



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

San Juan Basin HPP Committee Meeting
August 14, 2023 @ 6:00 pm
Durango, CO

Committee Members Present:

- Ty Smith - CPW
- Phil Craig - Livestock Grower
- Dan Huntington - Livestock Grower
- Jesse Montoya - Livestock Grower
- George Malarsie - Sportsman
- John Gardner - Sportsman
- Vacant - BLM
- Anthony Garcia - USFS
- Aran Johnson - SUIT

Attendees Present:

- Steve Pargin - Applicant
- Justin Shahan - Applicant

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kale Watson

Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$76,000.00.

Old Business

Minutes- The minutes from the June 5th meeting were approved as written.

Pargin Virtual Fence- Steve Pargin gave the committee an update on his virtual fence project.

New Business

Pargin Ponds- Steve Pargin presented an annual pond cleaning project to the committee. The scope of the project includes cleaning 5 ponds on the USFS HD Allotment. Some of the ponds have silted in, and are no longer adequately holding water. Gophers have dug holes into some and are causing the ponds to leak. Pargin will treat the ponds with salt, bentonite, and/or liners if needed. **The project was approved for \$13,207.60.**

Valle Seco Fence- Justin Shahan presented a fence project to the committee. The project site sits in a major migration corridor that experiences year-round use by elk and deer. The current fence line is in need of replacement as it no longer adequately holds cattle on the property. The scope of the project includes installing 3 miles of new fence. The fence will be built to wildlife-friendly specs with high-visibility vinyl wire in high-traffic areas. **The project was approved for \$46,260.00.**

Campbell Habitat Improvement- The committee reviewed a habitat improvement project from Linda Campbell. The scope of the project includes fertilizing and weed spraying 60 acres of the property. The committee was concerned that neighboring properties would not be weed spraying in conjunction with Campbell and referred Campbell to utilize the fertilizer voucher program. **The project was not approved.**

Snook Habitat Improvement- The committee reviewed a habitat improvement project from Deborah Snook. The scope of the project includes spraying 150 acres for various types of weeds and spot seeding 5 acres. The committee was concerned about the herbicide requested and its effectiveness in treating the weeds on the property and shared concerns about pasture reseeding. **The project was not approved.**

SUIT Deer Radio Collars- Aran Johnson presented a radio collar project to the committee. The scope of the project includes purchasing 10 radio collars to collar deer on Southern Ute Indian Tribal lands west of the Animas River. There is no recent radio collar data from the mule deer in GMU 74 and 741, collecting up-to-date data on this herd will aid in management efforts. **The project was approved for 10 radio collars.**

Remaining Committee Business

Meeting Schedule- The next meeting is scheduled for November 20th at 6:00 pm at the Southwest Regional CPW Office.

Roundtable

Future Projects- Ty Smith updated the committee on a possible project that will come to the committee in the future.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.