



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Uncompahgre HPP Committee Meeting

August 30, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Montrose, CO

Committee Members Present:

- Kelly Crane - CPW
- Dave Alexander - Livestock Grower
- Todd Stewart - Livestock Grower
- Doug Dillon - Livestock Grower
- Bobby Gray - Sportsman
- Thane Stranathan - BLM
- Luke Holguin - USFS

Attendees Present:

- Bruce Irvine - Applicant
- Alyssa Kircher - CPW
- Mark Caddy - CPW

Administrative Assistant Present:

Kale Watson

Introductions

Committee members and guests were introduced.

Budget Report

The budget balance at the start of the meeting was \$129,100.00

Old Business

Minutes- The minutes from the June 1st meeting were approved as written.

Baldy Mountain- Luke Holguin gave the committee an update on the Baldy Mountain project.

New Business

Irvine Ponds- Bruce Irvine presented a pond project to the committee. The project site experiences year round use by elk and seasonal use by deer. The property has several ponds on the property that serve as water sources for big game and livestock. Many of them are silted in and require maintenance. The scope of the project includes cleaning 6 ponds on the Horsefly Allotment. **The project was approved for \$2,036.92.**

West Draw Pond- Bruce Irvine presented a pond project to the committee. The project was previously approved in FY23; however after issues with the contractor and timing the project was not implemented. The project site experiences year round

use by elk and seasonal use by deer. The scope of the project includes constructing a new pond on the property to provide more water resources for big game and livestock. **The project was approved for \$2,900.00.**

Chiles Ranch Fence- The committee reviewed a fence repair project from Clifford Chiles. The project site sits in important big game habitat and winter range. The property experiences year round use by deer and elk. The scope of the project includes repairing various portions of fence along a 5 mile fence line. **The project was approved for 100 T-Posts, 400 Fence Stays and 4 rolls of high visibility vinyl wire.**

Bar E Angus Ranch Seeding- The committee reviewed a seeding project from Linda Daniels. The scope of the project includes seeding 50 acres of the property. The committee discussed the seed mix that the landowner provided and felt as though it was not as wildlife friendly as they would like and felt that the site of the project did not have a lot of elk that frequented the property. The committee suggested that the landowner seek out other funding sources like the NRCS since the project site sits in Gunnison Sage Grouse habitat. **The project was not approved.**

Remaining Committee Business

Deer Herd Management Plans- Alyssa Kircher presented herd management plans for DAU's D-19, D-23, and D-40. The committee was in support of the proposed draft alternatives regarding population range and sex ratio objectives for D-19, D-23 and D-40. Comment letters were drafted to reflect the committee's support.

Meeting Schedule- The next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2023 at the Montrose CPW Office.

Roundtable

Virtual fencing- The committee had a discussion about virtual fencing.

Water- The committee had a discussion about the western slopes water resources.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm.