



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Grand Mesa HPP Committee Meeting
August 17, 2023 at 1:00 pm
Rifle, CO

Committee Members Present:

- Ivan Archer - CPW
- Eric Bruton - Livestock Grower
- Joe Fazzi - Livestock (proxy)
- Forrest Towns - Livestock Grower
- Harley Metz - Sports. (proxy)
- Erin Kowalski - BLM
- Heidi Plank - USFS (proxy)

Attendees Present:

- Russel Knight - BLM
- Travis Bybee - CPW
- Scott Hoyer - CPW

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kale Watson

Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$0.00.

Old Business

The minutes from the June 8th meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Bruton Fence- Eric Bruton presented a fence project to the committee. The project site experiences year-round use by elk and seasonal use by deer and moose. The current fence is approximately 50 years old and is in need of replacement. The scope of the project includes replacing $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of fence with new wildlife-friendly fencing. The new fence will have several gates placed strategically at known big game crossing and will be left open in late fall to allow big game to cross easier and reduce of risk of entanglement. **The project was approved for \$3,118.40 and 2 rolls of high-visibility vinyl wire.**

*Administrative Note- \$3,118.40 of the project funding was approved by HPP Manager.

Horsethief Mountain Guzzler- Scott Hoyer presented a water guzzler project to the committee. The project was previously approved in FY23; however, after supply issues and timing with the vendor, the project was not implemented. The scope of the project

includes installing two wildlife guzzlers in the Horsethief Mountain area to provide more water sources for big game on public lands. **The project was approved for \$1,200.00.**
*Administrative Note- \$1,200.00 of project funding approved by HPP Manager.

Remaining Committee Business

Fertilizer Vouchers- The committee discussed the fertilizer voucher program and options to revamp guidelines to ensure equity for all landowners who utilize them. The committee decided upon a cap of 18% of the total fertilizer bill. Landowners are eligible to receive 18% of the total bill, not to exceed the predetermined voucher limit.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.