



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2021

Video/Conference Call

Committee members present:

- Justin Foster, CPW
- Lars Larson, Livestock Growers
- Conrad Swanson, Livestock Growers
- Dale Oberlag, USFS
- Raechel Nelson, Livestock Growers
- Joe Straley, Sportsmen

Administrative Assistant: Kimberly Berscheid

Guests: Zach Thode (Landowner), Seth Schwolert (CPW Wildlife Technician).

Meeting was called to order at 5:16pm

Budget Report

The budget was reviewed.

Old Business

New Business

Cherokee SWA Noxious Weed/Cheatgrass Management – Seth Schwolert

Seth is asking the committee for \$4,990 to purchase herbicide to treat noxious weeds and cheatgrass on the Cherokee SWA. CPW will be providing labor for Seth Schwolert and a temporary employee, along with equipment required to apply the herbicide.

The project was approved for up to \$4,990 to purchase herbicide for the project.

10 Mile Highway Crossing – Richard Knight and Zach Thode

Richard and Zach are asking the committee for up to \$1,200 to purchase the materials to retrofit an underpass for wildlife crossings. This underpass allows for safe crossing from east to west during the summer to migrate, eliminating vehicle collisions and injured wildlife on Highway 287. Students from Mr. Knight's class will be providing the labor to remove the current

barrier, adding a new barrier to allow for ungulate travel and preventing cattle from passing. The landowners will be contributing their labor to acquire the materials and an augur for drilling the holes.

The project was approved for up to \$1,200 to purchase the materials for the project.

Committee Meeting Meals/Operating Expenses

The committee is allowed \$500 for working meeting meals. The committee would also like \$500 for committee operating expenses, which will include expenses for committee member recognition.

FY 2022 Voucher Program Renewal

Fencing

The fencing voucher program will be renewed for FY 2022 with a total budget of \$12,000 with the following rules:

- Applicants must own the land the fence is on and they must own a minimum of 160 acres.
- Only eligible materials can be reimbursed. Eligible materials are listed on vouchers.
- Qualifying landowners will receive a voucher that is good at Poudre Valley Co-op only. Voucher amounts are based on acreage as follows:
 - 160-600 acres = \$200 voucher
 - 600-1000 acres = \$300 voucher
 - 1,000 + acres = \$550 voucher

White wire:

White wire is kept in a stockpile at the Bird Farm in Fort Collins to be given out to qualifying landowners who would like to make their fences more wildlife friendly. Committee members or DWMs can issue wire vouchers to qualifying landowners. Tools are also available for loan to help with installation, but landowner must return the tools as soon as they are done with them. A voucher **must** be filled out for any landowner who receives wire from the HPP stockpile. Kimberly can send blank vouchers to committee members and DWMs at any time throughout the year.

Herbicide

The herbicide voucher program will be renewed for FY 2022 with a total budget of \$3,000 with the following rules:

- Applicant must own a minimum of 35 acres
- Qualifying landowners will receive a voucher that is good at Larimer County Weed District only. Landowners must use LCWD recommendations.
- HPP will reimburse the landowner 50% of the cost of herbicide only, up to the voucher limit. Voucher limits are based on acreage as follows:
 - 35-160 acres = \$100 voucher
 - 160-400 acres = \$200 voucher
 - 400-1000 acres = \$300 voucher
 - 1000 + acres = \$400 voucher

Fertilizer

The fertilizer voucher program will be renewed for FY 2022 with a total budget of \$7,500 with the following rules:

- Landowners can get a rebate of 20% of the total bill up to \$750, excluding taxes and application fees.
- Fertilizer must be applied to hay lands

-Eligible landowners must own a minimum of 160 acres

Next meeting: November 15, 2021 at 5:00pm

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45p

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