

## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES Conference Call June 18, 2020 7:00pm

<u>Introductions:</u> Participants introduced themselves as they joined the conference call. **Members present were:** Tara Wertz/USFWS, Todd Peterson/Sportsperson, Tifany Rubalcaba/BLM, DWM Jacob Way/CPW, Blaine Evans/Livestock Grower, and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW. **Guests present were:** DWM Zach Weaver.

**General Public Comments:** None

<u>Budget Report:</u> Members were provided with a FY20 and FY21 budget report. The State Council increase local committee budgets by 10% for the next two years. Tara asked for an update on fence vouchers; Samantha reported that 4 out of the 8 had been redeemed thus far and everyone had purchased their materials from Timberline.

**Old Business:** Draft minutes from April 27 were approved as written.

Stackyard Materials Cost Share: Samantha let the committee know that a landowner cannot purchase half of their stackyard materials from game damage. Three other options include 1) asking the landowner to purchase 100% of the materials then HPP can reimburse them for half. 2) HPP can order half of the materials from game damage and provide the landowner with a list of the remaining materials they'd need to purchase on their own. 3) HPP can deny a stackyard request and then game damage will furnish 100% of the materials. The committee voiced concern over obtaining materials for one stackyard from two different vendors, worried about the consistency of materials. There was also some confusion over option three and the committee would like further clarification from Pat Tucker. With regard to the Owl Mountain materials request the committee would like to have a HPP representative place the order through a local vendor so HPP and the landowner can split the total cost.

New Business: VanValkenburg & Castle Peak Stackyard Requests: The VanValkenburg stackyard had originally been approved for a 50/50 cost share of materials but Jacob since found out that the Ranch does qualify for game damage and would instead like assistance with construction. The committee approved 75% of labor needed to construct a 300'x480' stackyard w/ 3 gates. The Castle Peak stackyard didn't make it on the last agenda in time. They are seeking assistance with construction of a 990 double with 4' tall gates and hog panels on the bottom. They are eligible for game damage so they will order their own materials. The committee approved 75%

of labor needed to construct the stackyard. Samantha pointed out that they committee would need to go with the cheapest bid so there's really no need to discuss the quotes received by potential contractors.

Vinyl Wire Purchase or Vouchers: Samantha asked if the committee would like to place an order for wire to keep on hand or move back to the voucher system. Ultimately it was decided that the voucher system would work best so as to avoid keeping an inventory.

Roslyn Ranch Vinyl Wire: The request for 8 rolls of vinyl wire will be handled with vouchers.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: FY21 NP Road Decommission Zone Change: Tifany let the committee know that her original application indicated they would be decommissioning roads in multiple zones but now they are only planning to tackle roads within zone H. The maps were discussed and Blaine asked to be mailed the maps. A total of 18.7 miles of road will be closed and marked with signage.

Select Next Meeting Date: August 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Future Agenda Items: Stackyard cost share clarification. Zach mentioned he'll be working on a winter riparian SLB project.

**Roundtable:** Blaine-with 10% increase it would be nice to do some habitat projects. The committee discussed promoting the program by sharing the HPP flier with some local groups. Jacob-read out loud the statute regarding eligibility of game damage materials after a denial by HPP.

**<u>Adjournment:</u>** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:29pm.