

C O L O R A D O P A R K S & W I L D L I F E

Great Outdoors Colorado

FY 2022-23 Investment Proposal



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Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) is a vital funding partner for Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), helping Colorado become a national leader in a broad range of outdoor recreation and wildlife programs. Section I of Article XXVII of the Colorado Constitution describes eight basic objectives for GOCO investments in outdoor recreation and wildlife programs.

Outdoor Recreation:

- Establish and improve state parks and recreation areas throughout Colorado.
- Develop appropriate public information and environmental education resources on Colorado's natural resources at state parks, recreation areas, and other locations throughout the state.
- Acquire, construct, and maintain trails and river greenways.
- Provide water for recreational purposes through the acquisition of water rights or through agreements with holders of water rights, all in accord with applicable state water law.

Wildlife:

- Develop wildlife watching opportunities.
- Implement educational programs about wildlife and wildlife environment.
- Provide appropriate programs for maintaining Colorado's diverse wildlife heritage.
- Protect crucial wildlife habitats through the acquisition of lands, leases, or easements and restore critical areas.

In 2015, CPW adopted a strategic plan and GOCO adopted a new strategic plan in 2020. These plans include input from stakeholders, partners, and the public. This FY 2022-23 investment proposal addresses many priorities from these two strategic plans.

CPW's strategic plan identifies six goals:

1. Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems.
2. Manage state parks for world-class outdoor recreation.
3. Achieve and maintain financial sustainability.
4. Maintain dedicated personnel and volunteers.
5. Increase awareness and trust for CPW.
6. Connect people to Colorado's outdoors.

GOCO is also a vital partner in helping CPW to meet Governor Polis' Wildly Important Goals, or WIGs. The two WIGs CPW is responsible for meeting are to balance outdoor recreation and conservation and to achieve financial sustainability. GOCO support is critical to CPW's continued efforts in balancing outdoor recreation and conservation interests and in investing in important work addressing Colorado's land, water, wildlife, and recreation infrastructure needs, including efforts like the Regional Partnership Initiative.

Additionally, GOCO's flexibility has helped CPW make significant strides toward financial sustainability by offering increased flexibility in both the timing and the use of grant funds. CPW built its FY 2022-23 investment proposal to be consistent with these goals and with the values of GOCO's strategic plan: Resource Conservation, Outdoor Stewardship, Community Vitality, Equitable Access, and Youth Connections.

This investment proposal represents work conducted by CPW programs, parks, and wildlife areas and does not include information about all work of CPW. The CPW FY 2022-23 investment proposal requests \$17,389,550 in Outdoor Recreation purpose funding and \$11,963,588 in Wildlife purpose funding. Grant requests show both total projected expenditures and the requested GOCO funding.

In addition, these numbers do not include amounts set aside for CPW's participation in the Centennial Program, which will begin in FY 2023-24. GOCO and CPW collaboratively established the Centennial Program, which will invest in high-value, once-in-a-lifetime projects that will have lasting impacts for the state and future generations of its people. CPW will allocate approximately \$43.2 million in GOCO funding to the program. The Centennial Program will operate independently from the annual investment proposal. However, funding for this program will be sourced and retained separately within the existing Parks and Wildlife constitutional funding quadrants. A parallel project identification and funding allocation process is being designed to deploy these dollars in later years, enabling CPW to move quickly when unforeseen opportunities arise.

Like all environments, the condition of the Colorado outdoors is in a constant state of flux, and CPW's planned budget for a given year can change significantly due to changing circumstances. As Colorado's population continues to grow and use of outdoor spaces increases, additional resources are needed for operations and maintenance. As such, the budget tables presented in this investment proposal are for informational purposes only and are not binding with regard to actual expenditures during the fiscal year. As CPW continues to implement the Future Generations Act and responds to the governor's priorities and emergent opportunities, the division may need to embark on discussions with the GOCO board to discuss future funding plans or reprioritization of existing grants.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife uses an activity-based budgeting system, and narratives for each grant list a series of activities that staff may perform under the grant. The listed activities include the primary activities that CPW will perform within each grant, but the list is not exhaustive. Staff may undertake unlisted activities when reasonable and when necessary to accomplish the grant's purpose and intent. If questions arise about activities that are not included in these lists, CPW and GOCO staff will work together to determine if they fall within the intent of the grant described in this investment proposal.

Some important highlights to consider in this year's Investment Proposal include:

- An increase of approximately \$1 million in GOCO funding, to support 15 state parks capital projects statewide, see page 9.

- An additional \$1.1 million in GOCO funding for recreation management on state parks, to support increased visitation and participation in outdoor recreational activities at state parks.
- More than \$1 million in additional capital GOCO funding for the acquisition of high priority wildlife habitat.

In addition, CPW is not requesting funding for wildlife small capital program because it is requesting funding to continue this program through other sources, see Table 1 and Table 2. The use of GOCO funds to supplement Long Bill spending authority was a short-term solution until increased wildlife cash fund revenues were available following the passage and implementation of the Future Generations Act. CPW is also not requesting funding for website redesign, as that request in FY 2021-22 was for one-time capital funding for redesign and platform migration for website improvements and funding is available for three years. CPW is currently working with the selected vendor to draft the contract and expects the vendor will begin work during FY 2021-22.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Fiscal Year 2022-23
Great Outdoors Colorado Investment Plan
Outdoor Recreation Funds
Summary Table #1: Comparison of GOCO Funds
FY 2021-22 to FY 2022-23

	FY 2021-22			FY 2022-23		
	Capital	Program Operating	Total	Capital	Program Operating	Total
INVESTMENT REQUEST						
Establish and Improve State Parks						
Park Improvements	5,054,334	-	5,054,334	6,119,195	-	6,119,195
Capital Development Program	-	1,020,000	1,020,000	-	1,020,000	1,020,000
Recreational Management on State Parks	-	3,000,000	3,000,000	-	4,111,420	4,111,420
Natural Resource Management Program	-	1,292,500	1,292,500	-	1,292,500	1,292,500
Fuels Mitigation Management Program	300,000	-	300,000	300,000	-	300,000
Invasive and Noxious Weed Management Program	-	350,000	350,000	-	350,000	350,000
Director's Innovation Fund	-	75,000	75,000	-	75,000	75,000
Subtotal	5,354,334	5,737,500	11,091,834	6,419,195	6,848,920	13,268,115
Public Information and Environmental Education						
Public Information	-	296,000	296,000	-	296,000	296,000
Volunteer Programs	-	231,000	231,000	-	231,000	231,000
Environmental Education and Youth Programs	-	1,273,500	1,273,500	-	1,273,500	1,273,500
Website Redesign	700,000	-	700,000	-	-	-
Subtotal	700,000	1,800,500	2,500,500	-	1,800,500	1,800,500
Trails and River Greenways						
State Trails Program	-	370,935	370,935	-	370,935	370,935
Trails Grant Program	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Trails in State Parks	500,000	-	500,000	500,000	-	500,000
Subtotal	1,500,000	370,935	1,870,935	1,500,000	370,935	1,870,935
Water for Recreational Purposes						
Water Program	-	150,000	150,000	-	150,000	150,000
Water Acquisitions and Leases	300,000	-	300,000	300,000	-	300,000
Subtotal	300,000	150,000	450,000	300,000	150,000	450,000
GRAND TOTAL	7,854,334	8,058,935	15,913,269	8,219,195	9,170,355	17,389,550

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Fiscal Year 2022-23
Great Outdoors Colorado Investment Plan
Table 2: Comparative Summary of Program Costs
FY 2021-22 to FY 2022-23

