



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

February 23, 2022
Virtual/Conference Call
6:00pm

Committee members Present:

- Vacant, *USFWS Representative*
- Alvin Kunugi, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Roy Oliver, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Shane Lancaster, *Livestock Growers Representative*
- Mike Maldonado, *Sportsperson Representative*
- Scott Nilson, *BLM Representative CALL IN*
- Brian Behaver, *CPW Representative*

Administrators: Kimberly Berscheid

Guests: Doug Ouren - Hunt Coordinator, Dewane Mosher - National Parks Service, Michael Blanck - HPP Manager, Conrad Albert - DWM

Budget Report

The 2022 Budget Report was reviewed.

Old Business

The meeting minutes were approved.

North San Luis Valley Hunt Coordinator Project Update - Doug Ouren

Doug provided a PowerPoint presentation on the N. SLV Dispersal Project. February 28th is the last day for any of the tags that were sent out. He was able to stay at the Baca National Wildlife Refuge during this assignment. Overall he worked 2.5 - 10 hours per day for a total of 383 hours. The project did allow for better distribution of elk on the Baca Wildlife Refuge and Great Sand Dunes National Park. Doug has suggestions on how to make the project even more successful next year and would potentially be interested in working on it again.

New Business

Esquibel/Gurule Fence Project- Conrad Albert

Conrad is asking the committee for \$3,246.74 to pay for materials to construct 1 mile of wildlife friendly fence. The materials will be ordered from CPW Game Damage Unit. Additionally, he is requesting 4 rolls of vinyl white wire, clips and strainers from the committee stockpile. The existing fence is in disrepair and has sustained damage from wildlife crossing in the area. The new fence will allow the landowners to keep livestock off of

their property while allowing wildlife to cross with the safer wildlife design standards. This will reduce conflicts and entanglements with elk and deer.

The project was approved for \$3,246.74 plus 4 rolls of white vinyl wire, clips and strainers.

Aragon/Martinez/Albert Boundary Fence (Tigers Ranchito Fence Project) - Conrad Albert
Conrad is asking the committee for \$5,267.21 to pay for materials to construct 1.7 miles of wildlife friendly fence along the boundary of the 3 landowners. The materials will be ordered from the CPW Game Damage Unit. Additionally, he is asking for 7 rolls of vinyl white wire, clips and strainers from the committee stockpile. The existing fence is in disrepair and has sustained damage from wildlife crossings over the years. The new wildlife friendly fence will help to reduce conflicts and entanglements with elk and deer.

The project was approved for \$5,267.21, plus 7 rolls of white vinyl wire, clips and strainers.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion

Retirement Recognition Gift for Ron Garcia

Ron retired from the USFWS and the Mount Blanca HPP Committee at the end of December 2021. The committee would like to purchase a recognition gift to show their appreciation for his years of service and contribution. It was agreed that a metal sculpture with elk will be presented to him at a later meeting.

Administrative Assistant Leave Information

Kimberly Berscheid will be on leave from March - June 2022. She provided information on who will be covering the committee business in her absence.

Roundtable

Conrad Albert addressed the Columbian Ranch Forage purchase order that has been cancelled. Due to cattle grazing on the areas intended for elk there was no forage left to accommodate the terms of the purchase order. Additionally, Conrad stated that this year was off and the elk didn't come down to the property until late December. The purchase order was cancelled and no payout will be provided.

Next Meeting: TBD