

Action items bolded

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE WILDLIFE COMMITTEE OF
EAGLE RANCH ASSOCIATION

A Meeting of the Wildlife Committee of the Eagle Ranch Association (the “Association”) was held on July 23, 2024, at the Eagle Ranch Office, 1143 Capitol Street, Eagle, CO 81631, or via video/teleconference*.

Committee Members Present:

Hugh Fairfield-Smith, Eagle Valley Wildland*
Derek Rose, Eagle Ranch Golf Course
Brian Wodrich, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Brian Lieberman, Town of Eagle
Scott Turnipseed, Eagle Ranch Association

Others Present:

Shelley Bellm, EWH Assistant Community Manager, Eagle Ranch; Wildlife Coordinator
Shawn Bruckman, GroundUp Solutions
Jason Berghauer, EWH Eagle Ranch DRB Administrator

The order of business was as follows:

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. MDT. A quorum of Committee members was present.
2. Approval of Minutes. Derek Rose motioned to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2024, Wildlife Committee, seconded by Scott Turnipseed. Motion carries 5-0.
3. New Business

a. GroundUp Solutions - Update.

Shawn provided an update the committee noting that we are currently in Phase 1, Part 1 of the soil study. A brief review of the maps, attached, show the location of the random soil testing to be performed in Spud Cellar, Abrams Creek & Hernage Creek areas. The identified locations will be reviewed for soil, vegetation and documentation of noxious weeds. Locations on the maps were chosen for varying slope, uses, exposure and vegetation types.

Testing is scheduled to begin in August and will be documented with the use of drone imagery as well as photo imagery.

Shawn will provide a contract with Eagle Ranch Wildlife Committee for work to be performed, now that an MOU between the Town and ERWC has been executed.

b. Wildlife Protection Plan Update.

Shelley Bellm provided an overview of the conflicting language found in the Eagle Ranch Wildlife Protection Plan, Eagle Ranch Design Guidelines, and the Eagle Ranch

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PUD. In order to update the Wildlife Mitigation Plan, all partners must be in agreement and those partners are CPW, Town of Eagle, and the Wildlife Committee.

Updates will be required for all documents to ensure conflicting language does not exist. The Design Review Board is currently working to update their guidelines and the final step will be to amend the Eagle Ranch PUD.

Staff is recommending updating the plan's language as presented to the board.

Board Discussion:

Scott asked for clarification regarding the text stating allowance for wildfire mitigation as well as allowance for minimal planting outside of the limits of disturbance. Jason Berghauer clarified that wildfire defensible zones and this may require pushing some of the tree planting outside of the 16,5000-sf limit of disturbance. All disturbances proposed would be reviewed by either the Design Review Board or the appropriate wildfire agency.

Motion to approve by Scott Turnipseed, **Second by _____**. Motion carries 5-0

c. Design Review Guidelines – Seasonal Structures.

Shelley reviewed the recent changes made to the Design Review Guidelines allowing above ground swimming pools and inquired if the Committee felt they may be a problem for wildlife.

Brian Wodrich suggested adding language to encourage an escape ramp and encourage tarping.

No other comments or concerns were presented by the Committee.

4. Other Business

- a. Open Space Ranger - Update. The Town's budget process has begun and discussions with the Finance team have occurred. It is unlikely we would know more until September. Brian will keep the Committee updated as to progress.
- b. Open Space Management Plan. Identified two areas, one along Brush Creek and one along Hernage Creek for some riparian and wetland enhancements. An RFP was released last week and is open for four weeks. Hoping GroundUp work can dovetail with these projects and focus on the grassland, wildlife, habitat aspects.
- c. Interpretive Sign Program. Signs should be installed by the end of August. The signs are currently in fabrication. Once the Town receives an invoice, an invoice will be forwarded to Shelley for payment.
- d. Kids Fishing Derby. CPW did not have access to the Gypsum Ponds this year as a capital construction project is in process so it was held here at the Eagle Ranch Fishing Pond. It was a great success and the event will likely occur here annually. Of note, the vegetation growth in the pond is quite substantial and almost makes the pond unfishable. We need to look at mitigation options for potential pond improvements and weed mitigation. Derek provided a point of contact that may be able to assist with the mitigation. **Shelley will reach out to the contact and ask them for an assessment and potential options.**

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There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m. MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

SBellm

Shelley Bellm, Coordinator