

# 2024 Legislative Session Recap

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# Legislative Session Recap

- Considered 778 bills
  - Housing
  - Firearm safety
  - Transportation
  - Health care
  - Education
  - Criminal justice
- DNR actively tracked ~70 bills
  - Water
  - Energy
  - Firearm safety



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# Presentation Overview

- **CPW Priority Bills:**

- Parks & Wildlife Licenses & Passes (SB24-161)
- Restoration of Wolverines (SB24-171)
- Invertebrates & Rare Plants Parks & Wildlife Commission (HB24-1117)

- **Public Engagement:**

- Agriculture & Natural Resources Public Engagement Requirement (SB24-026)

# CPW Licenses & Passes ([SB24-161](#))

## ***Amends certain requirements and procedures related to CPW licenses & passes***

- Improve infrastructure through Keep Colorado Wild (KCW);
- Expand income-related and senior pass eligibility;
- Increase access for veterans with disabilities;
- Improve understanding of small game populations through harvest permit surcharge;
- Make oversight of licensing violations consistent between river outfitters, hunting/fishing;
- Make application of backcountry search & rescue fee consistent across licenses.



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# Restoration of Wolverines ([SB24-171](#))

***Gives CPW the authority to restore the North American wolverine to the state following USFWS “threatened” listing decision.***



- Completion of wolverine restoration plan and communications plan.
- Final 10(j) rule prior to restoration.
- Compliance with all applicable federal laws, including NEPA
- PWC to pass regulations for the fair compensation of livestock losses caused by wolverines.



# Invertebrates & Rare Plants ([HB24-1117](#))

***Directs CPW to study and conserve native rare plants and invertebrates to bolster biodiversity and manage wildlife in a more comprehensive manner.***

- Bill summary:
  - Conduct research on native invertebrates & rare plants.
  - Undertake voluntary conservation measures to protect invertebrate & rare plant species.
  - Annual SMART Act update on invertebrate & rare plant research



# Agriculture & Natural Resources Public Engagement Requirements ([SB24-026](#))

***Requires voting members of Parks & Wildlife Commission to participate in at least 2 public meetings annually to engage members of the public.***

- **Bill Summary:**

- Meetings can be either in person or virtual.
- Bill language discusses geographic representation:
  - “...to directly engage people in the geographic area that the member represents.”
  - Public-at-large representatives shall participate in one meeting on each side of the continental divide; unless the meeting is virtual.



# Agriculture & Natural Resources Public Engagement Requirements ([SB24-026](#))

## Bill Summary (cont'd)

- Commissioners shall be reimbursed for reasonable costs incurred by participating in public meetings pursuant to this act.
- Governor may determine that a voting member's failure to participate in public meetings qualifies as cause for removal from the Commission.
- Annual status update to Chair of Commission.
- Annual status update at SMART Act presentation to the General Assembly.



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# Agriculture & Natural Resources Public Engagement Requirements ([SB24-026](#))

## Implementation Considerations

- Effective date: January 1, 2025.
- Internal discussions prior to implementation.
- Meeting with Chair May to devise plan.

# Questions?

*Please feel free to email Sarah Hamming ([sarah.hamming@state.co.us](mailto:sarah.hamming@state.co.us)) with additional questions.*



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