#### OUTFITTING IN COLORADO

Jennifer Burbey- COA President

November 2023





#### OUTLINE

What is legally necessary to be an outfitter?

History of Outfitting

Services provided by Outfitting Businesses

Reality behind the romance

Benefits of Facilitated Outdoor recreation

The future of Outfitting and how CPW effects the industry.

# COLORADO CODE TITLE 12 - PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE 145 - OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES § 12-145-103. DEFINITIONS "Outfitter" means a person soliciting to provide or providing,

"Outfitter" means a person soliciting to provide or providing, for compensation, outfitting services for the purpose of hunting or fishing on land that the person does not own.

• "Outfitting services" means providing transportation of individuals, equipment, supplies, or wildlife by means of vehicle, vessel, or pack animal, facilities including but not limited to tents, cabins, camp gear, food, or similar supplies, equipment, or accommodations, and guiding, leading, packing, protecting, supervising, instructing, or training persons or groups of persons in the take or attempted take of wildlife.



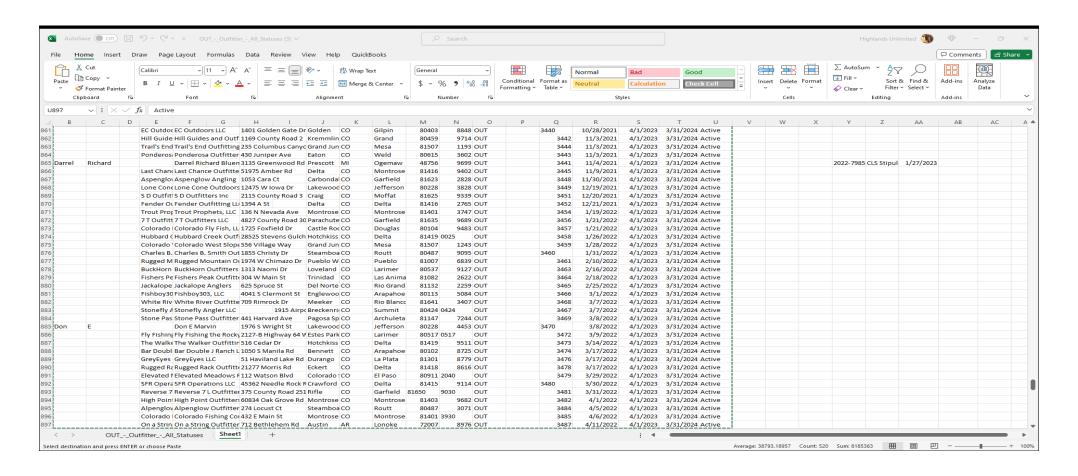


#### WHAT IS LEGALLY NECESSARY TO BE AN



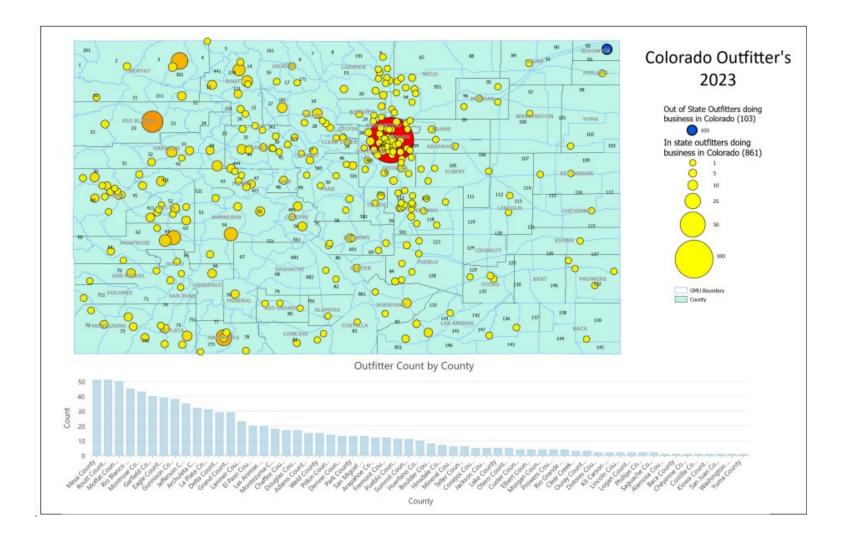
- A DORA License
  - Liability Insurance
  - Bond
  - Must have a Land base to operate
- Federal Permit-BLM, USFS
  - Generally obtained by buying existing business
  - Requires co insuring of agencies
  - Business and operating plan
- State Permit/Lease- State Trust Lands
  - Generally obtained through bid process
  - Requires co insuring of agencies
  - Business and operating plan
- Occasionally requires other municipal business licenses i.e. County/city business license or lodging license
- Must have AVAILABLE Hunting, fishing licenses and plentiful game.

