

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

Date: October 14, 2020

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| ISSUE: | Should additional crustaceans be added to the list of aquatic wildlife that may be possessed by any person in the state of Colorado? |
| DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE): | |
| <p>In 2018, CPW converted the Prohibited Species List to an Allowable Species List in Chapter W-0, Article VII #012 (Possession of Aquatic Wildlife). Three species of crustaceans were inadvertently left off the Allowable List, even though they were not prohibited. Two of these species are commonly used feed for early life-stage fish in both CPW and private aquaculture facilities, brine shrimp and krill. The third species, <i>Gammarus lacustris</i>, commonly called scuds, are ubiquitous to Colorado and sold commercially by at least one private aquaculture facility for fish feed in ponds.</p> <p>CPW staff do not feel these species provide any potential risk to the environment or other aquatic life.</p> | |
| STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER: | |
| *IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*. | |
| External: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector consultants and aquaculturists • Fish Health Board -- Fish Health Board met on November 4, 2020 and voted in unanimous support of this change. • Colorado Aquaculture Board • Colorado Aquaculture Association • Western State Fish Health Professionals (AZ, UT,NV, MT, ID, & WY) | |
| Internal: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Section Staff • CPW Law Enforcement | |
| ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS): | |
| <p>1. *Preferred Alternative*: Add the following regulations in red below.</p> <p>#012 – POSSESSION OF AQUATIC WILDLIFE</p> <p>C. The following aquatic wildlife may be possessed by any person in the State of Colorado:</p> <p>2. Crustaceans</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. The following crustaceans may be possessed east of the Continental Divide:</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">i. Virile Crayfish</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">ii. Waternymph Crayfish</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">iii. Calico Crayfish</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">iv. Ringed Crayfish</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">v. Southern Plains Crayfish</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><i>b. The following crustaceans may be possessed on either side of the Continental Divide:</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;"><i>i. Freshwater shrimp (Gammarus lacustris)</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;"><i>ii. Commercially available brine shrimp (Artemia spp)</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;"><i>iii. Commercially available krill (Euphausia spp)</i></p> <p>2. Status quo – Maintain current allowable aquatic species list.</p> | |
| Issue Raised by: | Aquatic Section |
| Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue): | April Kraft & John Drennan |
| CC: | |

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| APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY: | Matt Nicholl |
| REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION | Aquatic Section |
| RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

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| Date: October 14, 2020 | |
| ISSUE: | Should a ¼-mile hunting closure be implemented around both Guanella Pass and Kenosha Pass? |
| DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE): | |
| <p>Kenosha Pass and Guanella Passes are high mountain passes located in Clear Creek and Park counties. Both areas provide a variety of recreational opportunities, such as camping, hunting, hiking, skiing, mountain biking, wildlife watching, and leaf viewing. The U.S. Forest Service manages these areas as recreation zones that include hunting. There has been a 5-10% annual increase in recreational activities for the past 5-10 years with a 10-20% increase observed this year (B. Mitchell, USFS, personal communication). A continued increase of recreational use is expected on both passes.</p> <p>GMUs 39, 46, 500, & 501 span both passes, and currently, big game, small game, and waterfowl are hunted in these areas. Wildlife managers have observed conflicts with hunters and non-hunters in these areas. For example, two elk hunters shot at elk near Hwy 285 and within view of several other people recreating. The situation was exacerbated when the elk, not harvested cleanly, had to be dispatched by a local CPW officer. Other incidents have occurred near Guanella Pass Campground and between waterfowl hunters and wildlife viewers at Kenosha Pass. Similar conflicts have also occurred in other areas of high recreational use along the Front Range where hunting closures have been implemented and conflicts have successfully been reduced.</p> <p>Given the current high recreational use, the predicted future increase in use, and the potential for conflicts on Guanella and Kenosha Passes, we recommend a ¼-mile hunting closure around both passes, excluding private lands. The recommended ¼-mile closure encompasses the highest use areas of both passes and is similar to other hunting closures along the Front Range (Figures 1 and 2).</p> <p>We recommend the creation of two new regulations detailed in (Chapter 0) Article XI #020 Letter E (Closures), and the appropriate #s (7 & 8 under current guidelines).</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">7. Hunting is prohibited, year-round, along Kenosha Pass within ¼ (one-quarter) mile of either side of the centerline of U.S. Highway 285 between mile marker 203 and mile marker 206 located within Park County, excluding private lands.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8. Hunting is prohibited within ¼ (one-quarter) mile of either side of the centerline of Guanella Pass Road (Clear Creek County Road 381 and Park County Road 62) while the road is open to motor-vehicle traffic, from mile marker 12.5 to mile marker 19 (which is located at the intersection of Guanella Pass Road and Clear Lake picnic area), also to include a ¼ (one-quarter) mile closure around and including Deadman’s Lake located to the east of Guanella Pass Road and to the North of Mt. Bierstadt Trail (USFS trail #711), excluding private lands. When Guanella Pass Road is closed to motor-vehicle traffic, this hunting closure is lifted, except that the closure will remain in place year-round for ptarmigan hunting.</p> | |

