

*Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission*  
*Resolution – 19-01*

*Regarding Support for Governor Polis’s Executive Order D 2019-011:  
Conserving Colorado’s Big Game Winter Ranges and Migration Corridors*

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WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. 33-1-101 Legislative Declaration. It is the policy of the state of Colorado that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced, and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors. It is further declared to be the policy of this state that there shall be provided a comprehensive program designed to offer the greatest possible variety of wildlife-related recreational opportunity to the people of this state and its visitors and that, to carry out such program and policy, there shall be a continuous operation of planning, acquisition, and development of wildlife habitats and facilities for wildlife-related opportunities and

WHEREAS, Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan Goal 1 is to conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems, and

WHEREAS, the state is home to significant populations of iconic big game species like mule deer, bighorn sheep, pronghorn, moose, and other endemic wildlife species, and

WHEREAS, the conservation of big game winter ranges and migration corridors has been the focus of the Department of Natural Resources and Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and

WHEREAS, intact seasonal habitats, and the migratory routes that connect those habitats, are vital to ensuring that Colorado’s wildlife populations continue to thrive, and

WHEREAS, habitat loss and fragmentation affect wildlife populations in general, and particularly species that migrate annually between seasonal habitats, and

WHEREAS, roadways disrupt annual big game migration, and vehicular collisions with wildlife pose risks to people, property, and the animals, and

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WHEREAS, improving human safety while ensuring safe and successful migrations of Colorado’s big game wildlife, and

WHEREAS, coordination with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners is critical to the safe migration of wildlife across numerous jurisdictions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission recognizes and appreciates the valuable contributions of Governor Polis’s direction in Executive Order D 2019 011 to work in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Department of Transportation and Colorado Wildlife and Transportation Alliance, to conserve Colorado’s big game winter ranges and migration corridors, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to support the funding opportunity from the Department of Interior’s Secretarial Order 2018-3362: Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big Game Winter Ranges and Migration Corridors.

Adopted November 15, 2019  
Michelle Zimmerman, Acting Chair

