

Colorado Parks and Wildlife



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program 2021 RFP Recommendations

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Amanda Nims, Land Protection Specialist

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program

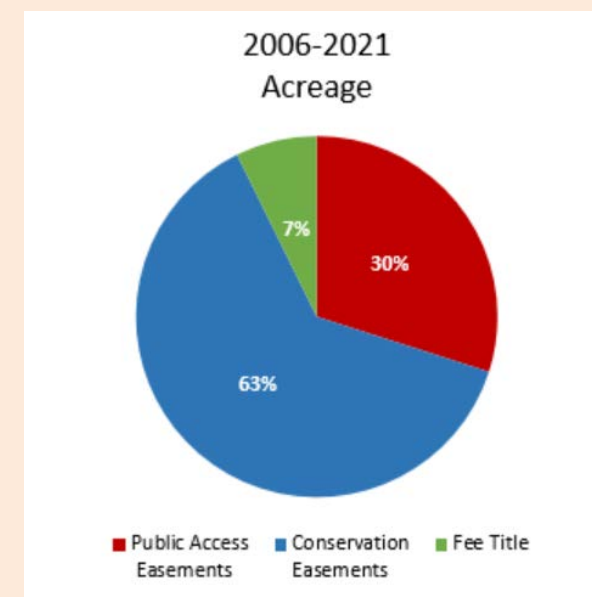
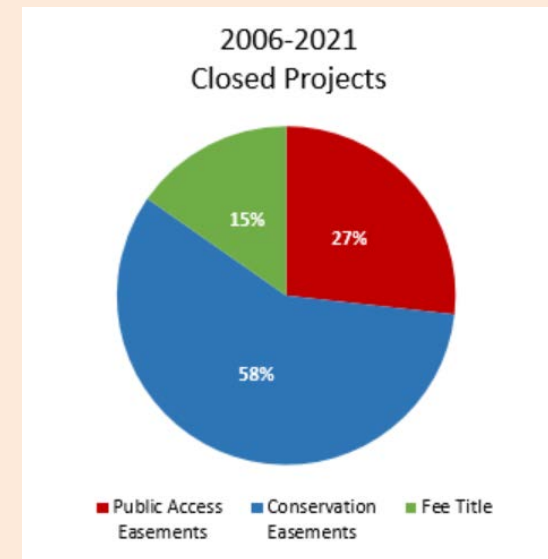


“The RFP” provides private landowners funding opportunities to protect their important wildlife habitat, provide wildlife-related recreational access to their private land, and in limited circumstances, sell their property to CPW. The RFP funds:

- *Conservation Easements
- *Public Access Easements
- *Fee Title acquisition

Since 2006, CPW has invested >\$180,000,000 across Colorado to secure:

- *Conservation Easements >261,000 acres
- *Public Access ~125,000 acres
- *Fee Title >30,000 acres
- *River Bank access along 375 miles river bank



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program



CPW's Mission:

To perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state, provide a quality state parks system, and provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources.

The RFP achieves goals of CPW's Strategic Plan and State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP):

- Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy, sustainable populations and ecosystems
- Connect people to Colorado's outdoors
- Increase awareness and trust for CPW
- Build Collaborative conservation partnerships that enhance the capacity to deliver CPW's mission



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 33
Parks and Wildlife § 33-4-102.7



- (1) The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that:
 - (a) Protecting wildlife habitat and obtaining public access are important elements to preserving wildlife and wildlife-related recreational opportunities in Colorado;
 - (b) The general assembly specifically recognizes that hunting of big game species is an activity that hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors to Colorado enjoy, which contributes significantly to state and local economies; and
 - (c) Priorities for the expenditure of funds generated from the sale of habitat stamps shall include protecting big game winter range and migration corridors, acquiring public access to wildlife-related recreation, including fishing, hunting, and wildlife viewing, protecting habitat for species of concern, and preserving the diversity of wildlife enjoyed by Coloradans.



