Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program (CWHP) 2024 RFP Update

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission meeting
January 8, 2025
Denver, CO

Amanda Nims, Land Protection Specialist
amanda.nims@state.co.us

Program Overview

Opportunities for landowners to voluntarily protect important wildlife habitat or provide wildlife-related recreational access to the public.

Real Estate Transactions

- **Conservation Easements**
- **Public Access Easements**
- **Fee Title Purchases**

Landowners or their representatives may apply for funding through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process per CRS 33-1-105.





Funding Sources

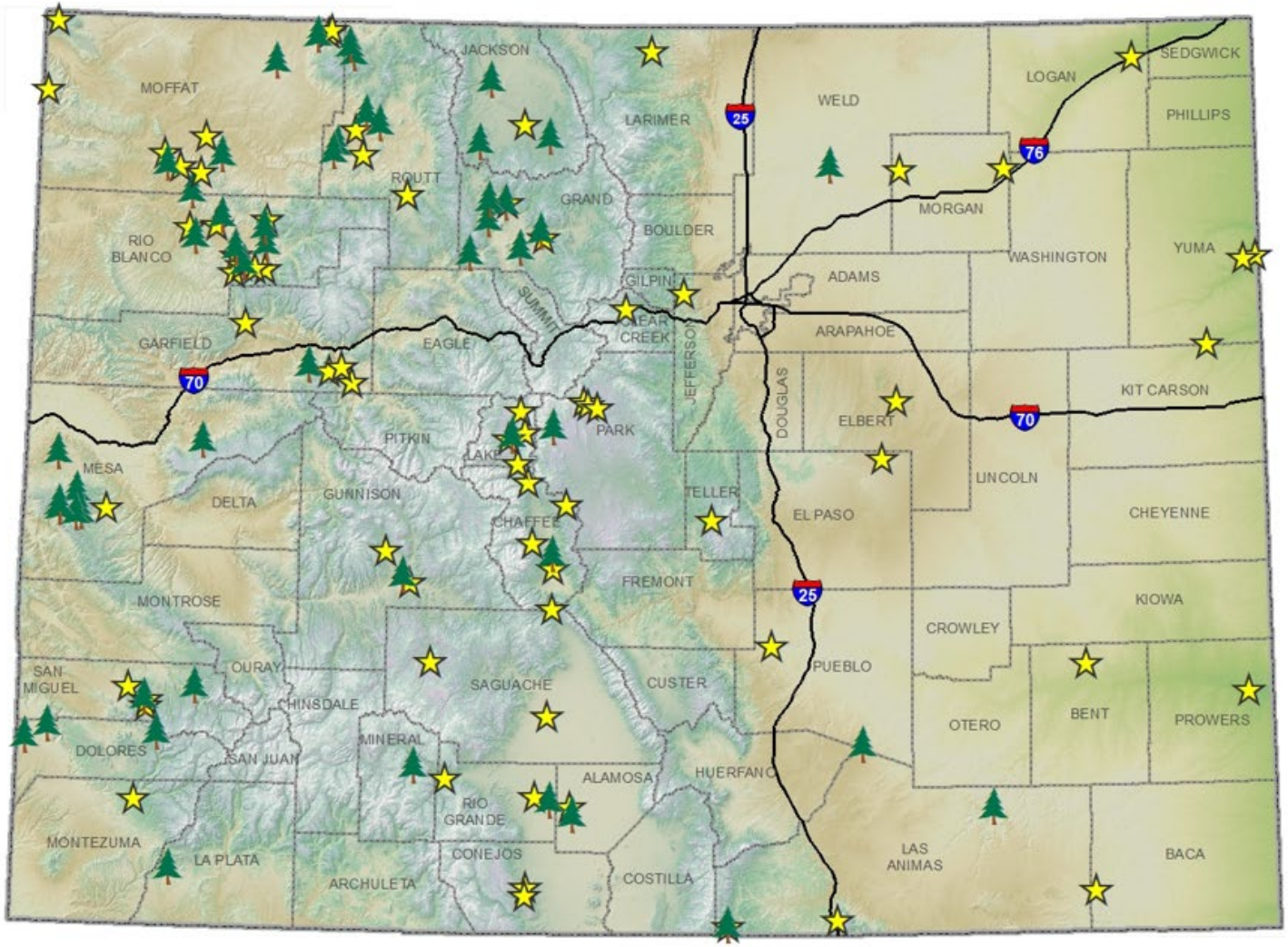
1. CPW Revenue generated from the sale of Habitat Stamps and hunting & fishing licenses, aka “wildlife cash”
2. GOCO Wildlife Quadrant Dollars – Centennial Funds
3. Federal funding sources

CWHP 2024 budget:
Up to $11 million









Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program
Closed Projects 2006 - 2024

