

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EAGLE RANCH WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Eagle Ranch Wildlife Committee (ERWC) was held on February 24, 2026, at the Eagle Ranch Office, 1143 Capitol Street, Eagle, CO 81631.

Committee members present:

Courtney Harris, Colorado Parks & Wildlife
Steve Hoffman
Kate Sheldon, Interim Chairperson
Kim Hubble

Town of Eagle representative Geoff Grimmer was absent

Also present:

Devin Duval, CPW
Josh Rumble, Eagle River Coalition
Debbie Murphy, MEAC member and Eagle Ranch Owner
Tom Murphy, Eagle Ranch Owner
Lynn Leary, Eagle Ranch Owner
Steve Mairose, Eagle Ranch Owner
Shawn Bruckman, The GroundUp Company
Tom Olden, Eagle Ranch HOA Executive Board

The order of business was as follows:

1. Call to Order. Sheldon called the meeting to order at 12:56 pm MST. A quorum was established.
2. Minutes Approval. Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee approved the minutes 2-0 of the meeting held on November 20, 2025 as distributed (new members abstained).
3. New Committee members welcome: Steve Hoffman and Kim Hubble.
4. Agenda Approval. Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee adopted the agenda unanimously.
5. Financial Report: Presented; total fund balance \$1,144,073.04. The coordinator fee was discussed, as well as the \$93 monthly East West management fee.
6. Public Comment: there was no public comment on non-agenda items.
8. Unfinished Business:
 - a) Abrams Creek Rd Crossing Project for Cutthroat Trout with ERC, BLM and CPW: Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee approved the Abrams Creek Road Crossing Project. Sheldon requested ERC add in to the contracting a reimbursement component after completion if ERC's additional fundraising is successful.
 - b) CPW's Bellyache Ridge Habitat Enhancement Lop & Scatter Project: Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved CPW's Bellyache Ridge Habitat Enhancement Lop & Scatter project.
 - c) CPW's Bellyache Ridge Barbed Wire Removal project: Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved CPW's Bellyache Ridge Barbed Wire Removal project.
 - d) The potential Coordinator position was discussed, with a motion to table it until the Committee had received and considered the proposed rewrite of the Roles and Responsibilities and new Charter which the Eagle Ranch HOA Executive Board is considering.

It was pointed out the word Coordinator is not in the original Eagle Ranch Wildlife Mitigation and Enhancement Plan; and that the *Wildlife Protection Board* was changed to *Wildlife Committee* in 2023.

It was discussed that the Executive Board wants more projects done, and that the Committee believes all projects must adhere to the objectives of the Mitigation Plan. It was discussed that instead of hiring a coordinator some members could take on the various duties which appear to include contracting, secretarial and potentially some project management, and that ai could assist with some of the secretarial.

- e) Effort overlap update in TOE Open Space projects: This discussion was tabled because member Grimmer was not present. Sheldon showed a slide from OSRAC identifying areas TOE is working on are the same areas the Committee has been working on with DHM Consulting.
- f) Movie Theater PSAs education effort: Three of the four Public Service Announcements at Eagle Ranch movie theater were approved for posting; the fourth needs adjustment to the message/language: "10 Disturbances = 0% population growth". CPW will consider the change in language. Upon motion made and seconded, approved unanimously three of the four PSAs.
- g) Existing Habitat Enhancement project update: The GroundUP Co: Shawn Bruckman gave a presentation of what work was left of the GroundUp contract.

9. New Business

- a) Owner/Citizen Request to advocate for date change to Mountain Bike races in May and September. Debbie Murphy of Eagle Ranch said as a member of MEAC she learned of the race dates and wondered if 700-3,000 people in Open Space was safe for wildlife, particularly right before calving season. Since the race is also on BLM land, she reached out to BLM's Alan Czepinski who said a race in May on the approved routes will likely have little impact to big game wildlife, mainly due to the routes will have been open for use since April 16th; Czepinski told her if it turns out to be a deep snow year and cold winter then BLM can adjust opening dates of the trails as well as require the race date to be moved.

CPW noted that majority of births occur in June and that there are one-off's in May; and that this is not a particularly large area of calving- and that Layton had said there was little to no production there. CPW said this is a safety issue for all; bikers and animals, and described a balanced approach. Evidently the course changes every year, and a map showing the exact areas of the race is not yet available.

It was suggested this was to late to change this year but Debbie Murphy was encouraged to speak with race organizers and there would be follow up; which allows agility and flexibility with working with race organizers during extenuating circumstances.

- b) Owner/Citizen request for speed calming on Eagle Ranch Road was not addressed.
- c) Largescale Habitat Enhancement Projects Discussion: The Committee motioned and unanimously adopted to advance the idea for sending RFPs for habitat enhancement to CPW, BLM, Toe, EC OS and USFS with a 4-6 week deadline. Hoffman and Hubble volunteered to draft the RFP which will be circulated with the Committee via email to proceed.
- d) BLM Scoping Survey regarding EBikes in ToE Open Space: Hoffman suggested this become a formal agenda item with pros and cons of ebikes for the next meeting, and at that point the Committee can come up with a position or not.

10. Future Business:

- a) Potential land acquisition of Evancho Ranch: decided to keep it on our radar. Hoffman will check with EVLT if there is an update and what range of funds could be potentially expected from a fundraiser.
- b) Work session: the Committee discussed a work session for a proposed Project Master List and long-term Strategic Plan. Sheldon will email the draft project list and the committee will discuss if/what projects could be covered at work session or added to the agenda.
- c) Virtual attendance option: the Committee motioned and adopted enabling the ability to remotely attend via a platform such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams.
- d) Map of unused barbed wire for removal and for potential retrofits within five miles: Sheldon asked the Committee their interest in a potential project for assembling a map with help from local rancher Loyd Gerard, ECCD, EC OS and Phil Kirkman who led a recent ERWC-funded retrofit with ECOS at BCVR. Hoffman also will discuss with EVLT; the Committee agreed.

11. Upcoming meeting dates:

March 11
April 8
May 13

12. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m. MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Sheldon, Interim Chairperson