#### 964 DORA LICENSED OUTFITTERS



PRESENTATION TITLE 2/11/20XX

#### MAP OF CURRENT **OUTFITTIN** BUSINESS ES



PRESENTATION TITLE 2/11/20XX



# OUTFITTERS ARE REGULATED FURTHER BY: FEDERAL AND STATE; LABOR LAWS, DOT, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, STATE VETERINARY PROTOCOLS, BRAND BOARD, LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES



Food prep, cook and handling.



DOT Licensing and Insurance



Brand and Health Inspections of Stock



Department of Labor and Employment

#### OUTFITTING BUSINESSES CONTRIBUTE IN UNEXPECTED WAYS...



Pay property taxes on Federal Permits



Pay lodging taxes



Buy groceries and feed locally



Co-insure and provide additional funding to all permitting agencies

9

## HISTORY OF OUTFITTING

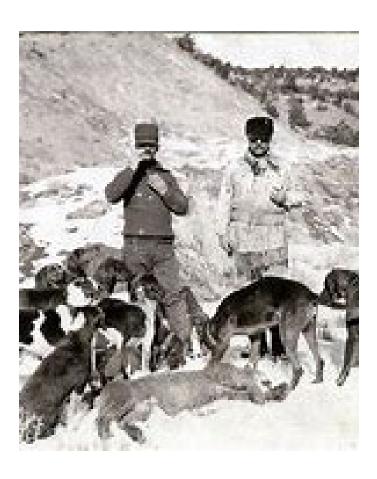
Outfitting by today's definition is older than CPW, older than Colorado as a state. It is as old as any hunter wanting help packing game back to camp. Outfitting has provided supplemental income to many private landowners to offset the habitat protected by their ground.