Outdoor Recreation Grant Name		FY 21-22 Request			FY 22-23 Request		
		GOCO	CPW	Total	GOCO	CPW	Total
Establish and Improve State Parks							
	Land Acquisition and Leases	-	-	-	-		-
	Park Improvements	5,054,334	2,191,666	7,246,000	6,119,195	6,405,655	12,524,850
	Capital Development Program	1,020,000	486,173	1,506,173	1,020,000	713,776	1,733,776
	Recreation Management on State Parks	3,000,000	5,953,905	8,953,905	4,111,420	9,593,312	13,704,732
	Natural Resource Management Program	1,292,500	794,710	2,087,210	1,292,500	632,571	1,925,071
	Fuels Mitigation Management Program	300,000	-	300,000	300,000	-	300,000
	Invasive and Noxious Weed Management Program	350,000	63,929	413,929	350,000	72,029	422,029
	Director's Innovation Fund	75,000	-	75,000	75,000	-	75,000
	Subtotal:	11,091,834	9,490,383	20,582,217	13,268,115	17,417,343	30,685,458
Public Information and Environmental Education							
	Public Information Program	296,000	255,662	551,662	296,000	197,359	493,359
	Volunteer Program	231,000	105,341	336,341	231,000	56,554	287,554
	Environmental Education and Youth Programs	1,273,500	126,814	1,400,314	1,273,500	415,692	1,689,192
	Website Redesign	700,000	-	700,000	-		-
	Subtotal:	2,500,500	487,817	2,988,317	1,800,500	669,605	2,470,105
Trails and River Greenways							
	State Trails Program	370,935	135,802	506,737	370,935	157,849	528,784
	Trails Grant Program	1,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	3,938,015	4,938,015
	Trails in State Parks	500,000	1,084,579	1,584,579	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
	Subtotal:	1,870,935	3,220,381	5,091,316	1,870,935	4,595,864	6,466,799
Water for Recreational Purposes							
	Water Program	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	3,251	153,251
	Water Acquisitions and Leases	300,000	80,000	380,000	300,000	300,000	600,000
	Subtotal:	450,000	80,000	530,000	450,000	303,251	753,251
	Grand Total:	15,913,269	13,278,581	29,191,850	17,389,550	22,986,063	40,375,613

Budget figures in the "CPW" column represent an estimate of the CPW contribution for projects where there is also GOCO funding, and are shown for informational purposes only.

Outdoor Recreation: Establish and Improve State Parks and Recreation

CPW uses GOCO funding to provide a quality state parks system and provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation that educates and inspires current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. These outcomes align activities with the goals and objectives from CPW's and GOCO's strategic plans.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Secure our state's natural resources and provide places for people to connect to the outdoors.
- Work with conservation partners to identify and support important landscape, waterway and habitat protection priorities from urban and rural areas and respond to Coloradans' desire for increased access to the outdoors.
- Fund high-value, once-in-a-generation visions and projects that will create lasting impacts on the state and future generations.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal II: Manage state parks for world-class outdoor recreation.
 - Objective A: Manage facilities and outdoor recreation amenities within state parks to provide positive experiences for Coloradans and visitors.
 - Objective B: Explore fiscally sound real estate opportunities for new or expanded state parks.
 - Objective C: Market the special qualities of Colorado's state parks.
- Goal VI: Connect people to Colorado's outdoors.
 - Objective A: Broaden the access and variety of recreation opportunities available to Coloradans and visitors.
 - Objective B: Provide facilities, infrastructure, and access to support opportunities for premier outdoor recreation experiences.

Establish and Improve State Parks	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Park Improvements	\$6,119,195
Capital Development Program	1,020,000
Recreational Management on State Parks	4,111,420
Natural Resource Management Program	1,292,500
Fuels Mitigation Management Program	300,000
Invasive and Noxious Weed Management Program	350,000
Director's Innovation Fund	75,000
Total:	\$13,268,115

Park Improvements

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 12,524,850
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 6,119,195 (capital)

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
To Be Determined	\$12,524,850
Total	\$12,524,850

(Please note that CPW will not know the categorization of these expenses until capital projects are complete.)

Description and Objectives:

Colorado's state parks system is over 60 years old and requires continuous maintenance, restoration, and improvement of facilities and infrastructure. Maintaining and improving basic park facilities is an important part of sustaining a solid visitation base and generating the revenue necessary to cover the majority of day-to-day operating costs for the state park system. Infrastructure on state parks is designed to enhance the outdoor recreation experience of visitors.