GIS Unit

★ **Public Access and Wildlife Habitat Conservation**

▲ **Wildlife Habitat Conservation**

0 9 18 27 36 45
Miles

N

RMW 12/17/2024: Projects\Properties\YearlyRFPProposals-CSCP\Collective2007-2020\Images_2024

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 33
Parks and Wildlife § 33-4-102.7

The Why

- Protecting wildlife habitat and obtaining public access are important to preserving wildlife and wildlife-related recreational opportunities

- The hunting of big game is enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors, which significantly contributes to state and local economies

Statutory Priorities

- Protecting big game winter range and migration corridors
- Acquiring public access for wildlife-related recreation including hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing
- Protecting habitat for species of concern
- Preserving the diversity of wildlife

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 33.
Parks and Wildlife § 33-1-105.5.
Acquisition of property—procedure

The How

- Solicit bid proposals from all interested parties through a request for proposals (RFP)
- The RFP should emphasize the acquisition of easements and ensure that all other avenues are pursued prior to a fee title acquisition.

All fee title purchases made with Habitat Stamp Funds shall be primarily for the purpose of providing access to the public for wildlife-related recreation.

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp

Colorado Revised Statutes Title 33
Parks and Wildlife § 33-4-102.7

The Colorado wildlife habitat stamp committee was created.

Committee Composition

- 4 sports persons representing the four quadrants of the state
- 2 representatives of national or regionally recognized conservation organizations focused on nongame wildlife and whose membership is composed primarily of nongame wildlife users
- 2 landowners actively engaged in agriculture
- 1 citizen at large
- 2 division of parks and wildlife representatives as ex officio members, at least one of whom shall be a biologist
- Members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate
- Appointments are for terms of four years each, and limited to two consecutive four-year terms

Evaluation Considerations

CPW Staff

*Strategic Conservation Impacts

*Habitat Quality & Biological Significance

*Public Benefits

*Conservation Priority Species

*Project Feasibility

Habitat Stamp Committee

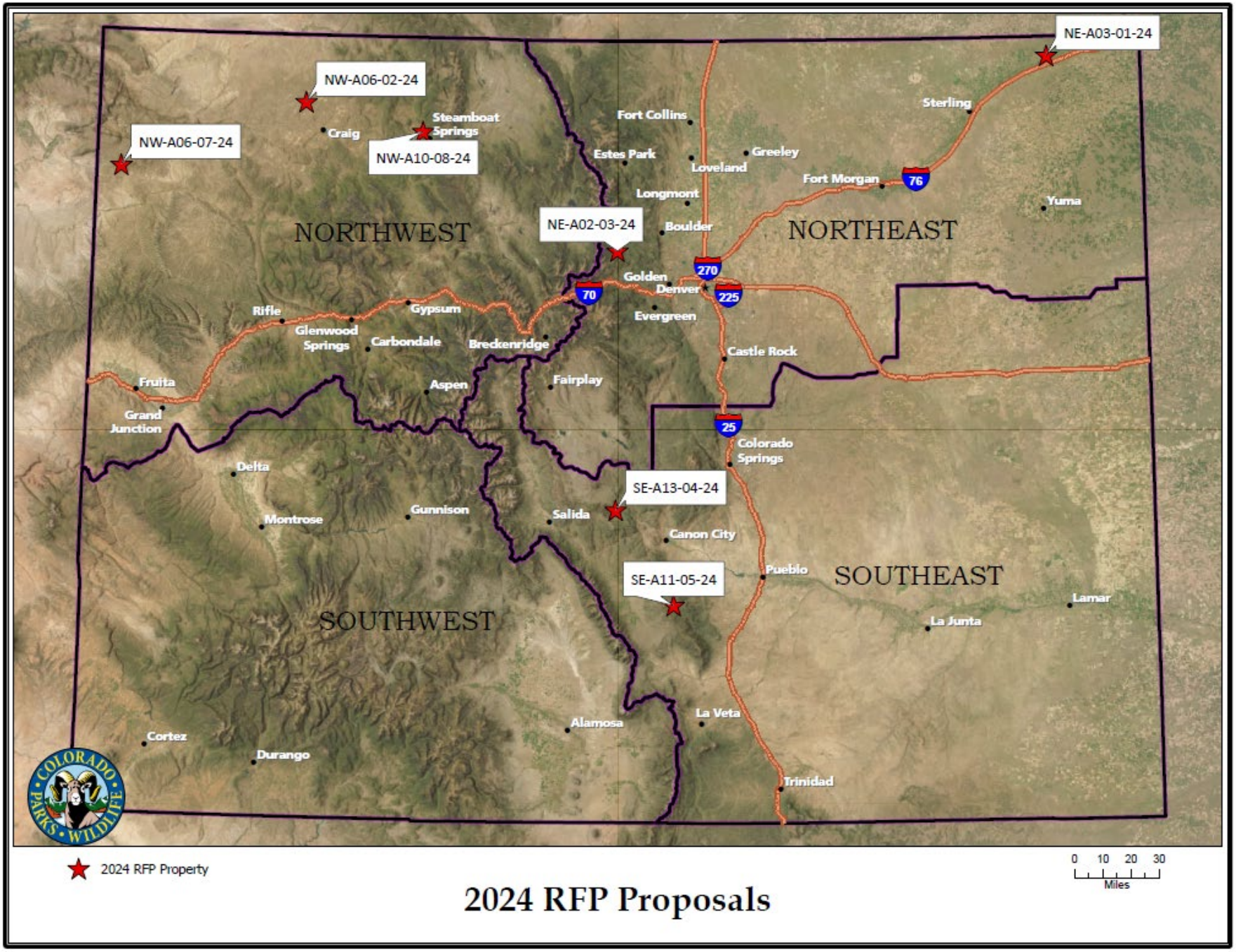
Legislative Mandates:
*Protection of big game winter range and migration corridors

