

## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

## North Fork HPP Committee

Phone Conference March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 7:30 p.m.

<u>North Fork HPP Members Present:</u> Adam Gall, Sportsperson; Ken Holsinger, BLM; Steve Kossler, Livestock Grower; Kyler McCarrel, USFS; Jess Campbell, Livestock Grower; Ross Allen, Livestock Grower

## Old Business:

1. The committee resumed discussion of the Neff/Higher Ground seeding proposal. The project area is located in winter range for elk and experiences year-round use by deer; and includes irrigated hay fields with adjacent areas of thick oak brush and pinyon juniper. There is very little forage available outside of the fields, and so deer and elk utilize the fields for forage which severely reduces the amount of hay produced for livestock. 130 acres of the project area has been masticated to reduce the oak brush and PJ communities and open the canopy. The project consists of seeding the treated area to improve reestablishment of native forage species, and prevent noxious weed reemergence. Increasing the amount of forage available throughout the property should improve big game distribution and reduce big game pressure on the hayfields. The project was approved for \$5,000.00 for seed costs.

Next Meeting: Phone Conference 3/22 @ 7:30pm