



Colorado Sportsmen's Roundtable
August 5, 2017
Cañon City, Colorado

SUMMARY

The Colorado Sportsmen's Roundtable met August 5, 2017 in Cañon City Colorado. 12 Roundtable members, one interested sportsmen and 12 CPW staff participated (see Attachment 1). This document summarizes the group's discussion.

Director Broscheid opened the meeting with a welcome and an update on the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program. Following a decision from the Colorado General Assembly Capitol Development Committee (CDC) that stalled one of CPW's proposed habitat projects, CPW has been reviewing its approach for the program and prepared [options to present](#) to the Parks and Wildlife Commission at the Commission's August meeting.

CPW Real Estate Projects and the RFP Program

Margaret Taylor, Assistant Director of Capitol, Parks, and Trails

CPW has been working closely with the Sportsmen's Roundtable, land trust community and other interested parties to address recent developments with the RFP program that invests Habitat Stamp and GOCO funds into habitat conservation projects. Conservation easement and fee title projects that are in perpetuity go before the Capitol Development Committee (CDC). In June, the CDC considered the Flag Creek Project. However, without enough votes to pass the project, the Committee deferred a decision until their August 21 meeting. This project is the second phase of a larger project to conserve extensive winter range in northwestern Colorado. It is a high priority for CPW because of the rich habitat value and opportunity to protect migration corridors connecting to public lands. The property owner is also looking at offering a select number of hunts for wounded warriors. Looking ahead, CPW is exploring habitat projects that would not require CDC approval. [At the August 21 CDC hearing, the Flag Creek project vote was 3 to 3 and did not pass. A hearing summary is available [here](#).]

Sportsmen discussed challenges with the CDC and requested that CPW include project details in email communications. Habitat Stamp Committee members shared an update on their recent meeting and interest in working with the Parks and Wildlife Commission to discuss next steps for the program.

Financial Sustainability & 2018 Legislative Session Update

Director Broscheid thanked everyone for their involvement during the 2017 session in support of the CPW Financial Sustainability Bill. Reflecting on lessons learned from the 2017 session, he offered changes in approach for future bill attempts, including 1) drafting a shorter,

simpler bill, 2) introducing early in the session, and 3) developing clearer messaging. He stressed it is vital for the Roundtable members and their constituents to be involved in this effort, to become educated on the issue and concepts, and be active in spreading the word to other sportsmen in Colorado. At this time, CPW is looking at concepts to inform a proposal. The Governor must approve all CPW bills and will consider a CPW proposal in the fall.

Discussion followed emphasizing need for clear and consistent messages. Members requested materials from CPW to support outreach efforts and to be updated throughout the session. They also discussed the desirability of having full support from Governor Hickenlooper.

Members asked about how increased revenues would be spent. Director Broscheid explained the financial challenges CPW is facing with increasing costs and stagnant revenues from resident licenses. Costs include mandatory minimum wage increases and rising costs of technological support services. Budget shortfalls are leaving districts vacant; depressed salaries are making it hard to retain employees.

Katie Lanter, CPW Policy and Planning Supervisor, presented a PowerPoint on concepts (see Attachment 2) being considered for a legislative proposal and asked for feedback. She provided an overview of upcoming public meetings where CPW will share this proposal and inform interested members of the public. The presentation was also available on CPW's website with a public comment form.

Members suggested that CPW use videos and messages that better communicate the value of wildlife, compare wildlife license prices to other recreational activity costs, and communicate what could be lost without greater investment in wildlife management. Regarding proposed concepts some members wondered if the revenue generated would be enough to meet CPW's needs. They also discussed how to message changes from the 2017 bill.

Roundtable and Caucus Updates

Northeast Region

Held a caucus meeting with good attendance. Participants discussed financial sustainability and responded to concepts for a revised legislative proposal. Participants also brought up license allocation. The region is exploring opportunities to increase access.

Southeast Region

Good attendance at SE caucus meeting with a Facebook live option that received 450 views. Showed video of a hydro-axe work to improve habitat. Discussed financial sustainability and received lots of feedback. Comments included that the proposal should not get too complicated and that opportunities for non-consumptive users to contribute should be explored. CPW is working to address urban wildlife conflicts in Colorado Springs in partnership with local jurisdictions and others. Colorado Springs Get Outdoors Day is a successful event connecting with thousands of families, providing kids with fishing poles and an opportunity to try archery. This year there were about 5,000 participants.