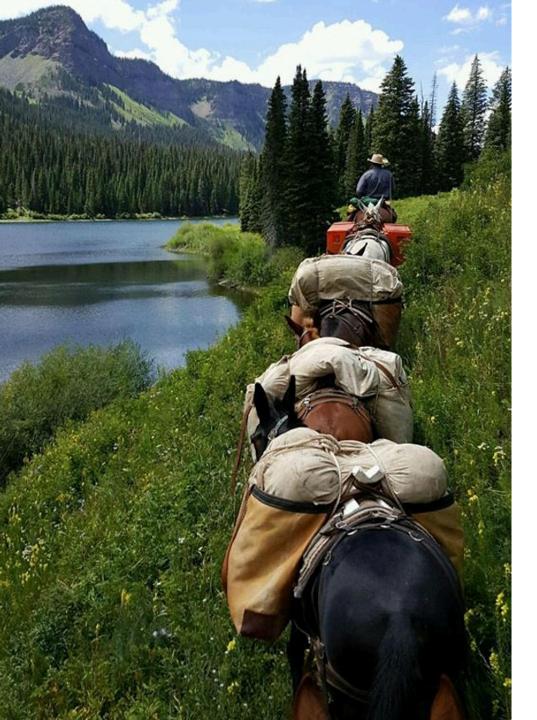
PRESENTATION TITLE 2/11/20XX 10

#### HISTORY OF REGULATED OUTFITTING



- Colorado General Assembly began regulating Outfitters in 1903.
- Colorado Division of Wildlife issued Outfitting Licenses until 1983. After a person passed a written exam.
- In the early 1960's CSU extension shared information and education to encourage grazing permit holders to offer outfitting services.
- In 1963 the Colorado Guides and Outfitters association was formed. In the early 1970's the Outfitters Professional society was formed. Both organizations existed until 1983 when outfitting was deregulated. "Outfitters" were everywhere. The true professionals rallied at the 1984 legislature and lobbied for the current outfitter law administered by the Colorado DORA. That we are governed under today.
- The Colorado Outfitters Association is the culmination of these groups. The same organization that brings us here today. Our mission statement "Working together to protect, maintain and enhance the opportunity to hunt, fish and enjoy the Colorado outdoors."





Hunting Fishing Sleigh rides







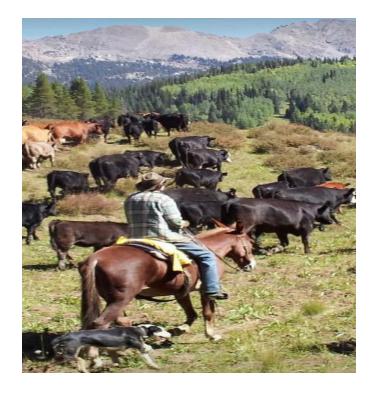
Snowmobile tours

**Pack Trips** 

**Cattle Drives** 







Float trips



**Raft Trips** 



**Guide Schools** 



**Kid Camps** 



**Team Building** 



Introduction to Hunting and Fishing









#### BENEFITS OF FACILITATED OUTDOOR RECREATION

- The unsung advantages of outfitters on the landscape.
- Accountability.
- Smaller footprint for larger numbers of recreators.
- Public lands administrators reviewing use, and practices annually.
- Free & consistent trailwork.
- The hunts serviced on private lands, provide needed revenue to support the feed losses for domestic stock and protect habitat for game species.

#### BENEFITS OF FACILITATED OUTDOOR RECREATION

- The unsung advantages of outfitters on the landscape.
- Focused usage of resources. Leave as little trace as possible.
- Micro management of Game and resource for perpetuity of hunting, fishing and outfitting.
- Efficient and complete game retrieval

