

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Montelores HPP Committee

Mancos NRCS Building - 604 Bauer Ave November 9th, 2021 5:30 p.m.

<u>HPP Members Present</u>: Tanner Young, livestock grower; Ivan Messinger, USFS; Nate West, BLM; John Sheek, sportsman; Andy Brown, CPW; Eldon Simmons, livestock grower

Guests: Gregg Ragan, Casey Warner

Introductions & Budget Report:

Committee members and guests were introduced. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$57,269.25.

New Business:

- 1. Gregg Ragan and Casey Warner presented a fencing proposal. The property experiences heavy big game use in the spring, fall, and winter, especially during migration. Some existing woven wire fence that had been used for cattle and sheep is present, however it is old and in severe disrepair, and does not properly contain livestock. The existing fence also presents entanglement risks for big game, resulting in wildlife injury or death, or abnormal big game distribution in the area. The project involves removing 2950-feet (approximately .6 miles) of existing woven wire fence and clearing the fence right-of-way. A new wildlife-friendly fence that meets HPP specifications for wire spacing will be constructed, including a high-visibility topwire. This will increase the ability of big game to move throughout the property without becoming entangled while still containing livestock, and will help prevent future big game damage to the fence. The project was approved for \$6,238.00 for materials.
- 2. Tanner Young presented a solar well project proposal. The property experiences transitional use by deer and elk, and includes approximately 200 acres. The surrounding area is very dry, and both livestock and wildlife rely on stored water throughout the vicinity. An existing well has been drilled, but the pump and infrastructure needs to be installed. The water would be pumped into two 8-ft tanks, and the water is expected to be pumped year-round. The well currently produces 1.3 3 gallons per minute per the contractor testing. The project was approved for \$5,000 for pump installation.

Next Meeting: March 1, 2022 @ 5:30