



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Lower Colorado River HPP Committee Meeting

August 22, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

Eagle County Government Building

Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Darren Chacon - CPW
- ☒ Loyd Gerard - Livestock Grower
- ☒ Pat Luark - Livestock Grower
- ☒ Mike Gosha - Livestock Grower
- ☒ Rick Bumgardner - Sportsman
- ☐ Nick Jaramillo - BLM
- ☒ Phil Nyland - USFS (virtual)

Attendees Present:

Matt Yamashita - CPW
Peter Boyatt- CPW
Brian Woodrich- CPW
Layton Stutsman- CPW
Jim Biar
Phil Kirkman
Brittany Krieger

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kayla Friedrich

Introductions

Committee members and attendees were introduced.

Budget Report

The committee discussed the FY25 Budget. The committee would like to unencumber the \$7,003.50 from the Kencove order that was not used. The budget was approved.

Old Business

The July 10, 2024, meeting minutes were approved as written.

New Business

CRMS Pettit Pasture Fencing- Bill Gavette was not able to attend the meeting. AAWM Darren Chacon spoke on what he knew about the project. The project would provide wildlife-friendly fencing on the North side of the 20 acre pasture. The committee had set a \$2.50/ft. rule for fencing projects at the previous meeting. The committee approved funding the project for \$1,250.00 for 500ft of fencing.

Bair Ranch Pond Cleanouts- Jim Bair presented a pond cleaning project to the committee. There are 34 ponds on Bair Ranch that need cleaned out, some were impacted during the 2020 fires and 2021 mud slides and others are in need of routine maintenance. He also presented developing 4 springs that are located on the ranch as well. The stock ponds provide water for livestock as well as wildlife. DWM's Stutsman and Boyatt spoke on the abundance of wildlife in the area and that this would be a

good project. The committee discussed taking care of the weeds on the property as well and encouraged Jim to speak with the BLM about seeding. The committee approved the project for up to \$29,260.00 for labor and materials.

Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space Fencing Overhaul- Phil Kirkman from the Eagle County Open Space presented a fencing project that would repair over 50,000ft of outdated and dilapidated barbed wire fence throughout Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space. The Open Space already has some fencing materials and are requesting approximately 12 rolls of vinyl top wire from HPP. DWM Layton Stutsman spoke on the many elk that cross these fences and that it is in need of repair. AAWM Darren Chacon suggested entertaining more hunting opportunities on the property as well. The committee approved providing 12 rolls of white vinyl wire and accessories. Loyd abstained from the vote.

CPW Area 8 SWA Weed Control-Darren Chacon presented a continuation of the weed control project to treat approximately 600 acres in the Basalt and Gypsum Ponds SWAs. The ongoing weed treatment will improve feed and forage for elk and deer utilizing the properties. The Area will continue to work with neighboring properties to address infestations and promote treatment to increase long-term success. Darren Chacon abstained from the approval decision. The project was approved for up to \$15,000 from the State Council SWA fund.

Game Damage Vouchers- DWM Layton Stutsman presented utilizing game damage vouchers to the committee. He discussed hosting two hunters on the open space property and also the ability to issue them when there are problems. The committee approved 15 vouchers committee wide.

Remaining Committee Business

Potential Spring Project: Old Man's Gulch- DWM Layton Stutsman discussed a potential clearing project for spring 2025. The project would start in April and last 4-6 weeks. State Land Board and Eagle County would contribute with HPP. The project still needs regional approval.

Next Meeting- The committee scheduled the next meeting for February 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the CPW Glenwood Springs Office.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.