



## **HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES**

### **North Fork HPP Committee**

**Maloney House, Delta County Fairgrounds**

**June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**7:00 p.m.**

**North Fork HPP Members Present:** Ken Holsinger, BLM; Cody Purcell, CPW; Steve Kossler, Livestock Grower; Jess Campbell, Livestock Grower; Dennis Garrison, USFS; Adam Gall, Sportsman

**Introduction:** Committee members were introduced. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$23,600.02.

#### **Old Business:**

1. The fence voucher program was reviewed. Landowners have been receptive and DWMs have found the vouchers effective and easy to use. The committee noted that vouchers should be used for approved materials purchases only – vouchers will not be allowed to pay for labor.

#### **New Business:**

1. The committee reviewed the HPP expansion guidelines. After July 1<sup>st</sup>, habitat management and research projects that assist CPW with meeting game management objectives may be considered, provided that the committee still focuses primarily on resolving conflicts associated with fences and forage.
2. The committee approved annual projects for the FY18 budget: \$13,500 for fertilizer vouchers to Agricultural Services; \$22,200 for fertilizer and herbicide vouchers to Rodmans Farming; \$20,000 to Delta County Weed Board for weed control work; \$3,000 to Todd Harding for irrigation pipe; and \$5,000 for fencing vouchers.

3. The committee approved up to \$3,000 for the USFS to purchase herbicide for ongoing weed control efforts. Targeted species include toadflax, knapweed, leafy spurge, and silver sainfoil.
4. The committee reviewed a fencing project from Jeremy Fouts. His property is approximately 1700 acres and borders BLM, and the boundary fence is in severe disrepair. The area is a heavy migration corridor and big game frequently becomes entangled. The fence does not contain livestock nor prevent neighboring cattle trespass. Hunting access is allowed, especially for youth hunts. The committee approved \$5,000 for materials purchase, with the requirement that the landowner utilize lay-down fencing where feasible and not exceed 42" in height, with high visibility wire to be utilized on the sections of hard fencing.

**Other Business:**

1. Andrew Taylor informed the committee that the Lazy H Ranch was interested in reseeding a field that experiences heavy use by deer and elk. The landowners are tolerant of big game, but are sustaining forage losses that they would like to offset by increasing forage production. The proposal will be tabled until it can be properly noticed on the agenda.
2. The Statewide HPP meeting will be held on December 5-7 in Grand Junction.

**Next Meeting: TBD**