

# CPW Volunteer Program

January 11, 2024  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission

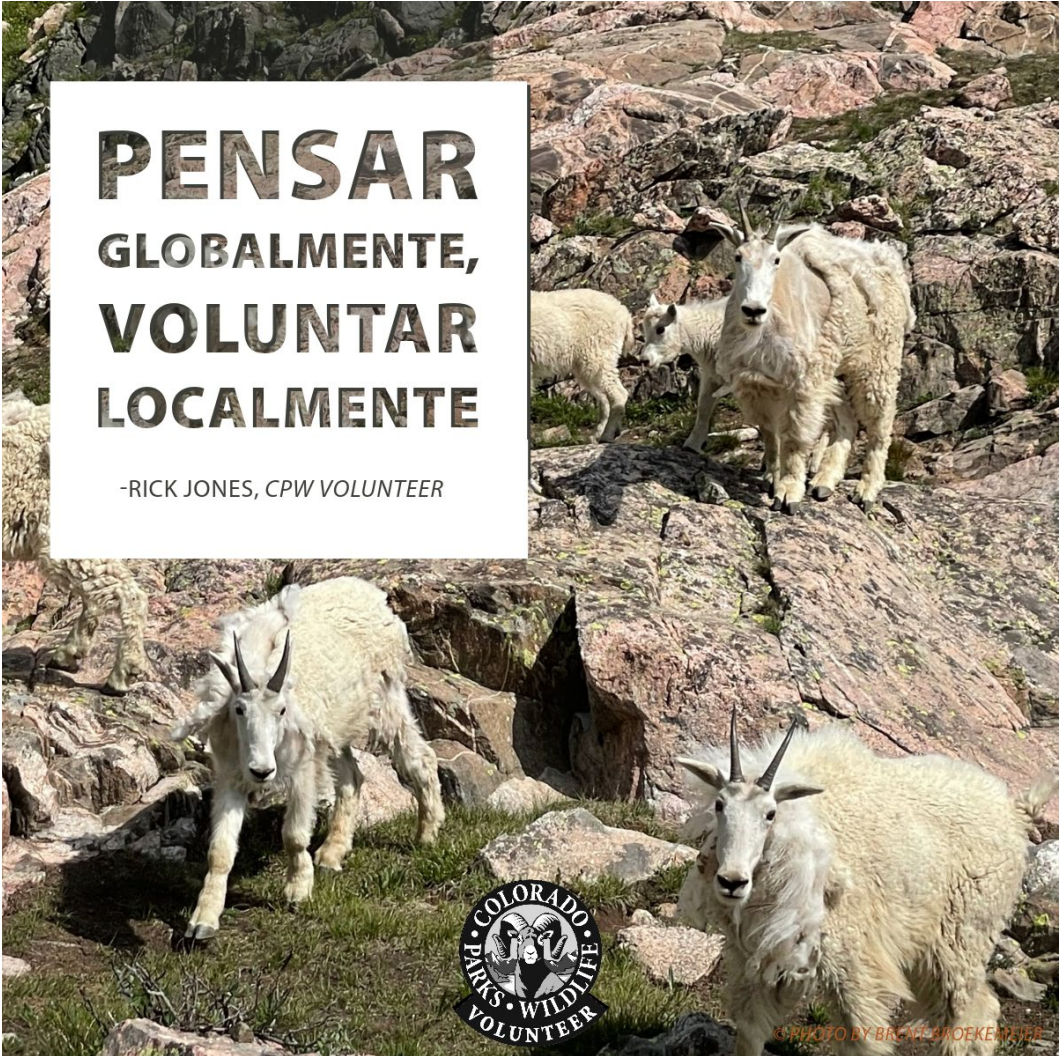
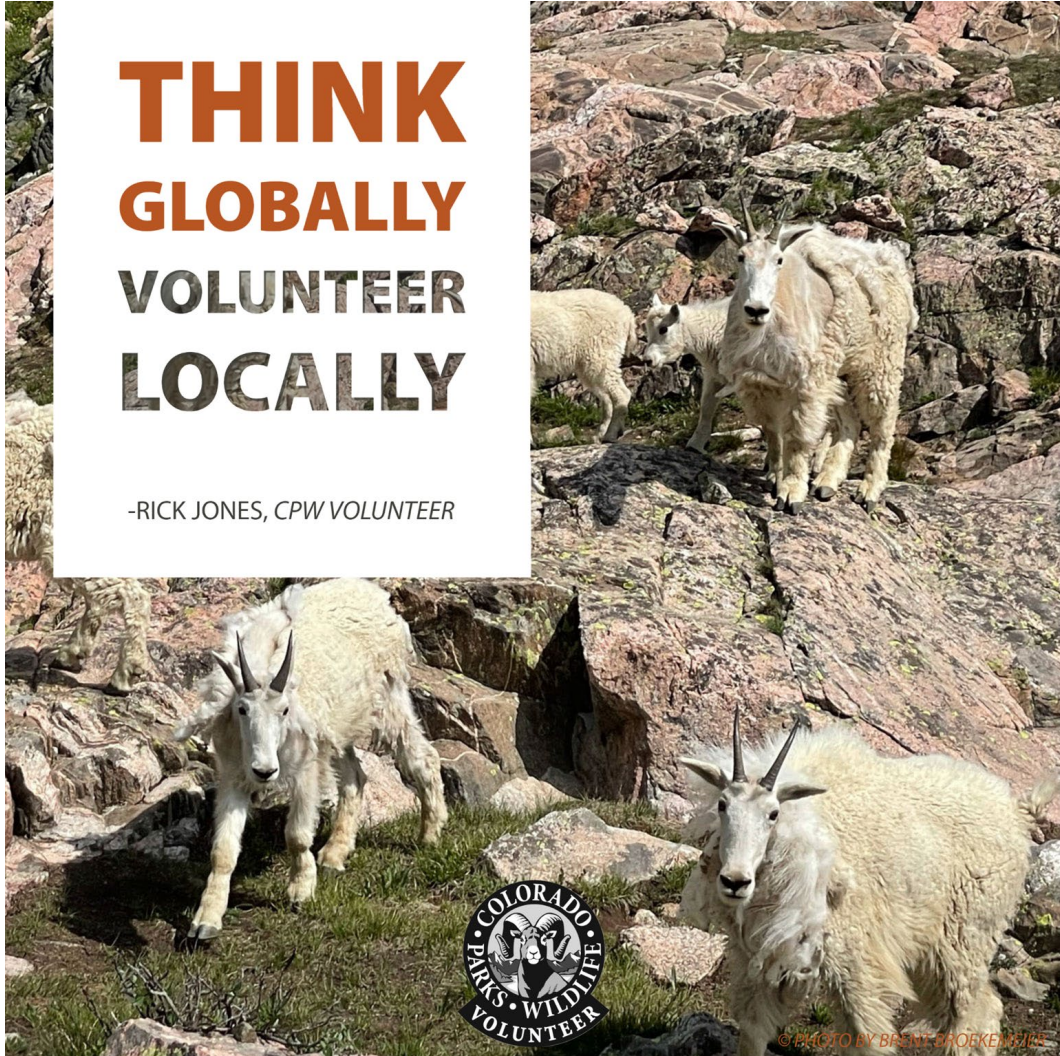


