



# 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-16 Final Regulations and those related provisions for Chapter P-7 for the May 2023 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting  
DATE: April 21, 2023

Final regulatory changes for Chapter W-16 and P-7 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](mailto:hilary.hernandez@state.co.us).

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

### Adopting Backcountry Search and Rescue Regulations

In 2021 and 2022, the Colorado state legislature passed multiple Backcountry Search and Rescue (BSAR) related bills with different objectives and funding sources. House Bill 21-1326 allocated funds to help cover BSAR related equipment and needs. Senate Bill 21-245 (Keep Colorado Wild Act) will allocate up to \$2.5 million annually for BSAR operations and equipment generated by the sales of state parks passes. Additionally, in 2022, SB22-168 allocated \$1 million to CPW to help bridge BSAR funding until KCW money comes on board and moved the administration of the BSAR fund from the Department of Local Affairs to Colorado Parks and Wildlife - effective January 1, 2023. As of January 1, 2023, these funding sources are housed within CPW’s Field Services Branch.

As part of the BSAR transfer from DOLA to CPW, DOLA Backcountry Search and Rescue rules and regulations were transferred into CPW’s scope for administration in the original format (legislatively adopted by CPW in 2023). These regulations have been converted from their DOLA format into CPW format and modified to update language to reflect the CPW director and CPW processes, and the creation of a “BSAR Council”. In addition to those changes, the price of the CORSAR cards will be increased. The increase to the CORSAR cards will shift the proportion of Search and Rescue costs to be less dependent on traditional CPW customers.



**FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-16 - PARKS AND WILDLIFE PROCEDURAL RULES**

**ARTICLE VI - Backcountry Search and Rescue**

**#1681. Rules and Operating Procedures for use of funds credited to the BSAR fund pursuant to §33-1-112.5(1)(c)(II) C.R.S.**

**A. The Backcountry Search and Rescue (BSAR) fund shall be administered by the Division of Parks and Wildlife (Division) pursuant § 33-1-112.5. C.R.S. and these regulations.**

**B. DEFINITIONS**

- 1. Operational Expenses: Are those reasonable costs incidental to BSAR activities including, but not limited to: fuel, operating costs, repair, maintenance and rental of motor vehicles, fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, snowmobiles, boats, horses, generators and any other equipment necessary or appropriate for conducting BSAR activities; reimbursement of mileage at the appropriate state rate; meals and room rental for personnel and any other similar expenses. Operational expenses do not include any salary, overtime or stipend paid to any person permanently employed by a BSAR agency or political subdivision of the state. Operational expenses do not include indirect operating expenses, such as stand-by costs of vehicles and equipment owned by a unit of local government.**
- 2. Eligible agency: Is a public or volunteer association providing specialized search and rescue services and resources authorized by a county sheriff or political subdivision.**
- 3. Eligible person: Is a person in possession of: a current and valid Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) hunting or fishing license; a vessel, snowmobile or off-highway vehicle currently registered through the Division of Parks and Wildlife or a current and valid Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue Card.**
- 4. Eligible BSAR Incident: Mobilization of persons or agencies with specialized search and rescue skills authorized by a County Sheriff or political subdivision of the State of Colorado for one or multiple purposes in section §33-1-102(1.3)(a),(b),(c), or (f), C.R.S.**
- 5. Eligible Reimbursement Request: Request for payment of operational expenses of an eligible BSAR incident for an eligible person as certified by the sheriff of the county in which the incident took place.**

**C. LIMITATION OF PAYMENT OF REQUESTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT.**

- 1. The Backcountry Colorado Search and Rescue Fund will make no payment for BSAR expenses already paid or reimbursed by another source such as victims compensation, private insurance, or donations made for the purpose of paying for a specific search. Donations of a general nature, not covering expenses of a specific search, shall be excluded from this limitation. Should an eligible agency receive payment from another source after having received payment from the BSAR Fund for the same BSAR Incident, that agency shall reimburse the BSAR Fund an amount equal to the amount of payment received from the other source.**
- 2. No reimbursement requests shall be paid for BSAR activities for which a river outfitter is liable pursuant to the provisions of section §33-32-108(2), C.R.S., unless such liability has been lawfully discharged.**