*Public access for wildlife-related recreation

*Habitat protection for special status species

*Preserving diversity of wildlife

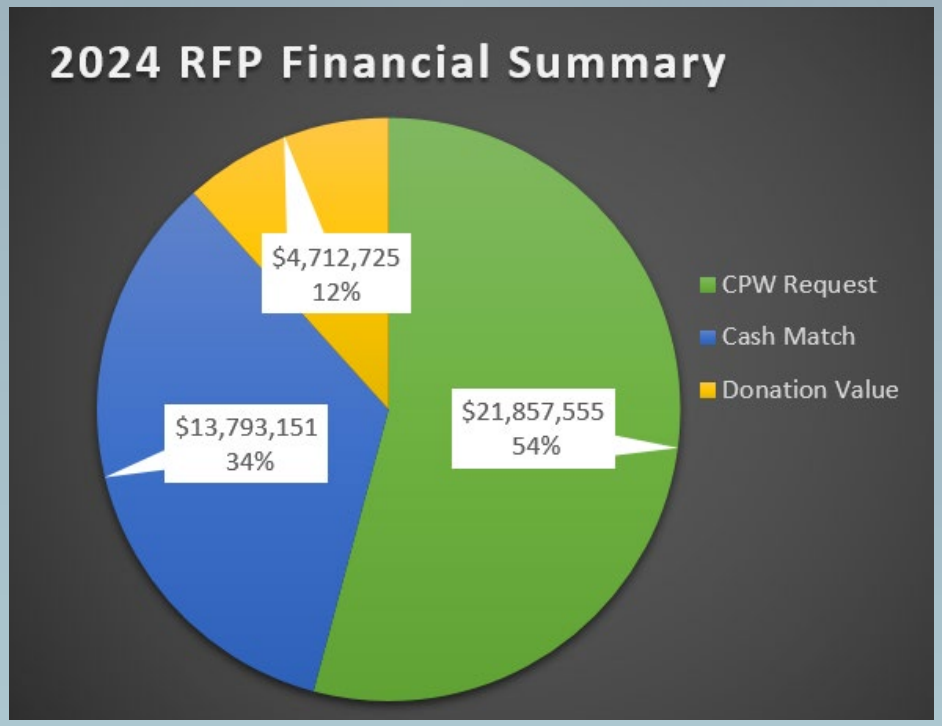




2024 RFP Proposals

Proposals Currently Under Consideration

CPW Region	Wildlife Areas	Transaction Type	Total Acreage	Total CPW Request	Total Landowner Donated Value	Total Cash Match	Total Project Value
Northeast	1, 2, 3	Fee Title (2)	3,954	$8,900,000	$0	$3,500,000	$12,400,000
Southeast	11, 13	3rd Party CE (2)	12,920	$5,677,000	$4,712,725	$2,342,000	$12,731,725
Northwest	6, 10	Fee Title (1) CPW CE (1) 3rd Party CE (1)	77,040	$7,280,555	$0	$7,951,151	$15,231,706
	7	7	93,914	$21,857,555	$4,712,725	$13,793,151	$40,363,431



Totals:

Requested	$21,857,555
Leverage	18,505,876
Project Value	$40,363,431 *est.*
RFP Budget	$11,000,000

Habitat Conservation: 93,914 acres

Public Access: 77,590 acres

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program
2024 RFP

2024

January	Proposals are reviewed, scored, and ranked by CPW regional staff & Habitat Stamp Committee
February	CPW Executive Management Team reviews rankings and prioritizes funding recommendations
March/April	Additional CPW staff reviews recommendations (Real Estate, Water Division, Attorney General). CPW Director forms final funding recommendations
May	Parks and Wildlife Commission receives overview of projects and votes on Director's recommendations. 2025 RFP program is presented.

QUESTIONS?



Paradise Acres Ranch - 2021 RFP - 2,036 acres, NWR – CPW CE - closed 7/21/23
Photo: Brian Holmes, CPW