



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources
Policy and Planning
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216

TO: Members of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
FROM: Hilary Hernandez, Regulations Manager
RE: March 15-16, 2023 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting Regulatory Items
DATE: March 3, 2023

The regulatory items detailed below are scheduled to be addressed at the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission's March 15-16, 2023 meeting. If there are questions about any of the agenda items below, or if additional information is needed, please feel free to contact Hilary Hernandez at hilary.hernandez@state.co.us.

FINAL REGULATIONS

Agenda Item 11: Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3

Open for final consideration of annual changes to game bird seasons, excluding turkey, and other small game seasons and related provisions, including season dates, bag and possession limits and manner of take provisions. Specific regulatory changes include the following:

- Modification of the Harvest Information Program (HIP) to no longer require sportspersons only pursuing furbearers to register with the HIP.
- Creation of a white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse, and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse permit that would be required in addition to a small game license, to take these species.

Agenda Item 12: Chapter W-5 - "Small Game - Migratory Game Birds" 2 CCR 406-5

Open for final consideration of annual changes to waterfowl and migratory bird hunting seasons and related provisions, including season dates, bag and possession limits, and manner of take provisions, and the closure of the crow, sora and Virginia Rail seasons.

Agenda Item 13: Chapter W-9 - "Wildlife Properties" 2 CCR 406-9

Open for final consideration of the following:

- Adoption of permanent regulations for the new SKCK fishing access easement on the Yampa River.

Agenda Item 14: Chapter W-13 - "Wildlife Possession, Scientific Collecting and Special Licenses" 2 CCR 406-13 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 ("General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-13

Open for annual review of the entire chapter including, but not limited to, regulations pertaining to wildlife possession, scientific collecting, and special licenses. Specific regulatory changes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Modifications to authorize aquatic management.

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION



Agenda Item 15: Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” - 2 CCR 406-2 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 (“General Provisions” - 2 CCR 406-0) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-2

Open for consideration of changes to big game license distribution, including preference point banking, averaging group points, an across-the-board allocation, and/or updating the high-demand hunt code split, such as from 80% for residents and 20% for nonresidents to 90% for residents and 10% for nonresidents.

Agenda Item 16: Chapter W-9 - “Wildlife Properties” - 2 CCR 406-9 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 (“General Provisions” - 2 CCR 406-0) and Chapter P-1 (“Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands” - 2 CCR 405-1) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-9

Open for review of the entire chapter including, but not limited to, generally applicable and property-specific requirements for, or restrictions on the use of wildlife properties controlled by the Division of Parks and Wildlife.

Agenda Item 18: Chapter W-16 - “Parks and Wildlife Procedural Rules” - 2 CCR 406-16 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 (“General Provisions” - 2 CCR 406-0) and Chapter P-7 (“Passes, Permits and Registrations” - 2 CCR 405-7) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-16

Open for consideration of any necessary changes to implement and administer the Search and Rescue program.

CONSENT AGENDA

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

Consent Item 23.1: Chapter P-7 - “Passes, Permits and Registrations” 2 CCR 405-7 and Chapter W-0 - “General Provisions” 2 CCR 406-0

Open for final consideration of regulations updating the reference to the U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines applicable to the Centennial Pass and other low-income licenses and passes offered by the Division.

Consent Item 23.2: Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2

Open for final consideration of any necessary corrections or administrative clean-ups to regulations previously adopted by the Parks and Wildlife Commission for the 2023 big game seasons, including, but not limited to, game management unit boundaries, season dates, limited license areas and manner of take provisions for bighorn sheep, mountain goat, deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bear and mountain lion, and regulations otherwise necessary for the implementation of the 2023 big game seasons.

Consent Item 23.3: Chapter W-9 - “Wildlife Properties” 2 CCR 406-9

Open for final consideration for the following:

- Administrative clean-up to correct the misspelling of the Bill Patterson State Wildlife Area.
- Combining the Ruby Mountain SWA Fishing Easement (FE) regulations and the Bighorn Springs SWA FE under the Bighorn Springs SWA FE.
- Modification of the Colorow State Wildlife Area closure period.
- Modification of the hunting restrictions at Oxbow State Trust Land to open the land to all hunters.



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Policy and Planning
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216

TO: Members of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
FROM: Hilary Hernandez, Regulations Manager
RE: Chapter W-3 Final Regulations for the March 2023 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting
DATE: March 3, 2023

Final regulatory changes for Chapter W-3 are summarized below. If there are questions about the agenda item below, or if additional information is needed, please feel free to contact me at hilary.hernandez@state.co.us.

Agenda Item 11: Chapter W-3 - “Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds” 2 CCR 406-3

These regulations amend the date structure for the 2023 hunting seasons for game birds (except migratory birds and turkeys), and all other species considered small game in Colorado, and are the result of an annual review. These regulations are necessary to provide small game hunting opportunity and properly manage small game wildlife in Colorado. Small game populations are managed primarily for hunting and wildlife watching opportunities, and to prevent or minimize damage to private property.

