

# Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program

## 2020 RFP

(FY21-22)



Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission

Virtual Meeting - Monday, March 30, 2020

Amanda Nims, Land Protection Specialist

# Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program & RFP Overview

Opportunities for private landowners to voluntarily protect important wildlife habitat, provide wildlife-related recreational access to the public, and, if appropriate, sell their property to CPW.

Landowners (or Land Trust sponsors) may apply for funding through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process per Title 33-1-105 CRS.

## Real Estate Transactions:

- \*Conservation Easements
- \*Public Access Easements
- \*Fee Title Purchases (rare)



Program Funding: Cooperative agreement with GOCO (lottery proceeds), revenue generated from sale of Habitat Stamps (Title 33-4-102.7 CRS), occasionally federal funding sources.

## **CWHP 2020 funding: Up to \$11 million**

Priorities for use of GOCO funds are provided in the cooperative Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)



# Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program RFP

## 2020 Recommended Funding Priorities

- \*Public access for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing
  - \*Big game winter range and migration corridors
- \*Protecting habitat for species of concern (specifically those Species of Greatest Conservation Need, as identified in the SWAP)
  - \*Riparian areas and wetlands
    - \*Landscape-scale parcels
  - \*Parcels that provide connectivity

## 2020 Recommended Preferences:

- \*3<sup>rd</sup> Party Conservation Easements
  - \*Increased public access
  - \*Greater donated values
- \*Conservation Easements that support wildlife crossings
  - \*Working farms and ranches
- \*Easements are preferable to fee title acquisition

# The RFP Evaluation Process

## CPW Staff Scoring, Ranking, & Recommendations

- \*Strategic Conservation Impacts;
- \*Habitat Quality & Biological Significance;
- \*Public Benefits;
- \*Conservation Priority Species;
- \*Project Feasibility.

## Habitat Stamp Committee (HSC) Scoring & Recommendations

- Legislative Mandates:
- \*Protection of big game winter range and migration corridors;
  - \*Public access for wildlife-related recreation;
  - \*Protection of habitat for special status species;
  - \*Preserving diversity of wildlife.

## Real Estate Staff, Leadership Team/Director:

- Evaluate proposals from statewide perspective
- Provide recommendation to PWC for approval

PWC - First Round Approval:  
September

PWC - Final Approval:  
November

# CWHP - 2020 RFP Timeline

April 15: Release - RFP materials available on CPW website

May 18: Proposal Deadline - 5:00pm

June - August: CPW staff & HSC review, score, rank proposals

July: Commission updated on proposals and evaluation process

August: Leadership Team creates recommendations for Commission

September: Commission votes on "first round" of proposals

October: Additional staff review; Director meets w/ Leadership Team to form final recommendations

November: Commission determines projects for negotiations

January 2021: CPW staff begins negotiations



# Questions?