LIVE LIFE  
OUTSIDE

# My Story



LIVE LIFE  
OUTSIDE



LIVE LIFE  
OUTSIDE

Quote Credit: Rick Jones, volunteer since 2020  
Photo Credit: Brent Broekemeier, volunteer since 2021

# Overview of CPW Volunteer Program

The Volunteer Program inspires and fosters active stewardship for Colorado's natural resources through the meaningful engagement and integration of diverse volunteers, partners, and staff.

CPW is a primary outlet for natural resource volunteers in Colorado and the CPW Volunteer Program directly helps the agency meet its mission in a financially sustainable manner.



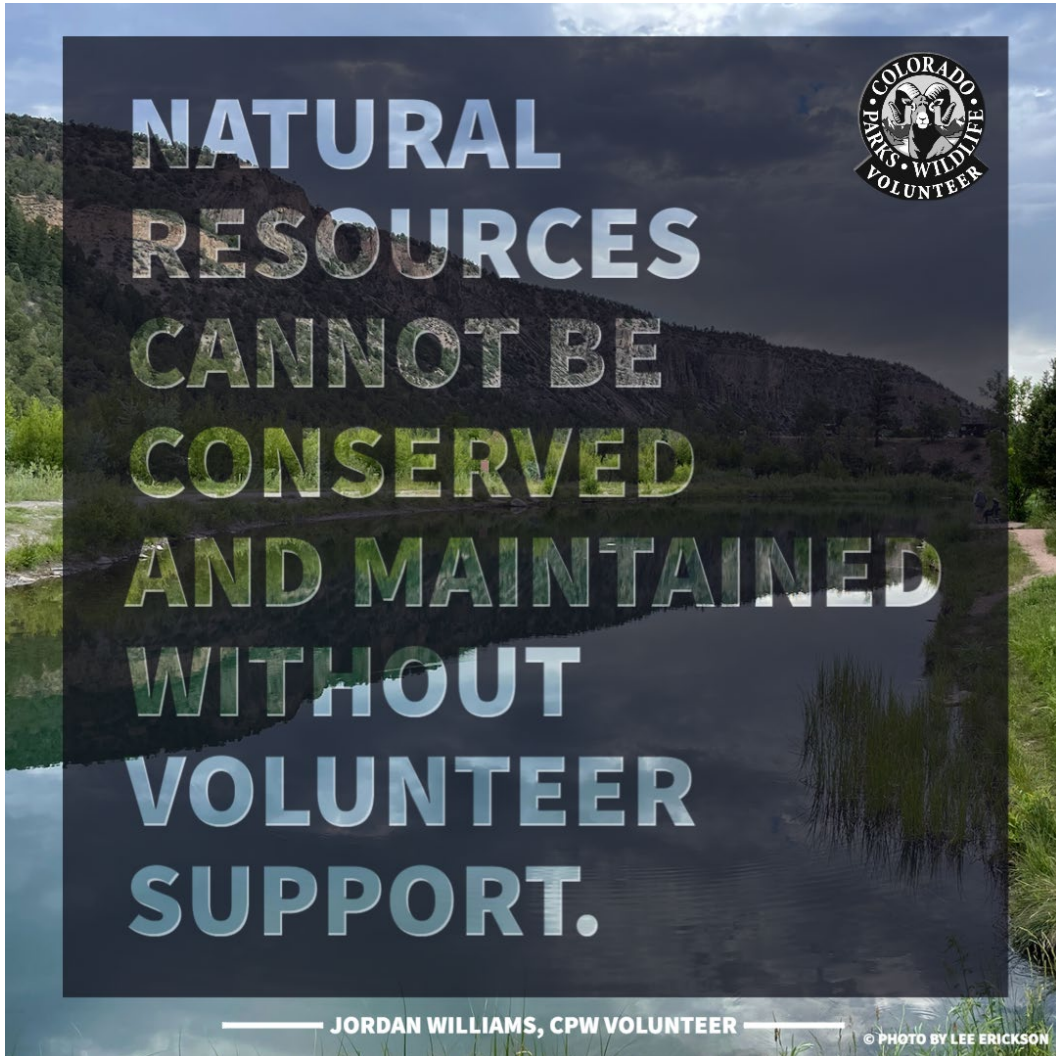
# Program Values

1. Mission Minded
2. Inclusion and Accessibility
3. Adapt and Grow
4. Communicate and Collaborate
5. Fun and Creativity
6. Respect and Integrity
7. Leadership and Followership




# Volunteer Opportunities





**NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
CANNOT BE  
CONSERVED  
AND MAINTAINED  
WITHOUT  
VOLUNTEER  
SUPPORT.**