Modifying the Harvest Information Program (HIP) to no longer require sportspersons only pursuing furbearers to register with the HIP

Historically furbearer harvest was determined from the HIP until recently when the furbearer harvest permit was added. Using the permit information with the furbearer license purchase information CPW was able to generate a smaller and more appropriate furharvester sample pool than previously generated by the HIP. Results from the 2021-2022 Furbearer Harvest Survey show that this new approach to sampling and defining the pool of furharvesters is much more precise than using the results of several HIP questions. Therefore, there is no need or use for the furbearer species questions on the HIP survey. Removing those questions and the requirement that furharvesters register with HIP will reduce the length and complexity of the HIP survey, which has been a long-standing goal of CPW, improve data quality for the remaining HIP survey questions, and improve the customer experience for those small game hunters that still must complete the HIP survey.

Hunters that are exclusively pursuing coyotes will still be required to register for the HIP, as coyote harvest will continue to be estimated from the small game survey. Coyote Harvest is estimated from the small game survey because hunters that are exclusively pursuing coyotes may do so using a small game license without having to also purchase the Furbearer Harvest Permit.

Creating a white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse, and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse permit required in addition to a small game license, to take these species

Currently, the annual harvest of white-tailed ptarmigan (WTPT), greater sage-grouse (GRSG), and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse (CSTG) are generated through the Harvest Information Program (HIP). This system works well for some species, but unfortunately for species relatively fewer hunters pursue,



such as these three, the process results in poor harvest data estimates. To improve the management of these three species, CPW will create a WTPT, GRSG, CSTG permit that hunters will need to purchase in addition to their small game license prior to hunting these species. The sale of this permit will allow CPW to more easily identify GRSG, CSTG, and WTPT hunters from within the huge number of small game license buyers and HIP registrants, resulting in higher quality harvest survey data for managers and increased survey efficiency for CPW.

FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-3 - FURBEARERS AND SMALL GAME, EXCEPT MIGRATORY BIRDS

CHAPTER W-3 - FURBEARERS and SMALL GAME, EXCEPT MIGRATORY BIRDS

ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

#304 - License Requirements

Except as provided in 33-6-107(9) C.R.S., the following license requirements shall apply:

- A. A small game license is required to take those species defined in #300(D) as small game, except wild turkey.
- B. Until March 1, 2021, a small game or a furbearer license is required to take those species defined in #300(B) as furbearers. Beginning March 1, 2021, a youth small game license, a furbearer license, or a furbearer harvest permit in addition to any variation of a small game license or small game and fishing combination license is required to take those species defined in #300(B) as furbearers, except coyotes. Coyotes may be taken with a small game license, a furbearer license, or without a license during any big game season provided that the hunter has an unfilled big game license for that season and unit. Manner of take must be the same as that of the big game license. An annual furbearer harvest permit can be purchased for \$10.00.
- C. A turkey license is required to take wild turkey.
- D. Common snapping turtles may be taken with either a small game license or a fishing license.
- E. Each hunter must call 1-866-COLOHIP (1-866-265-6447) or register online (www.colohip.com) prior to their first hunting trip of the season to register their intent to hunt small game or ~~furbearers~~ coyotes. For the purposes of this regulation, "season" means the period September 1 through March 15.
- F. Greater sage-grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse and white-tailed ptarmigan permit
Beginning with the 2023 sage-grouse, sharp-tailed grouse and ptarmigan hunting seasons,
no hunter shall take any greater sage-grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, or white-tailed
ptarmigan unless at the time of such taking, they have on their person one (1) greater sage-
grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, and white-tailed ptarmigan permit in addition to a
small game license. An annual greater sage-grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse and
white-tailed ptarmigan permit can be purchased for \$5.00.

ARTICLE II - SMALL GAME SEASON DATES, UNITS (AS DESCRIBED IN CHAPTER 0 OF THESE REGULATIONS), BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS, LIMITED LICENSES AND PERMITS

#306 - Cottontail Rabbit, Snowshoe Hare, White-tailed & Black-tailed jackrabbit

- A. Season Dates and Units
 1. Statewide: October 1 - end of February annually.
 2. Extended Falconry and Dog Pursuit Season - Statewide: September 1 - March 31 annually.
- B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Ten (10) cottontail rabbits, ten (10) snowshoe hares, ten (10) jackrabbits.
2. Possession Limit: Twenty (20) cottontail rabbits, twenty (20) snowshoe hares, and twenty (20) jackrabbits.

#307 - Abert's Squirrels

- A. Season Dates and Units
 1. Statewide: November 15 - January 15 annually.
- B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 1. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) squirrels.
 2. Possession Limit - Four (4) squirrels.

#308 - Fox Squirrel and Pine Squirrels

- A. Season Dates and Units
 1. Statewide: October 1 - end of February annually.
 2. Extended Falconry Season - Statewide: September 1 - March 31 annually.
- B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 1. Daily Bag Limit - Five (5) fox squirrels and five (5) pine squirrels.
 2. Possession Limit - Ten (10) fox squirrels and ten (10) pine squirrels.

#309 - Wyoming (Richardson's) ground squirrel, and black-tailed, white-tailed, and Gunnison prairie dogs

- A. Season Dates and Units
 1. Wyoming ground squirrel:
 - a. Statewide: January 1 - December 31 annually.
 2. Black-tailed, white-tailed and Gunnison prairie dogs:
 - a. Public Land: June 15 - end of February annually.
 - b. Private Land: January 1 - December 31 annually.

- B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 1. There shall be no bag or possession limit.

#310 - Common Snapping Turtle

- A. Season Dates and Units
 1. Statewide: April 1 - October 31 annually.
- B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 1. There shall be no bag or possession limit.

#311 - Marmot

- A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide: August 10 - October 15 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) marmots.
2. Possession Limit - Four (4) marmots.

