



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Uncompahgre HPP Committee Meeting
May 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Montrose, CO

Committee Members Present:

☒ Kelly Crane	- CPW
☒ Dave Alexander	- Livestock Grower
☒ Todd Stewart	- Livestock Grower
☒ Doug Dillon	- Livestock Grower
☒ Bobby Gray	- Sportsperson
☒ Thane Stranathan	- BLM
☒ Luke Holguin	- USFS

Attendees Present:

Zandon Bray- Applicant
Lance Bray- Applicant
Bruce Irvine- Applicant
Nick Jacobson- CWLT
Monica Garcia- CCALT
Howard Hettinger- Applicant
Julie Hettinger- Applicant
Mary Caddy - CPW

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kale Watson

Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

FY24- The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$69,181.52.

FY25- The budget balance starting July 1, 2024 is \$162,000.00

Old Business

Minutes- The minutes from the February 7th meeting were approved as written.

West Draw Pond- This project was previously approved by the committee at the August 30, 2024 meeting. Due to contractor availability and fiscal year timelines the project will not be able to be completed by the end of the fiscal year. The scope of the project included constructing a new pond on the property to provide more water resources for big game and livestock. **The project was approved \$3,037.50 for FY25.**

New Business

Enstrom Fence- The committee reviewed a fence repair project from Paul Enstrom. The property is located in important big game habitat and experiences year round use by elk and deer. The scope of the project includes repairing various portions of fence on the property that have been damaged by big game. **The project was approved for \$500.00.**

Bray Ranch Virtual Fence- Zandon Bray presented a virtual fence project to the committee. The scope of the project is to implement a virtual fencing system on the Lone Cone Allotment. Rough terrain and wildlife conflicts are a major concern on this property. The project site

experience year round use by deer and elk. The project aims to implement a virtual fencing system to allow the permittee to control range utilization and reduce entanglement risks for big game. **The project was approved for \$17,000.00.**

North Bend Ranch Conservation Easement- Nick Jacobson from Colorado West Land Trust presented a conservation easement for an approximate 114-acre property along the Dolores River. The property is surrounded by other private ranches and in close proximity to BLM lands. Elk and deer use the property year-round. The North Bend Ranch and other adjacent ranches are subject to further subdivision and development risk. Entering into a perpetual conservation easement will allow the land to serve as agricultural lands and vital wildlife habitat. **The project was approved for \$5,875.00.**

FY25 Potter Ranch Stackyard- The committee reviewed a stackyard project from John and Mike Potter. A growing elk herd in the valley has caused hay loss to their operation. The project's scope includes constructing two stackyards to protect hay from big game. CPW's Game Damage program will provide stackyard materials. **The project was approved for \$4,134.65 for FY25.**

FY25 Hank's Creek Ranch Conservation Easement- Monica Garcia with the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust presented a conservation easement of an approximate 160 acre property located within the Uncompahgre National Forest. The property is used seasonally by elk and deer. Placing a perpetual conservation easement on the property will ensure that it will not be subdivided or developed, which ensures that the wildlife habitat remains intact. **The project was approved for \$25,000.00 for FY25.**

FY25 Budget- The committee reviewed and approved the following annual vouchers and projects for FY25:

- a) Fertilizer Vouchers- **The committee approved \$32,400.00 for fertilizer vouchers.**
- b) Game Damage Emergency Funds- **The committee approved to set aside \$5,000.00 for game damage emergency funds.**

Remaining Committee Business

Virtual Fence Workshop- The committee discussed holding a potential virtual fence workshop. Once the details have been finalized, they will be shared and a flyer will be distributed.

Fertilizer Vouchers- The committee had a discussion about revisiting fertilizer vouchers at a meeting before the end of the FY.

Meeting Schedule- The committee tentatively approved the following meeting dates for FY25:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
August 28, 2024	6:30 pm	Montrose CPW Office
November 6, 2024	6:30 pm	Montrose CPW Office
*February 5, 2025	6:30 pm	Montrose CPW Office
May 7, 2025	6:30 pm	Montrose CPW Office

*Fertilizer Meeting

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.