



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

CPW State Trails Program Wildlife Review Process

CPW emphasizes the importance for grant applicants, land managers, counties, municipalities and trail constituents to include CPW wildlife staff early in their planning processes. The planning phase is the ideal time to evaluate and address any possible wildlife concerns.

We recommend that you reach out to CPW wildlife staff prior to applying if your project involves new trail construction. This will allow you to better address any potential wildlife impacts in your grant application. To do this, email a basic project scope and site map for your project to the appropriate [Area Wildlife Manager](#) and copy dnr_trails@state.co.us.

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](#).

Grant applicants will be provided with the wildlife comments from the CPW Regions so they are fully aware if significant concerns exist with their project.

If there are significant wildlife concerns with a proposed grant project that cannot be worked out prior to the initial review subcommittee meetings, CPW 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. The subcommittees shall take the regional wildlife comments and the presented information into consideration when scoring the grants.

Specific wildlife and natural resource questions are incorporated into all grant categories scoring criteria.

The review subcommittees will score all grants submitted, even if they have wildlife concerns.

If a grant that has significant wildlife concerns scores high enough to receive funding and there are still concerns or contention over the project, CPW, members from the public and other agencies may present project concerns to the State Trails Committee prior to and/or during the recommended grant funding approval meeting. In the grant funding recommendation process, the State Trails Committee may motion to not recommend funding specific grants based on significant wildlife concerns that still need to be worked out.

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

