



**HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES**  
**CPW Area Office-0088 Wildlife Way in Glenwood Springs, CO**  
**Thursday September 7, 2017**  
**1:00pm**

**Introductions:** **Members attending the meeting were:** Hilary Boyd/BLM, DWM Darren Chacon/CPW, Jim Nieslanik/Livestock Grower, Pat Luark/Livestock Grower, Scot Dodero/Livestock Grower and Samantha Sorensen/Admin.

**Guests attending the meeting were:** DWM Brian Gray/CPW, DWM Brian Wodrich/CPW, Mike Luark, Wayne Schumacher, Stephen Jaouen/USDA, DWM Andrea Sponseller and AWM Perry Will.

**General Public Comments:** N/A

**Budget Report:** Samantha presented committee members with a budget report and the remaining amount was \$103,652.50.

**Old Business:** Minutes from the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were presented and approved as written.

**New Business:** Bar A Vinyl Wire: Andrea Sponseller and Wayne Schumacher presented the proposal to the committee. The plan is to upgrade a couple miles of fence that was built new in 1990 but is now toast. The area is loaded with elk and they're trying to reestablish the boundary while keeping it user friendly for elk, which should also help cut down on maintenance. Wayne asked the committee to reimburse him for the cost of vinyl coated top wire; they would then pay for any remaining materials and labor. Darren suggested getting ratchets for the project as well. It was mentioned that they'll reuse what materials they can and the new fence will have 3 wires with vinyl on top plus most of the fence will also be lay down. There's no outfitting on the property but it is hunted by family and friends. Pat said that he would like to see the right of way opened up on both sides of the fence in order to increase visibility and reduce damage from falling aspen trees. Wayne explained that the fence runs through all types of terrain and they do experience some damage from snow loads too. The committee approved up to \$1,500.00 for vinyl wire and ratchets.

**Dodero Pond Cleaning:** Scot Dodero brought forward a proposal similar to ones in years past. He has a couple of ponds that have filled in with mud and need to be cleaned out. The ponds are on private property east of the parking lot where snowmobilers park. Scot allows hunting. The committee approved \$625.00 for the project.

Luark Horse Creek Irrigation: Brian Wodrich and Mike Luark presented committee members with a proposal. This project is an annual task that has been happening for the past 26 years but moving forward they will come to the committee each year. Irrigation takes place on approximately 300 acres of BLM land; Mike manages the water rights for the BLM. The site is a couple miles from the Colorado River and had dried up and was unusable, without irrigation it would much less desirable for deer and cattle. Brian pointed out that there have been 2 deer harvested in the area already this year. Hilary mentioned that the BLM has earmarked money for the project for this year and the next 5 years. The committee approved up to \$5,000.00 for the project.

**Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion:** BLM Hales Flat Water Saver Update: Tabled

FY17 Evaluations: The committee was happy they'd been sent last year's evaluations via email and didn't feel the need to discuss them any further.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Roundtable:** Samantha reminded everyone that the Statewide HPP meeting is scheduled for December 5, 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> in Grand Junction.

Stephen Jaouen reminded everyone that the NRCS will help fund wells, solar panels and water troughs, etc. He also went on to say that the district is looking for feedback on whether or not landowners would find it useful if they were to purchase a truckload of troughs and sell them at cost.

Darren pointed out that the committee's Habitat Management Plan expires in 2018. He'll plan on bringing in a new draft to the January meeting for members to review. Samantha let everyone know that the current HMP can be found on the HPP website if they'd like to read it.

Hilary gave a brief update on the Cedar Mountain Big Game Habitat Enhancement project.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:00PM.