

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

HPP State Council Committee
January 5, 2023 12:30pm - 1:30pm Hybrid Meeting

<u>State Council HPP Members, Manager, Assistant Present</u>: Ty Bevan, Robbie LeValley, Todd Peterson, Brian Dreher, Greg Jungman, Sheila Lamb, Michael Blanck, Teri Polley

Additional Attendees & Guests: Garett Watson, Jeff Belveal, Marian Cole, Brittney Freeman, Kale Watson

<u>Karval SWA Fence Project</u> - Jeff Belveal submitted an application for funding 3 miles of fence up to \$25,000 for boundary fence replacement and cattle guard at the Karval State Wildlife Area installed over fifty years ago. The council agreed to fund the project given the additional criteria of fixing the land survey and addressing the water source conflict being resolved before an actual hard fence is installed that will use the visible fence wire. If these two items cannot be resolved then the council will rethink the project before moving forward.

NFWF RESTORE Habitat 5-Year Grant - The state council discussed the NFWF RESTORE five-year project. The change in the HPP legislation and having spending authority have increased the HPP scope which allows smaller committees additional avenues to put HPP funds to work. Rather than contributing funds to RESTORE this fiscal year, Michael suggested keeping funds available for projects that fall outside of the committee boundaries. Michael anticipates increased interactions with the new Habitat Coordinator, Casey Cooley, and his new Habitat Section. The council encouraged Michael to have further discussions with Chris and gather additional information for the council.