



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM STATE COUNCIL ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING March 2, 2022

Attendees: Michael Blanck, Brian Dreher, Ty Bevan, John Hardwick, Hunter Seim, Sheila Lamb, Greg Jungman, Gary Visintainer, Todd Peterson, Garrett Watson, Teri Polley, Marian Cole, Kim Berscheid, Katie Richman

Guests: Bailey Franklin (DWM Area 6), Cari Johnson (USFS), Joe Lavorini (National Forest Foundation (NFF)), Dani Neumann (Land Use Specialist, NW Region), Danielle Johnston (Habitat Researcher), Michelle Cowardin (Wildlife Movement Coordinator)

March 2 - 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Legislative Bill Progress

HPP Legislative Bill 22-1072 passed the House on February 7th. It passed three readings with no amendments attached to it. There was bi-partisan support. Beginning on March 10th the bill will move through the senate. The CPW Leadership Team reviewed the bill, and Michael asked the council to also look at the bill as it was written. There is potential for amendments to happen in the senate and Michael would like to discuss further at the next State Council meeting.

125th Anniversary

Brian Dreher shared with the council about Colorado Parks and Wildlife 125th Anniversary. April 16th marks the official 125th year as an agency. In 1897, the governor signed a bill into law that made CPW a state agency. CPW will be hosting events and receptions at state parks and offices around Colorado this year.

Northeast- Thursday, April 7th- 530pm-830pm- Ironton Distillery & Crafthouse

Southeast- Friday, May 20th- 530pm-730pm- Pueblo Convention Center

Northwest- Thursday, June 23rd -James M Robb CO River State Park, Fruita

Southeast- Friday, August 19th-TBA

September 10th - Chatfield Lake State Park, Brew Festival

The agency drafted 125 stories about the agency's successes. The White River HPP committee contributed to one of these stories.

HPP Involvement Rebuilding Infrastructure After Fire on Grazing Allotments

Sheila Lamb, State Council Forest Service rep, felt it was timely for the council to talk about rebuilding of infrastructure on many of the range allotments that have experienced wildfires. Many requests have come to the local committees and often these are requests more than the local committee can handle. Sheila asked the council to consider these requests with established sideboards also considering there are no other contributors. The council discussed this matter, agreed to handle these projects case by case.

Muddy Aspen Timber Thinning Project

Cari Johnson, USFS and Joe Lavorini, National Forest Foundation (NFF) presented a project to treat 160 acres of Sudden Aspen Decline (SAD) aspen. The council awarded \$46,000 for this project, managed under the local North Fork committee.

Hole in the Rock Ranch Water Development Phase II Project

Bailey Franklin, District Wildlife Manager Area 6 presented a water project of distribution pipeline and tanks. The council awarded \$38,825 for this project, managed under the local White River committee.

Seed Mix Tool App Project

Dani Neumann, Land Use Specialist Northwest Region and Danielle Johnston, CPW Habitat Researcher requested \$20,000 (\$10,000 ea year for 2 years) for statewide seed mix app. After much discussion, the council decided to fully fund this project.

Long Term SWA Weed/Fence Funding

Michael shared some obstacles that has kept technicians and DWM's from utilizing the funding availability from HPP State Council for weed and fencing projects on State Wildlife Areas. He requested the state council funding for SWA weed and fencing projects for three additional years. The council approved extending this funding through FY2024.

BiAnnual Meeting

The State Council discussed the biannual meeting and set the date of January 4th to January 6th, 2023 in Grand Junction.

Summer Meeting Fieldtrip

For the summer meeting, a fieldtrip is scheduled for noon June 21 in Durango with the San Juan Basin committee hosting additionally a regular meeting from 8- noon on June 22nd.

Roundtable

The meeting was adjourned 8:30 pm.