———— JORDAN WILLIAMS, CPW VOLUNTEER ————

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**LOS RECURSOS  
NATURALES NO  
SE PUEDEN  
CONSERVAR Y  
MANTENER SIN  
EL APOYO DE  
VOLUNTARIOS.**



———— JORDAN WILLIAMS, CPW VOLUNTEER ————

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Quote Credit: Jordan Williams, volunteer since 2020  
Photo Credit: Lee Erickson, volunteer since 2017

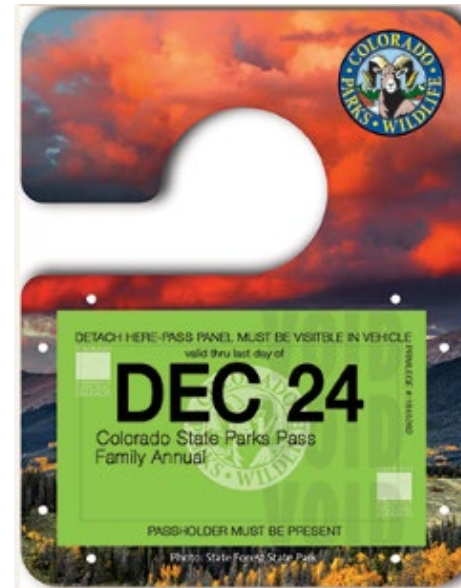
# Benefits of Volunteering

- Motivations:
  - Enjoy and pursue love of nature, wildlife, or outdoor recreation.
  - Conserve natural resources & promote responsible recreation.
  - Giving back aligns with values, and benefits well being.
- Benefits:
  - Physical and mental health
  - Expand knowledge, skills and abilities
  - Cultivate community
  - Pathways to employment
  - Inspires natural resource stewards





# Recognition and Retention



"THIS IS THE MOST FUN VOLUNTEER WORK I'VE EVER DONE."

- Emily Wortman-Wunder,  
CPW Volunteer



© PHOTO BY LEE ERICKSON

"ESTE ES EL TRABAJO VOLUNTARIO MÁS DIVERTIDO QUE HE HECHO JAMÁS."

- Emily Wortman-Wunder,  
CPW Volunteer



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Quote Credit: Emily Wortman-Wunder, volunteer since 2021  
Photo Credit: Lee Erickson, volunteer since 2017

# Volunteer Impact

- CPW Strategic Plan goals
- 4,500 volunteers annually
- Equivalent capacity of 145 FTE
- \$10.2 million economic impact
- Estimated \$9 ROVI



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OUTSIDE

**DON'T BE AFRAID TO GIVE BACK.  
WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER.  
FIND YOUR PASSION.**

-Julie Mower, CPW Volunteer



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**NO TENGAS MIEDO DE DEVOLVER.  
TODOS TENEMOS ALGO QUE OFRECER.  
ENCUENTRA TU PASIÓN.**

-Julie Mower, CPW Volunteer



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Quote Credit: Julie Mower, volunteer since 2019  
Photo Credit: Barb Hughes, volunteer since 2006

# Who Are Our Volunteers?



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Photo Credit: Bob Branham, Birds and Blooms

