

Funding the future of wildlife management and conservation in Colorado



Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) relies on your hunting and fishing license dollars to conserve Colorado's wildlife populations. In order to protect habitat and maintain healthy populations of wildlife, including abundant fish in rivers and reservoirs across the state, license fees must rise to match the rising costs of doing business. License fee increases require an act of the Colorado legislature.

The last resident license fee increase occurred in 2005; meanwhile, costs of wildlife management have increased and the number of people living in Colorado has grown rapidly, putting more pressure on wildlife and habitat. Since 2009, CPW has cut or defunded 50 positions and sliced \$40 million from the wildlife budget. Without new revenue, more cuts are inevitable.



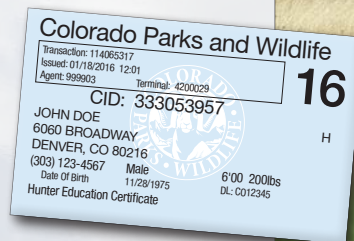
Wildlife management & conservation

Colorado Parks and Wildlife provides the foundation for wildlife related recreation in Colorado, including:

- Access for hunting and fishing - CPW provides over 3 million acres of public and private land for hunting and fishing, including over 300 state wildlife areas.
- A fishing destination - clean water and 90 million sportfish hatched and stocked in Colorado waters annually.
- Nationally renowned big game hunting. Over 400,000 deer and 250,000 elk roam Colorado - the largest herd in North America.
- Ongoing habitat protection and nationally-recognized biological science benefiting 960 species, including threatened and endangered species.

Choices facing Colorado Sportsmen

- ▶ **NO FEE INCREASES** - CPW must continue to cut, potentially including:
 - Closing hatcheries and reducing fish stocks in waters across the state
 - Reducing access to State Land Board lands
 - Eliminating funding for Aquatic Nuisance Species programs which could lead to closing lakes to boaters and fishermen
 - Conserving less habitat
 - Reducing maintenance on State Wildlife Areas
- ▶ **MODEST FEE INCREASES** keep programs and services at their current levels.
- ▶ **LARGER FEE INCREASES** fund the things we've heard are important to sportsmen:
 - Improving access to private and public land for hunting and fishing.
 - Maintaining and improving state wildlife areas and important habitat.
 - Implementing the Mule Deer Strategy to help improve deer populations on the west slope.
 - Developing and enhancing recreational shooting ranges close to home.



Elk License Fee Comparison

- CO Resident in 2016 \$45
- CO Resident in 1964 \$88
(When adjusted for inflation)
- 9 State Bull Tag Average* \$106

2005
Year of last fee increase

CPW does not receive general tax dollars.

Hunting and fishing license dollars pay for wildlife management and conservation. To learn more about how your license dollars are spent and fee choices facing Colorado sportsmen, please go to:
cpw.state.co.us/fundingthefuture



*AZ, ID, KS, MT, NE, NM, NV, UT, WY