



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

San Luis Valley HPP Committee

October 1, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Via Google Meet

Committee Members Present:

- Brent Woodward - CPW
- Mark Bechaver - Livestock Grower
- Carol Lee Dugan - Livestock Grower
- Richard Davie - Livestock Grower
- Dale Gomez - Sportsperson
- Eduardo Duran - BLM
- Kevin Duda - USFS
- Dean Lee - USFWS

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kimberly Berscheid

Attendees Present:

Tyler Cerny - CPW
Mark Wagner - CSFS
Scott Nilson - BLM

Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$97,500.

New Business

Rock Creek Mastication Project - Mark Wagner

Mark Wagner with the Colorado State Forest Service and Scott Nilson with the BLM presented the Rock Creek Mastication Project in Rio Grande County. The project encompasses 170 acres and will reduce pinyon/juniper canopies to increase forage availability for big game and reduce wildfire potential. The project also aims to minimize game damage to neighboring agriculture by holding big game for extended periods. The BLM and CSFS will contribute \$413,050.52 to treat 597 acres of private and BLM land and in-kind labor. Additional funding sources are pending approval and will be used to treat additional acres. **The project was approved for up to \$52,000 from the SLVHPP Budget and \$35,319.56 from the HPP Manager Discretionary Funding, for a total of \$87,319.56 to treat all areas up from the meadows for FY25.**

Remaining Committee Business

Meeting Schedule -

The next SLV HPP Committee meeting is December 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Office in Monte Vista.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.