands. This project will collect valuable data to help determine elk reaction to Highway 160 crossing structures, including utilization of the crossings and reaction to components (fences, fence ends, and jumpouts). Collars purchased for this project will be deployed on 8 elk on tribal lands. Data from these collars, in addition to other collars already deployed, will be made available to CPW and other land/wildlife managers annually to help understand utilization and potentially improve design of crossing structures and components. CPW and HPP will apply this data to target future crossing sites and design that will be most beneficial to elk, which may in turn help CPW achieve management objectives. GPS data will be analyzed by SUIT biologists. Project updates and management implications will be shared with CPW, HPP, CDOT, CWTA, and other land/wildlife managers. The project was approved for \$5,300.00.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting May 9th