3. Searches for or recovery of property are not eligible incidents and are not reimbursable through the BSAR Fund.
4. The Division shall not make payment when an insurance policy exists that will cover costs incurred. Payments may be used to pay insurance deductibles.
5. The Division shall not make payment to victim's compensation, individuals, or eligible persons. Payments are solely made to eligible agencies for costs incurred by those agencies or subdivisions in performing BSAR incidents.
  - a. Costs may include those for contracted resources or expenses incurred and requested for reimbursement by volunteers.
6. The BSAR Fund is not an insurance fund for eligible persons. It does not pay subjects. It does not cover medical expenses or medical transport fees. The use of an air ambulance as a search and rescue incident resource is not considered medical transport. All or portions of air ambulance bills considered elements of an "eligible search and rescue incident" as defined herein, are eligible for payment by the BSAR Fund.
7. The Division will not make payment for the search, rescue, or recovery of persons engaged in illegal activities or persons eluding law enforcement authorities.

#### D. INCIDENT REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES:

##### 1. General request provisions:

- a. All reimbursement requests from eligible agencies having incurred reimbursable costs in a BSAR incident within the State of Colorado must be filed with the sheriff in the county where the BSAR activities occurred.
- b. The sheriff shall be responsible for certifying and submitting the request for reimbursement to the Division, and for the proper distribution of BSAR Fund money to all agencies and political subdivisions approved for reimbursements.
- c. All such reimbursement requests must be certified and submitted to the Division within 60 days of the completion of the search and rescue operation.
  - i. The 60-day filing requirement may be waived for good cause shown. Failure to submit a certified reimbursement request within 60 days of the completion of a BSAR operation because of other reasons not due to the filer's lack of diligence shall be considered "good cause."
  - ii. Reimbursement requests received after June 30 of any year will be processed in the following fiscal year and are subject to the funding levels of that fiscal year.
  - iii. As soon as practical after submission, the Division shall consider each reimbursement request. The Division shall review each request to determine if the actual operating costs requested are reimbursable pursuant to statute, regulations and procedures. In no event shall any payment be made that is not authorized by statute.

##### 2. Payment provisions:

- a. Upon receipt of a BSAR incident reimbursement request, the Division shall determine if all expenditures requested for reimbursement are eligible. If the Division determines all expenditures requested are reimbursable, it shall submit a request to the Division Accounting Office for issuance of a payment.
- b. Partially completed reimbursement requests or requests omitting required reimbursement information will be returned to the Sheriff.
- c. At the end of the State Fiscal Year, as funds are available, all eligible reimbursement requests for ineligible persons shall be paid pursuant to §33-1-112.5(6), C.R.S.

**E. BACKCOUNTRY SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL**

- 1. The Backcountry Search and Rescue Council will be composed of the following members:
  - a. 3 - elected county sheriffs
  - b. 2 - members of Colorado Search and Rescue Association
  - c. 2 - employees of the Division
  - d. 2- At-large members
- 2. All council members must be appointed to the council by the Division Director
- 3. The Backcountry Search and Rescue Council shall meet to discuss reimbursements and the distribution of grant funds from the BSAR fund in accordance with §33-1-112.5,CRS, in conjunction with analysis and consultation with Division staff.
  - a. The Division Director, or their designee, will give final approval for all reimbursements and distribution of funds.

**Basis and Purpose:**

**Adopting Backcountry Search and Rescue Regulations**

In 2021 and 2022, the Colorado state legislature passed multiple Backcountry Search and Rescue (BSAR) related bills with different objectives and funding sources. House Bill 21-1326 allocated funds to help cover BSAR related equipment and needs. Senate Bill 21-245 (Keep Colorado Wild Act) will allocate up to \$2.5 million annually for BSAR operations and equipment generated by the sales of state parks passes. Additionally, in 2022, SB22-168 allocated \$1 million to CPW to help bridge BSAR funding until KCW money comes on board and moved the administration of the BSAR fund from the Department of Local Affairs to Colorado Parks and Wildlife - effective January 1, 2023. As of January 1, 2023, these funding sources are housed within CPW's Field Services Branch.

