



## STOR Committee Meeting

### Minutes June 26, 2025

### Hybrid Meeting

**For STOR Committee Members & Guests:** *This meeting will be held in-person at the Blackstock Building – 200 W Virginia Ave, Gunnison, CO 81230.*

**For the General Public:** *The meeting will also be held virtually on Zoom at the following link:*  
<https://gunnisoncounty-org.zoom.us/j/87637105265?pwd=Rkt2d2NoM3NubTJWMIz5bnJzNjVvUT09>

#### **Committee Members Present:**

Tim Kugler, Andrew Sandstrom, Cathie Pagano, Laura Pucket-Daniels, Gabi Prochaska, Brandon Diamond, Brian Brown, Steve Duke, Derrick Nehrenberg, Chris Parmeter, LB Mullin, Hedda Peterson, Jennifer DeBoer, Marisela Ballesteros, Jeremy Johndrow, Dayle Funka

#### **Tim Kugler (Committee Chair) called meeting to order**

##### **Approval of May 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Daniels made a motion to approve the minutes and Prochaska seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Wildlife Planning Tool Final Review**

Diamond presented the final draft of the *Gunnison County Wildlife Planning Support Tool*. The tool combined landownership, human disturbance, and wildlife habitat and sensitivity maps (covering 60 species and 80 habitat layers) to help identify areas where wildlife could thrive. It also included alpine habitat data, categorized disturbance as low, medium, or high, include population trends, economic contribution, security status, specificity of special data, and evidence-based sensitivity to disturbance and expanded to include part of northwest Saguache County. Potential applications discussed included land-use and corridor planning, economic development review, stewardship fund and land preservation board priorities, and agency land management. Next steps included integration with CODEX, public outreach through a possible “road show,” and continued collaboration with local partners. The committee discussed challenges in building the tool, protecting sensitive data such as leks from public exposure, and the importance of seasonal variations in habitat use. They noted the tool could guide recreation siting and inform concerns about BLM land development near municipalities. Diamond stated he would finalize the tool, share it with Catmur and Pagano for distribution, and make it available through CODEX and as a PDF.

#### **Formalize Sub Committee groups for Strategic Action Items**

The subcommittee groups are assigned as follows:

##### **Wildlife crossing structure**

- Lead: Brandon Diamond, Nick Catmur

- Team: Laura Pucket-Daniels, LB Mullins, Jen DeBoer, Jon Hare, Matt Vasquez, Chad Wellman
  - Possible additions: State Patrol, CDOT

#### **Fences for trails in agricultural areas**

- Lead: Jake Jones, Steve Guerrerri
- Team: Tim Kugler, Chris Parmeter

#### **Visitor use management**

- Lead: Nick Catmur, Briget Estep
- Team: Tim Kugler, USFS, BLM, CBMBA, TAPP, Laura Pucket-Daniels, Gabi Prochaska

#### **Plan B**

- Lead: Andrew Sandstrom, Dave Ochs
- Team: Kim Schappert, Jeremy Johndrow

#### **Stewardship Fund**

- Nick Catmur

#### **Fundraising**

- Lead: Nick Catmur
- Team: Hedda Peterson, Laura Pucket-Daniels, Jeremy Johndrow, Briget Estep, Jon Hare, Andrew Sandstrom

#### **Grant funding and high priority projects**

- Lead: Nick Catmur and Cathie Pagano

#### **High Use Improvements:**

- Lead: Nick Catmur
- Team: Steve Duke, Gabi Prochaska, Hedda Peterson, Jake Jones, Briget Estep, Dave Ochs, Jon Hare

### **GOCO Funding Programs**

Pagano, Funka, Joe Lavorini (NFF), and Dave Whittle (DNR) shared funding opportunities and priority projects. The committee discussed which projects could be supported through GOCO grants, with Gunnison County priorities including Lake Irwin Campground, the Taylor River slot put-in, and Horse Ranch Park. Funka provided details on the scope of each project and the updates or changes needed to move them forward. The committee reviewed potential grant options, including the Capacity Grant (\$50,000–\$150,000), Capacity Plan Development and Early Wins Grant (\$50,000–\$350,000), and Capacity and Plan Implementation Grant (\$250,000–\$2,500,000). They agreed that put-ins were a high priority due to heavy use and safety concerns, particularly at the Taylor River site and Lake Irwin Campground. A letter of intent and project package were scheduled for completion by the August deadline.

Sandstrom made a motion to apply for grant funding through GOCO Peterson second. The motion passed unanimously.

**Kugler adjourned the meeting.**