

# Application form

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION



## PROJECT BASICS

Title	Birch Park Project			
Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development/renovation <input type="checkbox"/> Combination acquisition and development			
Acres to be acquired				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Outcome	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creates new park	<input type="checkbox"/> Expands/improves existing park	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Phased project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, Phase # 1, 2	of 3
Brief summary	Rifle will transform an underutilized pasture into a neighborhood park within walking distance of several housing developments that currently lack recreational space. A product of extensive outreach and community engagement efforts, the project has strong and diverse support from residents.			
Grant request	\$ 1,250,000.00	Grant ratio <sup>1</sup>	50.00	%
Match	\$ 1,250,000.00	Match ratio	50.00	%
Total	\$ 2,500,000.00	Total	100	%

## APPLICANT

Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal
Organization	City of Rifle			
Postal address	202 Railroad Ave.			
City	Rifle	State	CO	ZIP Code 81650
General email	riflepio@rifleco.org	UEI #	KH9MN5Z8ACD8	
Lead contact	Austin Rickstrew	Title	Parks and Recreation Director	
Telephone	970.665.6578	Email	arickstrew@rifleco.org	
Project manager	Austin Rickstrew	Title	Parks and Recreation Director	
Telephone	970.665.6578	Email	arickstrew@rifleco.org	

## PARTNER OR CO-SPONSOR

Organization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
Postal address				
City	State	CO	ZIP Code	
Contact name	Title			
Telephone	Email			

<sup>1</sup> Grant ratio = grant request / total x 100. Match ratio = match / total x 100.

PROPERTY				
Park name	Birch Park			<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Address	2021 Graham Mesa Ave			
City	Rifle	State	CO	ZIP Code 81650
County	Garfield	Congressional district	CO-003	
Name of property owner	City of Rifle			
Ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee simple	<input type="checkbox"/> Lease	<input type="checkbox"/> Easement	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Applies to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entire site	<input type="checkbox"/> Portion of site		
Existing LWCF site	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, grant #	08-

Describe any leases, easements (including surface and subsurface utilities), rights or interests.

A 20' irrigation easement runs along the southern border of the park, along with a 10' easement delineated on the eastern edge of the site. Adjacent to an abandoned ditch and approximately 25' wide runs an additional easement along the eastern edge of the property. Anvil View Avenue and Birch Street provide vehicular and pedestrian access from the south. Anvil View Avenue terminates at the adjacent property, Birch Street ends at the park's boundary and 19th Street runs directly parallel to the park. Existing water and sewer utility lines are located beneath Birch Street, while gas, electric and cable lines are located on the east side of the street.

Describe the property and its current uses. Include acreage, terrain, unique features, and usage history.

The 5.5-acre Birch Park property was acquired by the City in 2004 with the intent to create a neighborhood park for nearby subdivision residents. Impressive views of both the Bookcliffs to the west and the Grand Hogback Ridge to the north can be seen from Birch Property, creating an idyllic opportunity for a public park. Local residents have documented families of deer in the area over the years, stopping to graze. The site is currently being utilized as a hay field. Native shrubland makes up the area west and north of the site. The Raynard Ditch trail runs along the northwestern border of the site on the other side of a steep embankment. The site is irrigated by a small existing irrigation pond located at the southeast corner of the property. The irrigation pond is currently a shared system between the City of Rifle and adjacent property owners. This system is intended to remain in place to continue to irrigate the park and embellish the entrance into the park. An existing pump house contains the irrigation equipment and is located east of the pond. A concrete diversion box is to the south and an electrical transformer is to the north of the pump house. The Birch Park project will transform the site into a neighborhood park.

**1. PROJECT SCOPE****10 points**

a) Describe the proposed acquisition or development project.

Rifle will develop an underutilized hay pasture in its Graham Mesa neighborhood into Birch Park. Birch is designed to be a neighborhood, rather than regional park, with a wide range of flexible recreational amenities to meet the needs, abilities, and interests of all users. New recreational amenities at Birch Park will include playground equipment, climbing boulders, multi-use fields, pickleball courts, a futsal court, a sledding hill and amphitheater, "Lookout" shelters and associated play equipment, softscape bike trails, concrete connecting trails to the Raynard Ditch Trail, a pollinator garden with native vegetation, picnic shelters and restrooms, and landscape planting and improvements. Both programmed and flexible sports activities can take place simultaneously at the futsal court and fenced in pickleball courts. The multi-purpose fields will not be formally programmed so that both scheduled and pickup practices and games can take place in the same vicinity. A new trailhead is proposed in order to officially connect the Raynard Ditch Trail to the west to Birch Property Park, allowing for easy access in and out of the site. The Raynard Ditch Trail is currently utilized by walkers, joggers and children commuting to and from school. The location of Birch would provide an enticing destination for children and families to enjoy before and after the school day ends. With ample shelters and picnic tables, Birch will also serve as a central hub for neighborhood social events such as birthday parties and family gatherings.

This request covers Phases 1 & 2 of the 3 phase project:

Phase 1: Park entry; irrigation pond; \*parking lot and lot lighting ; playground and equipment; central plaza, shelters, shelter lighting and site furnishings; port-a-lets and enclosures; perimeter park fencing; and landscape planting and improvements.

Phase 2: multi-use fields; (1) futsal court; (4) pickleball courts; pickleball plaza with shelter, shelter lighting and site furnishings; vegetative screening at the pickleball courts; concrete perimeter trail and pedestrian trail lighting; and landscape planting and improvements.

Phase 3: (2) "Lookout" shelters and associated play equipment; the "Summit" hill feature and sledding hill; softscape bike trails; concrete connecting trails to the Raynard Ditch Trail; pollinator garden at the "Lookout"; and landscape planting and improvements.

\*LWCF funding will only cover road and utility work within the park site boundaries.

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b) Indicate the current stage of design at the time of application.

Development projects:

- Pre-design
- Schematic design
- Design development
- Construction documents
- Permitting
- Bidding

Acquisitions (applicable milestones obtained at the time of application):

- Yellow Book appraisal complete
  - Purchase agreement drafted
  - Land will be open for public use immediately after acquisition
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**2. PROJECT NEED****5 points**

- a) Describe the project's urgency and why it is being pursued at this time.

Birch will provide ample and varied recreational opportunities within a 10-minute walk of the approximately 350 households and 1,050 residents in the Promontory and North Pasture subdivisions of Graham Mesa (see attached "City of Rifle Regional Parks" map). The closest existing park to the Birch site is Metro Park, one mile (20 mins. walking) east, beyond walking distance for many Promontory and North Pasture residents. Rifle has a diverse and growing population of commuters, low-income, and youth residents who will benefit from walkable recreational access. Those without reliable access to a personal vehicle, such as the nearly 30% of Rifle's population under the age of 18, need easy and safe walking access to park space. Parks provide a safe, healthy, and free outlet for recreation and socialization for children. Low-income residents burdened by high costs of living need easy and free walking access to parks. The 65% of Rifle's population that commutes outside the City for work will benefit from easy access to recreational space to overcome time shortages. Natural resource extraction operations in the area negatively impact human health, necessitating investments into recreational access to boost health outcomes.

