

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

North Fork HPP Committee Meeting May 1, 2024 at 6:30 pm Hotchkiss, CO

Committee Members Present:

□Vacant - CPW

⊠Ross Allen - Livestock Grower Steve Kossler - Livestock Grower

⊠Cody DeGuelle - Sportsperson

- BLM ☐ Ken Holsinger ⊠Kyler McCarrel - USFS

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kale Watson

✓ Jess Campbell

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

Introductions

The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$12,000.00.

- Livestock Grower

Old Business

The minutes from the March 28th meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Hawk Conservation Easement- Nick Jacobson from Colorado West Land Trust presented a conservation easement of an approximate 270 acre property north of Crawford to the committee. The property is surrounded by other private ranches with the West Elk Wilderness, BLM and USFS land in close proximity. This is area is key winter range to elk and supports mule deer year round. Hawk Ranch and other adjacent ranches are subject to risk of further subdivision and development. By entering into a perpetual conservation easement, this will allow for the land to serve as agricultural land and vital wildlife habitat. The project was approved for \$8,000.00.

FY24 Fertilizer/Seed Voucher Applications- The committee reviewed fertilizer and seed voucher applications. There were 19 applicants for a total of 2,286 acres. The committee approved \$20.32 per acre with a \$4,000.00 cap, for a project cost of \$42,000.00.

Attendees Present:

Robbie LeVallev Kurt Grimm Nick Jacobson Kayla Friedrich- CPW Kevin Bryan- CPW Adam Wallerstein - CPW This is the first time the committee has used a universal system for fertilizer, some landowners received a significantly smaller voucher than in years past. In order to help all landowners with this transition year the committee will schedule a meeting closer to the end of the FY to discuss this.

Remaining Committee Business

<u>Meeting Schedule-</u> The next meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Delta County Fairgrounds.

Roundtable

<u>McClusky SWA Weed Control</u> The committee had a brief discussion with Kirk Grimm about the McClusky Weed Control project and approaches to take this FY to combat the noxious weeds on the property. This project was previously approved by the committee at the June 20, 2023 meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.