



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Uncompahgre HPP Committee

Phone Call Conference
September 7th, 2022 - 8:30pm

Uncompahgre HPP Members Present: Thane Stranathan, BLM; Todd Stewart, Livestock Grower; Bobby Gray, Sportsman; Kelly Crane, CPW; Loren Paulson, USFS

New Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews:

1. The committee reviewed a pond project from Ella Marolf. The project had been approved in FY21 and FY22; however multiple issues with contractors and timing prevented implementation. The existing pond was constructed in the 1970s, and has been a reliable source of water for wildlife. However, in the past several years pond's storage capacity has been reduced by 50% or more, and frequently runs dry by the end of the summer. The project involves removing the silt and debris, resealing the pond, and using extracted materials to reinforce the dam. The project was approved for 50% of costs up to \$5,000.00.
2. Todd Stewart presented a pond cleaning proposal on USFS allotments. The project area is located in important transitional and winter range for deer and elk. Previously, a number of ponds on the property provided sufficient water for both livestock and big game; however in recent years the ponds have become silted in and no longer hold water. This causes livestock and wildlife to concentrate around creeks and riparian areas, resulting in poor distribution and utilization of habitat and conflicts for water sources. The project includes cleaning 4 ponds and excavating 1 new pond. Improving water storage capacity and availability will result in better grazing distribution and reduce competition between livestock and wildlife for water sources. The project was approved for 50% of costs up to \$3,750.00.

Next Meeting: November 9 @ 6:30pm