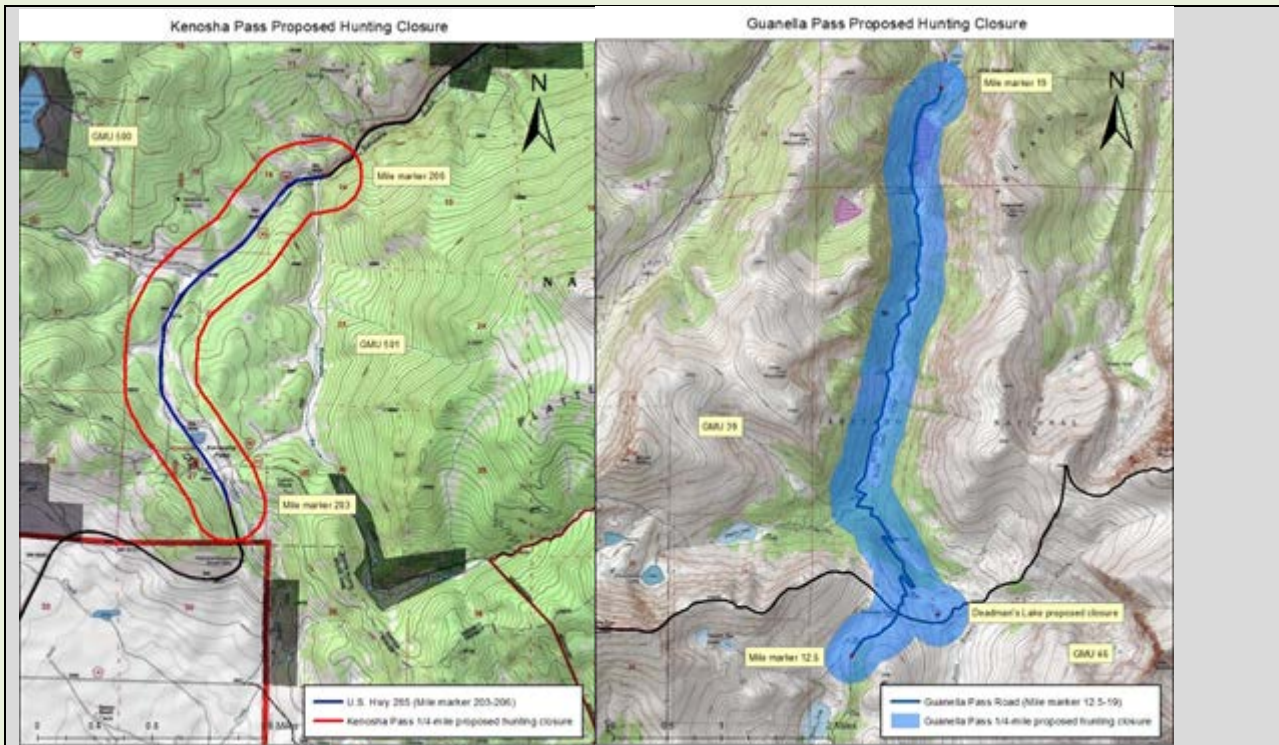


Figure 1: Recommended ¼ mile closure on Kenosha Pass.

Figure 2: Recommend ¼ mile closure on Guanella Pass.

STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER:

***IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*.**

Hunters in GMUs 39, 46, 500, 501, S4, S23, S39, G4 & G16 and non-hunting recreators along Kenosha and Guanella Passes are stakeholders.

No formal public surveys were conducted regarding this issue.

ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS):

1. *Preferred Alternative*: The creation of two new regulations detailed in (Chapter 0) Article XI #020 Letter E (Closures), and the appropriate #s (7 & 8 under current guidelines).