**3. COMMUNITY BENEFIT****15 points**

- a) Describe the community that will benefit from this project. Include relevant demographic and economic data.

Rifle is a commuting hub for the Western Slope region, connecting workers to job opportunities in neighboring resort communities and attracting county workers inward to fill jobs. Due to the high-cost of living in these resort communities, Rifle's strategic location off I-70, and Rifle's lower cost of living, the city plays an important role in maintaining affordability for the region, connecting lower-income workers to employment opportunities that would otherwise be inaccessible. Rifle's median household income is \$72,935, lower than Garfield County (\$75,435) and Colorado (\$80,184). Rifle has an 11% poverty rate. Rifle's population is over 40% Hispanic and Latino, with 19% of the Hispanic and Latino population living in poverty. Almost 30% of all Rifle residents are under the age of 18. Additionally, Rifle has significant public health risks. According to data from the EPA, Rifle residents are in the 84th percentile for low-life expectancy. Contributing factors to lower than average lifespans include high exposure to ozone (91st percentile), proximity to facilities that use extremely hazardous substances (69th percentile), and proximity to wastewater discharge (77th percentile).

- b) Outline any deficiencies or barriers to access that this project would address or improve for the abovementioned community. Include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) access.

According to the Grand River Health 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment, compared to the rest of the state and adjusted for population, Garfield county residents have 64% fewer than average recreational facilities (e.g. athletic clubs, gymnasiums, dance centers, tennis clubs, and swimming pools). This data is supported by qualitative data gathered through community engagement efforts, including the public meetings held throughout the master planning process. Residents around the Birch Park site in particular lack easy walking access to recreational amenities, with the Birch Park site serving as the most critical park access gap in the City (see attached Regional Parks Map).

Accessibility elements will ensure that Birch park provides recreational opportunities for all users. The striped asphalt parking lot includes two ADA accessible parking stalls located directly across from the playground entrances. The playground will incorporate poured-in-place ADA accessible safety surfacing. Restrooms will be ADA accessible. Wide, paved pathways will also facilitate universal access.

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- c) Estimate the number of people and/or types of user groups that will have access to recreational opportunities as a result of this project. Include methods for determining this estimate.

Birch Park will serve the approximately 350 households and 1,050 residents in the Promontory and North Pasture subdivisions, all within a 10-minute walk of the park site. The number of park users is expected to grow significantly in the coming years due to new construction. The Rifle Heights subdivision will include 81 units of housing 10-15 minutes south of the Birch Park site, with initial units set for completion in March 2023. Additionally, future development is planned on the western edge of the park site which could include an additional 100 units with 300 residents served by Birch Park. Combining existing and projected households and residents within the area (assuming average of three residents/unit), Birch will provide new recreational opportunities to the current and projected user base of 531 units and 1,593 residents who do/will not have walkable access to a park. Community feedback during the plan development process provided insights on how users will use the park: 47% of survey respondents expressed an interest in using the park space for social gatherings; 33% were interested in playground equipment; 31% expressed an interest in walking, biking, and jogging; and 27% intend to use the park for sports.

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#### 4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

15 points

- a) Outline public engagement activities for this project. For example, public meetings, comment periods, surveys, etc.

Preliminary site plans were presented at a community meeting in November 2022. 30+ participants provided an array of comments and concerns, which were incorporated into the site plan. The City held another public meeting in February 2023 to solicit feedback on the updated site plan. New amenities were suggested by residents that had not been discussed by the Consultant Team such as family-oriented bike trails, additional lighting along the trails, perimeter fencing, a wavy walk at the playground and a futsal field. These comments proved to be extremely valuable as they were previously unknown as community desires. Through Consultant Team and City of Rifle discussions, the majority of suggested amenities were approved and included in the Final Site Plan. An online survey, table tents at local businesses, and flyers distributed to neighboring subdivisions provided further opportunities for community engagement. A total of 123 online and paper surveys were submitted by residents, further refining the project from preliminary plans. The city has specifically focused on outreach to its Latino and Hispanic community members with extensive bilingual engagement efforts including on-site translators and bilingual outreach materials.

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- b) Describe any partnerships that will ensure the project's success. For example, public agencies, conservation or recreation groups, local businesses, etc.

Rifle's Development Authority (DDA) is partnering on the project to support community engagement and connectivity elements of the project. DDA works to promote the vitality of Rifle's downtown, and seeks to leverage the City's recreational amenities to drive further development of the community. Grand River Health is a local health system serving the Rifle community that seeks to improve human health outcomes. Grand River is partnering on the project through community engagement and park design activities to enhance recreational opportunities for the community and help improve health outcomes. Support and commitment to the project is detailed in the attached support letters.

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- c) Outline any concerns identified as part of public engagement. Explain how these will be addressed.

Feedback from immediate neighbors to the park highlighted the need to include privacy and noise dampening measures, so large trees will be planted around the pickleball courts at the Northeast corner of the site. Relatedly, additional lighting beyond just the parking lot will be installed to promote safety, but fixtures will be properly shielded to reduce impacts to surrounding homes. Additionally, a lack of family-oriented bike trails was highlighted, so the project team has incorporated wide, level bike pavements running the perimeter of the park to allow young children and less experienced bike riders to develop their skills. Minimal trees were strategically added on the southern perimeter so not to block views from the surrounding neighborhood backyards. A planting buffer is also designed between the parking lot and playground to provide adequate safety for park goers. Lastly, the strong desire for a futsal court from Latino residents pushed the design team to include the court in Phase 2 instead of Phase 3.

## 5. SCORP

10 points

- a) List the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) priorities that this project will advance.

- Priority 1: Sustainable Access and Opportunity

Goal: More Coloradans and visitors benefit from outdoor recreation and conservation.

- Priority 2: Stewardship

Goal: Coloradans and visitors enjoy and care for natural and cultural resources and commit to stewarding them for future generations.

- Priority 3: Land, Water and Wildlife Conservation

Goal: Private and public lands and waters are conserved to support sustainable outdoor recreation, the environment and wildlife habitat.

- Priority 4: Funding the Future

Goal: Coloradans and visitors contribute to diverse funding sources that are dedicated to support outdoor recreation and conservation. Existing sources of funds are preserved.

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- b) Explain how.

