



## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

### Uncompahgre HPP Committee

Phone Call Conference

November 9, 2022 - 6:30 pm

**Uncompahgre HPP Members Present:** Kelly Crane, CPW; Dave Alexander, Livestock Grower; Bob Black, Livestock Grower; Todd Stewart, Livestock Grower; Bobby Gray, Sportsman, Thane Stranathan, BLM; Loren Paulson, USFS.

**Guests:** Natalie Renneker, Dave & Zoe Werden, Maddie Rehn, Luke Holguin.

**Introduction:** Committee members were introduced. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$124,650.

#### **New Business:**

#### **Project Application Proposals and Reviews:**

1. Dave and Zoe Werden presented an herbicide proposal on their property. They are asking the committee for \$1,300 to pay for the herbicide to treat noxious weeds including Russian thistle and blue mustard. The property is located in a mule deer winter concentration area and will provide forage for big game animals. The treatment is necessary to prep the area for seeding in an effort to restore to a native state. **The project was approved for \$1,300 for herbicide.**
2. Luke Holguin and Maddie Rehn presented a habitat restoration proposal on Baldy Mountain called the Baldy Mountain Habitat Improvement and Landscape Resiliency Project. They are asking the committee for \$140,000 to pay for mechanical and hand crew mastication and seed mix. The project is large-scale totaling \$882,400 with 4 proposed phases that will treat approximately 6,100 acres of BLM, USFS, and private lands in the area. Cooperators include Co. Mullis Land Company, NRCS, BLM (Uncompahgre Field Office), USFS, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and CO State Forest Service, and additional cooperators pending with Rocky Mountain Big Horn Society and NFWF RESTORE. The objective is to reduce forest density with mechanical and hand crews as well as increase soil retention and establish quality browse with aerial seeding. The project would reduce competition with livestock and increase carrying capacity on public lands. They are seeking funding from both the local HPP committee and State Council. Additionally, they are requesting a letter of support from the committee for their NFWF application. **The project was approved for \$25,000 for mechanical/hand treatment and seed purchase and a support letter will be provided.**

**Next Meeting: February 15, 2023**