



Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grant Program
Administered by Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Program Guidelines

Purpose

The purpose of the Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grant Program is to provide local Colorado communities with financial resources to support efforts to reduce human-bear conflicts. Additionally, the grant program will serve to foster innovative solutions to human-bear conflict that can be replicated in other parts of the state and bolster efforts of all communities in Colorado to prevent conflict. This effort will be in tandem with all other tools available to protect human health and safety including bear management, CPW bear conflict response, and the game damage program.

Funding Range

A total of \$1 million will be available to communities through this program. Applicants will be asked to provide detailed budgets and spending plans (see Grant Recipient Requirements below).

Minimum Grant Award: \$50,000
Maximum Grant Award: \$500,000

Who May Apply

A wide range of entities are eligible to apply for Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grants including: local and county governments, park and recreation departments, open space departments, landowners, businesses, tribes, universities, and nonprofit organizations. Separate chapters or units of statewide organizations are considered as separate applicants. Local agencies may form partnerships with other agencies, including local CPW staff, to conduct a project. For applicants with limited experience with grant administration or fund management, partnering with a county, municipality, or CPW can help facilitate project management. While such partnerships are encouraged they are not required.

Eligible Projects

The goal of the Human-Bear Conflict Reduction Community Grant Program is to reduce conflicts between local communities and black bears. Characteristics of projects that help meet this goal include:

- The project reduces the availability of attractants to black bears in communities experiencing human-bear conflict OR the project disincentivizes black bears from entering areas of high conflict (i.e. hazing).
- The project has local community support or a detailed plan to build local support.
- The project is a cost-effective investment that has the potential to last beyond the funding time frame.
- The project utilizes proven techniques for preventing conflict or will explore an innovation with promise to prevent conflict.

Ineligible Projects/Project Elements

Projects should primarily benefit Colorado communities and have local support, including the support of local CPW staff. Projects without local support or that have a more general benefit may not be eligible for funding.

Stand alone research will not be eligible for funding. However applicants are encouraged to include plans for project evaluation which may include data collection and analysis.

Funds may not be used for lobbying.

Private businesses may apply for funding but need to demonstrate community value and meet other criteria for eligible projects. Grant money may not be used to directly generate revenue or profit.

Matching Funds

Matching funds are not required but are a substantial way to demonstrate community support. In-kind match can count as a match. General volunteer labor is valued at \$20/hour. More specialized donated services can be valued at comparable market rates. Supplies and equipment donated to the project can be valued at comparable market rates.

Funding Considerations

The following will be taken into consideration when evaluating applications:

- Addresses a recognized human-bear conflict situation.
- Likelihood of reduced human-bear conflict as a result of the proposed project.
- Applicant's track record of working in the community and/or on bear conflict.
- The proposal fills a local/regional need.
- Ability to complete the planned project.
- Geographic distribution of funding.
- Cost-effectiveness
- Support of local government and local CPW staff.

Grant Recipient Requirements

Partnering individuals and organizations will need to designate a primary Point of Contact who will be responsible for meeting obligations of funding. Partnering individuals and organizations are expected to support the primary point of contact in these efforts.

1. Financial records for funds awarded (i.e. documentation of expenses and proof of payment) must be provided by the recipient for reimbursement. Applicants can contact CPW if they need up-front financial assistance and should indicate such on their applications.
2. Reimbursed expenses can only be incurred during the grant period (i.e. work completed prior to grant award and contract set-up is not eligible for reimbursement).
3. Quarterly and final reports required.
4. Timely use of awarded funds, in accordance with approved application. Extensions may be available, but will be considered on a project-by-project basis.
5. On-site inspection of the completed project may be required

Timeline

April 2024: Grant opportunity announced to the public

May 24th, 2024: Grant proposals due to CPW

Late June 2023: Grant Board meets to evaluate project proposals and make recommendation

July 2024: Successful grant recipients announced

December 2025: Projects complete or extensions for additional year granted

How to Apply

Applications are available on CPW's website and are due by May 24th, 2024 at 5 p.m. For questions on applying please contact Travis Long travis.long@state.co.us Application assistance is available.

Application Evaluation, Selection, and Notification Process

Applications will be evaluated for how well they meet the goal of the grant program and how well the applicant can meet the requirements outlined under funding considerations. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the process no later than July 31st, 2023. Successful applicants will have until December 31, 2025 to utilize the funding with an option to extend until December, 2026.