Priority 1: Birch Park will serve the approximately 350 households and 1,050 residents in the Promontory and North Pasture subdivisions, all within a 10-minute walk of the park site, who currently lack walkable access to recreational amenities. The number of park users is expected to grow significantly in the coming years due to new construction around the park site.

Priority 2: The pollinator gardens filled with native species will educate park users about the characteristics of Rifle's natural habitats, boosting participation in promoting ecosystem stewardship. Educational signage and the Raynard Ditch trail connection will provide further opportunities for stewardship. A handful of viewfinders are located strategically along the trail to help park users locate a vista or focal point of the site.

Priority 3: This project will transform an underutilized hay pasture into a permanent recreational space seamlessly integrated into its surrounding natural habitats and trail networks. Park design will incorporate native and drought tolerant vegetation and natural materials.

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**6. PLANNING****10 points**

- a) Discuss the process that identified this project as a priority.

The project has been a longstanding priority for both residents and City leadership. The site property was acquired in 2004 with the intent to develop a neighborhood park to serve the growing number of families in the Graham Mesa neighborhood. As the neighborhood has continued to develop, residents have expressed the need for a park space within walking distance of their homes and with a wider variety of recreational amenities than can be found at other Rifle parks. A design team was brought in to develop conceptual plans for the park with significant input from residents. The Consultant Team prepared a Preliminary Master Plan, associated graphics and cost estimate for review by City staff members. Regular design review meetings were held to ensure the direction of the project satisfied City leadership and met community priorities. A Final Master Plan was developed accordingly, along with perspective renderings, a final cost estimate and phasing plan to help outline and prioritize construction activities per the City's funding capabilities.

- b) List all approved internal master or outdoor recreation plans and/or any external area, regional, or statewide plans this project supports.

Rifle's 2019 Comprehensive Plan lists the Birch Park project as a top community priority. "The City owns land for a park [in Graham Mesa]. This neighborhood is one of the few that lacks a park within a 5-10 minute walk and has been identified as a priority by City Council" (page 41). The plan also states that all "residences should be within 1/4 mile (walking distance) of a park" (30). More broadly, the Birch Park project advances community priorities expressed during outreach efforts as part of the Comprehensive Plan's development. 86% of respondents said it was important or very important "for new housing in Rifle to be located within walking distance (5-10 minute walk) of parks, schools, trails, and other destinations" (page 9).

Garfield County's 2020 Comprehensive Plan cites neighborhood recreational access as a top priority: "Where appropriate, new residential development should provide recreation opportunities for residents that are appropriate to the density and type of development or that contributes land and/or funding to county-wide trail and recreation system" (page 43).

**7. WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES****15 points**

- a) Describe how potential impacts to wildlife and natural resources were evaluated during the initial project-scoping phase. For example, using "Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind", mapping tools, etc. Include any positive impacts this work will have on wildlife and natural resources.

Environmental considerations, including the site's proximity to native shrublands and popularity as a grazing site for deer were taken into account from the outset of the conceptual design process. The project will benefit wildlife and natural resources by providing a buffer between residential areas and the remaining hay pasture, native shrublands, and Raynard Ditch trail. The pollinator garden will positively impact natural vegetation surrounding the park site by increasing the number of pollinators in the area. Drought tolerant and native vegetation will mitigate potential negative impacts to the surrounding natural environment.

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- b) Describe any wildlife and natural resource issues raised by CPW staff during grant application consultation.

Wildlife staff raised a few preliminary concerns about potential wildlife and natural resource concerns that will be addressed by the project team. Expansion of the irrigation pond, doubling it from its current size, may attract geese and waterfowl. Fertilizer contamination of the irrigation pond was also raised as a potential issue that will need to be addressed. Staff also cautioned against ornamental plants, as they may introduce weed and invasive species concerns to the hay pastures surrounding the park site. Trail connections to the Raynard Ditch trail, which lies below an embankment from the Birch Park site, must take into consideration slope stabilization concerns. Lastly, deer are expected to continue moving through the park site

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- c) Explain how potential wildlife and natural resource impacts will be avoided, minimized, and/or mitigated. For example, trail realignment, seasonal closures (include dates), signage, gates, game cameras, etc.

To protect waterfowl which may start gathering at the expanded irrigation pond, the project team will ensure the pond remains closed off to park goers with a gate and protective fencing. They will also ensure that equipment is properly stored away so as to not pose any threats to wildlife. Slopes will be used as necessary to address potential runoff contamination concerns for the irrigation pond. To mitigate invasive species and weed proliferation concerns, the project team will be using native species for landscaping elements of the park. Trail head connections will utilize switchback design as appropriate and necessary to protect slope stability. Split rail fencing, as opposed to chain link fencing, will be used to mitigate potential safety impacts to deer and other wildlife moving through the park space.

## 8. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

5 points

- a) Outline any LWCF funding received in the last five years and if the project/s were completed on time, on budget and within scope. Applicants without LWCF funding, provide examples of similar grant funded projects that were completed on time, on budget and within scope. Include project title, year of award, grant amount, and grantor.

The project team will be led by City Parks and Recreation Director Austin Rickstrew, who will be responsible for oversight and financial management. Austin has 3 years of experience managing similar large parks projects. The Art Dague Pool and Waterslide Renovation Project received grant funding in 2019 from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District for \$500,000 and GOCO for \$217,500. This project had an approved budget of \$8 million, and the final cost was \$6.8 million. The renovations significantly expanded capacity and accessibility for this community recreational resource.

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**9. MAINTENANCE****5 points**

- a) Explain how the site will be maintained in perpetuity for outdoor recreation. For example, maintenance plans, future budgeting commitments, etc.

Following the completion of the project, the site will continue to be managed and maintained by the City of Rifle. Funding for park maintenance is derived from the City's 1% Parks and Recreation sales tax. The park will be maintained similar to other parks within the City of Rifle and will not require additional large budget commitments. The large majority of open space within the park will allow passive recreation within the large grass areas, reducing overall maintenance needs.

**10. BUDGET AND FUNDING****10 points**

- a) Describe the source of match for the project and when it will be secured. Include in-kind and partner contributions.

The City of Rifle has committed local match funds from its 1% Parks and Recreation sales tax. This is a significant contribution for this small and under-resourced community, highlighting the importance of the project. Rifle has also provided leveraged funding in the amount of \$47,000 for the master planning process. Rifle match funding will be leveraged by approximately \$1,000,000 in pending Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Community Impact grant funding. GOCO has expressed a strong interest in funding the project once LWCF funding has been secured.

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- b) Describe any consequences if this funding application is unsuccessful. For example, loss of partner funds, staff capacity, expiration of surveys, etc.

