

Wildlife Review Process



STATE RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT PROGRAM

CPW emphasizes the importance for grant applicants, land managers, counties and municipalities, and trail constituents to include CPW wildlife staff early in their planning processes as it is the ideal time to evaluate and address any possible wildlife concerns. To help facilitate that, applicants must send a pre-application submission to the State Trails Program. This will be provided to the appropriate CPW Area Wildlife Manager(s) so they can work with applicants on potential wildlife concerns so they can be addressed prior the application deadline in October.

All submitted grant applications are reviewed and evaluated by CPW wildlife staff for potential wildlife impacts. Resolution of wildlife issues or concerns prior to the submission of grant applications is highly recommended. The wildlife assessment guidelines that will be considered when CPW staff reviews trail grants for wildlife concerns can be found here: [Wildlife Assessment Guidelines](#).

All applicants will be provided with the Regional Wildlife Assessments once they are completed in December. If possible, efforts are made to discuss and possibly resolve wildlife issues before the subcommittee grant review presentations. If there are significant wildlife concerns with a proposed grant project that cannot be worked out prior to the presentations, CPW staff will present the concerns to the review subcommittees. If concerns have been worked out or mitigated, this information will also be presented to the review subcommittees.

Specific wildlife and natural resource questions are incorporated into all grant categories scoring criteria. The subcommittee will score all submitted applications, even if they have wildlife concerns. The review subcommittees will take all the above information into account during the scoring process.

If an application scores high enough to be recommended for funding but there are still wildlife concerns, the State Trails Committee may invite CPW staff and the applicant to present during the grant funding recommendation meeting. As part of the recommendation process, the State Trails Committee may motion to not recommend funding specific projects if there are significant concerns that still need to be worked out.

If a project that has significant wildlife concerns is recommended for funding by the State Trails Committee, the same process that took place in front of the Committee would take place with the Parks and Wildlife Commission.

CPW recommends applicants review [Colorado's Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind](#) document prior to grant application submission. This guide focuses extensively on collaborative approaches to problem solving to meet both conservation and recreation goals and includes the current best practices and science for Colorado's land managers, trail advocates, and conservationists engaged in trail planning.



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