



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

San Juan Basin HPP Committee

San Juan Public Lands Center, 15 Burnett Ct., Durango

August 23rd, 2017

6:00 p.m.

San Juan Basin HPP Members Present: Anthony Garcia, USFS; Aran Johnson, Southern Ute Tribe; Mike Schmidt, BLM; Sandy Young, Livestock Grower; Dan Huntington, Livestock Grower; Adrian Archuleta, CPW

Guests: Pat Tucker, Steve Pargin

Introductions, Budget, & Old Business:

1. The remaining budget at the beginning of the meeting was \$100,565.00.

New Business:

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

1. Steve Pargin reviewed the pond work he had completed with HPP in FYs 16 and 17. The treated ponds have done very well this summer and were full after the spring, and the habitat is greatly improved, and livestock is spread out much more over the landscape. Deer and elk have been using the ponds and are spending less time on nearby private lands. Mr. Pargin would like to continue working on the remaining ponds that were not finished last fiscal year due to an accident that limited the amount of time he was able to work. He has salt, bentonite, and liners already on hand, and is ready to begin work this fall. The committee approved \$13,350.00 for 15 ponds.
2. The committee Habitat Management Plan (HMP) is due for renewal in 2018. Committee members reviewed the current plan and identified specific areas to revise. Some of the primary categories that need to be updated are the population summaries, and the budget

allocation and spending categories. The committee would also like to update the identified conflict areas, and include a statement that work may be done anywhere in the San Juan Basin HPP area. Brad Weinstein is working on population numbers, which show no major changes in deer management, and a significant change in elk management. Other changes include addressing conservation easements, research and management projects, and including specific restrictions on fencing projects. The committee will continue to identify revision topics. The draft plan will be due in January or February, with an 'amendments' page to cover significant revisions, and the plans will be put on a consent agenda for the commission to review.

Other Business:

1. The Statewide HPP Meeting will be December 5th – 7th, 2017 in Grand Junction. Committee members are encouraged to submit ideas for topics and presentations.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting TBD.