As a small, under-resourced rural community, Rifle faces ongoing funding shortfalls for critical community projects. The City faces budget constraints, worsened by continuing supply chain issues and inflation, that will require the City to leverage state, federal, and local funds to complete the Birch Park project. An unsuccessful funding application would stall the project, as LWCF funds are a critical component of the funding strategy. This would also stall efforts to secure GOCO Community Impact funding. Delaying the project for any significant amount of time would likely lead to cost inflation, further putting this important project out of reach.

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LWCF budget

Project details					Match details			
LWCF grant #					Source of match (organization)	Type	Date available	Amount
Organization	City of Rifle				City of Rifle	Cash	Oct-23	\$ 250,000.00
LWCF grant	\$ 1,250,000.00		Grant ratio	50.00%	GOCO Community Impact	Cash	Jun-24	\$ 1,000,000.00
Local match	\$ 1,250,000.00		Match ratio	50.00%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,500,000.00</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,250,000.00</b>

Description	Pre-award cost	Anticipated date of expense	Qty	Unit type	Cost per unit	Total	Type	LWCF grant	Local match	Balance
<b>Land</b>										
<b>Architectural and engineering fees</b>										
<b>Other architectural and engineering fees</b>										
Class III Cultural Survey	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Cash	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	
<b>Site work</b>										
Wood estate/split rail fencing - at perimeter 1	No	10-2024	1,700.00	LF	\$ 50.00	\$ 85,000.00	Cash	\$ 42,500.00	\$ 42,500.00	
8' ht. chain link fencing - at irrigation pond	No	10-2024	230.00	L	\$ 115.00	\$ 26,450.00	Cash	\$ 13,225.00	\$ 13,225.00	
8' wide chain link gate - at irrigation pond	No	10-2024	1.00	EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Cash	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
Vehicular gate - at irrigation pond	No	10-2024	1.00	EA	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	Cash	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	
Concrete paving 8' wide 6" depth main plaza&playground	No	10-2024	160.00	CY	\$ 200.00	\$ 32,000.00	Cash	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	
Colored concrete paving - at main plaza	No	10-2024	250.00	SF	\$ 250.00	\$ 62,500.00	Cash	\$ 31,250.00	\$ 31,250.00	
Sandblasting and painting - at main plaza	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Cash	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
Concrete seatwalls - at main plaza	No	10-2024	220.00	SF	\$ 250.00	\$ 55,000.00	Cash	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 27,500.00	
Gabion walls - at main plaza	No	10-2024	75.00	SF	\$ 200.00	\$ 15,000.00	Cash	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	
<b>Demolition and removal</b>										
Temporary construction fencing	No	10-2024	1,820.00	LF	\$ 6.00	\$ 10,920.00	Cash	\$ 5,460.00	\$ 5,460.00	
Clear and grub	No	10-2024	20,750.00	SF	\$ 2.50	\$ 51,875.00	Cash	\$ 25,937.50	\$ 25,937.50	
Removal of irrigation pond fencing and misc. additional items	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	Cash	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	
Erosion control site maintenance	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	Cash	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	
Earthwork	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Cash	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	
<b>Construction</b>										
<b>Pavements</b>										
Road base - 6"	No	10-2024	110.00	TONS	\$ 95.00	\$ 10,450.00	Cash	\$ 5,225.00	\$ 5,225.00	
Asphalt T-Patch - 6"	No	10-2024	57.00	SF	\$ 35.00	\$ 1,995.00	Cash	\$ 997.50	\$ 997.50	
Asphalt paving - 8"	No	10-2024	110.00	TONS	\$ 190.00	\$ 20,900.00	Cash	\$ 10,450.00	\$ 10,450.00	
Concrete curb and gutter - 6" vertical, 2' pan	No	10-2024	1,197.00	LF	\$ 45.00	\$ 53,865.00	Cash	\$ 26,932.50	\$ 26,932.50	
Concrete curb ramps w/ detectable warning	No	10-2024	6.00	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 15,000.00	Cash	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	
Concrete 4' drainage pan	No	10-2024	126.00	LF	\$ 141.00	\$ 17,766.00	Cash	\$ 8,883.00	\$ 8,883.00	
Concrete 8' pan	No	10-2024	19.00	LF	\$ 285.00	\$ 5,415.00	Cash	\$ 2,707.50	\$ 2,707.50	
Striping - 4' wide	No	10-2024	472.00	LF	\$ 1.20	\$ 566.40	Cash	\$ 283.20	\$ 283.20	
Signage	No	10-2024	8.00	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 4,000.00	Cash	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	
<b>Utilities - Storm Drainage System</b>										
Storm line - 18" RCP	No	10-2024	150	LF	\$ 120.00	\$ 18,000.00	Cash	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	
Storm line - 15" PVC SDR 35	No	10-2024	500	LF	\$ 150.00	\$ 75,000.00	Cash	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 37,500.00	
FES - 18" concrete	No	10-2024	0	EA	\$ 800.00	\$ -	Cash	\$ -	\$ -	
Manhole	No	10-2024	2	EA	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 13,000.00	Cash	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	
Inlet - area drain	No	10-2024	10	EA	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 15,000.00	Cash	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	
2' x 2' inlet - 3' depth	No	10-2024	2	EA	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	Cash	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	
Inlet - field	No	10-2024	5	EA	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 21,000.00	Cash	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 10,500.00	
Inlet - combination	No	10-2024	2	EA	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 11,000.00	Cash	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	
Pond liner	No	10-2024	2,300	SF	\$ 1.00	\$ 2,300.00	Cash	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 1,150.00	

