



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

CPW Area Office – 73485 Hwy 64

March 5, 2018

5:00pm

Presentation:

Todd Graham, Ranch Advisory Partners, gave a presentation about the ongoing project monitoring efforts occurring in the White River HPP area. The presentation provided annual and cumulative monitoring results and interpretations.

Darby Finley gave a presentation about deer and elk movement in the White River HPP area.

Introductions: Members present were: Mary Taylor/BLM, Lenny Klinglesmith/livestock grower, DWM Bailey Franklin/CPW, Curtis Keetch/USFS, Jim Brennan/livestock grower, Rich Parr/Sportsperson and Admin. Samantha Sorensen/CPW.

Guests present were: AWM Bill deVergie/CPW, Reed Kelley, DWM Ross McGee/CPW, Elizabeth Domenech/RAP, Rocky Pappas, Sparky Pappas, Trevor Balzer/CPW, Brian Holmes/CPW, Danielle Johnston/CPW, HPP Coordinator-Pat Tucker/CPW, Ronald (Jake) Lewis/USFS, Darby Finley/CPW, Troy Osborn, Lyle McKee, Mindy Finley/CPW, Todd Graham/RAP and Justin Wilson.

General Public Comments: Butch gave an overview of the wolf presentation that was given in Carbondale. Presenter was a state senator from Montana who's been studying wolves for 40 years.

Budget Report: Samantha presented committee members with a budget report. The remaining budget was \$5,212.23.

Old Business: Minutes from August 31st and November 9th were approved as written.

New Business: Etchart/Sloan Ag Seeding & Water Improvement: 17 acre CRP field with undesirable grasses present; no weed issues. HPP has already done seeding with John in the past. Total project cost is \$9500; asking HPP for a 50/50 cost share. The committee approved up to \$4,751.62 for the project.

Landscape Scale Weed Control Extension: Some sites are in need of more time due to the infestation size. Bailey asked the committee to approve 72 additional hours. Landowners pay for chemical and Troy does the spraying. The committee approved a \$5,040.00 increase, which brings the total amount of HPP funding up to \$21,840.00.

Ag Seeding Mechanical Mowing: Bailey asked the committee to consider a 50/50 cost share for mechanical mowing on the following properties: Jensen, Lake Sullivan, Meeker Dome and Vannoy Ranch.

-Rocky had been mowing on Jensen but Lyle McKee will do so this year. The committee approved \$1,575.00.

-On Sullivan there were 100 acres seeded in the fall of 2016 but he didn't mow post treatment like he was supposed to. Bailey told him it had to happen this year. The committee approved \$1,000.00.

-Brett Harvey manages the property. There's no grazing, it was purchased for hunting. There's a little over 500 acres total and its good mule deer habitat but they're trying to make it good winter range as well. The committee approved \$1,855.00.

-Habitat improvement efforts have already taken place on Vannoy Ranch but there are still noxious and invasive weeds present. The committee approved \$980.00.

Collins Mountain Ranch Water Improvement: Tabled

Britton Smith Ag Farming & Seeding: Cancelled

FY19 USFS Lost Park/South Fork Williams Fork Noxious Weeds: Ronald (Jake) is working with Doug out of Yampa to eliminate administrative lines in order to tackle noxious weeds in the same area. Hounds tongue is prevalent throughout 3 active livestock allotments. There are additional funds pending from RMEF; funding will be confirmed sometime in March. Jake proposed HPP pay for the contractor's labor to spray in the backcountry. Contract needs to be submitted by end of March then they'll go out for bid. Work is slated to start in July, so funds would come out of next fiscal year. Northwest CO HPP approved \$5,000.00 contingent on cooperator funds. The committee approved \$5,000.00 for the project.

FY19 Monitoring WR Landscape Scale Habitat Sites: Bailey proposed that the committee renew their contract with Ranch Advisory Partners. He would like to add 2 additional sites and reread 53. Some sites are abandoned/failed or rotated. Sites that change slowly only get checked every few years. Lenny asked Pat if the State Council had reconsidered funding after the statewide presentation. Pat said their monitoring project had not gained any traction with them; they continue to believe that their monitoring is not a statewide benefit. The committee approved \$45,000 for monitoring in FY19.

Remaining Committee Business/Other Discussion: Select Next Meeting Date: TBD

Future Agenda Items: Collins Mountain Ranch Water Improvement

Roundtable: Pat spoke briefly about the Future Generations Bill and the HPP presentation he gave at GOCO.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.