



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM STATE COUNCIL MEETING August 8 & 9, Salida, CO

State Council Members: Mick Davis, Terry Everhart, Paul Crespin, Gary Visintainer, Robbie LeValley, John Hardwick, Greg Jungman, Ken Morgan

Absent: Dean Riggs, Hunter Seim

CPW HPP Staff: Pat Tucker, Teri Polley, Hanna Cook, Katie Richman, Samantha Sorensen

Guests: Bill deVergie, Area 6 Wildlife Manager, Jim Aragon Area 13 Wildlife Manager, Clint Webb and Travis Dodrill, Department of Corrections Officers, Kim Woodruff, DWM Area 13, Steve and Nancy Oswald, Tom Grette, Kevin Blecha, Biologist Gunnison

AGENDA:

August 8: Field Trip 11:30 – 5:00; Kim Woodruff, District Wildlife Manager Area 13 - Large-scale Habitat Enhancement Projects: GMU 57,58,86

August 9: Business Meeting Area 13 Office

- 1) Introductions and recap of field trip;** Kim has a longtime working partnership with Glenda Torres, BLM. When HPP does projects with her, it counts towards BLM targets. Our good track record helps her get additional BLM funding for additional projects. The council would like to offer up more opportunities with private landowners and their landscape projects.
- 2) DNR/CPW Update:** The new Official Function policy went into effect July 1, 2017. The Bi-annual meeting and the food for the local committee working meetings were both approved by DNR. Pat noted the continued interest and scrutiny over food expenses in general for state functions.
- 3) Local Committee Updates:**

Hanna Cook – provided FY17 and FY 18 information for Arkansas River, South Park, Sangre de Cristo, Mt Blanca, San Luis Valley, Northern Larimer County, Republican River committees.
Katie Richman – provided FY17 and FY18 information for Uncompahgre, Grand Mesa, North Fork Gunnison, Gunnison Basin, Montelores committees.
Sam Sorensen– provided FY17 and Fy18 information for North Park, Middle Park, Upper Yampa River, Lower Colorado River Northwest Colorado White River committees.
- 4) Bill DeVergie –** White River committee working on increasing access to public lands for hunting. Currently Area 6 has fifteen youth and wounded warrior programs. He asked State Council to be a player in finding ways to increase access. HPP uses hunt coordinators – it's all about timing and

ability to break up the herd. This method alleviates game damage. Bill would like to target a hunt program for the 22-30 yr old working male. He is talking to landowners who are willing to acquire more access or travel through private land to hunt land that is land locked.

- 5). **Conservation Easements Change** – HPP had allowed for transaction cost payment before the easement had closed and been recorded. However, a proposed easement in the SLV between CPW and the private landowner has been put on hold and may not close. HPP has already paid \$20,000 for attorney fees on this easement. Although premature, if the easement doesn't close, the Council was not inclined to ask the landowner to return the money since the problem is with the appraisal and not due to the fault of the landowner.

This situation has caused HPP to rethink how we participate in transaction cost payments. Going forward, HPP will only pay qualified transaction costs after the easement has closed.

6. **FY17 Budget Report, FY2018 Transfer, FY2018 Budget** – Tracker numbers are draft and have not been reconciled with official state books. **The numbers below are draft** and only used for Council discussion. Final numbers will be presented when tracker and CORE records are reconciled.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| \$4,666,142 | HPP Fund Balance as of 7/1/16 |
| \$1,760,731 | HPP Expenses FY17 (7/1/16 thru 6/30/17) |
| \$2,895,242 | HPP Fund Balance on 6/30/17 |
| \$2,384,212 | 5% HPP Allocation on 7/1/16 |
| \$ 511,030 | Amount Reverted to C.P.W. Game Cash due to excess above 7/1/16 5% amount |

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| \$2,384,212 | HPP Fund Balance as of 6/30/17 |
| \$2,488,452 | 5% HPP Allocation on 7/1/17 |
| \$4,872,664 | HPP Fund Balance as of 7/1/17 |

- 4) **Bill deVergie, Area Wildlife Manager Area 6** – White River is currently spending most/all of their budget and Northwest Colorado is increasing how much they spend. The request from them to increase base budgets has been discussed several times. Each time, the Council has reaffirmed the current allocation and their belief that additional money if needed can get gained with little effort. Both committees understand Pat Tucker can approve \$20,000 projects and the State Council can also approve special projects. When the landowner presents a project, controlling and timing is important to the committee.

Again, this time, the Council discussed and agreed not to increase the White River base budget. It was also specifically pointed out that, even though the WR committee generates a lot of money, the Council allocates it across committees as they see fit.

The Council also discussed the monitoring project and the idea that perhaps the Council should fund it, providing a way to increase the base budget in a different way. The Council declined again to take this over, believing it was a local project. There would have to be a new monitoring project with statewide application submitted if the Council were to pay for it. State Council member, Gary Visintainer offered to attend a White River meeting on behalf of the State Council.

- 5) **State Council involvement in expiring projects:** Pat mentioned that the last time he was at the WR committee meeting the comment was made about the radio collars the Council had paid for 5 or so years ago were dying out and would need to be replaced. Without knowing more about it, the Council said that they would consider a new project but not likely to just continue the existing one.
- 6) **Gunnison Basin/North Fork Gunnison Special Project Request** – Kevin Blecha, Biologist - No presentation; handout only. This is a radio collar project, they did get local committee support but no monetary involvement; Gunnison Basin returned \$100,000. On the project application, the monitoring project questions need to be enhanced. The project was referred back to the local

committees for funding as was decided by the Council. It was noted that the Gunnison committee wasn't spending all their budget in recent years and the Council's preference was for that to happen before additional funds from the Council were provided. If those funds are needed, a Conference call will be scheduled for Monday August 21st 7:00 pm for consideration.

- 7) **Succession Planning presented by Greg Jungman, State Council Sportsman's Representative –** Opened an avenue to think about. Folks that either serve on the State Council or the local committee need to be the right people. It is valuable who is appointed to these positions. The council discussed retirement of members and the future appointees of the state council. Term limits were also discussed. Pat reminded the Council that term limits were brought up a year ago and that the Council was not in favor of them. Currently there are no term limits in the statute. HPP history is extremely important to the program.

Paul Crespin, USFS representative on the Council, announced his retirement from the FS in January or so next year.

- 8) **2017 State Meeting Discussion – The Council reviewed the list of potential presentations for the conference and suggested possible speakers. Pat will** put a draft together by August 25th and send to the Council . Based on comments from them, the agenda will move forward.

Roundtable:

Robbie -

Paul – Monsoon season, slow fire season, new administration no changes, Pat's presentation to P/SI staff raised awareness with FS, hoping for a good burning window, most burning restrictions lifted, Tom Redmon's property sold to Navajo nation and new private landowner

Terry – very good meeting

Greg- mentioned CBA survey

Gary – Good job

Mick – Good meeting

John – Good meeting

Hanna – Thank you appreciate attending

Katie – Appreciate attending the tour -

Sam – I agree – enjoy meeting and tour. Thank you.

Ken – Encourage State Council to view the Ponderosa video on the website; good to get re-energized.

I will be bringing the NRCS to view Kims work

Teri – looking forward to the December meeting

Pat – thank you for the discussion with Bill deVergie and the White River committee.

Adjourn 12:45