#312 - Prairie Rattlesnake

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide: June 15 - August 15 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Three (3) snakes.
2. Possession Limit - Six (6) snakes.

C. Nothing in this section is intended to interfere with or prohibit the lawful protection of life or property as provided for in Section 33-6-107(9), C.R.S.

#313 - Dusky (Blue) Grouse

A. Season Dates and Units

1. West of U.S. Interstate 25.
 - a. September 1 - November ~~27, 2022~~26, 2023.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - March 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Three (3) birds.
2. Possession Limit - Nine (9) birds.

#314 - White-tailed Ptarmigan

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide except units 44, 45, 53, 54, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 444 and 751.
 - a. September ~~10-9~~ - October ~~2, 2022~~1, 2023.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - March 31 annually.
2. Units 44, 45, 53, 54, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 444 and 751.
 - a. September ~~10-9~~ - November ~~27, 2022~~26, 2023.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - March 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Three (3) birds.
2. Possession Limit - Six (6) birds.

#315 - Greater Sage-grouse

A. Season Dates, Units and Limits, Except North Park

1. Units 3, 11, 13, 18 except that portion of unit 18 east of Colo 125 in Grand County, 27, 28 except that portion of GMU 28 north and east of Grand Co Rd 50 (Church Park Rd) and US 40, 37, 181, 201, 211, 301 and 441.
 - a. September ~~10-9~~ - September ~~16, 2022~~ 15, 2023.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - January 31 annually.
2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 - a. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) birds.
 - b. Possession Limit - Four (4) birds.

B. Season Dates, Units and Limits, North Park

1. Units 6, 16, 17, 161, and 171.
 - a. September ~~10-9~~ - September ~~11~~ 10, 2023 ~~2022~~.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - January 31 annually.
2. Daily Bag and Possession Limits
 - a. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) birds.
 - b. Possession Limit - Two (2) birds.

#316 - Gunnison Sage-grouse

A. Season Dates and Units

1. None.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - None.
2. Possession Limit - None.

#317 - Mountain Sharp-tailed Grouse

A. Season Dates and Units.

1. Closed statewide except: Units 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 131, 211, 214, and 441.
 - a. September 1 - September ~~18, 2022~~ 17, 2023.
 - b. Extended Falconry Season: September 1 - January 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) birds.
2. Possession Limit - Four (4) birds.

#318 - Chukar Partridge

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide: September 1 - November 30 ~~annually, 2022~~.
2. Extended Falconry Season - Statewide: September 1 - March 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Four (4) birds.
2. Possession Limit - Twelve (12) birds.

#319 - Pheasant

A. Season Dates and Units

1. East of I-25: November ~~12, 2022~~11, 2023 - January 31, ~~2023~~2024.
2. West of I-25: November ~~12, 2022~~11, 2023 - January ~~2, 2023~~7, 2024.
3. Extended Falconry Season - Statewide: September 1 - March 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Three (3) cocks.
2. Possession Limit - Nine (9) cocks.

C. Extended Falconry Season Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Three (3) birds.
2. Possession Limit - Nine (9) birds.

#320 - Quail (Northern Bobwhite, Scaled, Gambel's)

A. Season Dates and Units

1. East of U.S. Interstate 25 and south of Interstate 70 from I-25 to Byers and U.S. Highway 36 from Byers to the Kansas line, and those portions of Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, El Paso and Las Animas counties lying west of I-25:
November ~~12, 2022~~11, 2023 - January 31, ~~2023~~2024.
2. East of U.S. Interstate 25 and north of Interstate 70 from I-25 east to Byers and U.S. Highway 36 from Byers to the Kansas line:
November ~~12, 2022~~11, 2023 - January ~~2, 2023~~7, 2024.
3. West of U.S. Interstate I-25, except Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, El Paso and Las Animas counties:
November ~~12, 2022~~11, 2023 - January ~~2, 2023~~7, 2024.
4. Extended Falconry Season - Statewide: September 1 through March 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Eight (8) quail of each species.
2. Possession Limit - Twenty-four (24) quail of each species.

#321 - Greater Prairie-Chicken

A. Season Dates and Units.

1. Closed statewide except: Units 93, 97, 98, 100, 101, 102, 103, 109, all of Morgan County, and those portions east of Colorado State Highway 71 and south of Colorado State Highway 14 and U.S. Highway 138.
 - a. October 1, ~~2022~~ - January 31, ~~2023~~annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Daily Bag Limit - Two (2) birds.
2. Possession Limit - Six (6) birds.

#322 - Wild Turkey

A. Season Bag and Possession Limits

1. The bag and possession limit for each season annually shall be as provided below.

- a. Spring Season - The limit shall be two bearded turkeys in the spring for those persons who possess a limited spring license. One turkey must be harvested on the limited license and in the limited area. The additional bearded turkey must be harvested with an over-the-counter license.
- b. Fall Season - The limit shall be one turkey of either sex.
- c. Late Season - The limit shall be two beardless turkeys.
- 2. In addition to the above bag and possession limits, a hunter may obtain any number of nuisance turkey licenses as provided in #322(F).
- 3. In addition to the above bag and possession limits, a hunter may take one additional turkey with a Turn In Poachers (TIPS) license as provided in #002(H)(11)(b).