Proposed FY 2022-23 capital projects include the following:

Cameo Shooting and Education Complex Outdoor Education Areas Design, \$1,082,000: The Cameo Shooting and Education Complex Recreation Area provides ranges for rifle, shotgun, pistol, and archery, as well as picnic pavilions and a retail shop. To expand Cameo's educational opportunities, this project is to fund the design of the banquet hall, wastewater treatment system, nature area, extra parking, playground, and lake. These facility improvements are made with the goal of incorporating a natural sciences education purpose and are planned to accommodate school field trips and visitors interested in learning about Colorado's native plant species. Construction will include a native species botanical garden, room for school bus parking, accommodations for picnic lunches, and recreational opportunities for children such as a historically themed playground and picnic area.

Castlewood Canyon State Park Asphalt Overlay, \$1,202,000: Castlewood Canyon State Park's main road was paved in 1993 and, despite maintenance, the entire surface has deteriorated to the point where repairs are inadequate to maintain a drivable area. This project funds maintenance of 6,300 feet of roadways and 127,800 square feet of parking lots of the east side of the park. The project will include surface preparation, an asphalt overlay, and markings. Continued delay on this project will significantly increase its cost, inconvenience to the public, and may create a safety issue for vehicles and pedestrians as park visitation continues to spike up dramatically with population growth.

Crawford State Park Concrete Repair, \$361,000: There are several areas around the park where sections of concrete have heaved or settled. This damage has created tripping hazards and drainage issues. At the visitor center, water no longer drains away from the building but drains towards the foundation and, in some places, into the building. This project includes removal of old concrete and installation of new concrete around the visitor center, the vault toilets, and campsites. If not funded, the visitor center's basement will continue to have water issues and the ADA campsite upheaval will continue to be a safety hazard.

Crawford State Park Iron Creek Shade Shelters, \$238,000: The Iron Creek campground has 45 sites and 23 of them do not have shade shelters. This project is to install 23 shade shelters in the Iron Creek campground. Lack of shelters causes these sites to be less desirable due to lack of shade.

Fishers Peak State Park Planning and Design of Facilities and Public Water Supply Improvements off Exit 8, \$1,000,000: As part of the ongoing improvements to CPW's newest state park, this project funds professional services and improvements related to water treatment building and equipment, utilities hookups to camp host sites, public access to office buildings, restoration of residences for temporary and seasonal housing, and restoration of disturbed areas.

Golden Gate Canyon State Park Design of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Improvements, \$150,000: The WWTP at Reverend's Ridge Campground currently doesn't meet the Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) requirements in the Discharge Permit, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has requested CPW meet this standard. A five-year compliance plan has been approved by CDPHE and this design is necessary to meet the requirements. The project is to design the improvements and secure approval from CDPHE.

John Martin Reservoir State Park Day Use Upgrades, \$1,481,000: When John Martin Reservoir State Park was built, the north shore day use areas were not fully completed. This project adds shade protection, use pads with picnic tables, and vault restrooms. This project is to install 38 additional clamshell shelters with picnic tables and grills at the Catch and Fry Picnic Area, West Boat Ramp, East Boat Ramp, and East Day Use Area. Vault restrooms are planned for the Catch and Fry Picnic Area and the East Day Use Area. This project also includes replacement of the West Picnic Shelter, as it is currently unsafe to use due to structural damage. Lastly, the project includes demolition of the East Restroom building, which has been closed for over 5 years.

Littleton Office Complex HVAC/Roof Replacements, \$331,000: This project is to replace the existing HVAC system, not including the boiler, and to replace the roofs on the main building and two outbuildings for the Littleton Office Complex. The current HVAC system is well over 30 years old and has outlived its life cycle. The system is residential grade and fails on a regular basis due to age. These failures are costly, and cause workflow issues and could result in damaged plumbing. The roofs on the three buildings have outlived their life span and are in need of replacement. Damage to the building has occurred due to leaks. While the leaks have

been temporarily repaired, a new roof avoids further damage due to either new leaks or failure of the repairs.