Southwest Region

The region will hold a tele-conference in September to raise awareness for the financial sustainability and concepts that might inform legislation in 2018. The region is also engaged in two Herd Management Plan update processes and supporting a U.S. Forest Service planning process for the Grand Mesa/Uncompahgre and Rio Grande National Forests.

Northwest Region

A regional caucus meeting will take place later this month. Transplanted ruffed grouse: 25 birds, 4 hens with successful nests, going back to Utah to get more birds soon. On Aug 25/26, the Colorado Trappers and Predator Hunters Convention will take place.

CPW updates

Gary Thorson, Assistant Director Information and Education Branch provided information Packets with the following items:

- Outdoor Expo at Cherry Creek State Park
- Veterans free access to state parks in August
- Recreation lands and waterfowl brochures
- Recent story by Jerry Neal
- Denver Post article on greenback cutthroat
- Big Game Hunting Planning sheet
- Hunting and Fishing Day
- GOCO Generation Wild marketing campaign (5-year campaign)
- Colorado Tourism Office (Colorado Roots publication focusing on agri-tourism, heritage tourism)
- Colorado Outdoors magazine

Gary also gave an update on the Principles for Advancing Outdoor Recreation or SHIFT Principles (SHIFT stands for Shaping How we Invest For Tomorrow). These Principles, first developed by a collaborative out of Wyoming, were presented to a group of organizational leaders representing conservation, outdoor recreation and agricultural interests at CPW's Partners Conference in 2016. This group shaped principles specific to Colorado that were then adopted by the Parks and Wildlife Commission. The group that developed Colorado's Principles continued to meet over the last year and at their last meeting in August, they adopted a new name: the Colorado Outdoors Partnership (CO-OP). They also formed two committees, one for public information/outreach and the other for funding policy.

Members discussed how to better engage industry in support of outreach efforts and asked about CPW's role in Outdoor Industry Association trade shows. These shows are not public but CPW anticipates having the opportunity to showcase Colorado's conservation/outdoor recreation work to industry leaders in attendance.

Mark Leslie, Northeast Regional Manager, gave an update on Lone Tree Reservoir where CPW lost a lease on the property. Looking ahead, likely there will no longer be free public access on that property. Many other property leases are also coming up. Mark highlighted Rabbit Mountain, the Boulder County Open Space property where the County is allowing elk hunting.

CPW is working to ensure licenses are offered where it is viable, safe and effective wildlife management.

Dan Prenzlou, Southeast Regional Manager, showed a video on the Hydro Ax habitat restoration work CPW is doing in partnership with National Wild Turkey Federation and State Land Board.

Patt Dorsey, Southwest Regional Manager, provided an update on the Ridgway Reservoir where they held smallmouth bass-/pike-fishing tournaments. Anglers killed an estimated 53% of the non-native populations in reservoir. This is a huge benefit to anglers and native fish and CPW anticipates that multiple research papers will come from this event.

Dean Riggs, Acting Northwest Regional Manager, discussed the CDOT partnership, which is working towards objectives in the Mule Deer Strategy. A summit with CDOT took place in June. The Highway 9 overpass is an example of what this partnership can accomplish. CPW is partnering with CDOT on a study identifying other priority areas for wildlife crossings in the state.

Katie Lanter gave an update on an archery-muzzleloader stakeholder meeting where we discussed concerns with the overlap of seasons and possible solutions. Participants in that meeting were in favor of maintaining status quo. If a change had to be made, participants communicated that a requirement to wear fluorescent orange during overlapping seasons on public lands might be the most acceptable of options discussed, although this was not broadly supported. Discussion followed with interest in having a Roundtable representative for bow hunters and/or muzzleloaders.

Katie shared that the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) will be updated this coming year, completed by the end of 2018. CPW will be forming an advisory group and be reporting to the Roundtable on progress.

Dan Gates shared updates on upcoming events/happenings. These included:

- American Lands Council Foundation
- Rocky Mountain Wolf Project (Ballot initiative likely)
- Colorado Voters for Animals
- Congressional Sportsmen Foundation
- Lion/bear lawsuit ongoing
- National legislation: Recovering America's Wildlife. Increases funding for wildlife through energy and mineral development revenues.

Next Steps

The next Sportsmen's Roundtable meeting is a conference call on November 21st.

