



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Grand Mesa HPP Committee

2004 Elm St., Collbran, CO

April 20th, 2017

1:00 p.m.

Grand Mesa HPP Members Present: Scott Hoyer for JT Romatzke, CPW; Michael Blanck, CPW; Heidi Plank, BLM; Paul Bernklau, Livestock Grower; Harley Metz, Sportsperson

Guests: Drew Hogan

Introduction: Committee members were introduced. Scott Hoyer and Michael Blanck provided updates on their districts, including post-winter game numbers and game damage issues. Katie Richman reviewed the budget and status of current projects. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$26,057.45.

New Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews:

1. The committee reviewed a fence proposal from Drew Hogan on Doug Boyles' land. The property includes irrigated hayfields and is located in migration areas for both deer and elk, and experiences heavy use by deer-year round. The fence will be a new fence line which will allow the landowner to contain livestock for better grazing management, including rotational grazing on pastures to allow for better forage production for wildlife. The fence design will be wildlife-friendly and to HPP specs for wire spacing, and will include high visibility top wire. The project was approved for \$4901.00. HPP will obtain materials from Game Damage, and will reimburse the landowner for additional materials purchases and labor costs up to the approved amount.
2. The committee reviewed a seed proposal from Doug Boyles. The property includes irrigated hayfields which receive heavy use by elk during migration and by deer year-round. The first cutting of hay is lost every year to big game consumption. The proposal is to bring a new field into production to help offset this loss. The field already has some hay production, and is able to be irrigated.

The landowner will pre-treat the field with herbicide for weed control, and will fertilize the field as necessary to ensure hay production. In the future the landowner would like to bring additional adjacent fields into production as well, as deer and elk continue to increase their time spent on the property. The committee requested that the landowner install utilization cages to monitor seed establishment and determine how much forage is actually being consumed on the new field. The project was approved for \$4,270 for the seed purchase.

3. Dennis Bevan's water development proposal was not ready and the project was tabled.

Other Business:

1. Pat Tucker will host a statewide HPP videoconference on May 31st at 10:00am to discuss expanded project guidelines, which will go into effect on July 1st. Committee members and any interested parties are invited to attend.

Next Meeting: TBD