Detention pond	No	10-2024	1	EA	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	Cash	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Detention pond outlet structure	No	10-2024	1	EA	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	Cash	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
<b>Electrical</b>									
General power and lighting-parking lot & plaza shelters	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	Cash	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Parking lot light fixtures - at parking lot	No	10-2024	6.00	EA	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 27,000.00	Cash	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00
Pedestrian light fixtures - at perimeter trail	No	10-2024	19.00	EA	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 66,500.00	Cash	\$ 33,250.00	\$ 33,250.00
<b>Playground</b>									
Poured-in-place rubber surfacing at playground + 4" compacted base for 3 colors (mixed w/ black) - at main playground	No	10-2024	5,000.00	SF	\$ 24.00	\$ 120,000.00	Cash	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
PIP thickened edge - at main playground	No	10-2024	350.00	LF	\$ 30.00	\$ 10,500.00	Cash	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 5,250.00
PIP concrete sub slab - at main playground	No	10-2024	5,000.00	SF	\$ 7.00	\$ 35,000.00	Cash	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00
PIP underdrain system - at main playground	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	Cash	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
Primary (5-12 year old) play equipment - at main playground	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	Cash	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
Toddler (2-5 year old) play equipment - at main playground	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	Cash	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Seat boulders - at main playground	No	10-2024	10.00	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 5,000.00	Cash	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Log seating - at main playground	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	Cash	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
Striping/painted games - at main playground	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	Cash	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
<b>Athletic Courts</b>									
(4) Pickleball courts - post-tension concrete	No	10-2024	7,200.00	SF	\$ 15.00	\$ 108,000.00	Cash	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 54,000.00
Pickleball court equipment (fixed)	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	Cash	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
8' ht. pickleball court fencing	No	10-2024	360.00	LF	\$ 115.00	\$ 41,400.00	Cash	\$ 20,700.00	\$ 20,700.00
4' wide pickleball court gates	No	10-2024	2.00	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	Cash	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Pickleball court acrylic surfacing	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	Cash	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Concrete paving - 8' wide, 6" depth at pickleball plaza and perimeter trail	No	10-2024	175.00	CY	\$ 200.00	\$ 35,000.00	Cash	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00
Futsal Court (striping, surfacing, fencing)	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	Cash	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
<b>Permanent Equipment</b>									
Large shade shelter - 15'x30' at main plaza	No	10-2024	1.00	EA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Cash	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Medium shade shelter - 15'x15' at main plaza	No	10-2024	2.00	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	Cash	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Gateway/shelter signage - at park entrance	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Cash	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Picnic table - at main plaza	No	10-2024	7.00	EA	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	Cash	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 10,500.00
Bench - at main plaza	No	10-2024	8.00	EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	Cash	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Bench - at main plaza	No	10-2024	5.00	EA	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	Cash	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
Bike rack - at main plaza	No	10-2024	10.00	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 7,500.00	Cash	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
Drinking fountain w/ bottle filler - at main plaza	No	10-2024	1.00	EA	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	Cash	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Boards - between parking lot and playground	No	10-2024	12.00	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	Cash	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Port-a-let enclosure - 2 stalls	No	10-2024	1.00	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	Cash	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00
Port-a-let (provided by City)	No	10-2024	2.00	EA	\$ -	\$ -	Cash	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Landscaping</b>									
Trees deciduous - 2-1/2" B&B	No	10-2024	60.00	EA	\$ 850.00	\$ 51,000.00	Cash	\$ 25,500.00	\$ 25,500.00
Trees ornamental - 2" B&B	No	10-2024	15.00	EA	\$ 550.00	\$ 8,250.00	Cash	\$ 4,125.00	\$ 4,125.00
Shrubs - #5 container at main plaza	No	10-2024	50.00	EA	\$ 50.00	\$ 2,500.00	Cash	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
Perennials - #1 container at main plaza	No	10-2024	35.00	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 700.00	Cash	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Grasses - #1 container at main plaza	No	10-2024	40.00	EA	\$ 20.00	\$ 800.00	Cash	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
Cobble mulch - at main plaza	No	10-2024	630.00	SF	\$ 8.00	\$ 5,040.00	Cash	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 2,520.00
Soil prep and sod - at main plaza	No	10-2024	600.00	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 900.00	Cash	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
Soil prep and native seed - at disturbed areas	No	10-2024	2,500.00	SF	\$ 1.20	\$ 3,000.00	Cash	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>Miscellaneous</b>									
Construction Surveying (1%)	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 20,491	\$ 20,490.92	Cash	\$ 10,245.46	\$ 10,245.46
Bonding and Mobilization (10%)	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 204,909	\$ 204,909.24	Cash	\$ 102,454.62	\$ 102,454.62
Design Fees Construction Documents (11%)	No	10-2024	1.00	LS	\$ 225,507	\$ 225,507.44	Cash	\$ 112,753.72	\$ 112,753.72
<b>TOTAL</b>						\$ 2,500,000.00		\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 1,250,000.00

# Timeline

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION






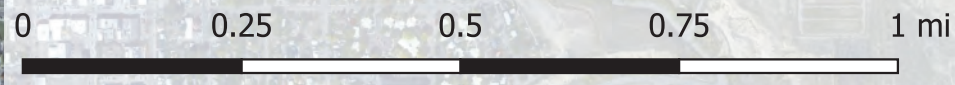
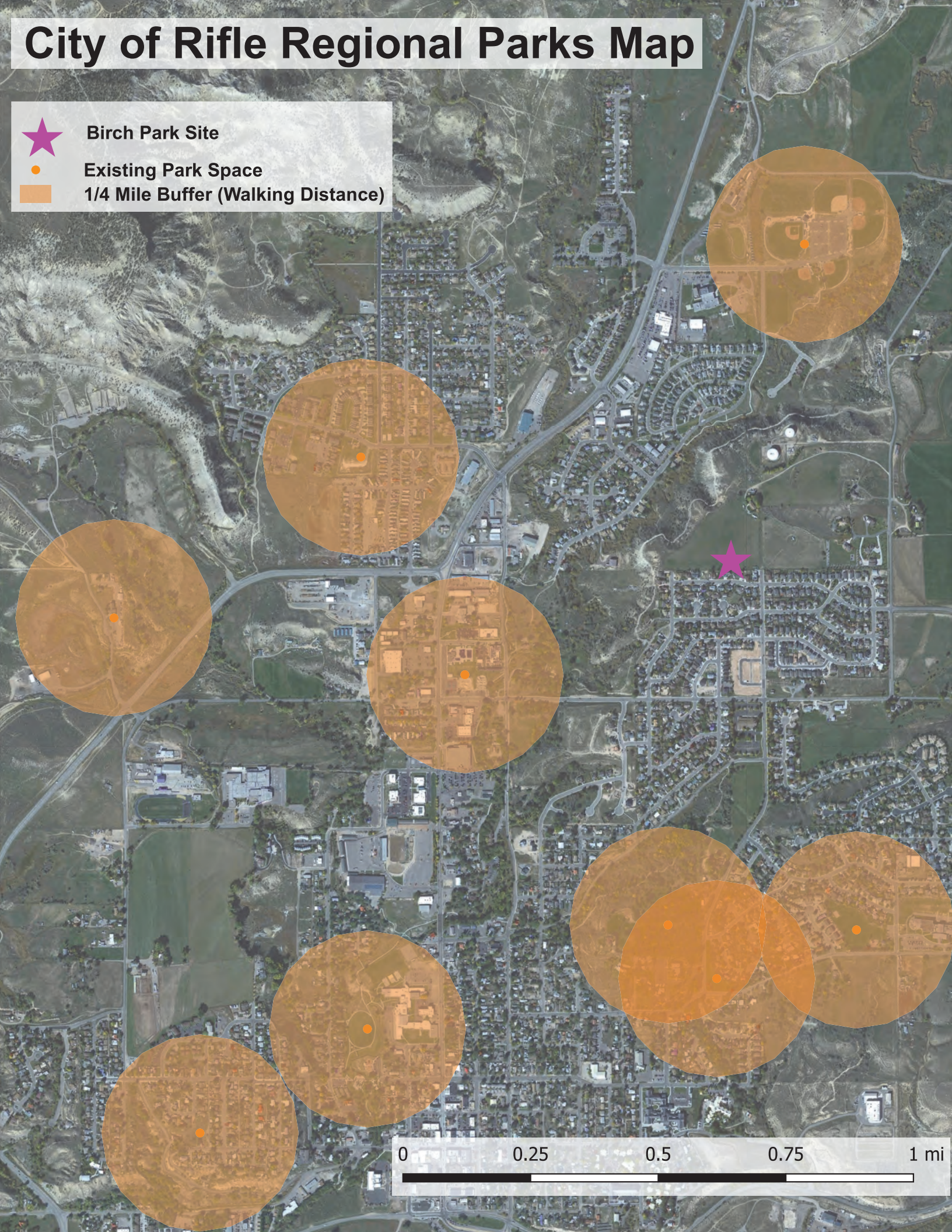
## PROJECT DETAILS

