



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
USFS Sulphur Ranger Station in Granby, CO
December 12, 2018
1:00 pm

Introductions: Members present: AWM Lyle Sidener/CPW, Dave Hammer/Livestock Grower, Chuck Alexander/Livestock Grower, Doreen Sumerlin/USFS, Doug Bruchez/Livestock Grower, GW Horine/Sportsperson, RC Lopez/BLM and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW.

Guests present: Cathy Samuelson, HPP Coordinator Pat Tucker/CPW, Katlin Miller/MPCD, DWM Jeromy Huntington/CPW and DWM Gene Abrams/CPW.

General Public Comments: N/A

Budget: Samantha presented committee members with a budget report. The remaining budget was \$100,500.80 after removing the 2nd Hunt Coordinator and Cottonwood Tire Tank Fix. Doreen let everyone know that Trey Linke and Mark Volt were able to get the tire tank fixed for about \$50.00. GW asked about left over funds; Pat explained that money remaining in local committee budgets at the end of the fiscal year first goes to the State Council; anything exceeding the cap goes back into the general fund.

Old Business: Approval of Minutes: Minutes from September 12 and October 31 were presented and approved as written.

FY19 SRD Backcountry Weeds Report: Doreen provided committee members with a report and gave a presentation displaying last year's treatment sites plus before and after photos. Sites change a little year to year based on infestations. Pat asked if she had a map of treatment history, to show progression. Doreen will speak with Cade to see if he has a way to better display treatments over time.

New Business: FY20 SRD Backcountry Weeds: Doreen began by stating the project had started back in 2003. She's asking for similar funding and treatment sites have only changed slightly. RMEF funding is still pending but ideally the project cost would be \$14k split between HPP and RMEF. Doreen usually meets with Cade over the winter to discuss funding and then again in August to go over maps. They'll debrief in the fall to go over what worked and what didn't. GW asked if we could do more. Doreen mentioned that she still needs approval for a crew next summer and she shares meeting announcements with fellow F.S. districts within the committee boundary. GW will go to the district in Summit. Doug mentioned using goats for weed control,

as another possibility. The committee approved up to \$14,000.00 for the project in the event RMEF funding doesn't pan out. If the RMEF does approve funding then HPP will fund whatever RMEF will not.

MPHPP Clover Seeding: Katlin and Dave proposed the annual clover seeding project. Last year the committee chose to increase their contribution from \$5k to \$7,500. Doug felt it's been one of the most successful programs. Samantha asked about landowner contribution, Doug estimated that it typically takes 4 hours to spread 25 lbs. of seed. Katlin guessed that seed will be more expensive. The committee approved \$7500.00 or whatever amount it takes to purchase 2500lbs. of seed.

Samuelson Weed Treatment: Cathy explained that they started growing their own weed free hay in 2007. In previous years she'd qualified for HPP's herbicide giveaway but last year the committee established an acreage minimum. Cathy leases approximately 275 acres on 8 different properties. She would qualify for a gallon a week/4 gallon max through the county but she would burn through that amount in no time. There's big game on the property spring, summer and fall. Doreen felt Cathy's efforts help big game and appreciates her willingness to spray properties that landowner's wouldn't treat themselves. The committee approved \$350.00 for herbicide.

Fence Vouchers: The committee approved \$22,000.00 for another year of fence vouchers. They might revisit the amount if they don't spend the entire \$22k for a second year. Lyle explained history of HPP and fence vouchers; as well as the process behind getting one.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: State Council Update: Samantha mentioned that next fiscal year the State Council will purchase \$5k worth of vinyl wire for each committee. The biannual Statewide HPP meeting is to take place December 3-5, 2019 in Grand Junction. Local committees will have the ability to invite 2 guests again.

Set 2019 Meeting Dates: March 13th in RMNP, June 12th in Hot Sulphur Springs, September 11th at the BLM in Kremmling, November 26th at the F.S. in Granby.

March Agenda Items: Doug would like an update on elk collars. Lyle thought that Buck McNichols might have a fence project. The committee might decide to advertise the reclamation seed. Dave left at 3:17pm

Roundtable: Katlin let the committee know that only 1 person had participated in the reclamation seeding thus far. She'll try to remember to mention it at the Stockgrower's meeting.

Doug asked if HPP could purchase no trespassing signs; established it was not HPP appropriate.

Lyle said this year's harvest was good. Area 9 had mandatory CWD testing; 900-1000 deer came through. Chuck left at 3:28pm.

Pat mentioned that the next State Council meeting will be held on March 19 & 20.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 pm.