

COLORADO WILDLIFE COMMISSION POLICY

Title: **Conflict of Interest Disclosure**
Effective Date: December 10, 2009

Statutory Authority

§§ 24-18-101 to 113, C.R.S. (“Standards of Conduct – Code of Ethics”), §§ 24-18-201 to 205, C.R.S. (“Standards of Conduct – Proscribed Acts related to Contracts and Claims”) and the Wildlife Act, §§ 33-1-101 to 33-6-209, C.R.S.

Policy Statement

The members of the Wildlife Commission recognize that service on the Commission is a public trust and that each commissioner is required to carry out the duties of a commissioner for the overall benefit of the people of the state of Colorado and in a fair and impartial manner.

Collectively, the members of the Wildlife Commission believe that the public trust is best served and public confidence in the Wildlife Commission and the actions taken by the Wildlife Commission are enhanced when there has been timely and individual disclosures of any and all financial matters which might be construed as a possible conflict of interest or would otherwise constitute a conflict of interest and appropriate action is taken to resolve such conflicts of interest.

To better instill public confidence and provide all wildlife commissioners with guidance to address such conflicts of interest, if any, the Wildlife Commission hereby adopts this policy regarding the disclosure and resolution of such conflicts. The principles of this policy are intended as guides to conduct and, as such, any noncompliance does not constitute violations of the public trust associated with membership on the Wildlife Commission or performance of any official act.

Routine Commission Disclosures

Upon appointment and before participating in any meeting, and annually thereafter on May 1st, each wildlife commissioner shall complete and submit to the Chair of the Wildlife Commission a “Wildlife Commissioner Disclosure Statement,” a copy of which is attached to this policy.

The Chair of the Wildlife Commission shall publicly announce the completion of disclosure statements, including his or her own, at the beginning of the Wildlife Commission’s May meeting. Such disclosure statements will be maintained by the Director of the Division of Wildlife as the custodian of all Wildlife Commission records and will be available for public review.

Disclosure upon Identification of other possible Conflicts of Interest

While the above annual disclosures are intended to cover most situations, there will be times that

possible conflicts of interest will arise during the year, which warrant individual disclosure. Upon identifying a possible conflict of interest warranting disclosure, individual members of the Wildlife Commission shall inform the Chair of the Wildlife Commission in writing with a copy of such disclosure to the Director of the Division of Wildlife, and publicly disclose the possible conflict of interest at the beginning of the next meeting of the Wildlife Commission.

Resolution of Conflicts of Interest

No individual member of the Wildlife Commission shall perform any official act which may have a direct economic benefit on a business or other undertaking in which such member has a direct or substantial financial interest. See § 24-18-108.5, C.R.S. All such situations are considered actual conflicts of interest and individual members of the Wildlife Commission shall recuse themselves from any participation in the matter, including any Wildlife Commission discussion or vote.

Any matter that does not rise to the level of actual conflict of interest shall be resolved initially by the individual member of the Wildlife Commission. Upon consideration of the issue, an individual member may choose to personally recuse him or herself from participation, or may give notice of intended participation in the matter based on his or her affirmative statement in the annual disclosure, or after making a similar affirmative statement at the public meeting and prior to the consideration of the matter by the Wildlife Commission.

After an individual member of the Wildlife Commission discloses a possible conflict of interest and gives notice of his or her intent to participate in the consideration of the matter by the Wildlife Commission, any member of the Wildlife Commission may call for a vote affirming or disallowing the individual member's participation in the matter. The individual member that has disclosed and given notice shall abstain from and will be bound by any such vote regarding their participation in the consideration of the matter by the Wildlife Commission.

WILDLIFE COMMISSIONER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Name: _____

Appointment date: _____

Confirmation date: _____

District: _____

Category of representation: _____

Past (within 5 years), pending or proposed financial transactions with the Division of Wildlife, including any and all game damage, habitat partnership or real property payments or other benefits received (monetary or in-kind), if any:

I attest that the information provided as part of this disclosure is complete and accurate as of the date of its submittal. I affirmatively state that I do not believe any of the information disclosed affects my ability to fairly and impartially perform the duties of a wildlife commissioner. However, and in that regard I also acknowledge my obligation to act and make additional disclosures in accordance with the standards of conduct for members of boards and commissions as set forth in §§ 24-18-108.5 and 110, C.R.S., including not participating in or performing any official act on a matter which may have a direct economic benefit on an undertaking in which I have a direct or substantial financial interest.

Signature: _____

Date: _____