B. Applications for Limited Licenses

- 1. Application requirements
 - a. No person shall submit more than one (1) application per season.
 - b. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
 - c. Applications not submitted by the deadline date and time are void.
- 2. Drawing applications submittal
 - a. Applications will be accepted by phone or internet only through the Division's electronic licensing system.
 - b. Each drawing application shall include payment of a non-refundable application fee for residents or a non-refundable application fee for nonresidents, found in Chapter W-0 Appendix F. Individuals successful in the draw will be charged for the limited license as well as applicable surcharges found in Chapter W-0 Appendix F.
 - c. Spring season
 - 1. Applications for limited licenses must be received by phone or online no later than 8:00 PM Mountain Time, on the first Tuesday in February annually.
 - d. Fall season
 - 1. Applications for limited licenses must be received by phone or online no later than 8:00 PM Mountain Time, on the last business day in May annually.
- 3. Preference systems
 - a. Preference Points: Preference will be given for correct applications for first choice hunt codes only and shall be subject to the following provisions:
 - 1. One preference point will be awarded to each person who qualifies for and fails to draw a limited license as a first choice in the drawing or who applies using a first choice hunt code established for the purpose of accumulating a preference point only. However, no applicant may accumulate more than two turkey preference points per calendar year.
 - 2. Preference points will be used in future drawings for the same species and will continue to accumulate until the applicant draws a license as a first choice. If an applicant both fails to apply for a turkey license and has not purchased a turkey license during any given 10-year period, all accumulated preference points for turkey become void.
 - 3. Applications receiving preference will be given priority over all applications with fewer points.
 - 4. Group applications will receive preference at the level of the group member with the fewest accumulated points.
 - 5. Unsuccessful and successful applicants in the drawing can check their current accumulated preference point totals online.
 - b. Hunting Licenses for Hunters with Mobility Impairments - The Director may make licenses valid in certain GMU's available to qualified hunters with mobility impairments.
 - 1. Applicants for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments must have a mobility impairment resulting from permanent medical conditions, which makes it physically impossible for them to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Evidence of an impossibility to participate in the hunt without the assistance of an

attendant may include, but is not limited to, prescribed use of a wheel chair; shoulder or arm crutches; walker; two canes; or other prescribed medical devices or equipment.

2. Applications for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall be made on the form, available from and submitted with the applicable license fee to, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Limited License Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216. Hunters may apply from the Monday after the November Commission meeting through the last day of the spring season.
 3. Applications for hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments shall contain a statement from a licensed medical doctor or a certified physical, occupational, or recreational therapist describing the applicant's mobility impairment and the permanent medical condition which makes it impossible for the applicant to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Additional documentation may be required, if necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility for a hunting license for hunters with mobility impairments. Once certified by the Division as mobility-impaired according to these regulations, applicants will not be required to submit the medical statement.
 4. Ten (10) hunting licenses for hunters with mobility impairments will be available for the spring season, valid only on private lands in units 91, 92, and 96. The licenses will be valid for the season dates established for the authorized hunt code. Licenses for hunters with mobility impairments may not be issued for Ranching for Wildlife properties unless otherwise provided in the ranch contract.
- c. Youth Outreach Hunting Licenses – The Director may make additional youth outreach program turkey licenses available to qualified organizations sponsoring youth hunting activities.
1. There will be no more than 200 licenses issued annually under this subsection.
 2. Licenses will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager on a case-by-case basis.
 3. Licenses are issued on a first come, first served basis to qualified organizations.
 4. Organizations who wish to request a Youth Outreach license must submit the request in writing to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, State Hunter Outreach Coordinator, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216 no later than 60 days prior to the planned hunting event.
 5. Licenses are limited to youth hunters under 18 years of age.
- d. Novice Outreach Hunting Licenses- The Director may make additional outreach program turkey licenses available to qualified organizations sponsoring novice adult hunting activities.
1. There will be no more than 200 licenses issued annually under this subsection.
 2. Licenses will be approved by the applicable Regional Manager on a case-by-case basis.
 3. Licenses are issued on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified organizations.
 4. Organizations who wish to request an Outreach License must submit the request in writing to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, State Hunter Outreach Coordinator, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216 no later than 60 days prior to the planned hunting event.
 5. Licenses are limited to novice hunters. For the purpose of these regulations a novice adult hunter is defined as a Colorado resident 18 years of age or older, who has either: no turkey license purchase history, only held a turkey license(s) in the current or previous year, or has no turkey license purchase history in the previous five years.