7. Hunting is prohibited, year-round, along Kenosha Pass within ¼ (one-quarter) mile of either side of the centerline of U.S. Highway 285 between mile marker 203 and mile marker 206 located within Park County, excluding private lands.

8. Hunting is prohibited within ¼ (one-quarter) mile of either side of the centerline of Guanella Pass Road (Clear Creek County Road 381 and Park County Road 62) while the road is open to motor-vehicle traffic, from mile marker 12.5 to mile marker 19 (which is located at the intersection of Guanella Pass Road and Clear Lake picnic area), also to include a ¼ (one-quarter) mile closure around and including Deadman's Lake located to the east of Guanella Pass Road and to the North of Mt. Bierstadt Trail (USFS trail #711), excluding private lands. When Guanella Pass Road is closed to motor-vehicle traffic, this hunting closure is lifted, except that the closure will remain in place year-round for ptarmigan hunting. (Information note: maps are available from the Division, Northeast Region Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216.)

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| 2. Status quo. | |
| Issue Raised by: | Area 1 Staff |
| Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue): | Kirstie Yeager, Wildlife Biologist, Areas 1 & 5 Ian Petkash, DWM, Lake George, Area 1 Dawson Swanson, DWM, Bailey, Area 1 Joe Walter, DWM, Idaho Springs, Area 1 |
| CC: | Mark Lamb, Shannon Schaller, and Mark Leslie |
| APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY: | Mark Leslie |
| REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION | NE Region |
| RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |

ISSUES SUBMITTAL FORM

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| Date: October 14, 2020 | |
| ISSUE: | Should a new bighorn sheep Game Management Unit (GMU) be created to encompass the latest bighorn sheep transplant? |
| DISCUSSION (FACTS AND FIGURES, EXPLANATION OF ISSUE): | |
| <p>In March 2020, CPW transplanted 20 bighorn sheep to the Bar Nothing/Hermosilla Ranch located along the Huerfano River in Pueblo County. Prior to this transplant, the ranch had some of the largest amount of unoccupied bighorn sheep habitat in southeastern Colorado. The transplant was completed as part of a cooperative agreement between CPW and Bar Nothing Ranch to enroll the Ranch in Option C of the Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP). Option C of the BSAP program provides a pathway to establish bighorn sheep on the ranch while allowing public and private opportunity to hunt bighorn in the future, once a self-sustaining bighorn sheep population is established.</p> <p>The Ranch and surrounding areas are not currently located within the boundaries of an existing bighorn sheep GMU. As such, we are proposing the creation of a new bighorn sheep GMU (S-86 Cucharas River) with the same boundaries as big game GMU 128, which include:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Those portions of Pueblo, Huerfano, Las Animas and Otero counties bounded on the north by the Arkansas River; on the east by Colo 167; on the south by Colo 10; and on the west by I-25.</p> <p>These boundaries encompass all of the expected bighorn sheep habitat within the area. This new GMU will border the Apishipa GMU (S-38), located to the south, and the two GMUs will be combined into Bighorn Sheep Data Analysis Unit (DAU) RBS-16.</p> <p>To minimize confusion for hunters, GMU S-86 will not be displayed in the bighorn sheep and mountain goat brochure until a hunting season is established in the unit.</p> | |
| STATE LAW REQUIRES CPW TO SOLICIT INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY BY THE PROPOSED RULES. THE FOLLOWING STAKEHOLDERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF AND INVITED TO PROVIDE INPUT ON THE REGULATORY CHANGES PROPOSED IN THIS ISSUE PAPER: | |
| *IT IS ASSUMED THAT ALL NECESSARY INTERNAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED*. | |
| Since this is an administrative change, we did not advise any stakeholders. | |
| ALTERNATIVES: (POSSIBLE OUTCOMES or POSSIBLE REGULATIONS): | |
| <p>1. *Preferred Alternative*: Create a new bighorn sheep GMU S-86 with the boundaries of the current big game GMU 128</p> <p>2. Status Quo, do not create the new GMU</p> | |
| Issue Raised by: | Allen Vitt, Wildlife Biologist, Area 11 |
| Author of the issue paper (if different than person raising the issue): | |
| CC: | Ackerman, Black, Trujillo, D. Brown, Sauder, Stiver |
| APPROVED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY: | Brett Ackerman |
| REQUIRES NEW SPACE IN THE BROCHURE? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| ARE ADEQUATE STAFF AND FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| REGION, BRANCH, OR SECTION LEADING IMPLEMENTATION | Terrestrial |
| RECOMMENDED FOR CONSENT AGENDA? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |