



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

San Luis Valley HPP Committee Meeting
March 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
CPW Office - Monte Vista, CO

Committee Members Present:

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

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kimberly Berscheid

Attendees Present:

James Harmon - Applicant
Danny and Denise Temple - Applicants
Cathy Hagan - BLM
Meg Shelley - USFS (V)
Mick Davis - Landowner
Lucianos Sandoval - USFS
Gary Dirks - Landowner
William Miedema - CPW

Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$60,040.

Old Business

The meeting minutes from January 17, 2024, were approved as written.

New Business

Vence Project Update - Meg Shelley and Cathy Hagan

Meg Shelley and Cathy Hagan provided an update on the virtual fence project that the committee contributed funding for. They shared the successes and challenges experienced during the previous grazing season. Overall, the project has been successful, and they are looking forward to next year.

Osier Range Water Development (FY25) - James Harmon

James Harmon and Lucianos Sandoval presented a water development project for FY25. The Cumbres La Manga Cattle Association holds the grazing permit for the Cumbres C&H allotment comprised of 11 pastures and 7,655 acres in the Conejos Peak Ranger District.

Grazing has been limited in these pastures due to a lack of water and livestock concentrate in riparian areas causing damage. The project would encompass drilling a new well, installing pipeline, and 3 - 15,000 gallon storage tanks to supply water to 7 tire tanks throughout the pastures furthering increasing rotational grazing capabilities in the allotment.

The committee discussed the project with James and asked that he reapply when the project is planned further to include permittees contributions and any additional funding awards.

Temple Well Project - Danny and Denise Temple

Danny and Denise Temple presented a well project on the Tracy Common Allotment. The allotment will lose water rights to a private well in February 2025 thus reducing grazing opportunities in the allotment. The project will include drilling a new well, installing a solar pump system, and burying 860' of pipe that will provide water to 26 tanks. Water will be available from May through October (subject to weather patterns) and provide a critical resource for wildlife and livestock. Plans include adding 4 tanks to increase grazing distribution on the landscape further.

BLM Permittees and The BLM Advisory Board (pending approval at the time of the meeting) will contribute funding for well drilling and labor, and NRCS will contribute pipe.

The project was approved for up to \$22,275, contingent on the BLM Advisory Board funding approval, for well drilling and solar pump installation costs. If the well site is dry, the committee will pay half of the drilling costs up to 400'. Carol Lee Dugan abstained from voting on the project.

Remaining Committee Business

Meeting Schedule -

The next SLV HPP Committee meeting is TBD.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.