



## HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

**Upper Yampa River HPP Committee**  
CPW Office- 925 Weiss Drive Steamboat Springs, CO  
September 19, 2022  
5:30 pm

**Upper Yampa River HPP Members Present:** Kyle Bond- CPW, Jeff Clyncke- Livestock Grower, Larry Monger- Livestock Grower, Nita Naugle- Livestock Grower, Eric Scherff- BLM, Baili Foster- USFS

**Guests:** Michael Blanck, Sally Ross, Amber Pougiales, Harvey Goertz, Bruce Enever, Doug Monger

**Introductions:** Committee members and guests were introduced.

**Budget Report:** The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$45,992.07.

**Old Business:** The minutes from the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as written.

### **New Business:**

1. Rossi Stackyard- The committee reviewed a project for stackyard materials. The landowner did not qualify for game damage materials therefore was seeking assistance from the committee to fund materials. The landowner would provide all labor to construct the stackyard. The committee recognizes the need for stackyards and their importance in reducing conflict. The project was approved for up to \$7,000.00.
2. Rolling Ridge Fence- Harvey Goertz presented a project to replace approximately 0.3 miles of fence. The committee noted that this was the same project that they had denied funding to last year. Kyle shared that he took a look at the fence recently and determined it is in fact dilapidated and in need of replacement. Kyle believed that the photos shared at the meeting last year may have been of the best section of the fence and did not adequately depict its dilapidated state. He also stated that there is a good amount of wildlife use in the area. After further discussion, the committee agreed that the fence replacement was warranted. The project was approved for up to \$2,000.00.
3. Yampa Meadows Ranch Mastication- Sally Ross and Amber Pougiales presented an update on the Rehder Ranch Mastication project. Photos and video were provided of the project area. Because the project came in under budget, they were interested in presenting an additional mastication proposal for the nearby Yampa Meadows Ranch. The project is just west of the Rehder Ranch and would clear approximately 11 acres of gambel oak. The committee expressed concerns with the high cost for a small amount of treated acreage. Several questions were posed about the validation of wildlife usage in the selected project location. Further debate and deliberation took place which resulted in a reluctant committee consensus. The project was approved for up to \$4,400.00.

**Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:**

1. Additional Discussion- Following the approval for the Yampa Meadows Ranch Mastication, the ranch manager raised attention to an offensive choice of words used by a committee member during deliberation. The individual left the meeting before the committee could respond. The committee recognized the poor choice of words and decided to write a letter to the individual to express their sincere apology for the interaction. The committee will continue to strive to improve interactions and create a welcoming environment for all applicants and attendees.
2. Upcoming Meeting- The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Roundtable:** Meeting guests expressed their thoughts on the projects discussed at the meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 pm.