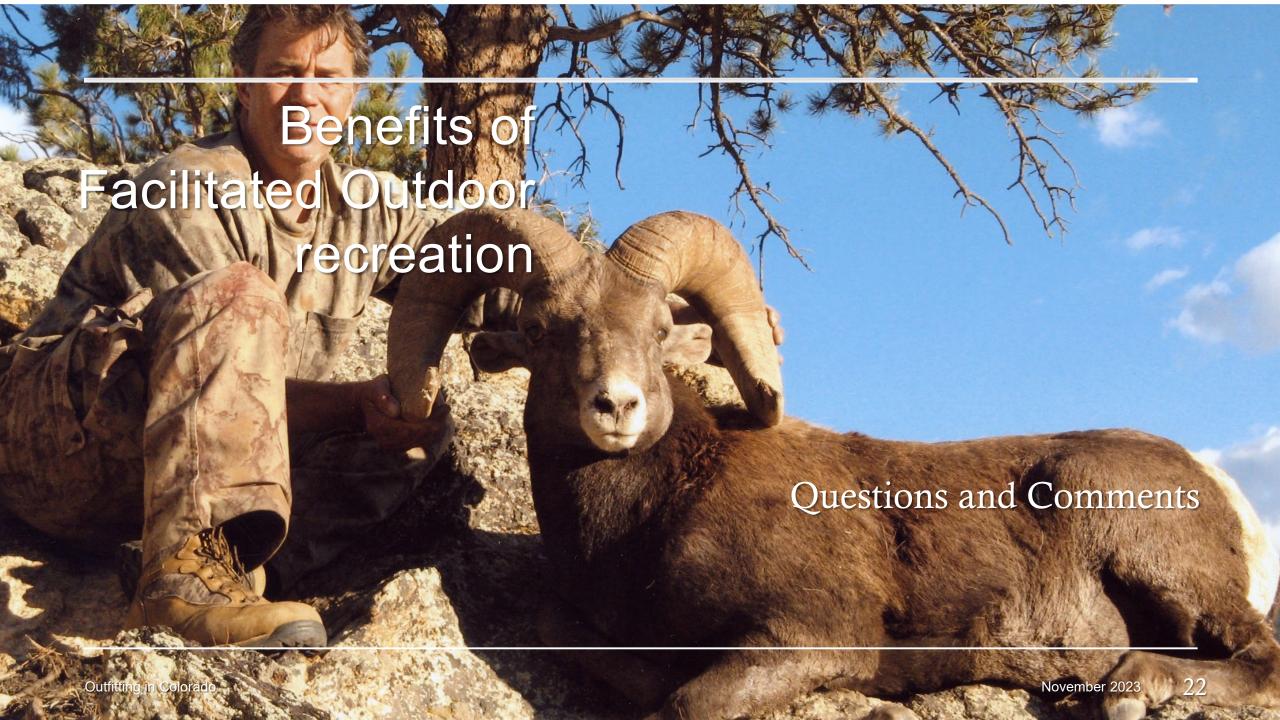






# BENEFITS OF FACILITATED OUTDOOR RECREATION (OUTFITTING)

- The unsung advantages of outfitters on the landscape.
- Emergency and evacuation plans
- Teamwork with Search and Rescue.
- Direct contact and educational opportunities to the public.
- Outfitters are unpaid (or paying) partners to agency staff.



### REALITY BEHIND THE ROMANCE

Outfitting business are by majority small businesses. Most employing less than 25 people annually. Providing economic multipliers of 8x the dollar to the general economy. Outfitters sell the dream of hunting and fishing in Colorado to the general public worldwide. Our marketing is your marketing. Your decisions have a direct effect on our networks; Clients, employees, stock, towns, counties, etc.





#### REALITY BEHIND THE ROMANCE

Maintaining equipment



Working outside regardless of weather



Participating heavily in local/rural economies.











# REALITY BEHIND THE ROMANCE The outfitting business requires a lot

The outfitting business requires a lot of gear.

Tents, cots,
flooring, woodstoves,
cookstoves, stovepipe,
riding tack, packing equipment,
4 wheelers, trucks,
trailers, side by sides,

1: 1: 1

linens, dishes,

Coffee pots, first aid kits,

## REALITY BEHIND THE ROMANCE

- Axes, Mauls,
- Shovels, Pulaski's,
- Chainsaws, Crosscut saws,
- Fuel cans, tools,
- Livestock, Websites,
- Social Media, Cabins,
- Ranches, snowmobiles,
- Just to name a few...