C. Special Restrictions

1. Tagging Requirements

- a. When any person kills a turkey, that person must immediately detach, sign, and date the carcass tag. Such tags must be attached to the carcass of the bird while it is transported in any vehicle, while in camp, at a residence, or other place of storage.
 - b. Such tags, when dated, signed and attached to the turkey lawfully taken or killed and lawfully in possession, authorizes the possession, use, storage, and transportation of the carcass, or any part thereof, within the state.
 - c. If the carcass tag is inadvertently or accidentally detached from the license or is lost or destroyed, the licensee must obtain a duplicate carcass tag before he can lawfully hunt with such license. The duplicate carcass tag may be obtained upon furnishing satisfactory proof as to the inadvertent or accidental nature of the detachment, loss, or destruction to Colorado Parks and Wildlife.
2. Spanish Peaks SWA
- a. Hunting during the spring turkey season shall be permitted only on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays on the Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area, except as provided in subparagraph b of this subsection.
 - b. For hunters with mobility impairments, hunting during the spring turkey season shall be permitted after the second weekend of the season on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, by special access permit only. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the following restrictions shall apply:
 - 1. Applicants for access permits for hunters with mobility impairments must have a mobility impairment resulting from permanent medical conditions, which makes it physically impossible for them to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Evidence of an impossibility to participate in the hunt without the assistance of an attendant may include, but is not limited to, prescribed use of a wheelchair; shoulder or arm crutches; walker; two canes; or other prescribed medical devices or equipment. Applications will be accepted until the last day of the spring turkey season. Permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis, and will be limited to two (2) individuals during each Wednesday through Friday time period during the spring season.
 - 2. Applications for access permits for hunters with mobility impairments shall be made on the form available from, and submitted to, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Limited License Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216.
 - 3. Applications for access permits for mobility-impaired hunters shall contain a statement from a licensed medical doctor or a certified physical, occupational, or recreational therapist describing the applicant's mobility impairment and the permanent medical condition which makes it impossible for the applicant to hunt without the assistance of an attendant. Additional documentation may be required if necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility for an access permit for hunters with mobility impairments. Once certified by the Division as mobility-impaired according to these regulations, applicants will not be required to submit the medical statement.
3. Higel and Rio Grande SWAs
- a. Turkey hunting access during the spring turkey season requires an access permit. Access permits will be issued for each property, from the Division Office in Monte Vista through a hand drawing. Permit applications may be obtained from CPW, 0722 S. Road 1E, Monte Vista, CO 81144. Group applications will be accepted. No more than two (2) applicants per group. Application deadline is January 31 of each year. Successful applicants will be notified by mail. The date, time and location of the drawing will be included on the application.
4. Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area
- a. Turkey hunting access is limited to the spring turkey season and is restricted to youth mentor turkey hunting only, by access permit only. Mentors are not allowed to hunt. Permit applications are available from Colorado Parks and Wildlife Northwest Region Service Center at 711 Independent Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81505, 970-255-6100. The application deadline is March 31. Successful applicants will be notified by mail.
5. Youth Turkey Extended Season

Youths under 18 years of age may hunt turkey from the Saturday before Thanksgiving through the Sunday after Thanksgiving, provided they possess an unfilled youth fall turkey license (including, but not limited to, hunt code TE000U3R). Youths may only hunt in the GMU their original unfilled license was valid in; youths with unfilled OTC licenses may hunt in any OTC GMU but may not hunt in a limited unit that the original OTC license was not valid in. All hunters must comply with applicable regulations for the hunt in which they participate, and are accompanied by a mentor. A mentor must be at least 18 years of age and comply with hunter education requirements. The mentor may not hunt.

D. Season Dates and Units - Unlimited Licenses.

1. Spring Seasons

Units	Hunt Code	Date Open	Date Closed	Licenses
001, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014, 016, 017, 018, 019, 020, 022, 024, 028, 029, 030, 031, 032, 033, 038, 039, 040, 041, 042, 046, 048, 049, 050, 051, 052, 053, 054, 055, 056, 057, 058, 059 except on the Beaver Creek SWA and the Table Mountain State Trust Land Lease, 060, 061, 062, 063, 064, 065, 066, 067, 068, 069, 070, 071, 072, 073, 074, 075, 076, 077, 078, 079, 082, 083, 084, 085, 086, 087, 088, 089, 090, 093, 094, 095, 097, 098, 099, 100, 104, 105, 106, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 140 except on James M. John and Lake Dorothey State Wildlife Areas, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 161, 171, 181, 191, 211, 214, 231, 301, 391, 411, 421, 441, 461, 481, 500, 501, 511, 512, 521, 551, 561, 581, 591, 681, 682, 691, 711, 741, 751, 771, 791, 851 except the Bosque del Oso SWA, 861, 951, and private land portions of 91, 92, 101, 102, 103, 107, 109, 124, 125, 127, 129, 132, 139.	TM000U1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	Unlimited

2. Fall Seasons

Unit	Hunt Code	Open Date	Close Date	Licenses
001, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014, 016, 017, 018, 019, 020, 022, 023, 024, 028, 029, 031, 032, 033, 038, 039, 040, 041, 042, 043, 046, 048, 049, 050, 051, 052, 053, 054, 055, 056, 057, 058, 059 except on the Beaver Creek SWA and the Table Mountain State Trust Land Lease, 060, 061, 062, 064, 065, 066, 067, 068, 069, 070, 071, 072, 073, 074, 075, 076, 077, 078, 079, 082, 083, 084, 085 except on the Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area, 086, 087, 088, 094, 104, 105, 110, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, 118, 119, 121, 122, 123, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 140 except on the James	TE000U2R	9/1/2023	10/01/2023 and 10/27/2023	Unlimited West of I- 25 and GMU 140 and East of I- 25 (excluding GMU 140)

M. John and Lake Dorothey State Wildlife Areas, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 147, 161, 171, 181, 191, 211, 214, 231, 301, 391, 411, 421, 441, 461, 481, 500, 501, 511, 512, 521, 551, 561, 581, 591, 681, 682, 691, 711, 741, 751, 771, 791, 851 except on the Bosque del Oso SWA, 861, 951, and private land portions of 101, 102,.				
--	--	--	--	--

3. Private Land Only Late Seasons

- a. Private land only licenses are valid on all private land within the game management unit upon which the license holder has permission to hunt.