As part of the BSAR transfer from DOLA to CPW, DOLA Backcountry Search and Rescue rules and regulations were transferred into CPW's scope for administration in the original format (legislatively adopted by CPW in 2023). These regulations have been converted from their DOLA format into CPW format and modified to update language to reflect the CPW director and CPW processes, and the creation of a "BSAR Council".

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](mailto: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: § 33-6-106, C.R.S. and §33-1-106(1)(a), C.R.S.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE - THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 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 3RD DAY OF MAY, 2023.**

**APPROVED:  
Carrie Besnette Hauser  
Chair**

**ATTEST:  
Marie Haskett  
Secretary**

**FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER P-7 - PASSES, PERMITS AND REGISTRATIONS**

**ARTICLE I - GENERAL PROVISIONS AND FEES RELATING TO PASSES, PERMITS AND REGISTRATIONS**

**#708 - PASS AND PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE**

- 1. The fees for the types of vehicle passes issued by the Division are as follows.
  - a. Aspen leaf annual pass.....\$70.00
  - b. Annual affixed vehicle pass.....\$80.00
  - c. State parks annual transferable pass .....\$120.00
  - d. Each additional annual affixed vehicle pass for noncommercial vehicles.....\$40.00
    - (1) Each additional Aspen Leaf vehicle pass for noncommercial vehicles.....\$35.00
  - e. Each replacement annual affixed vehicle pass, without proof of necessary replacement .....\$40.00
    - (1) Each replacement additional annual affixed vehicle pass, without proof of necessary replacement .....\$20.00
    - (2) Each replacement Aspen Leaf vehicle pass, without proof of necessary replacement .....\$35.00
    - (3) Each replacement additional Aspen Leaf vehicle pass, without proof of necessary replacement .....\$17.50
    - (4) Customers with proof of necessary replacement shall be issued a replacement annual affixed vehicle pass, additional annual affixed vehicle pass, or Aspen Leaf vehicle pass at no cost. Circumstances for necessary replacement include vehicle stolen, destroyed, traded, or sold; windshield replaced; pass damaged or faded; new legal name or address; or Division error. Other circumstances will be considered by the Division on a case-by-case basis.
  - f. Each replacement state parks annual transferable vehicle pass .....\$60.00
  - g. Each daily vehicle pass .....\$10.00
  - h. Each daily vehicle pass for a passenger van or bus operated by a commercial business:
    - (1) carrying up to fifteen passengers.....\$10.00
    - (2) carrying sixteen to thirty passengers.....\$40.00
    - (3) carrying more than thirty passengers.....\$50.00

- i. Keep Colorado Wild annual pass, as provided for in section § 33-12-108, C.R.S., available for purchase through the Colorado Department of Revenue vehicle registration process starting with January 2023 vehicle registrations .....\$29.00
  - j. Keep Colorado Wild Collector's Plate pass, for applicable vehicles only and valid for the length of the vehicle registration. Available for purchase only through the Colorado Department of Revenue vehicle registration process starting with January 2023 vehicle registrations.....\$145.00
2. The fees for the types of individual passes issued by the Division are as follows. Eligibility requirements are stated in regulation # 701.
- a. Columbine or Centennial annual pass.....\$14.00
  - b. Each replacement Columbine or Centennial annual pass shall be provided at no cost.
  - c. Non-motor vehicle individual daily passes (applies to persons sixteen years of age or older) for all state recreation areas and state parks except as otherwise provided in these regulations.....\$4.00
  - d. Non-motor vehicle individual annual passes (applies to persons sixteen years of age or older) for all state recreation areas and state parks except as otherwise provided in these regulations.....\$29.00
3. The fees associated with special activities, as provided for in regulation # 703 are:
- a. Special activity alternate individual fee (applies to groups of twenty or more people in size).....\$4.00
  - b. Special activity application filing fee.....\$30.00
  - c. Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area special activity application filing fees:
    - 1. Standard.....\$30.00
    - 2. Commercial boating.....\$400.00
    - 3. Other commercial activities, such as walk and wade fishing, shuttle services, imaging, vendor services, hiking, mountain biking and rock climbing.....\$250.00
4. The fees for the type of campground-use permits issued by the Division are as follows. Campground classes are defined in regulation # 704. These fees do not include any applicable accommodations tax.
- a. Campground-use permit for "Full Hookup Campgrounds" .....\$41.00/night
  - b. Campground-use permit for "Electrical Campgrounds" .....\$36.00/night
  - c. Campground-use permit for "Tent-Only Campgrounds".....\$36.00/night
  - d. Campground-use permit for "Basic Campgrounds" .....\$28.00/night
  - e. Campground-use permit for "Primitive Campgrounds" .....\$18.00/night