Attachment 1: August 2017 Sportsmen's Roundtable Meeting

Roundtable Member	Residence
Kevin Alexander	Gunnison
Cody DeGuelle	Black Hawk
Dan Gates	Canon City
Dave Roudebush	Southeast
Jennifer Gluck	LaSalle
Kent Ingram	Littleton
Mia Anstine	Pagosa Springs
Roger Tucker	Colorado Springs
Ron Goodrich	Pueblo
Steve Hilde	Loveland
Terry Meyers	Grand Junction
Tom Kenyon	Grand Junction
Will Kalaskie	Colorado Springs
Interested Sportsmen	
Steve Lohr	Northeast
CPW/DNR Staff	Title
Bob Broscheid	Director
Dean Riggs	Acting Northwest Regional Manager
Patt Dorsey	Southwest Regional Manager
Dan Prenzlów	Southeast Regional Manager
Mark Leslie	Northwest Regional Manager
Margaret Taylor	Assistant Director, Parks and Outdoor Recreation
Jeff Ver Steeg	Assistant Director, Research, Policy, and Planning
Gary Thorson	Assistant Director, Information and Education
Reid DeWalt	Assistant Director Wildlife and Natural Resources
Katie Lanter	Policy and Planning Supervisor
Zach Holder	District Wildlife Manager, Canon City South
Bob Carochi	District Wildlife Manager, Canon City North
Krista Heiner	Policy and Planning Analyst

Attachment 2: Draft Bill Concepts

There are nine concepts that CPW is considering right now that we are seeking public input on. These are initial ideas only and subject to change based on public feedback. Based on last year's experience, we are focusing on the most critical pieces to keep any potential bill short and easy to understand.

You'll notice that Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) is not covered in these concepts. That is because ANS is likely to be introduced as a separate bill.

Here are the ideas we are vetting with the public:

1. Allow the Parks and Wildlife Commission to increase resident hunting/angling license fees to the level they would be at today if the prices in 2006 (the last time fees were increased) had risen annually with inflation. Increases for most popular licenses will be limited to no more than \$5.00 in any year until the CPI cap is reached (excludes higher-cost goat, moose, lion, rocky mountain bighorn, and desert bighorn licenses). After reaching the 2006 inflation-adjusted levels, the price of resident licenses would continue to rise (or fall) with inflation in subsequent years.

For example, in 2006 the price of a resident elk license was \$45. Now in 2017, the price is still \$45. Had that 2006 price risen with inflation, it would be \$58 today. Under this approach, in Year 1 the price of a resident elk license would go up to \$50. In Year 2, the price would increase to \$55. In Year 3, the price would go to \$58, the inflation-adjusted price. In subsequent years, that \$58 fee could be further adjusted with inflation.

License Price	2006 price	2017 price	2017 Inflation-adjusted price	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	4 th year
Elk (resident)	\$45	\$45	\$58	\$50	\$55	\$58	\$58 + inflation

2. Allow the Commission to set application fees for the draw at levels that cover the costs of application processing. The existing fee is \$3.00, while the average processing cost including credit card fees is currently \$16.00. This fee could be tiered to ensure that purchasers of higher-cost licenses paid a higher fee.
3. Set resident annual senior fishing licenses at no more than \$1.00 above the

amount required to receive matching federal funds (license estimated to be below \$10.00, including PEAC and SAR).

4. Set the maximum fee for products such as non-resident annual fishing licenses at \$100.00, the Wildlife Council surcharge at \$1.50, the waterfowl stamp at \$10.00, and licenses not provided for in statute at \$100.00.
5. Remove the requirement to purchase a fishing license for residents 16-17 years old.
6. Allow CPW to issue discounted “Outreach Licenses” for the purposes of recruiting new sportsmen/women. Targets include groups such as veterans and youth under the age of 26.
7. Change the base-year for the 20% cap on park fee revenue from 2011 to 2017. Additionally, allow the revenue cap to increase based on future CPI increases and park visitation increases. Increases in park entrance fees will be limited to no more than \$1.00 in any year for a daily pass and \$10.00 in any year for an annual pass.
8. Streamline various park fee requirements, such as removing requirements that any park passes must be “affixed” to a vehicle. Another example is removing the statutory cap on the value of inventory and cash held at parks retail locations.
9. Ensure accountability by requiring regular reports about fee increases, expenses supported by the fee increases, and the impact of the bill on hunting/fishing license sales and park visitation.