Unit	Hunt Code	Open Date	Close Date	Licenses
112, 113	TF000U2R	12/15/2023	01/15/2024	Unlimited

- E. Season Dates and Units - Limited Licenses and Limited License Areas. Limited licenses shall be valid only for the time period and game management unit(s) or area(s) indicated on the license.

1. Spring Season.				
Unit	Hunt Code	Date Opened	Date Closed	Licenses
				Bearded Turkey Only
2	TM002O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
15, 27,37 and 361	TM015O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
21	TM021O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
23	TM023O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
23 – private land only	TM023P1R	04/10/2023	05/31/2023	25
25	TM025O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	40
34	TM034O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	40
35, 36	TM035O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	20
43	TM043O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	60
44	TM044O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	80
47	TM047O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
59 - Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area and Table Mountain State Trust Land Lease only	TM059O1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	5
59 - Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area and Table Mountain State Trust Land Lease only	TM059O2R	04/29/2023	5/31/2023	10
59 - Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area and Table Mountain State Trust Land Lease only – youth only	TM059K1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	10
80	TM080O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	10
81	TM081O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	10
91	TM091O1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	50
91, 92, 96, 101, 102-youth only	TM091K1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	200
91	TM091O2R	04/29/2023	05/31/2023	50
92	TM092O1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	50

1. Spring Season.				
Unit	Hunt Code	Date Opened	Date Closed	Licenses
				Bearded Turkey Only
92	TM092O2R	04/29/2023	05/31/2023	50
96	TM096O1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	100
96 - private land only	TM096P1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	150
96	TM096O2R	04/29/2023	05/31/2023	100
96 - private land only	TM096P2R	04/29/2023	05/31/2023	125
101, 102	TM101O1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	30
101, 102	TM101O2R	04/29/2023	05/31/2023	30
103, 107, and 109	TM103O1R	04/08/2023	04/28/2023	45
103,107, and 109	TM103O2R	04/29/2023	05/31/2023	45
103, 107, 109 - youth only	TM103K1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	40
124, 125, and 129	TM124O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	25
124, 125, and 129 - youth only	TM124K1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
127, 132	TM127O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	30
139	TM139O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	15
140 - Lake Dorothey State Wildlife Area only	TM140O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	30
140 - James John State Wildlife Area only	TM140O2R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	20
444	TM444O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	45
444 – Private Land Only	TM444P1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	30
851 - Bosque del Oso State Wildlife Area only	TM851O1R	04/08/2023	05/31/2023	20
Total				1680

2. Fall Season				
Unit	Hunt Code	Date Opened	Date Closed	Licenses
				Either Sex
15, 27, 37 and 361	TE015L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	15
25	TE025L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	15
34	TE034L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	25
47	TE047L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	25
59 - Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area and Table Mountain State Trust Land Lease only	TE059L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	15
85 - Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area - Oberosler Tract only	TE085L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	10
85 - Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area – Tochter Tract only	TE085L2R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	10
85 -Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area - Sakariason Tract only	TE085L3R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	10

2. Fall Season				
Unit	Hunt Code	Date Opened	Date Closed	Licenses
				Either Sex
91	TE091L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	50
91, 92, 96, 101, and 102 – youth only	TE091K1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	50
92	TE092L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	50
96	TE096L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	150
101, 102	TE101L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	30
103, 107, and 109	TE103L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	10
103, 107, 109 - youth only	TE103K1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	10
124, 125 and 129	TE124L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	15
124, 125 and 129 - youth only	TE124K1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	15
126, 146	TE126L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	20
127, 132	TE127L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	20
139	TE139L1R	09/01/2023	10/27/2023	10
140 - Lake Dorothey State Wildlife Area only	TE140L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	10
140 - James John State Wildlife Area only	TE140L2R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	10
444	TE444L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	20
851 - Bosque del Oso State Wildlife Area only	TE851L1R	09/01/2023	10/01/2023	10
Total				605

F. Special Licenses for Nuisance Turkeys

1. The Director shall have the authority to establish special hunting seasons for turkeys, between December 1 and March 31 on an annual basis, when necessary to control nuisance turkeys. The Area Wildlife Manager will determine the type of license(s) (either-sex or hen only) most appropriate to control the conflict.
 - a. Nuisance turkey hunts are limited to a maximum of 50 licenses per landowner, per year.
 1. The Area Wildlife Manager shall provide the landowner with special application forms for distribution to individuals of their choice. Participants shall submit the completed application form with payment to the Division office indicated on the application. Nuisance turkey licenses shall be sold at the fall season license price.
 - b. Prior to approving the hunt, the Division shall:
 1. Verify that conflicts are occurring.
 2. Designate what area shall be open to hunting.
 3. Determine the manner of hunting that will be permitted.

4. Determine the number of hunters allowed to hunt in each designated area.
- c. Hunting will be done under the direction of a District Wildlife Manager, following approval by the owner of land where such conflict is occurring.
- d. Hunters shall hunt in designated areas and on the dates indicated on the license.
 1. A map or a written description of the designated area open to hunting (which would include, but would not be limited to landowner(s) name, game management unit, township, range and section(s) and/or identification of landmarks such as roads, rivers, or fence lines which coincide with boundaries), will be provided to each licensed hunter by the Division.
- e. Any person who purchases a license for a nuisance turkey season shall be required to complete a Division harvest survey form and return it to the Area office that is nearest the location of the hunt no later than 5 days after the season ends.

