

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Gunnison Basin HPP Committee Meeting May 2, 2023 at 11:00 am Gunnison, CO

Committee Members Present:

⊠Nick Gallowich - CPW

☑ Paul Mowery - Livestock Grower☑ Steven Guerrieri - Livestock Grower☑ Shane Cox - Livestock Grower

☑ Kathy Brodhead - BLM☑ Dayle Funka - USFS

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kale Watson

<u>Introductions</u>

Committee Members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$32,526.64.

Old Business

The minutes from the August 15th meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Harris Allotment Fence- Kathy Brodhead presented a fence project to the committee. Numerous fences on the Harris Allotment, Gold Basin, and Houston Gulch Exclosure are necessary for grazing management but act as barriers to wildlife. Many of them are not wildlife friendly and prevent big game, fawns, and calves from crossing the fences without the potential for entanglement. A portion of the exclosures cross wetland/riparian/pond areas that frequently need repair because the posts do not hold up in the soft ground. Cattle are also able to easily pressure the weak fence lines to enter the exclosures. These properties experience year-round use by elk and deer and are in critical winter range. The project scope includes replacing 2.4 miles of high-visibility vinyl top wire and 2.6 miles of fence with a new steel buck and rail (jack) fence. The project was approved for \$18,000.00.

Attendees Present:

Brandon Diamond

Remaining Committee Business

<u>Future Projects</u>- Nick Gallowich gave the committee a quick update on a fence project that will be coming to the table in the future.

<u>Meeting Schedule-</u> The next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2023, at the Gunnison CPW Office.

Roundtable

<u>HPP Bi-Annual Conference</u> -Nick Gallowich gave the committee a quick overview of what was learned and discussed at the HPP Bi-annual Conference in January.

<u>Virtual Fence-</u> The committee discussed virtual fencing and the possibility of projects coming to the table in the future.

Wolf- Brandon Diamond gave the committee a wolf update.

<u>Adjourn</u>

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.