



**HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 18th, 2021**  
**Zoom Video Conference**

**Committee Members present:**

- Aaron Atwood, Livestock Grower
- Joe Moore, Livestock Grower
- Jeff Williams, BLM Rangeland Management Specialist
- Stephanie Shively, USFS Wildlife Biologist
- Brett McMurry, Livestock Grower
- Ron Goodrich, Sportsman

**Administrative Assistant:**

- Hanna Cook

**Guests:** Pat Tucker (HPP Coordinator), Kim Woodruff (CPW-DWM), Marisa Neuzil (Teller Park Conservation District), Jim Campbell (Landowner)

**Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM**

**Budget Report**

The budget report was reviewed

**Old Business**

The DOC has been hard to work with on habitat projects lately with COVID restrictions and inmate lockdowns. Kim has said that she may look at hiring commercial hand thinning crews instead of using the free inmate hand thinning crews.

**New Business**

**HPP Committee Maps**

HPP has been working on creating maps for local committees to show where large projects are occurring each year. Committees should be able to use this to analyze where most of their money is spent and if there are any areas that may need more attention. The maps shown are a first draft, and any recommended changes can be sent to Hanna. The maps may see changes such as adding the impact areas from the committee plan to the project map to compare the high impact areas with where work is being done.

## **Project Application Proposals and Reviews**

### Jim Campbell Tire Tank Request

Jim Campbell is requesting 2 8 ft tire tanks from the ARHPP committee stockpile to replace old tanks that are fed by an existing spring development. He will pick them up and install the tanks and required escape ramps before the end of the fiscal year. **The committee approved the request for 2 8ft tire tanks and 2 escape ramps.**

### Tom Grette Professional Services-Kim Woodruff

Kim is asking HPP for \$10,000 to pay Tom Grette for his services mapping and flagging project sites and supervising work crews. CPW and BLM employees do not have a lot of time for mapping and flagging, so Tom's services are vital to the success of habitat projects in the area. CPW and BLM staff will contribute time for planning and implementation. Tom will be able to help with planning and mapping sprout removal in old habitat treatment areas to protect the integrity of the past habitat projects, and other habitat work.

**The project was approved for \$10,000 for FY 2022.**

### 2022 Fence Vouchers

This program has been done annually, and provides landowners with reimbursements for fencing materials to repair fences damaged by big game. DWMs can approve and hand out vouchers to eligible landowners. Eligible landowners must be engaged in agricultural production or livestock operations within ARHPP boundaries, and they must allow some hunting access (cannot charge more than \$500 per gun for hunting access, vouchers, or services). Landowners are allowed one voucher per year, with a maximum of \$350 per voucher. Vouchers can only be used once, and any unused funds are forfeited. Only eligible materials can be reimbursed. Anyone requesting an exception to those rules can come to a committee meeting with their request.

**The committee voted to continue this program with a limit of \$350 per landowner.**

**Landowners are allowed up to \$350 of reimbursement for fence materials to fix damage cause by big game. Total project limit is \$9,000.**

### 2022 White Wire and Tire Tanks

The committee has a stockpile of white vinyl wire and tire tanks to distribute to landowners. Landowners are allowed to take white vinyl wire and/or tire tanks from the committee stockpile to be used for projects in the AR area. **Any landowner that would like white wire and/or tire tanks from the committee stockpile must fill out a materials voucher at the time of pickup. The Voucher must be approved by a DWM or committee member, and returned to Hanna Cook as soon as possible.**

-Vouchers must be authorized (signed and dated) by a DWM or committee member for a landowner to be eligible. Landowners are allowed 2 rolls of white wire per year. Requests for additional rolls can be brought to the committee for special approval. Landowners can receive both a materials voucher and a fencing reimbursement voucher in the same year, as long as both vouchers are approved and signed by a DWM or committee member.

-Tire tank requests must be presented to the committee during a meeting or conference call to ensure availability. Approved tire tanks must be picked up before the end of the fiscal year, or the landowner will forfeit their reserved tank. DWMs or Aaron Atwood can issue tanks if it is urgent, but the preference is that the request goes before the committee first.

HPP requires that all tanks have an escape mechanism installed to allow small animals to escape if they fall into the tank. The committee will provide escape ramps that will be given out

with each tire tank to ensure that landowners have the resources to follow this rule. Landowners must fill out a voucher for escape ramps, even if they are only picking up escape ramps for tire tanks already installed.

2022 Meeting Meals and Operating Expenses

**The committee voted to allocate \$500 for working meeting meals and \$500 for committee operating expenses, including committee member recognition.**

**Remaining committee business/other discussion**

Jim Aragon has retired, so CPW will need to select a replacement as the committee rep. The committee would like to get a plaque for Jim to congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his time on the committee.

Hanna has accepted another job with the City of Colorado Springs, and her last day with HPP will be May 27<sup>th</sup>. HPP will hire someone to replace Hanna, but until that person is hired the program will be focusing on getting invoices paid and evaluations entered for existing projects.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM**

**Next meeting: August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10:00 AM via Zoom video conferencing**

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