#322.5 - RANCHING FOR WILDLIFE – TURKEY

A. Implementation Authority

1. The Director is authorized to implement the Ranching for Wildlife program, including the authority to determine ranch enrollment status, enter into cooperative agreements with ranches, establish and modify public and private season dates on each ranch, and establish and modify license allocations to each ranch including the subsequent distribution of licenses to the public and private share annually, and may establish additional Ranching for Wildlife operating guidelines subject to the following provisions.

B. Ranch Entry and Maintenance

1. Ranches must have a minimum of 10,000 acres of privately owned land in one contiguous unit. Ranches that meet this 10,000-acre minimum requirement may include privately owned non-contiguous parcels in the program if the Director determines that their inclusion will contribute to meeting the performance standards for the ranch.
2. Ranches must develop a Ranching for Wildlife Management Plan that includes goals, objectives, and strategies for achieving such goals and objectives for wildlife habitat management, species management, and public hunting management. The Management Plan must be approved by the Division prior to execution of a Cooperative Agreement for Ranching for Wildlife.
3. Ranches may not charge public hunters an access fee for hunting.
4. Except as agreed to in writing by the Division when necessary to meet the ranch performance standards or as mutually agreed and contained in the Management Plan, ranches must provide for equality of access in terms of geographical area and mode of transportation for both public and private hunters. No closure or restriction of land or roads shall apply to public hunters that do not also apply to private hunters.
5. Public hunts must be established at a time when the species to be hunted are present and available for harvest. No public seasons shall be established during times when normal winter conditions would prevent access to most of the ranch, nor when normal migration patterns of the species to be hunted result in the species having migrated off the ranch.

6. Ranches that establish coinciding or overlapping public and private hunts may not exclude public hunters from any portion of the ranch due to the presence of private hunters.
 7. The ranch and the Division will mutually agree to ranch rules regarding access to and hunting on the ranch by public hunters. The ranch rules will be provided to hunters prior to seasons on the ranch in accordance with other provisions contained in this regulation.
- C. Cooperative Agreements, Enrollment, Denial of Enrollment, Termination of Enrollment
1. The Division is authorized to enter into Cooperative Agreements with ranches.
 2. Ranches may appeal enrollment decisions to the Parks and Wildlife Commission.
 3. Cooperative Agreements shall incorporate approved Ranching for Wildlife Management Plans as part of the Cooperative Agreement.
 4. The Division shall periodically evaluate ranches for enrollment and contract performance, and shall establish minimum performance standards for ranches enrolled in the program, including wildlife habitat management and improvement, public recreation opportunity and experience, and any factors intended to contribute to meeting turkey management objectives. Such performance standards shall be incorporated into the Cooperative Agreement with the ranch.
- D. Turkey Season Structures
1. Public and private spring season opening and closing date parameters.
 - a. Private seasons may not begin before April 1, nor extend beyond June 1.
 - b. Public seasons may only be established within the opening and closing dates of the regularly established spring season.
 - c. Public hunting seasons shall be a minimum of ten (10) consecutive days.
 2. Public and private fall season opening and closing date parameters.
 - a. Public and private seasons may not begin before September 1, nor extend beyond November 1.
 - b. Public hunting seasons shall be a minimum of ten (10) consecutive days.
 3. Manner of Take
 - a. The manner of take for spring or fall RFW turkey seasons shall be the same as that for regularly established spring or fall seasons.
- E. License Allocation
1. A maximum of 100 bearded turkey licenses in the spring season and 100 either-sex turkey licenses in the fall season may be allocated to each ranch annually, and subsequently distributed to the public and private share according to paragraph b of this regulation.
 2. The public shall receive a minimum of forty percent (40%) of the total number of licenses allocated for each turkey season on each ranch.
 3. License allocation for each ranch shall be approved by the Division and recommended to the Director, based upon harvest objectives for the ranch jointly determined by the Division and the ranch, hunter crowding, enhancement of hunter harvest, and relative densities of the species on the ranch.

4. Substitution of licenses of one species or sex for licenses of another species or sex shall not be permitted.
5. Landowner preference shall not be used for any public or private Ranching for Wildlife license.

F. Youth Licenses

1. The Division and the ranch may formulate and implement youth hunting opportunities on any ranch through Division approved youth hunting programs. The Division must approve the youth hunting program on the ranch prior to any season or license allocation for such youth hunts.
2. A maximum of 15% of the total number of turkey licenses allocated for a ranch may be allocated as youth hunting licenses on each ranch, over and above the total number of licenses allocated for a ranch.
3. Youth hunting seasons may occur at any time within the broad parameters for seasons within the Ranching for Wildlife program.
4. Youth licenses shall be distributed to individual youth hunters by mechanisms of the approved youth hunting program on the ranch. Youth licenses shall not count as either private or public licenses for purposes of calculating the relative share of other licenses allocated for the ranch.

G. License Distribution

1. Applications
 - a. Applications for private hunter licenses stamped with the ranch name and season dates shall be available to the landowner for distribution.
 - b. Public hunter licenses shall be available through application and selection from the Division during the annual limited license drawing process, except as provided in this regulation.