Mancos State Park Main Office Addition, \$481,000: CPW leases administrative space from the town of Dolores. This project replaces the leased space by constructing a 24' x 40' "lean to" add-on on the west side of the Mancos State Park maintenance building. The new construction interior is finished with a Park Manager office; flex office; breakroom with workstations, kitchen, lockers, and washer/dryer; two bathrooms and a mechanical room. This project also includes maintenance yard improvements, including a patio to serve as the main entrance to the office and to connect the facility with the adjacent host campsites with secure fencing and gates as needed. This project is part of the five-year plan currently underway at this park aimed at efficiency and improved customer service. The new space will allow CPW to consolidate the administrative and customer service functions associated with both Lone Mesa State Park and Mancos State Park, including the complex FTE, on the park at Mancos.

Stagecoach State Park Visitor Center Construction, \$3,508,000: Stagecoach State Park does not have a visitor center and this project funds the construction of a new one. The current park office offers an 8' x 10' room for customer contact and is also the maintenance shop. The building is tucked away from most of the park activity centers, making it inconvenient for customers. The data connectivity is slow and unreliable, creating negative impacts for point-of-sale activities as well as staff training requirements. This project funds a new visitor center that will be located adjacent to the park entrance road set on a gentle hillside overlooking the boat ramp, the Pinnacle Campground, and the lake. The building floorplan is based on a standard layout previously used at Rifle Gap, Highline Lake, and Fruita. It offers a modern customer contact area and a welcoming introduction to all that Stagecoach State Park has to offer. It includes a conference room for programs, meetings, and trainings. The building data connectivity will be upgraded to current standards. Once the new visitor center is ready for occupancy, a portion of the current park headquarters building will be remodeled to provide seasonal housing apartments, and the remaining portion will continue to function as a garage and maintenance shop.

Staunton Development Design Completion, \$550,000: This project is to hire a consultant to provide final design and construction bid documents for the camper services building, Dines house renovations, and camper cabins within the Dines parcel.

Sweitzer State Park Vault Toilets, \$301,000: Sweitzer State Park's current toilets are from the 1960s and 1980s and are not usable. The vault toilet on the north side of the park has been shut down, as it is a safety hazard. The flush toilet continuously has plumbing problems and is closed for most of the summer. This project funds removal of three toilets, installation of two new vault toilets and one flush toilet, and development of parking areas around the vault toilets.

Upper Highline Dam Rehabilitation Alternatives Analysis and Design Phases 1 and 2 of 3, \$1,000,000: The spillway on Upper Highline Dam (Highline Lake) is exhibiting notable deterioration and deficiencies that present a dam safety concern to the State Dam Safety

Regulator (SEO). SEO has rated the spillway condition as "Poor" over the last 5 years. The dam is classified by the State as a high hazard structure, meaning that a dam failure will cause life loss consequences downstream. The spillway does not meet current safety requirements for a high hazard dam, and notable movement and seepage in the spillway chute indicates instability in the spillway foundation. This project funds a spillway rehabilitation alternatives analysis (Phase 1) and rehabilitation design (Phase 2). The alternatives analysis will evaluate potential remediation alternatives ranging from localized rehabilitation to complete removal and replacement of the spillway. Phase 1 tasks will potentially include: exploratory field investigations; data acquisition; engineering studies such as hydrologic hazard evaluation, structural evaluation, subsurface geotechnical evaluations, and risk assessment; and rough order of magnitude cost estimates for viable remediation alternatives. The final Phase 1 deliverable will allow CPW stakeholders to consider the best course of remediation to achieve compliance with state regulators, while also balancing the cost and benefit to CPW. Phase 2 rehabilitation design will develop construction-ready documents based on the selected preferred alternative. A separate project request for Phase 3 of this spillway rehabilitation would pertain to spillway construction (estimated as a FY 2024-25 request).

