

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES Conference Call April 29, 2020 1:00pm

<u>Introductions:</u> Members attending the meeting were: DWM Darren Chacon/CPW, Scot Dodero/Livestock Grower, Pat Luark/Livestock Grower, Hilary Boyd/BLM, Phil Nyland/USFS, Jim Nieslanik/Livestock Grower, and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW.

Guests attending the meeting were: John Powers, Fred Kuersten, DWM Brian Gray, AWM Matt Yamashita, and HPP Coordinator Pat Tucker.

General Public Comments: None.

Budget Report: Samantha presented committee members with a budget report; the remaining balance at the beginning of the meeting was \$70,195.00.

<u>Old Business</u>: Minutes from March 4th were presented and approved as written.

New Business: Powers Ranch Riparian Area Fence: The proposed fence is part of a riparian restoration effort on Rifle Creek. It's the continuation of a project approved by HPP two years ago, the fence is needed to keep cattle out. The project site is south of the golf course. The committee approved \$1,375.00 for the project.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: SC-Arch Surveys, Tamarisk, June Meeting: Pat passed along State Council updates. Required clearances are the responsibility of the proposing agency, however it may be appropriate to solicit money from HPP if the agency can immediately implement the project after the HPP clearance work is completed. Lastly, while controlling tamarisk may be desirable, such control is outside of HPP's purpose for big game/ag conflicts or game mgmt. objectives. The State Council tentatively has a meeting scheduled for June 23 and 24.

Select Next Meeting Date: July 1 at 1pm. Future Agenda Items: Chair/Co-Chair & Program Promotion. Craig Wescoatt missed this meeting deadline, has a landowner with a fence proposal looking to fence out cattle to leave forage for wildlife. Darren said the committee will not hold any more meetings this fiscal year. Pat mentioned that for the foreseeable future meetings will not be in-person, difficult to cut attendance off at 10 people. Applications are due by the agenda deadline so the information can be shared ahead of time.

<u>Roundtable</u>: Scot-Asked if HPP money is in danger due to budget cuts. Pat said as of right now it is not a concern.

Phil-Asked about mountain lion comments. Matt explained that they are looking for input from local people. Phil also mentioned that the Covid-19 has put a hold on any prescribed fires. Sam-Reminded everyone that applications need to be downloaded from the website each time. Jim-Asked if he could use any money left over from his aerial treatment to purchase herbicide. Sam didn't think that was appropriate since that's not what was proposed and approved. Hilary-Gave an update on the Elk Ridge Cultural Survey and the Sutey Ranch Goat Rx. Folks are welcome to get in touch with her if they're interested in touring the site.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:45pm.