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program



2021 Recommended Funding Priorities

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

2021 Recommended Funding *Preferences*:

- *Working farms and ranches
- *Properties that support wildlife crossings



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 33.
Parks and Wildlife § 33-1-105.5.
Acquisition of property—procedure



- (1) Except as provided in subsection (7) of this section, **before the commission purchases any fee title interest in real property or any interest in water** pursuant to section 33-1-105(1)(a), **it shall solicit bid proposals from all interested parties through the issuance of a request for proposals.** Notice of such request for proposals shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the commission plans to purchase the real property or interest in water.
- (5) The commission shall evaluate the proposals based on the following criteria:
- (a) Whether the ability of the commission to attain the goals established in the long-range plan of the division is enhanced by the acquisition of the property or interest in water;
 - (b) Whether the acquisition results in the establishment of additional wildlife habitat or in the potential for additional habitat through the use of habitat improvement methods;
 - (c) Whether the acquisition will improve access to other public lands;
 - (d) Whether additional wildlife-oriented recreational opportunities will result from the acquisition;
 - (e) The size and location of the property or interest in water, including the proximity of the property or interest in water to other property controlled by the division; and
 - (f) Such other criteria as the commission may establish.



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 33
Parks and Wildlife § 33-4-102.7



(3)(c) Real property interest acquisitions made by the commission pursuant to this section shall emphasize the acquisition of easements and ensure that all other avenues are pursued prior to fee simple acquisition. Conservation easements, as described in section 38-30.5-104(2), C.R.S., and fee simple title purchases are allowed. All fee simple title purchases made with revenues collected pursuant to this section, not including purchases of water for maintenance or enhancement of aquatic habitats, such as minimum storage pools or direct flow rights purchased specifically to protect habitat, shall be primarily for the purpose of providing access to the public for wildlife-related recreation, and shall be made available to the public for hunting or fishing, subject to commission rules. The commission shall not use the power of eminent domain to obtain fee simple title or a conservation easement on real property. The commission shall comply with a seller's agreement or sections 33-1-105 and 33-1-105.5 prior to purchasing real property.

(5) The Colorado wildlife habitat stamp committee is hereby created. The committee shall be composed of four sports persons; two representatives of national or regionally recognized conservation organizations whose missions are focused on nongame wildlife and whose membership is composed primarily of nongame wildlife users; two landowners actively engaged in agriculture; one citizen at large; and two division of parks and wildlife representatives as ex officio members, at least one of whom shall be a wildlife biologist. The sports persons shall be representative of the four quadrants of the state. Members shall be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate. Staggered appointments shall be made so that not more than two members' terms expire in any one year, and thereafter appointments shall be for terms of four years each. Members shall be limited to two consecutive four-year terms.

2021 RFP - Habitat Stamp Committee

Dan Gates - Sportsperson
Tom Brossia - Sportsperson
Jon Nestor - Sportsperson
Jennifer Gluck - Sportsperson

*Erica Elvove - Conservation
*Lauren McCain - Conservation

*David Warsh - Landowner
*David Gottonborg - Landowner

Tim Brass- Public at Large

*Travis Black - CPW Liaison
Brett Ackerman - CPW Liaison

*new members, 2021 RFP



What does Habitat Stamp revenue pay for?

*Wildlife conservation and recreation programs:

- Habitat Improvement
- Term-limited Public Access
- Operations and Maintenance on CPW fee title properties purchased with Habitat Stamp dollars
- Partnership Opportunities

*The Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program ("RFP")



Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program



Funding for the CWHP/RFP:

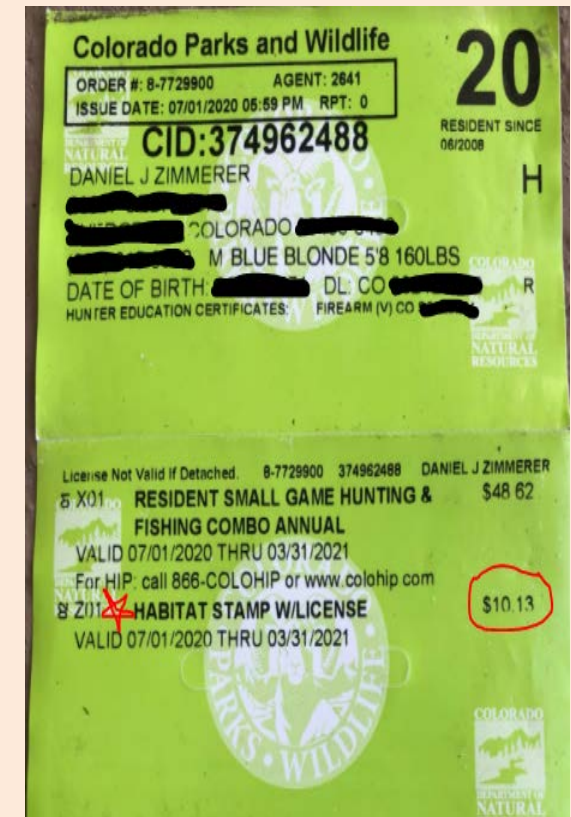
*CPW

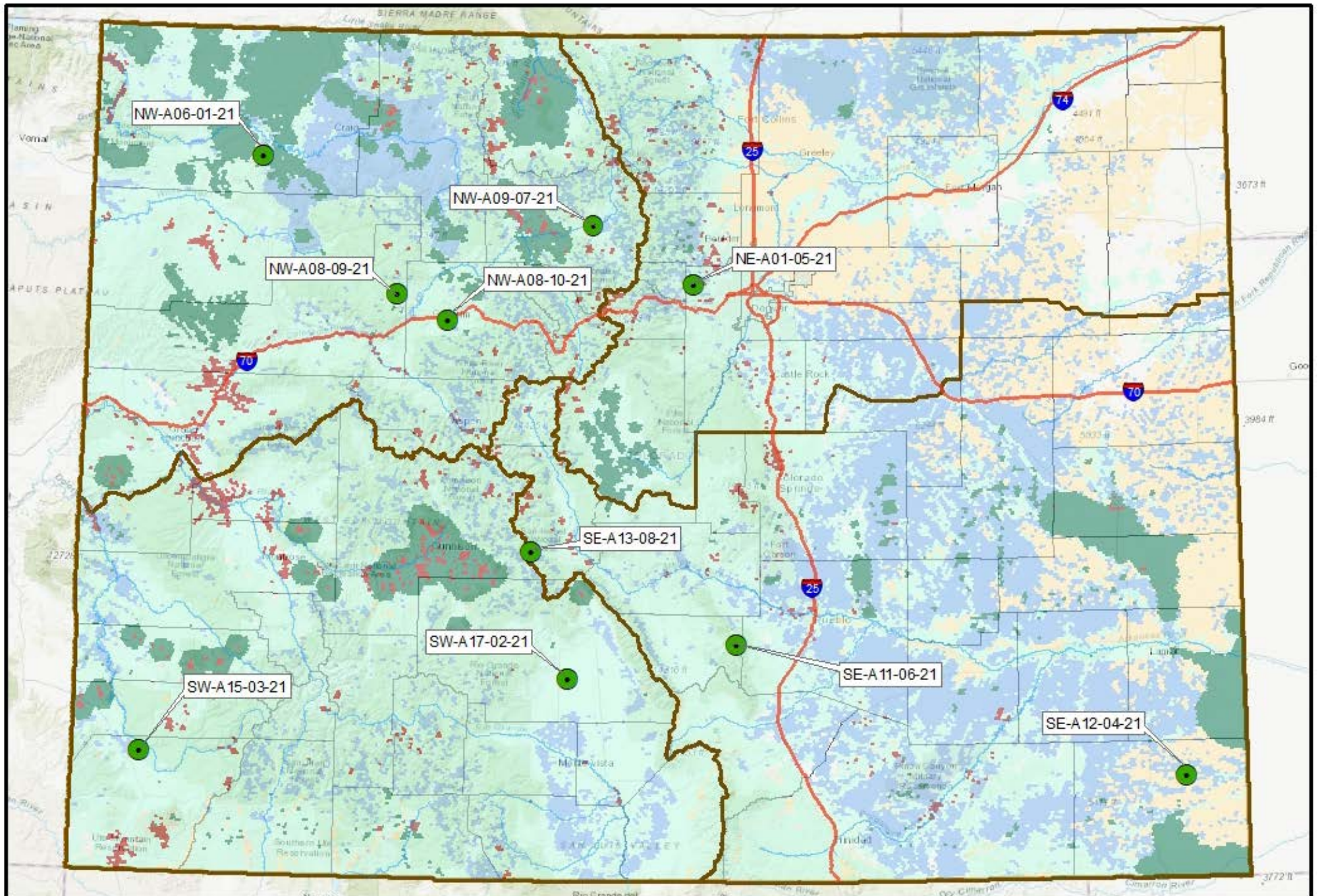
- Revenue generated from sale of Habitat Stamps
- Revenue generated by sale of hunting & fishing licenses "wildlife cash"