State Parks Dam Maintenance, \$300,000: CPW owns and operates 110 dams around the state. Dams are like any other infrastructure in that they slowly deteriorate over time due to use and exposure to the elements. Regular maintenance and minor repairs are necessary for continued safe and efficient operation. High and significant hazard dams also present a hazard to the downstream public so timely maintenance is a critical risk reduction activity for the agency. Major dam repair and renovation projects are funded through the agency's regular project selection process, this funding is for smaller cost regular maintenance and repairs.

State Parks Capital Projects Programmatic Contingency, \$539,850: CPW calculates contingency on a per project basis, based on a number of factors including project scope, complexity, location and potential for delays. Based on this review of the agency's slate of FY 2022-23 capital projects, CPW is reserving \$539,850 in contingency funding for the agency's state park-related projects.

Capital Development Program

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget:	\$ 1,733,776
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request:	\$ 1,020,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	31,053
Perm PS	1,241,625
Perm PS - Benefits	456,098

Supplies	0
Temp PS	0
Temp PS - Benefits	0
Travel	5,000
Total	\$1,733,776

Description and Objectives:

The Capital Development Program grant supports ongoing operations of CPW's Capital Development program, including designing capital construction projects; developing and updating maintenance schedules for CPW's properties, roads, infrastructure, dams, and buildings; and performing asset condition assessment and updating the division's maintenance schedules. This grant encompasses work on a wide variety of park capital projects funded by several different funding sources including GOCO, Lottery, and federal funds.

Primary Activities:

- Secure and manage consultants and contractors
- Provide consulting, preliminary design, and cost estimates for proposed capital construction projects
- Conduct site surveys and field investigations
- Perform engineering design and analysis
- Research products, methods, and materials
- Calculate quantities and prepare engineering cost estimates
- Prepare engineered drawings and specifications
- Review projects
- Prepare permit applications
- Establish and implement design-related policies
- Continual condition assessment
- Identify maintenance projects
- Prioritize and filter maintenance projects and prepare justification for projects
- Long-range planning
- Budget requests
- Track and monitor planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of asset maintenance projects
- Conduct pre-bid and pre-construction meetings
- Submittal and shop drawing review
- Materials testing
- Construction surveying
- Construction inspection
- Prepare appropriate construction and contract documents
- Project scheduling
- Review, negotiate, and mediate claims

(CPW activity 8321, Capital Planning and Design P/OR and activity 8331, Construction Management P/OR)

Recreation Management on State Parks

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$13,704,732
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 4,111,420

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$58,512
Equipment	30,483
Other	4,380,268
Perm PS	4,927,354
Perm PS - Benefits	1,850,494
Supplies	341,155
Temp PS	1,550,215
Temp PS - Benefits	545,551
Travel	20,700
Total	\$13,704,732

Description and Objectives:

GOCO's historic support for basic state park operations has been invaluable to CPW, and has contributed to the enjoyment of millions of park visitors since the inception of the GOCO program. This funding has evolved over time from a series of park-specific grants that funded only some components of park operations to a single grant that funds nearly every aspect of day-to-day operations at the state parks. (GOCO funding does not support law enforcement operations or equipment, and a few other park management activities.)

CPW uses an "activity-based" budgeting system, developing budgets based on the actual work performed by agency staff. The most basic activity used for park operations is Activity 5350, Recreation Management on State Parks, and this is the activity that GOCO and CPW have agreed to use to determine GOCO's level of support for park operations. The Recreation Management on State Parks activity is the broadest and most encompassing park operating budget. Several other activity budgets also support park operations, including budgets for small capital projects, volunteer activities, environmental education, weed and forest management, and trail development.