H. Special Restrictions

1. Unless otherwise provided in these Ranching for Wildlife regulations all hunters must comply with other applicable regulations, including, but not limited to, manner of take (except that private hunters may use any legal weapon during private seasons), hunting hours, application requirements and deadlines, bag limits, season participation, mandatory checks, OHV restrictions, and other generally applicable regulations for big game hunting.
2. A copy of the mutually agreed upon ranch rules will be provided to all public hunters prior to their hunting season. All public hunters will be required to sign a statement acknowledging that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with all ranch rules, before the hunter is allowed access to the ranch.
 - a. Compliance with ranch rules is a specific condition of the Ranching for Wildlife public licenses and subsequent access to the ranch. In addition to criminal penalties, non-compliance with ranch rules constitutes grounds for suspension and revocation of the license and/or being prohibited from further participation in hunting on the ranch, and/or in the Ranching for Wildlife program as a public hunter.
 - b. Final determination on any legal action taken towards hunters found in non-compliance with ranch rules shall be made solely by officers of the Division. This includes any citation that may be issued for non-compliance with the provisions of a

license, or directing a hunter to leave a ranch. Ranch personnel may not direct a hunter to leave a ranch without specific authorization of a Division officer.

#323 - Mink, pine marten, badger, gray fox, red fox, swift fox, raccoon, ring-tailed cat, striped skunk, western spotted skunk, long-tailed weasel, short-tailed weasel, opossum, and muskrat

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide: November 1 - end of February annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Unlimited bag and possession.

#324 - Bobcat

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide: December 1 - end of February annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Unlimited bag and possession.
2. Special Restrictions.
 - a. All bobcat, or their pelts, shall be personally presented by the licensee for inspection and must be sealed within 30 days after take, or within 5 days after the close of the season, whichever is sooner, with a seal provided by the Division. Any bobcat hide/pelt not having a seal within 5 days after the close of the season shall be illegal and become property of the State. Seals will only be placed on bobcat legally taken in Colorado. No fee shall be required for the inspection and issuance of a legal possession seal, which shall remain attached to the hide until processed. Bobcat hides/pelts shall not be transported, shipped or otherwise taken out of Colorado until the hide(s)/pelt(s) are inspected and sealed. The legal possession seal, when attached to the bobcat or the pelt, shall authorize possession, transportation, and sale thereof. For the purposes of this regulation it is illegal to buy, sell, trade, or barter an untanned bobcat hide/pelt unless a permanent seal is affixed thereto. Only one legal possession seal shall be provided for each hide/pelt.

#325 - Coyote

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide: January 1 - December 31 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Unlimited bag and possession.

#326 - Beaver

A. Season Dates and Units

1. Statewide, October 1 - April 30 annually.

B. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

1. Unlimited bag and possession.

Basis and Purpose:

These regulations amend the date structure for the 2023 hunting seasons for game birds (except migratory birds and turkeys), and all other species considered small game in Colorado, and are the result of an annual review. These regulations are necessary to provide small game hunting opportunity and properly manage small game wildlife in Colorado. Small game populations are managed primarily for hunting and wildlife watching opportunities, and to prevent or minimize damage to private property.

Modifying the Harvest Information Program (HIP) to no longer require sportspersons only pursuing furbearers to register with the HIP

Historically furbearer harvest was determined from the HIP until recently when the furbearer harvest permit was added. Using the permit information with the furbearer license purchase information CPW was able to generate a smaller and more appropriate furharvester sample pool than previously generated by the HIP. Results from the 2021-2022 Furbearer Harvest Survey show that this new approach to sampling and defining the pool of furharvesters is much more precise than using the results of several HIP questions. Therefore, there is no need or use for the furbearer species questions on the HIP survey. Removing those questions and the requirement that furharvesters register with HIP will reduce the length and complexity of the HIP survey, which has been a long-standing goal of CPW, improve data quality for the remaining HIP survey questions, and improve the customer experience for those small game hunters that still must complete the HIP survey.

Hunters that are exclusively pursuing coyotes will still be required to register for the HIP, as coyote harvest will continue to be estimated from the small game survey. Coyote Harvest is estimated from the small game survey because hunters that are exclusively pursuing coyotes may do so using a small game license without having to also purchase the Furbearer Harvest Permit.

Creating a white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse, and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse permit required in addition to a small game license, to take these species

Currently, the annual harvest of white-tailed ptarmigan (WTPT), greater sage-grouse (GRSG), and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse (CSTG) are generated through the Harvest Information Program (HIP). This system works well for some species, but unfortunately for species relatively fewer hunters pursue, such as these three, the process results in poor harvest data estimates. To improve the management of these three species, CPW will create a WTPT, GRSG, CSTG permit that hunters will need to purchase in addition to their small game license prior to hunting these species. The sale of this permit will allow CPW to more easily identify GRSG, CSTG, and WTPT hunters from within the huge number of small game license buyers and HIP registrants, resulting in higher quality harvest survey data for managers and increased survey efficiency for CPW.

The statements of basis and purpose for these regulations can be obtained from the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Office of the Regulations Manager by emailing dnr_cpw_planning@state.co.us or by visiting the Division of Parks and Wildlife headquarters at 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216.

The primary statutory authority for these regulations can be found in § 24-4-103, C.R.S., and the state Wildlife Act, §§ 33-1-101 to 33-6-209, C.R.S., specifically including, but not limited to: §§ 33-1-106, C.R.S.

EFFECTIVE DATE - THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2023, AND SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNTIL REPEALED, AMENDED, OR SUPERSEDED.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO ON THIS 15TH DAY OF MARCH 2023.

**APPROVED:
Carrie Besnette Hauser
Chair**

**ATTEST:
Marie Haskett
Secretary**