*GOCO (through Cooperative Agreement)

- Wildlife Quadrant Dollars
- NOT from GOCO's other funding programs (Resilient Communities, RESTORE, or previous Open Space, Protect Initiative, etc.)

*Federal funding Sources (rarely)





-  2021 Proposed RFP Properties
- SWAP Habitat Priority Level**
-  1
-  2
-  3
-  4
-  5

2021 RFP Proposals - SWAP Priority Map



2021 RFP Results

October 28, 2021: 10 proposals received

\$22,341,650 requested to conserve 6,333 acres

\$11,000,000 budget

February 1, 2022: Habitat Stamp Committee Recommends:

*9 proposals to remain in consideration

6 Tier 1 projects - \$11,029,650

3 Tier 2 projects - \$5,812,000

*1 proposal to be removed

February 14: Director/Leadership Team Recommends:

*7 proposals to remain in consideration

6 Tier 1 projects - \$11,339,650

1 Tier 2 project - \$2,112,000

*3 proposals to be removed from consideration

Executive Session: Recommended Proposals

TIER 1

	<u>Region</u>	<u>Project Code</u>	<u>Reference Name:</u>	<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Holder</u>	<u>Access holder (always)</u>	<u>HSC ranking</u>	<u>Staff Rank</u>
1	SW	SW-A17-02-21	Project A	Fee Title	CPW	CPW	Yes	1
2	NE	NE-A01-05-21	Project B	Fee Title	CPW	CPW	Yes	1
3	NW	NW-A09-07-21	Project C	CE	3rd party	n/a	Yes	3
4	SE	SE-A11-06-21	Project D	CE & AE	CPW	CPW	Yes	3
5	SE	SE-A13-08-21	Project E	Fee Title	CPW	CPW	Yes	1
6	NW	NW-A06-01-21	Project F	CE	CPW	n/a	No	2

Total Conservation Acreage: 4,584
 Total Access Acreage: 1,767
 Total Requested: \$11,339,650

TIER 2

	<u>Region</u>	<u>Project Code</u>	<u>Reference Name:</u>	<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Holder</u>	<u>AE holder (always)</u>	<u>HSC ranking</u>	<u>Staff Rank</u>
7	NE	SE-A12-04-21	Project G	Fee Title	CPW	CPW	No	2

Total Conservation Acreage: 1,280
 Total Access Acreage: \$1,280
 Total Requested: \$2,112,000

Questions?



Request to enter Executive Session
to discuss confidential details
of 2021 recommended proposals.