Primary activities:

- Activities specifically and directly related to maintaining and managing recreational opportunities on state parks and state recreation areas including: camping, picnicking, hiking, biking, walking, horseback riding, sightseeing, hunting, boating, fishing, swimming, water sports, and other recreational activities
- Generally maintain properties to support park activities and promote park recreational opportunities that benefit park visitors

- Maintain signs, fences, roads, structures, wells, and other improvements
- Develop and maintain public facilities
- Providing utilities that support and promote park and outdoor recreation
- Improve and manipulate habitat
- Public health water management activities such as testing of drinking, waste, and swim beach water at state parks

(CPW activity 5350, Recreation on State Parks Management)

Natural Resource Management Programs

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 1,925,071
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,292,500

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$286,065
Equipment	3,000
Other	153,342
Perm PS	795,266
Perm PS - Benefits	345,203
Supplies	26,800
Temp PS	241,514
Temp PS - Benefits	53,981
Travel	19,900
Total	\$1,925,071

Description and Objectives:

The CPW Natural Resource Management Programs exist to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance the natural, scenic, scientific, cultural and outdoor recreation values of Colorado's public recreation areas. As described in more detail below, this program is comprised of five major activities:

- Develop plans and standards for state parks
- Manage state park natural resources
- Natural Areas Management
- Geographical Information System (GIS)
- Cultural Resource Management

The grant does not support invasive and noxious weed management, large-scale statewide fuels mitigation, and improvements to park administrative facilities. These activities are supported through specific grants within this investment proposal.

Primary Activities:

Develop plans and standards for state parks:

- Establish stewardship plans for each state park
- Develop management plans or re-development plans to provide an overarching framework that serves as a resource and guide for property-level management or development decisions
- Develop annual work plans based on established policies, stewardship, and master management plans
- Plan, lead, or assist with the public involvement associated with the development of property management or master plans
- Includes general parks-related plans and studies, for example economic impact of the state parks system, etc.

Manage state park natural resources:

- Improve and maintain habitat and natural resources on state parks
- Individual tree management, including site specific effort to reduce risk of trees causing damage by falling on infrastructure or visitors
- Tree thinning, hazardous and dead tree removal at campgrounds and other areas requiring defensible space
- Various activities designed to combat the spread of pine beetle infestation, including spraying individual trees in selected locations and other activities
- Provide statewide forest health management and fuels mitigation including reducing risk of catastrophic wildfires, improving forest resiliency to insect and disease, and promoting biological diversity
- Evaluate and identify areas at-risk and plan additional projects for future years
- Overall effort to improve statewide forest health such as forest thinning or prescribed burn
- Provide interpretive materials containing education information about forests, wildfires, and forest insects
- Perform surveys of natural resources, e.g., bird and plant surveys
- Environmental and cultural reviews
- Conduct cultural and archaeological surveys
- Provide stewardship for cultural and archeological resources
- Re-vegetation and restoration efforts
- Payment of Impact Assistance Grants

Natural Areas Management:

- Administer the Colorado Natural Areas Council and the Colorado Natural Areas Program
- Identify, evaluate, and protect natural areas as defined by statute
- Develop, manage, and monitor a statewide system of designated natural areas

GIS:

- Provide data, data modeling, analysis, mapping, and other GIS services

- Maintain the existing data sets due to changes that occur over time
- Add new data regarding habitats, populations, natural resources, trails, and facilities
- Support agency personnel in working with county land use planners to understand the impacts of proposed developments on outdoor recreation and provide information for informed public participation in land use decisions as they relate to outdoor recreation
- Generate interactive maps on demand to the public through CPW's Internet site

(CPW activity 1481, Develop Plans and Standards for State Parks; activity 1491, Manage State Park Natural Resources P/OR; activity 1496, Natural Areas Management P/OR; and activity 8241, GIS P/OR)

Fuels Mitigation Management Program

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 300,000
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 300,000 (capital)

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$300,000
Equipment	0
Other	0
Perm PS	0
Perm PS - Benefits	0
Supplies	0
Temp PS	0
Temp PS - Benefits	0
Travel	0
Total	\$300,000

Description and Objectives:

The Fuels Mitigation Program grant provides funding for on-the-ground fuels mitigation and forest health projects, primarily in conjunction with the Colorado State Forest Service as a both a funding and operational partner. The purpose of these projects is to improve the resilience of state park areas to recover from the effects of wildfire and insect/disease epidemics. By investing in the treatment of hazardous forest fuels every year, CPW can reduce long-term suppression costs, improve visitor safety, reduce impacts on water and air quality, improve wildlife habitat, and significantly reduce fire mitigation costs.

