

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 May 14, 2025, at the Eagle Ranch Office, 1143 Capitol Street, Eagle, CO 81631.

Committee Members Present:

Layton Stutsman, CPW
Derek Rose, Eagle Ranch Golf Course
Kate Sheldon, Committee Member
Tom Gosiorowski, Town of Eagle

Others Present:

Stacey Todd, Eagle County Wildfire Collaborative, Acting Wildlife Coordinator
Tom Olden
Nick Richards

The order of business was as follows:

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. MDT. A quorum of Committee members was present.
2. Approval of Minutes. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting held April 22, 2025 as presented.
3. Financial Report. Stacey shared the approved budget for 2025 and noted that none of the additional requested financial information had been shared. The committee emphasized the importance of having accurate financial data to ensure proper allocation of funds for wildlife projects, including income statements, year-to-date spending, and total assets. The committee discussed drafting a letter to the HOA requesting financial information. Mid-meeting, Nick provided Stacey with a printed document containing financial information.
4. New Business
 - a. Roles, responsibilities, and time commitment Kate emphasized the need for a strategic plan for wildlife projects, including a two to five-year plan and a long-term plan with a schedule of recurring habitat enhancements. Bill Heicher suggested a mosaic of methods for habitat enhancement, including stream restoration and wetland fisheries. The strategic plan should include specific actions, timelines, and goals for habitat enhancement projects
 - b. Large Scale Habitat Improvement Project Next Steps Layton provided an update on the NEPA process for the East Eagle Bellyache habitat enhancement project, mentioning that the NEPA should be completed soon.

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- Layton emphasized the importance of completing the NEPA process to start collecting quotes and bids for the project. The NEPA for the guzzlers project is ongoing.
 - Possible funding sources: CPW, NGOs, conservation-focused grants.
 - Topic for future discussion: Should the ERWC consider contracting consultants to expedite NEPA for future projects?
- c. Local Projects Discussion (not on agenda) Tom Olden discussed the importance of completing projects within the Eagle Ranch boundaries. Residents want to see work getting done in their neighborhood. Tom emphasized that many of these smaller projects can be completed immediately.
- Tom highlighted the work and ideas that Derek has contributed over the years.
 - The committee discussed the removal of fences in Eagle Ranch that hinder wildlife movement. The fences serve no real purpose. Derek will bring up the possibility of removal with the Metro District to gauge their thoughts, and Tom G. will bring it up with the Eagle Town Council. Not worth bidding the work if there isn't the necessary support to remove the fence.
 - The committee discussed the installation of trail cameras in high-violation areas to monitor off-leash dogs and trail poaching.
 - Kate inquired about having TOE assess the health of the trees at Arroyo, confirm they're non-native, and then determine the cost of removing them. The committee discussed the wildlife value of having the trees removed.
5. Unfinished Business
- a. Enforcement Officer Update Kate presented a proposal based on conversations and a meeting with Chief Buhlman for an enforcement ranger to patrol specific areas during high violation times, using drones and uniformed officers to enforce leash laws, trail closures, and prevent wildlife harassment. The proposal included a 90-day trial period and a budget of \$110 per hour for police officers and \$80 per hour for code enforcement officers.
- Ranger shifts would be special event-style shifts covered by extra-duty police officers, deputies, or code enforcement officers. The drone option would be in foot access areas such as haymaker, mayer gulch, and on the golf course. December-May. Chief Buhlman requests 90 days in advance to post positions.
 - Committee Discussion on funds. ERWC had agreed to fund a portion of the TOE Ranger position at \$110,000 a year. Kate stated with coverage only from December to May, the funds allow \$18,000 a month to go towards enforcement officers with 10% of funds coming from the HOA and 10% from the Metro District.
 - Tom O reiterated that the HOA Board controls the money, and it is the job of the Wildlife Committee to bring projects forward to the Board to approve. The money is to be used for wildlife enhancement or acquisition within the community.

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Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee approved to make a recommendation to the HOA Executive Board that the ERWC further develop a detailed proposal for funding off-duty winter patrols. At this time, no specific dollar amount is requested; the intent is to advance the concept to a point where the ERWC can present a fully costed plan and confirm partnership from the Eagle Ranch Metro District.

There being no further business to come before the Committee and given the meeting room was not available past 10:00 a.m., the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m. MDT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacey J. Todd".

Stacey Todd, Coordinator