



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES
October 9th, 2018
Royal Gorge Field Office

Committee Members present:

- Jim Aragon, Colorado Parks and Wildlife AWM
- Aaron Atwood, Livestock Grower
- Joe Moore, Livestock Grower
- Jeff Williams, BLM Rangeland Management Specialist
- Stephanie Shively, USFS Wildlife Biologist
- Brett McMurry, Livestock Grower

Administrative Assistant:

- Hanna Cook

Guests: Pat Tucker (HPP Coordinator), Donny Carr (Sportsman), Conrad Dreher (Sportsman), Frosty Roe (Sportsman), Ron Goodrich (Sportsman), Ty Woodward (Sportsman), Kim Woodruff (DWM), Ron Chernak (Landowner), Nick Padilla (USFS)

Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM

Budget Report

The 2019 budget report was reviewed.

Old Business

Kim Woodruff updated the committee on the Pinion-juniper sprout removal project. Mike Oswald will not have enough time to spend the full \$3,750 that was originally allocated by the committee, so the project has been reduced from \$3,750 to \$2,500. The new amount is reflected in the budget.

The committee further discussed new protocols for the distribution of committee tire tanks. Landowners will be required to attend meetings to request tire tanks. Tire tanks must be picked up by the landowners within the same fiscal year, or the reserved tanks will be forfeited. In the case of an emergency, DWMs can authorize distribution of tire tanks so that the landowner doesn't have to wait until the next committee meeting. In this case, vouchers must be sent to Hanna as soon as the tank(s) are picked up. Tanks that have been allocated but not picked up will be marked with ear tags to ensure that they are not given to anyone other than the approved landowner.

The Sangre de Cristo HPP committee is ordering a load of 10 ft tanks. The Arkansas River committee will trade some of their 8 ft tanks for some of the SDC 10 ft tanks so that both committees have a mix of 10s and 8s. The Arkansas River committee would like to contribute

some money to the SDC 10 ft tank order to fill out the load of tanks. The AR committee will spend no more than \$5,000 on 10 ft tire tanks to fill out the truck load of tanks for the Sangre de Cristo committee's order.

Pat Tucker reminded the committee that projects must be completed and paid by June 30th. If there are any projects that will not be completed by June 30th, the committee and Hanna should be notified right away so that they can decide how to handle the delay.

Last year Tom Grette worked on habitat projects that were funded by BLM and USFS. Since HPP paid for his work on those projects, the program wants to record accomplishments and funds spent by other agencies as cooperator costs to ensure that the partnership is accounted for regarding these large scale habitat projects. Any time Tom's services are utilized on a project that is not directly funded by HPP Hanna will request the amount funded, acres treated, and location of the habitat work that was completed as a result of Tom's efforts.

New Business

Project Application Proposals and Reviews

Ron Chernak Tire Tank and Fence project

Ron Chernak recently acquired additional property adjacent to his, and the existing fences are old and not well maintained. They are regularly damaged by big game. Ron would like to replace the old fences with new wildlife friendly fences using high visibility white vinyl wire. He is asking HPP for \$610.42 for fencing materials plus two rolls of high visibility white vinyl wire from the committee stockpile. Ron will also be developing a spring and is requesting a tire tank from the committee stockpile. The committee agreed that they will give special approval for a voucher with an increased limit from the fencing voucher budget to cover the funds needed for fence materials.

The project was approved for a \$615 fencing voucher, 2 rolls of white vinyl wire, and 1 8 ft. tire tank.

McMurry Land and Livestock Company Fencing Project

Brett McMurry is requesting \$2,200 to replace approximately ½ mile of fence with new, wildlife friendly fence. Deer regularly move across the fence, causing frequent damage. This fence borders County Road 162, so it is important to have a reliable fence that is not regularly damaged in order to prevent livestock from getting into the road and causing accidents. Brett will provide metal to build the H-braces, and will remove the old fence and build the new fence.

The project was approved for \$2,200.

SWIFT Crew Hand-thinning Project

Kim Woodruff is asking for \$8000 to pay the SWIFT Crew for hand-thinning in the ARHPP committee area. BLM will match \$8,000. Kim and Jeff would like for the crews to do most of the work in the Wellsville area, but they may move to Sand Gulch if there is inclement weather. Habitat work in these areas will promote increased forage production, which will benefit wildlife and livestock, and will improve grazing management on grazing allotments in the area.

The project was approved for \$8,000.

Sportsperson Representative

Five people applied for the vacant sportsperson representative position on the ARHPP committee. The applicants are Conrad Dreher, Frosty Roe, Donny Carr, Ron Goodrich, and Ty Woodward. Each applicant was asked to speak about themselves and why they would like to serve on the committee. The committee would like to recognize that each applicant was very well qualified, and every committee member appreciates the time and effort they have all put in to apply for this position. Based on background and current endeavors, the committee has decided to narrow the selection down to Conrad Dreher and Ty Woodward. They emphasize that this was not an easy decision, as every applicant would have been an asset to the committee. The committee would like to take some more time to decide between the two finalists, and will schedule a conference call to discuss it further and make a final decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM

Next meeting: October 22nd 8:30 AM-Conference Call.

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