

Payson Natural Resource Committee Meeting Minutes 8/7/19

Dave Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Introductions around the room. Jim Goughnour announced John Koleszar's induction into the Wildlife Hall of Fame. Congratulations John, and well deserved.

- Dave Daniels provided feedback from the summer HPC/Cattlegrowers meeting held July 26 at Fort McDowell. The meeting had a great turnout and provides a good opportunity to share what Ranchers, Sportsman and AGFD is working on.
- John Koleszar gave an update on feral horse issues on the Apache Sitgreaves. Center for Biological diversity is filing a notice of intent to sue for issues related to feral horses and endangered species. It is estimated that horse population is approximately 500 feral horses.
- The group provided updates on ongoing and completed HPC projects.
 - Mogollon Sporting Association provided funding for Double Tanks on Bar X and also tank cleanouts on Diamond Butte. Projects completed.
 - Destrly provided an update on 2 dirt tank cleanouts and running pipe from a spring to troughs near Tonto Basin.
 - Jarrod McFarlin gave an update on non-hpc related projects in the Region. Red Rock Spring fence replacement, Henrys catchment trough replacement, and Moore catchment trough replacement. These 3 projects coordinated and led by Keith Niver and Roger Rohrback. Thank you Roger and Keith.
 - Jim Lawrence gave an update on completed projects at the Two Bar ranch. Three temporary waters, and three dirt tank cleanouts completed. Also completed Diamond Butte Solar project and assisted hauling pipe up a mountain on Woody Clines allotment.
 - Teri Cline working on a Pierce Basin solar project, installing a solar pump on a well that produces a lot of water.
- Dave Daniels and Kelly Wolff gave an update on the Woodbury Fire. Kelly spoke about working on the BAER team and completing and submitting a risk assessment package to the Forest. Funding estimate also submitted to include possibility of eligible funding for ranchers due to the fire. Created a soil burn severity map and a hydrology report as part of the team. Fire intensity was not all that great across the burn which is a good thing, however, much of the fire was in Sonoran Desert which takes a long time to regenerate.

- The group discussed projects to be submitted for 2020.
 - Bill and Lori – Cottonwood Wash Windmill Solar project
 - Clay – 10 dirt tanks need cleaning on the Diamond Butte. Haven't been cleaned for 15 years and are silted in.
 - Chris – 6 dirt tanks (with bentonite) total on the American Gulch, Doll Baby, and Rye Creek allotment.
 - Destry – Request more bentonite for two tanks that are not holding water.
 - John F. – Solar Well and Dirt tank project
 - Chaz – Dirt tank project on Bull Mesa.
 - Teri – 5 storage tanks, poly pipe and troughs
 - Cash and Crystal - Cartwright allotment – large scale project near 7 Springs in unit 21. 13 miles of poly pipe, 15 storage tanks, and 26 troughs. Recovering allotment from Cave Creek Complex fire.

- Jake Swartwood offered computers and printers at the school for anyone needing assistance in writing proposals. Group all thought this would be a good idea. AGFD agreed to assist August 22nd at 6PM at the school. Jake to send out location and directions to committee.

- Next Meeting scheduled for November 13th, 2019 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned 7:30PM.