Habitat Partnership Program Meeting Minutes

White River Committee Meeting
December 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.
Meeker, CO

Committee Members Present:

- ☑ Bailey Franklin - CPW
- ☑ Lenny Klinglesmith - Livestock Grower
- ☑ Angelo Theos - Livestock Grower
- ☑ Jim Brennan - Livestock Grower
- ☐ VACANT - Sportsperson
- ☐ Kyle Arnold - BLM
- ☑ Curtis Keetch - USFS

Attendees Present:

Mary Taylor
John Taylor
Rich Parr
Carol Parr
Mike Swaro
Trevor Balzer
Jonathan Lambert

Administrative Assistant Present:
Kale Watson

Introductions
Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report
The budget balance at the start of the meeting was $35,320.17.

Old Business
The meeting minutes from the October 3rd meeting were approved as written.

New Business

Project Applications-

Sheridan Stackyard:

The committee approved materials to construct a 990 stockyard, **up to $5,000.00 was approved.**

BLM Boise Creek Allotment White Wire:

The committee reviewed a fence project from the BLM White River Field Office. The scope of the project includes installing 1 mile of white wire along a wildlife-friendly fence bordering Highway 64 on the Boise Creek Allotment. **The committee approved 4 rolls of white wire.**

Oak Ridge SWA Weed Control:
Mike Swaro presented a weed control project for Oak Ridge SWA. The scope of the project includes spraying 96 acres of noxious weeds. The SWA lies within important big-game habitat and experiences year-round use by elk and deer. Control of noxious weeds on the SWA will help ensure that big game have better forage and reduce the potential spread of noxious weeds to neighboring properties. **The project was approved for $7,060.00 out of State Council SWA Funds.**

Piceance SWA, Square S Virtual Fencing:
Mike Swaro presented a virtual fencing project on the Piceance SWA (Square S Unit). Virtual fencing has been used on the property for the past two grazing seasons, and has observed range benefits and riparian habitat enhancement. The scope of the project includes implementing virtual fencing on the SWA for the 2025 grazing season. **The project was approved for $8,500.00 out of State Council SWA Funds.**

Remaining Committee Business-

Retirement Recognition Awards:
The committee presented retirement awards to Rich Parr and Mary Taylor for their service to the White River HPP Committee.

WRCD Letter of Support:
The committee had a brief discussion about a letter of support to the White River Conservation District.

Meeting Schedule:
The next meeting is TBD.

Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.