



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

South Park HPP Committee Meeting

July 9, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Fairplay Community Center, Fairplay

Committee Members Present:

- Brance Anderson - CPW
- Steve Allard - Livestock Grower
- John Woodward - Livestock Grower
- Webb Smith - Livestock Grower
- Randy Tingle - Sportsperson
- Christine Cloninger - BLM
- Sheila Lamb - USFS

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kimberly Berscheid

Attendees Present:

Mark Lamb - CPW
Jill Smith - Applicant
Michael Blanck - CPW
Allen Kerby - Sportsperson's Candidate
Ray Douglas - Sportsperson's Candidate
Vickie Russo - USFS
Mark Fisher - CPW
Colt Smith - Sportsperson's Candidate

Introductions

Committee members were introduced.

Budget Report

The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$70,000.

Old Business

The March 20, 2024, minutes were approved with a correction to the Marksbury-Thorpe Project award details.

New Business

Term Limit Policy Discussion-

Michael Blanck, HPP Program Manager, presented the Term Limit Policy and answered questions. The committee discussed advertising the Livestock Growers position and plans to conduct interviews at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Round Mountain SLB Herbicide Project-

Jill Smith presented an herbicide project to treat Canadian thistle on the Round Mountain SLB property. The infestation is crowding out native forage for big game and livestock. Treating the Canadian Thistle will promote native grasses and increase forage availability. Jill will contribute labor and equipment for the herbicide application.

The project was approved for \$1,200 to treat 20 acres of Canadian Thistle.

FY25 Committee Meals and Operating Expenses-

The committee approved allocating \$500 for working meeting meals and \$750 for operating expenses, including advertising vacancies and committee member recognition.

FY25 Voucher Programs:

- **Herbicide Reimbursement Vouchers:** The South Park HPP committee will herbicide voucher program. The committee administrative assistant will contact the Teller Park County Conservation District to inquire about a cost-share program. A meeting will be scheduled to approve the changes to the herbicide vouchers. **Current approval will remain the same as FY24. \$500 per voucher, \$5,000 project total for FY25.**
- **Fence Reimbursement Vouchers:** The South Park HPP committee will continue to provide eligible landowners with reimbursements of up to \$750 for fence materials to repair damages caused by big game animals on private agricultural property or grazed public lands within the SPHPP committee boundaries. The SPHPP committee requires that the landowner have a minimum of 160 acres, be engaged in agricultural production or livestock operations, and allow a reasonable number of hunters access to their property during big game seasons. **\$750 per voucher, \$3,000 project total for FY25. Landowners who receive reimbursements are not eligible for the Fence Materials Pick-up.**
- **Fence Materials Pick-up (stockpile):** The South Park HPP committee will continue to provide eligible landowners with up to \$750 worth of fencing materials or 3 rolls of high-visibility wire from the stockpile to repair damages caused by big game animals on private agricultural property or grazed public lands within the SPHPP committee boundaries. The SPHPP committee requires that landowners have a minimum of 160 acres, be engaged in agriculture production or livestock operations, and allow a reasonable number of hunters access to their property during big game seasons. A materials authorization form must be signed by a DWM and returned to the committee administrative assistant for inventory tracking. **\$20,000 budget allocation to purchase stockpile materials for FY25. Landowners who receive materials from the stockpile are not eligible for a fence reimbursement voucher.**

Remaining Committee Business

PH-30 Herd Management Plan-

Mark Fisher, a Wildlife Biologist with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, presented the herd management plan to the committee. PH-30 licenses continue to be highly sought after and offer quality hunting. The proposed changes are to increase the current herd management objective of 1,000-1,200 pronghorn to 1,100-1,400 and bracket the herd's sex ratio at present, raising the objective from 30-35 bucks per 100 does to 35-40 bucks per 100 does. **The SPHPP committee supports the PH-30 HMP changes, and a letter will be provided to Mark Fisher.**

Sportsperson's Candidate Interviews-

The committee interviewed three candidates for the position. Each applicant was well qualified and brought their strengths, knowledge, and experiences. After discussion the committee agreed to select Allen Kerby to fill the Sportsperson's vacancy. All the candidates were thanked for their time and encouraged to apply for upcoming vacancies.

Meeting Schedule-

The next committee meeting is TBD.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:05 p.m.