Organization City of Rifle  
 Project title Birch Park Project

TASK	Jul-Dec 2023	Jan-Jun 2024	Jul-Dec 2024	Jan-Jun 2025	Jul-Dec 2025	Jan-Jun 2026	Jul-Dec 2026
Project Initiation	X						
Conceptual Design	X						
Design and Engineering		X					
Construction Bidding		X					
Mobilization			X				
Construction			X				
Phase 1			X	X			
Phase 2				X	X		
Other/Additional Category							
Open to the public						X	
Grand Opening						X	
Administrative Close-Out						X	

# City of Rifle Regional Parks Map

-  Birch Park Site
-  Existing Park Space
-  1/4 Mile Buffer (Walking Distance)





# BIRCH PARK PROJECT

VIEWSHED TO GRAND HOGBACK

NATIVE SHRUBLAND

ADJACENT PRIVATE PROPERTY

WNW PREVAILING WINDS

RAYNARD DITCH TRAIL

STEEP SLOPES

FUTURE BIRCH PROPERTY PARK  
EXISTING HAY FIELD, 5.5 ACRES

## LEGEND

- FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
- NATIVE SHRUBLAND
- STEEP SLOPES
- VIEWSHED
- RAYNARD DITCH TRAIL
- PROPERTY LINE
- PEDESTRIAN ACCESS
- EXISTING DITCH
- EASEMENT
- PREVAILING WINDS

VIEWSHED TO BOOK CLIFFS

EXISTING DITCH

FUTURE PARK ACCESS  
FROM BIRCH STREET

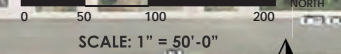
PUMP HOUSE  
IRRIGATION POND

Anvil View Ave.

19th Street

Birch Street

ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD



SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



# BIRCH PROPERTY PARK - FINAL SITE PLAN

FEBRUARY 2023



DESIGN CONCEPTS  
Community • Landscape Architecture



**Birch Property Park - Rifle, Colorado**

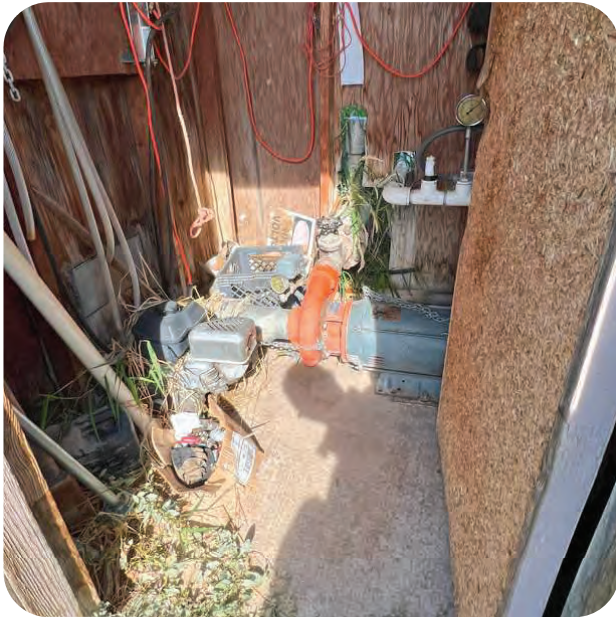




*Irrigation Pump House*



*Views to the North*



*Irrigation Equipment*



*Views to the West*



*Irrigation Pond*



*Views to the South*

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

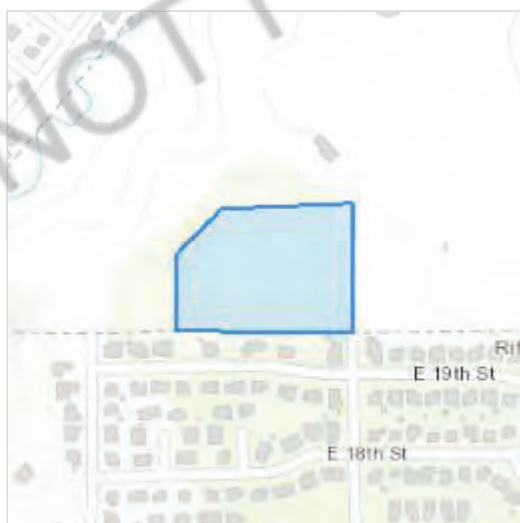
## Project information

### NAME

Birch Park Project

### LOCATION

Garfield County, Colorado





### DESCRIPTION

None

# Local office

Western Colorado Ecological Services Field Office

 (970) 628-7180

 (970) 245-6933

445 West Gunnison Avenue, Suite 240

Grand Junction, CO 81501-5711

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Log in to IPaC.
2. Go to your My Projects list.
3. Click PROJECT HOME for this project.
4. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

- 
1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
  2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of

## Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
<p><b>Gray Wolf</b> <i>Canis lupus</i></p> <p>This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lone, dispersing gray wolves may be present throughout the state of Colorado. If your activity includes a predator management program, please consider this species in your environmental review.</li> </ul> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488</a></p>	Endangered

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
<p><b>Mexican Spotted Owl</b> <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8196">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8196</a></p>	Threatened
<p><b>Yellow-billed Cuckoo</b> <i>Coccyzus americanus</i></p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911</a></p>	Threatened

## Fishes

NAME	STATUS
------	--------

**Bonytail** *Gila elegans*

Endangered

Wherever found

This species **only** needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Water depletions in the upper Colorado River basin adversely affect this species and its critical habitat. Effects of water depletions must be considered even outside of occupied range.

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1377>

**Colorado Pikeminnow** *Ptychocheilus lucius*

Endangered

This species **only** needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Water depletions in the upper Colorado River basin adversely affect this species and its critical habitat. Effects of water depletions must be considered even outside of occupied range.