5. The fees for the reduced rate campground-use permit for individuals age 64 and older who hold certain parks passes as outlined in #712 are as follows:
  - a. Campground-use permit for "Full Hookup Campgrounds" .....\$38.00/night
  - b. Campground-use permit for "Electrical Campgrounds" .....\$33.00/night
  - c. Campground-use permit for "Tent-Only Campgrounds".....\$36.00/night
  - d. Campground-use permit for "Basic Campgrounds" .....\$25.00/night
  - e. Campground-use permit for "Primitive Campgrounds" .....\$15.00/night
  
6. The fees for types of campground-use areas are as follows. Campground classes are defined in regulation # 704. These fees do not include any applicable accommodations tax.
  - a. In group camp areas of "Full Hookup Campgrounds," the fee shall be \$41.00 per night per campsite assigned to such group area.
  - b. In group camp areas of "Electrical Campgrounds," the fee shall be \$36.00 per night per campsite assigned to such group area.
  - c. In group camp areas of Tent-Only Campgrounds," the fee shall be \$36.00 per night per campsite assigned to such group area.
  - d. In group camp areas of "Basic Campgrounds," the fee shall be \$28.00 per night per campsite assigned to such group area.
  - e. In group camp areas of "Primitive Campgrounds," the fee shall be \$18.00 per night per campsite assigned to such group area.
  
7. The fees for types of tipis, cabins and yurts are as follows. These fees do not include any applicable accommodations tax:
  - a. For tipis.....\$50.00/night
  - b. For small cabins and yurts that may accommodate a maximum of six people:
    - (1) Standard.....\$90.00/night
    - (2) Premium.....\$120.00/night
  - c. For large cabins and yurts that may accommodate seven or more people:
    - (1) Standard.....\$120.00/night
    - (2) Premium two bedroom.....\$150.00/night
    - (3) Premium three bedroom.....\$190.00/night
    - (4) Premium four bedroom.....\$250.00/night
    - (5) Each additional premium bedroom over four bedrooms.....\$60.00/night



- d. For Mueller State Park Cabins and Harmsen Ranch at Golden Gate Canyon State Park:
    - (1) Premium two bedroom.....\$150.00/night
    - (2) Premium three bedroom.....\$210.00/night
    - (3) Premium four bedroom.....\$270.00/night
  - e. The maximum occupancy shall be posted in each cabin and yurt.
  - f. There shall be an additional fee of \$10.00/night for pets where pets are allowed. For barn and corral facilities, there shall be a boarding fee of \$10.00/animal/night.
  - g. Premium facilities contain showers and flush toilets.
8. The group picnic area permit fees for the permits issued by the Division are as follows. Group picnic area classes are defined in regulation # 706.
- a. Permit for "Class A - Deluxe Group Picnic Area" .....\$150.00
  - b. Permit for "Class B - Improved Group Picnic Area" .....\$100.00
  - c. Permit for "Class C - Basic Group Picnic Area" .....\$50.00
9. Event facility permit fees are as follows.
- a. For Bridge Canyon Overlook and Pikes Peak Amphitheater at Castlewood Canyon State Park, Prairie Falcon Amphitheater at Cheyenne Mountain State Park, Soldier Canyon Shelter at Lory State Park, and Lyons Overlook at Roxborough State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Friday.....\$150.00/2 HOURS
    - (2) Saturday and Sunday.....\$300.00/2 HOURS
  - b. For event facilities numbers 1 and 3 at Castlewood Canyon State Park and Timber Event Facility at Lory State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Friday.....\$100.00
    - (2) Saturday and Sunday.....\$150.00
  - c. For event facility number 2 at Castlewood Canyon State Park, Fountain Valley Overlook at Roxborough State Park and South Eltuck Event Facility at Lory State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Friday.....\$75.00
    - (2) Saturday and Sunday.....\$125.00
  - d. For the Red Barn at Golden Gate Canyon State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Friday.....\$150.00
    - (2) Saturday and Sunday.....\$200.00

