

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

White River HPP Committee Meeting August 21, 2023 at 5:30 pm CPW Office- Meeker, CO

Committee Members Present:

□ Bailev Franklin - CPW

☐ Lenny Klinglesmith - Livestock Grower

⊠ Rich Parr - Sportsperson

✓ Mary Taylor - BLM✓ Curtis Keetch - USFS

Administrative Assistant Present:

Marian Cole

Attendees Present:

Mike Swaro- CPW
Cory Bullen- CPW
Terry Wygant- CPW
Danielle Johnston- CPW
Wade Cox- Applicant
Rosaly Coombs- Applicant
Adair Norman- Applicant
Tad Edwards- Applicant
Andre Delcalzo- USFS
Dave Bean

<u>Introductions</u>

Committee members and attendees were introduced.

Budget Report

The remaining budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$149,500.00.

Old Business

Minutes- The minutes from the June 9th meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Grady Ranch Brush Thinning- The committee reviewed a project to thin dense sagebrush and shrubs to effectively target noxious weeds on approximately 25 acres. The project would utilize equipment to mow and create access trails to areas where weed treatments are necessary. Bailey abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for up to \$1,500.00.

<u>Meeker Dome Aerial Weed Control</u>- The committee reviewed an aerial cheatgrass treatment for approximately 93 acres. The project would implement a fall application of Rejuvra to mitigate cheatgrass and allow for the establishment of more desirable forage for wildlife and livestock. The project was approved for up to \$1,000.00.

Cox Ranch Reseeding- Wade Cox presented a seeding project to reestablish approximately 10 acres of hay meadows that have been heavily grazed by elk during

the growing season. Elk have targeted fields with oats and alfalfa, therefore, the project aims to reseed without either to prevent continued elk damage. The project was approved for up to \$1,850.00

<u>Coombs Stackyard</u>- The committee approved materials to construct a custom stackyard from the State Council Stackyard Fund.

<u>Norman Stackyard</u>- The committee approved materials to construct a custom stackyard from the State Council Stackyard Fund.

<u>4M Ranch Stackyard</u>- The committee approved materials to construct a 990 stackyard from the State Council Stackyard Fund.

<u>CPW Oak Ridge SWA Virtual Fence</u>- Cory Bullen presented a virtual fence project for the Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area (SWA). The project aims to implement 3 virtual fence base stations and collars for cattle. With the implementation of virtual fence, interior fences on the SWA would be removed for the benefit of wildlife and to allow for better grazing distribution across the landscape. Bailey abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for up to \$29,950.00.

<u>CPW Oak Ridge SWA Weed Control</u>- Bailey Franklin presented a weed control project for the Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area that aims to treat approximately 300 acres. A particular area of the SWA has a leafy spurge infestation. In addition to treatments done by staff and other contractors, this project will implement a noxious weed management plan and utilize new herbicide to target the noxious weeds. Bailey abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for up to \$25,000.00 from the State Council SWA Fund.

<u>CPW Oak Ridge SWA Aerial Weed Control</u>- The committee reviewed an aerial cheatgrass treatment for approximately 163 acres on the Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area. The project goal is to reduce cheatgrass and improve forage for wintering wildlife on the SWA. This project will expand upon treatments conducted in 2022. Bailey abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for up to \$3,912.00 from the State Council SWA Fund.

Remaining Committee Business

FY24 Voucher Programs- The committee approved each voucher program as follows:

- a. Herbicide Voucher Program- Approved for up to \$30,000.00.
- b. Pond Voucher Program- Approved for up to \$10,000.00.

Roundtable

<u>Colorado Seed Tool</u>- Danielle Johnston presented the new Colorado Seed Tool phone application that is now available for download.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 pm.