



## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

### Montelores HPP Committee

Mancos NRCS Building - 604 Bauer Ave  
June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
6:30 p.m.

**HPP Members Present:** Tanner Young, livestock grower; John Sheek, sportsman; Andy Brown, CPW; Eldon Simmons, livestock grower

**Guests:** Becca DeVergie

**Introductions & Budget Report:**

Committee members and guests were introduced. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$29,001.25.

**New Business:**

1. The committee reviewed the Stiasney Water Well project. The property experiences heavy use by elk and deer. There is viable water on the property, however the well was abandoned and is no longer functional. No livestock use the area, so the water would be entirely for wildlife use. The project was approved for 50% of costs up to \$5,000.00 for FY22 or FY23, however it is unclear if the landowner will proceed with the project due to financial constraints.
2. The committee reviewed a renewed prescribed burning project proposal for Haycamp Mesa. The previous project was not able to be completed within the original two-year time frame. The revised project for FY23-24 consists of treating 4,583 acres with prescribed fire to help remove overgrown oak and open the canopy to rejuvenate the understory. The project was approved for \$84,000.00 for FY23; however the committee will ask the State Council to increase their FY23 budget or cover some of the costs.
3. The committee approved FY23 voucher programs - see attached.

**Next Meeting: November 8 @ 5:30pm**

## **Montelores HPP Voucher Guidelines:**

- All vouchers are on a reimbursement basis.
- Voucher programs are approved at the beginning of the fiscal year and are available to landowners throughout the year, i.e. in between meetings/as needed via DWMs.
- All vouchers must be submitted for payment no later than June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Hunting access is required.

## **Fence Voucher:**

- Minimum 40 acres
- Leased acres qualify
- Not allowable on allotment fences
- \$300 increments, up to 3 per landowner annually
- Available by application
- 1 roll of white wire per voucher may be distributed if landowner requests it on the application
- Restrictions on allowed materials: posts, barbed/barbless wire, electric braid, stays, staples, etc
  - No woven wire or hog panels, no tools, no chargers, etc

## **Pond Cleanout Voucher:**

- No minimum acres
- For use on allotments only unless DWM pre-approves pond on private land
  - Ponds must receive significant wildlife use
- \$1000 increments for **two** ponds cleaned with heavy equipment
  - Based on \$100/hr up to 10 hours
- Up to **5** vouchers annually
- Before-and-after photos and GPS locations required before payment
- USFS or BLM staff must inspect and OK for payment
  - DWM inspection if on private land
- Bentonite available as needed - contact admin for Onecard purchase

## **Fertilizer Vouchers:**

- No minimum acreage
- Leased acres qualify
- Irrigated, forage-producing acres only (no dryland, no row crops) that receive significant use/damage by big game
- Rotating eligibility every 3<sup>rd</sup> year
- \$15 per acre; vouchers capped at \$4,000