# Claire Wohler - Barr Lake State Park



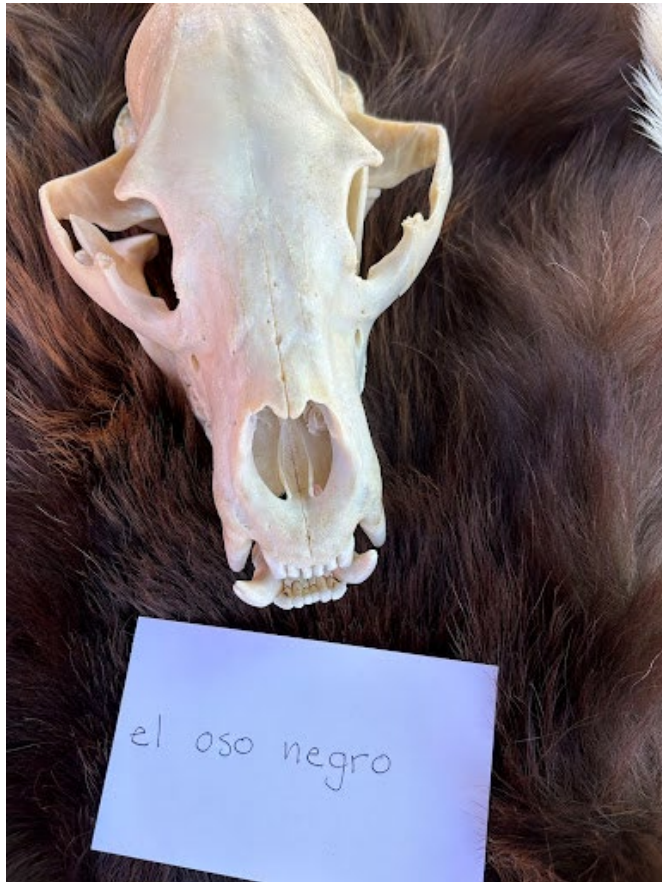
# Baron Middle School - Jensen SWA



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Photo Credit: Cory Bullen, CPW staff

# Fiestas Patrias - Colorado Springs



el oso negro





# A Year to Volunteer - State Forest State Park



# Staff Champions

- 300+ staff working with volunteers
- 4 regional volunteer coordinators; 1 statewide coordinator
- Motivations:
  - Expand capacity
  - Engage community in our work and grow relationships
  - Leverage diverse skills and talents
- Training and Resources



# Inclusion and Accessibility



- Equity Statement
- Statewide Program Efforts
  - Language Accessibility
  - Volunteer Handbook and Staff Manual
  - Demographics
  - Uniforms
  - Newsletters
  - Training and Education



# Annual Education and Volunteer Training



- Universal Design
- Staff Panel
- World Cafes
- Certified Inclusivity Assessor “scholarship”
- Philanthropy at Work funding request





**LOVE AND  
SHARE THE  
BEAUTIFUL  
COLORADO  
OUTDOORS  
WITH OTHERS  
AS OFTEN  
AS YOU CAN.**

———— RALPH BRYANT, CPW VOLUNTEER ————  
© PHOTO BY ROLF ASPHAUG



**AMA Y  
COMPARTE EL  
HERMOSO AIRE  
LIBRE DE  
COLORADO CON  
OTRAS  
PERSONAS TAN  
A MENUDO  
COMO PUEDES.**

———— RALPH BRYANT, CPW VOLUNTEER ————  
© PHOTO BY ROLF ASPHAUG



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Quote Credit: Ralph Bryan, volunteer since 2017  
Photo Credit: Rolf Asphaug, volunteer since 2020

# The Peyton Family - Mueller State Park



**YOUR WORK MATTERS.  
EVERY SINGLE PERSON, EVERY SINGLE DAY.  
SOMETIMES, THIS WORK ALLOWS OTHERS TO  
HAVE THE BEST DAYS OF THEIR LIVES.**

**GEORGE LAUMEYER,  
ADVICE TO FUTURE CPW VOLUNTEERS**



© PHOTO BY ERIC VAN CAMP

**TU TRABAJO IMPORTA.  
CADA PERSONA, CADA DÍA.  
A VECES, ESTE TRABAJO PERMITE QUE OTROS  
TENER LOS MEJORES DÍAS DE SUS VIDAS.**

**GEORGE LAUMEYER,  
CONSEJOS A FUTUROS VOLUNTARIOS**



© PHOTO BY ERIC VAN CAMP



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OUTSIDE**

Quote Credit: George Laumeyer, volunteer since 2019  
Photo Credit: Eric VanCamp, volunteer in 2021-2022

# Wrap Up and Questions



Becky Mares

[becky.mares@state.co.us](mailto:becky.mares@state.co.us)

(720) 854-5055



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