- e. For Mariner Point at Boyd Lake State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Friday.....\$90.00
    - (2) Saturday, Sunday, and holidays.....\$180.00
  - f. For Prairie Skipper event facility at Cheyenne Mountain State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Friday .....\$150.00/DAY
    - (2) Saturday and Sunday.....\$200.00/DAY
  - g. For PA-CO-CHU-PUK event facilities at Ridgway State Park:
    - (1) Single event shelter A or B:
      - (a) Monday through Thursday.....\$125.00 plus \$10 non-refundable reservation fee/DAY
      - (b) Friday through Sunday and holidays ....\$190.00 plus \$10 non-refundable reservation fee/DAY
  - h. For Overlook event facility at Ridgway State Park:
    - (1) Monday through Thursday.....\$190 plus \$10 non-refundable reservation fee/ 4 HOURS
    - (2) Friday through Sunday and holidays....\$240 plus \$10 non-refundable reservation fee/ 4 HOURS
  - i. Conference and/or meeting rooms.....\$100.00/DAY
  - j. The maximum occupancy and hours of operation shall be posted at each event facility.
10. The fees associated with dog off leash areas at Chatfield State Park and Cherry Creek State Park, as provided for in regulation # 100 are:
- a. Dog off-leash annual pass.....\$25.00
  - b. Dog off-leash daily pass.....\$3.00
11. The fee associated with the mandatory youth education course for motorboat operators...\$15.00
12. The fees associated with the Cheyenne Mountain State Park Field/3D Archery Range are as follows:
- a. Daily individual archery range permit.....\$3.00
  - b. Annual individual archery range permit.....\$30.00
13. The fees associated with the Cameo Shooting and Education Complex are as follows:
- a. Individual passes:

- (1) Individual day use pass (single day) .....\$12.00
  - (2) Individual day use pass (5 consecutive days) .....\$48.00
  - (3) Individual day use pass (10 consecutive days) .....\$84.00
  - (4) Individual annual pass .....\$150.00
  - (5) Individual three-year pass .....\$400.00
- b. Youth (ages 7-17) individual passes:
- (1) Youth individual day use pass (single day) .....\$3.00
  - (2) Youth individual day use pass (5 consecutive days) ..... \$12.00
  - (3) Youth individual day use pass (10 consecutive days).....\$21.00
  - (4) Youth individual annual pass ..... \$50.00
- c. Two adult (Buddy) passes:
- (1) Two adult day use passes (single day) .....\$20.00
  - (2) Two adult day use passes (5 consecutive days) .....\$80.00
  - (3) Two adult day use passes (10 consecutive days) .....\$140.00
  - (4) Both adult passes must be used on the same day(s).
- d. Family passes (Two adults and all children (ages 7-17) that live at the same address):
- (1) Family annual pass .....\$300.00
  - (2) Family three-year pass .....\$600.00
- e. Group day use passes:
- (1) Day use passes for 10 to 19 individuals .....\$9.00/person
  - (2) Day use passes for 20 to 29 individuals .....\$7.00/person
  - (3) Day use passes for 30 or more individuals .....\$3.00/person
- f. Corporate passes:
- (1) Annual corporate pass (10 unassigned passes per day) ...\$3,000.00
- g. All annual passes for the Cameo Shooting and Education Complex are valid 365 days from the date of purchase.

14. Colorado Search and Rescue (COR SAR) Cards

- a. 1 year COR SAR Card.....\$5.00

b. 5 year CORSAR Card.....\$20.00

15. It is unlawful for any person to transfer, sell, or assign any pass or permit issued by the Division, including special activity permits, campground use permits, and group picnic area permits, unless otherwise permitted by these regulations.

**Basis and Purpose:**

**Adopting Backcountry Search and Rescue Regulations**

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**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 MARCH 1, 2024 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 3RD DAY OF MAY 2023.**

**APPROVED:**  
**Carrie Besnette Hauser**  
**Chair**

**ATTEST:**  
**Marie Haskett**  
**Secretary**