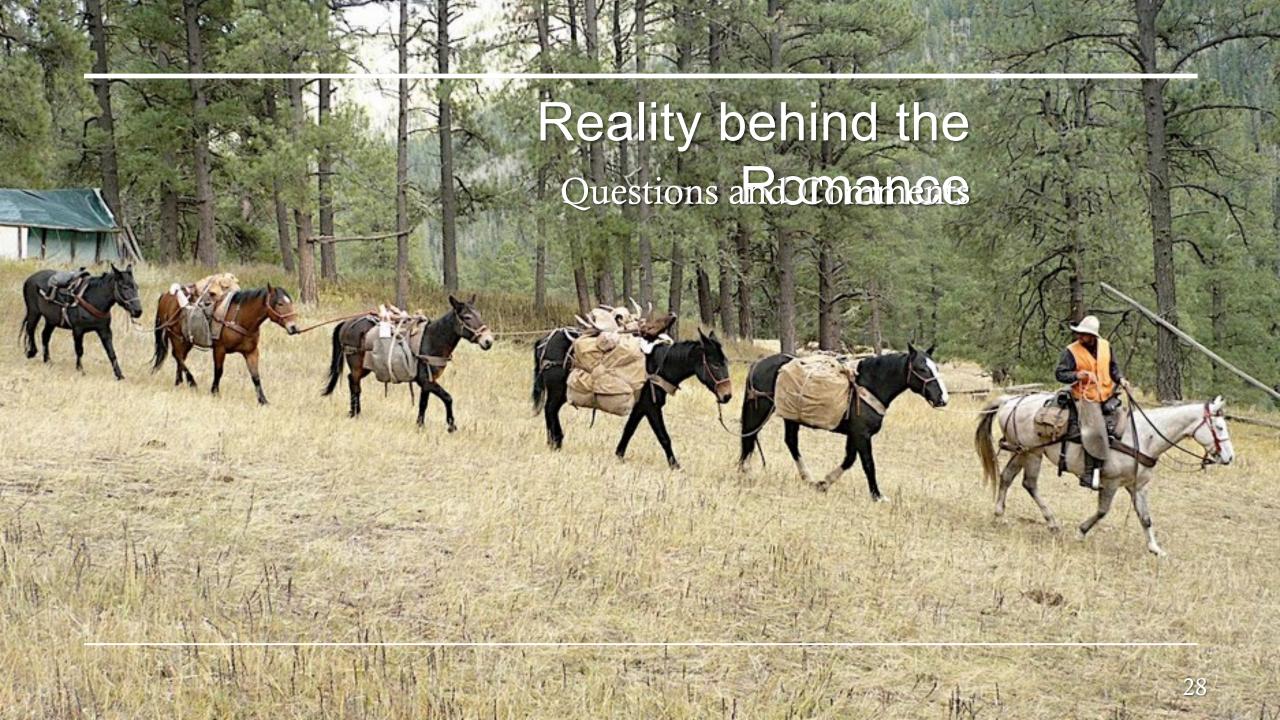






# REALITY BEHIND THE ROMANCE





# THE FUTURE OF OUTFITTING AND HOW CPW EFFECTS THE INDUSTRY

The Outfitting industry in Colorado is at a cross roads or in the cross hairs.





# THE FUTURE OF OUTFITTING AND HOW CPW EFFECTS

**INDUSTR** 

What effects CPW, effects outfitting businesses and families.

- Game numbers are not what they used to be.
- License availability is being challenged on many fronts. Biologically and otherwise.
- Permit availability and growth are restricted.
- Wintering Grounds are threatened
- Recreational pressures are everywhere
- Humans and human habitation create conflict.
- Traffic & vehicle conflict
- Predator loads are elevated and pressured themselves.
- There are pressures about allocations
- A general societal change to a less consumptive understanding of wildlife management.

#### THE FUTURE OF OUTFITTING AND HOW CPW EFFECTS THE INDUSTRY



The pressures that our wildlife are facing, are also being faced by the small service providers in the outfitting industry.

- As game numbers are challenged, businesses that rely on providing services, must pivot.
- As development and growth in Colorado continue, land prices, cost of living and the ability to do business are threatened.
- All beings are pressured and have less solitary habitat.
- Currently a comfortable tool that federal agencies have to curtail Recreational pressures is to curtail commercial use.
  - This leaves very little follow up, or oversight on the customers who will continue to recreate, hunt, fish on public ground. Where there is one fire pit now, many will pop up.











#### **FOLLOW UP**

Please refer to these sources for more information.

www.coloradooutfitters.org

www.dpo.Colorado.gov/outfitters

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE DOCUMENTS/fseprd605806.pdf

https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreat ion/permits-and-passes/specialrecreation-permits





#### THANK YOU

Jennifer Burbey | board@coloradooutfitter.org | www.coloradooutfitter.org