

*Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission Resolution -
18-01
Supporting Reauthorization by the General Assembly of the
Colorado Lottery Division in 2018*

WHEREAS, Colorado voters provided for a statewide lottery, and in a subsequent election adopted the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) amendment to the state constitution, which directs that lottery profits be used for parks, open space, wildlife, and outdoor recreation purposes, and

WHEREAS, following the voters' approval of a lottery, the General Assembly created a Lottery Division in the State Department of Revenue to administer the lottery, and

WHEREAS, lottery profits are allocated to the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund (GOCO Trust Fund), the Conservation Trust Fund, and to the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, and

WHEREAS, since 1983, Lottery has returned more than \$3 billion in proceeds to the people of Colorado for projects in all 64 counties, more than \$1 billion of which has been through projects funded by GOCO, and

WHEREAS, Colorado Parks and Wildlife receives almost no general fund dollars from the Colorado General Assembly, making Lottery and GOCO funding critical to the continued management of wildlife and hunting and angling opportunities in our state, and

WHEREAS, the former Division of Parks and Recreation and the current Division of Parks and Wildlife have benefitted from more than \$286,500,000 in direct Lottery distributions (in addition to GOCO investments) since 1993, and

WHEREAS, direct Lottery distributions have been crucial to the development, operation, and maintenance of Colorado's state park system since 1993, including the construction of new state parks such as Cheyenne Mountain State Park and Staunton State Park, and

WHEREAS, more than \$1 billion in Lottery proceeds have been distributed to GOCO, and approximately half of GOCO's annual funding is dedicated to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and

WHEREAS, since 1993 GOCO has awarded CPW more than \$282,500,000 for investments in sportsmen priorities, including wildlife habitat conservation, improving access to hunting and angling opportunities, and getting kids, the next generation of hunters and anglers, outdoors, and

WHEREAS, GOCO's investment in land conservation has resulted in the protection of over one million acres of wildlife habitat, while helping Colorado's farmers and ranchers stay on their land, and

WHEREAS, GOCO recognizes the value of hunting and angling in the management of Colorado's wildlife, contributing tens of millions of dollars since 1992 to help secure nearly 163,000 acres of public access that increase Colorado's hunting and angling opportunities, and

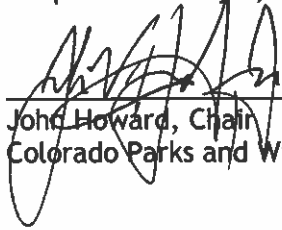
WHEREAS, since 1993 GOCO has awarded CPW almost \$275,000,000 in support of Colorado's 41 state parks, funding parkland acquisition, park development and operations, trail construction and maintenance, environmental education, youth and volunteer programs and stewardship and natural resource management, and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Lottery Division provides funding that is crucial to a vibrant, modern, diverse state park system that benefits all Coloradans and the Division is set to expire unless extended by the General Assembly, which during its 2018 session will consider legislation to extend the Division, and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Lottery Division is critical to the administration of the entire GOCO program and the Division is set to expire unless extended by the General Assembly, which during its 2018 session will consider legislation to extend the Division,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission strongly urges the General Assembly to approve legislation during its 2018 session to reauthorize the Colorado lottery division.

Adopted February 8, 2018



John Howard, Chair
Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission

PWCR 18-01