



HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

North Fork HPP Committee

Maloney House – Delta County Fairgrounds

February 5th, 2020

6:00 p.m.

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

Guests: Jamie Nogle, NWTF; Stuart Sinclair, CPW; Andrew Taylor, CPW

Introduction: Committee members were identified. The remaining budget at the start of the meeting was \$6,600.00.

New Business:

1. Jamie Nogle presented a mastication proposal for the Hubbard Creek area. NWTF has entered into a stewardship agreement with the GMUG Paonia Ranger District, and is working on large PJ mastication and aspen regeneration projects on USFS and some BLM land. The area around Hubbard Creek includes 60 acres of important winter and transitional range for big game where the habitat has become degraded with overgrown PJ and little forage production. PJ stands will be masticated to reduce stand thickness, and weed treatments and reseeding will be implemented as necessary after the mastication work. The project was approved for \$5,000.00 for FY21.
2. Stuart Sinclair presented a seed purchase project for Scenic Mesa Ranch. The property holds hundreds of elk over the winter, and the landowners are generally tolerant of big game. This winter saw particularly heavy utilization of the irrigated pastures, and the landowners are seeking assistance with reseeding costs. The landowners do not allow hunting which is typically a requirement for the North Fork committee; however the property winters such significant numbers of deer and elk that it helps reduce big game damage to other producers on Fruitland Mesa. The committee approved \$2,250.00 for seed costs.
3. The committee reviewed annual fertilizer recipients. The budget will remain the same for the existing list with these exceptions: Jeremy Fouts (\$1,000) was removed; Cory

Ranch was renamed to Fuller Ranch (new ownership); Aaron Miller was approved to move to fall fertilization (\$1,200 for FY20); Scenic Mesa was reduced to \$2,500; Dan and Brandon Sullivan were reduced to \$1,000 each; Red Canyon Ranch was added for \$1,000. The total fertilizer budget was approved for \$49,450.00.

Other Business:

1. The committee made final revisions to the draft DMP and approved the plan.

Next Meeting: TBD