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3531>

**Humpback Chub** *Gila cypha*

Threatened

Wherever found

This species **only** needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Water depletions in the upper Colorado River basin adversely affect this species and its critical habitat. Effects of water depletions must be considered even outside of occupied range.

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3930>

**Razorback Sucker** *Xyrauchen texanus*

Endangered

Wherever found

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Water depletions in the upper Colorado River basin adversely affect this species and its critical habitat. Effects of water depletions must be considered even outside of occupied range.

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/530>

## Insects

NAME

STATUS

**Monarch Butterfly** *Danaus plexippus*

Candidate

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743>

**Silverspot** *Speyeria nokomis nokomis*

Proposed Threatened

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2813>

## Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

**Ute Ladies'-tresses** *Spiranthes diluvialis*

Threatened

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2159>

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

## Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) and the [Migratory Bird Treaty Act](#).

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

**There are bald and/or golden eagles in your project area.**

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON

**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*

Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680>



# Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

## Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

## Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

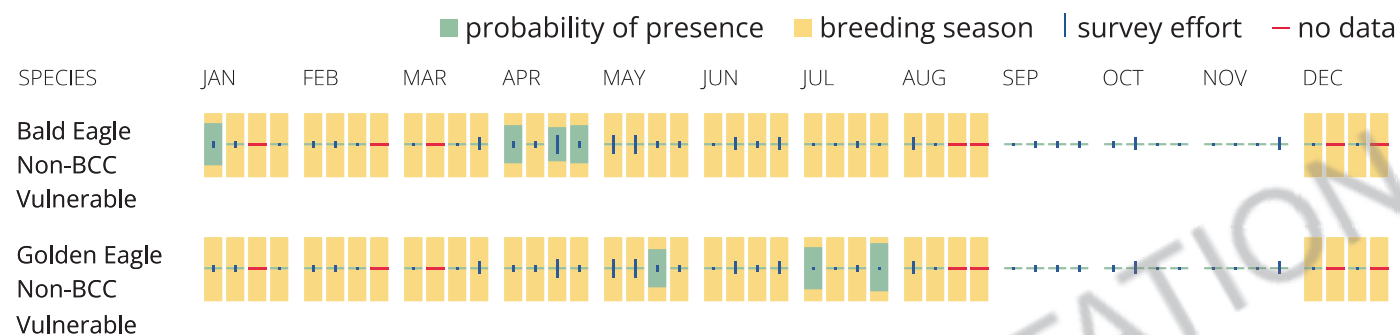
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

### No Data (–)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

### Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



### What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

### What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the [Eagle Act](#) should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<p><b>Bald Eagle</b> <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i></p> <p>This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.</p>	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
<p><b>Black Swift</b> <i>Cypseloides niger</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878</a></p>	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10
<p><b>Cassin's Finch</b> <i>Carpodacus cassinii</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462</a></p>	Breeds May 15 to Jul 15
<p><b>Clark's Nutcracker</b> <i>Nucifraga columbiana</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p>	Breeds Jan 15 to Jul 15
<p><b>Evening Grosbeak</b> <i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds May 15 to Aug 10
<p><b>Golden Eagle</b> <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i></p> <p>This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</a></p>	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
<p><b>Pinyon Jay</b> <i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420</a></p>	Breeds Feb 15 to Jul 15
<p><b>Virginia's Warbler</b> <i>Vermivora virginiae</i></p> <p>This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9441">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9441</a></p>	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31

# Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

## Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

## Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

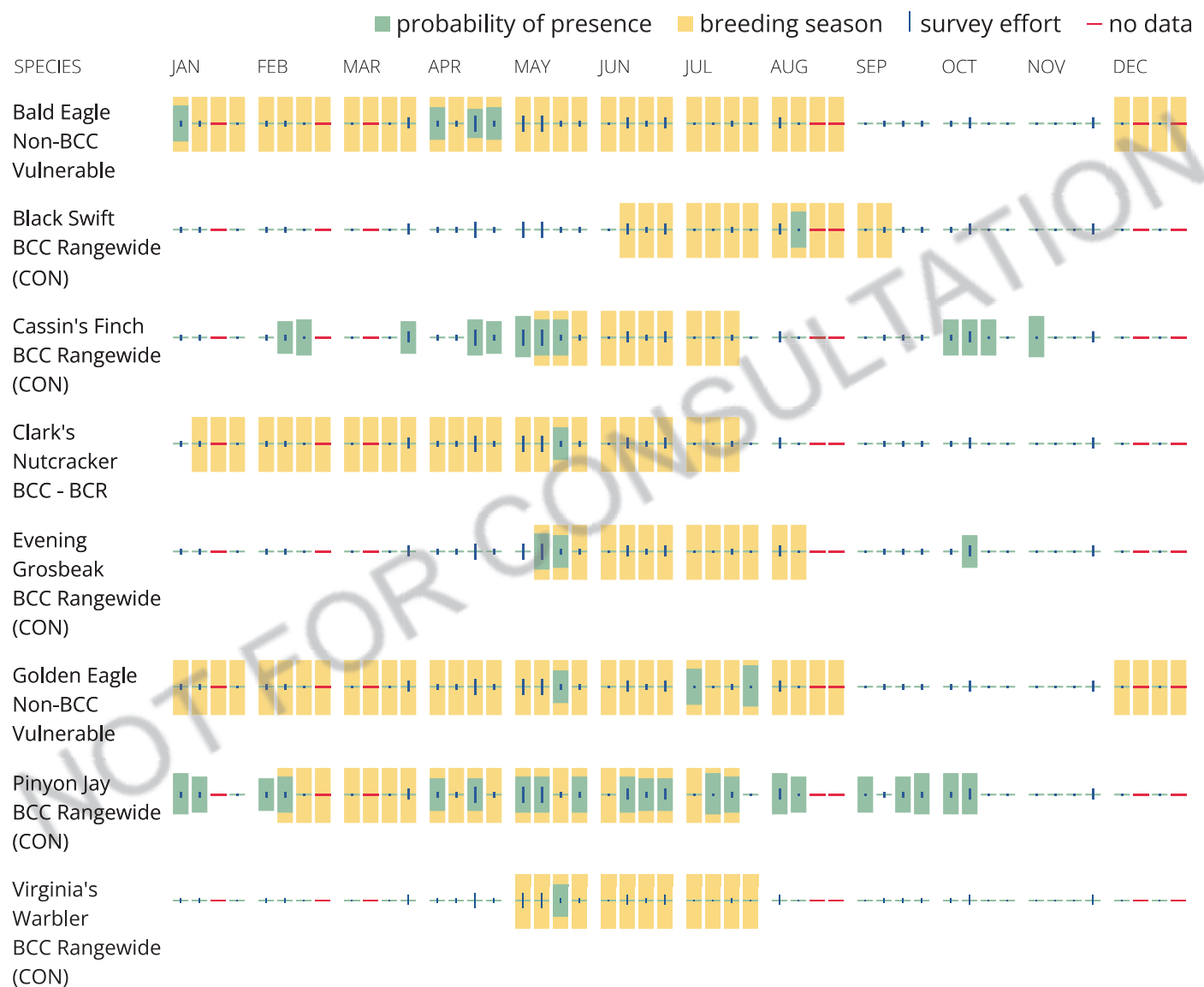
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

**No Data (-)**

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

**Survey Timeframe**

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure.

To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

### **What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

### **What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in

offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### **Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### **What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### **Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.



# Facilities

## National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

## Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

## Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

**NOTE:** This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

### **Data exclusions**

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

# Certification

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION



## PROJECT DETAILS

Organization	City of Rifle
Project title	Birch Park Project

**Match:** Our entity is aware that LWCF is a 1:1 matching grant program and that match is available. Our entity is aware that failure to spend the minimum match amount listed in the project budget will reduce the amount of grant funds.

**Reimbursement:** Our entity is aware that LWCF uses a reimbursement model where grantees incur project costs before seeking reimbursement from CPW. Reimbursement requires submission of invoices, proof of payment and progress reports. Project costs (including match) must be incurred during the CPW contract period unless marked 'pre-award' on the project budget or a Waiver of Retroactivity applies.

**Laws and regulations:** Our entity will adhere to all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, as well as guidelines governing the LWCF program. This includes Build America Buy America (BABA).

**LWCF boundary area:** Properties receiving LWCF assistance must be maintained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation. Our entity certifies that it shall record that the property has been dedicated to public outdoor recreation in perpetuity as per the LWCF Act on the real property title, prior to final reimbursement under this program.

**Inspections:** LWCF-assisted properties will be inspected at least once every five years after project completion by CPW and/or National Park Service (NPS) staff. If non-public recreation use is discovered, or is proposed on the property, our entity will work with State and/or NPS LWCF staff to determine and resolve any potential conversion issues.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understood the criteria above. On behalf of the applicant entity, I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information in this application is true and correct.

### Organization

Name	City of Rifle				
Postal address	202 Railroad Ave.				
City	Rifle	State	CO	ZIP Code	81650

### Authorized Representative

Signature	Patrick Waller	<small>Digitally signed by Patrick Waller Date: 2023.08.30 13:28:31 -06'00'</small>	Date	8/30/23
Name	Patrick Waller	Title	Planning Director	

**CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 25**  
**SERIES 2023**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION FOR A LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) GRANT FROM COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE BIRCH PARK PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the City of Rifle is a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, and therefore an eligible applicant for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (“LWCF”) grant from Colorado Parks and Wildlife (“CPW”); and

WHEREAS, the City of Rifle has requested \$1,250,000 from CPW to fund the completion of the Birch Park Project (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Rifle supports the Project if a grant is awarded by CPW.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIFLE THAT:

1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated as findings by the City of Rifle.
2. The City Council strongly supports, and the City Manager is hereby authorized to submit, the Grant Application for a LWCF grant from CPW for the Project.
3. If the grant is awarded, the City Council strongly supports the fulfillment of the Project.
4. If a grant is awarded, the City of Rifle hereby authorizes the City Manager to sign a Grant Agreement with CPW and authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of the Grant Agreement, which is a 1:1 minimum match.
5. The City of Rifle will dedicate the land for the Project for public recreation in perpetuity
6. The City of Rifle will maintain the site and any facilities related to the Project for their reasonable life expectancy.

THIS RESOLUTION was read, passed, and adopted by the Rifle City Council at a regular meeting held this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023 and is effective immediately.

ATTEST:

CITY OF RIFLE, COLORADO

By: \_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk



By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor



**DOWNTOWN  
DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY**

**RIFLE, COLORADO**

September 6, 2023

Chrystal Read  
Federal Grants Administrator  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
13787 S. Hwy. 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

**RE: Rifle Downtown Development Authority supports the Birch Park Project**

Dear Ms. Chrystal Read,

I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Rifle's application for the Land and Water Conservation Grant funding for the Birch Park Project. With grant funds, Rifle's vision will be to transform an underutilized gated pasture into Birch Park, a needed community recreation and gathering place. Rifle's population is growing, but along with that is the increased cost of housing, smaller lot sizes, and higher density with little walkable areas for families to recreate and enjoy the outdoors. The proposed new park might include pickle ball courts (as we have none in Rifle), picnic shelters, multipurpose fields, a futsal court (smaller soccer field), an inclusive playground, pollinator gardens, an amphitheater, biking and walking trails, along with hiking trail connections. The park will provide free and equitable access to recreational opportunities for all ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, abilities, and interests within walking distance of several housing developments that currently lack open space, let alone organized recreational spaces.

The Rifle Downtown Development Authority is a property taxing district located in downtown Rifle. Its primary objective is to improve blighted areas, improve pedestrian access and walkability. Through connection of the trails, Rifle's downtown will have better access to walkable and rideable trails by bicycles. The Rifle Downtown Development Authority supports the Birch Park Project because it will increase recreational opportunities for all, support positive health outcomes, advance equity for disadvantaged populations, promote stewardship of natural resources, and foster a greater sense of community.

Rifle's Downtown Development Authority is ready to be engaged and supportive of the Birch Park Project moving forward. We commit to participate in community engagement efforts, and advance recreation investments in our community. Please give Rifle's application the highest consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Stewart", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Larry Stewart  
President, Rifle Downtown Development Authority



September 8, 2023

Chrystal Read  
Federal Grants Administrator  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
13787 S. Hwy. 85  
Littleton, CO 80125

**RE: Grand River Health supports the Birch Park Project**

Dear Ms. Chrystal Read,

I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Rifle's application for Land and water Conservation Grant funding for the Birch Park Project. With grant funds, Rifle will transform an underutilized pasture into Birch Park, a community recreation and gathering hub with pickleball courts, picnic shelters, multipurpose fields, a futsal court, an inclusive playground, pollinator gardens, an amphitheater, biking and walking trails, and hiking trail connections. The park will provide free and equitable access to recreational opportunities for all ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, abilities, and interests within walking distance of several housing developments that currently lack recreational space.

Grand River Health's mission is to improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve. Grand River Health supports the Birch Park Project because it will greatly increase the recreational opportunities for the residents of Rifle, support positive health outcomes by encouraging outdoor play and activities, and foster a greater sense of community.

Grand River Health is ready to be engaged and supportive of the Birch Park Project moving forward. We commit to participate in community engagement efforts, and provide input on park project elements. Please give Rifle's application the highest consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Coombs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James Coombs  
CEO  
Grand River Health