Investing in these forest treatments will reduce the risk of fire to homes and communities adjacent to many of Colorado's state parks. These projects will directly benefit park visitors and neighbors. The core of this effort is to reduce the wildfire hazard and to address the hazard of trees falling due to insects and disease. This is typically accomplished by contracting with specialized heavy equipment operators to remove trees in strategic areas.

Projects that are specific to mountain pine beetle and spruce beetle will have the added benefit of ensuring that these areas can continue to be used safely by visitors and park staff.

CPW will also use this funding for limited pine beetle preventative spraying and tree seedling planting, or transplanting projects to reforest high-use areas and high priority habitats devastated by wildfire or insect and disease epidemics and in other declining forests. When necessary, CPW may use this funding to hire temporary staff to help manage forest management program contracts.

Primary Activities:

- Improve and maintain habitat and natural resources on state parks
- Individual tree management, including site specific effort to reduce risk of trees causing damage by falling on infrastructure or visitors
- Tree thinning, hazardous and dead tree removal at campgrounds and other areas requiring defensible space
- Various activities designed to combat the spread of pine beetle infestation, including spraying individual trees in selected locations and other activities
- Provide statewide forest health management and fuels mitigation including reducing risk of catastrophic wildfires, improving forest resiliency to insect and disease, and promoting biological diversity
- Evaluate and identify areas at-risk and plan additional projects for future years
- Overall effort to improve statewide forest health such as forest thinning or prescribed burn
- Provide interpretive materials containing education information about forests, wildfires, and forest insects
- Perform surveys of natural resources, e.g., bird and plant surveys
- Environmental and cultural reviews to direct projects away from important resources
- Re-vegetation and restoration efforts
- Payment of Impact Assistance Grants

(CPW activity 1491, Manage State Park Natural Resources P/OR)

Invasive and Noxious Weed Management Program

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 422,029
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 350,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$2,000
Equipment	0
Other	137,089
Perm PS	66,443
Perm PS - Benefits	23,997
Supplies	73,461
Temp PS	97,293
Temp PS - Benefits	21,746
Travel	0
Total	\$422,029

Description and Objectives:

GOCO investments for mechanical and other vegetative management efforts are important funding for on-the-ground resource protection on state parks. Primary efforts include identifying non-native plant areas through mapping, monitoring, and other means; development of integrated weed management plans, including weed management priorities; selective application of herbicides, bio-controls, and weed agents; and restoration with native grasses, shrubs, and trees best suited for habitat improvements. A large portion of CPW's state parks program management efforts are cooperative, with local county weed control coordinators, county land use officials, the Colorado State Forest Service, the Department of Agriculture, and adjoining landowners playing an important role.

Primary Activities:

- Develop weed management plans for each state park
- Identify areas containing invasive and noxious weeds
- Landscaping and restoration projects on state parks to enhance, re-vegetate, or repair vegetation
- Contracting for professional services to conduct weed spraying, mapping, and planning for Colorado listed noxious weeds like Canada thistle, musk thistle, white top, knapweed, as well as other terrestrial and aquatic nuisance weed species
- Purchase of herbicides and applicators and other weed, re-vegetation, and tree management equipment for staff use at parks
- Certification and training for park staff on weed treatment
- Tamarisk and Russian Olive removal at water-based parks throughout the system

(CPW activity 1501, Invasive and Noxious Weed Management on State Parks P/OR)

Director's Innovation Fund (State Parks)

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 75,000
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 75,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
To Be Determined	\$75,000
Total	\$75,000

(Please note that CPW will not know the categorization of these expenses until the final list of projects are selected.)

Description and Objectives:

The CPW Director's Innovation Fund allows CPW staff to apply for funding for unique, one-time projects and programs that would not otherwise be funded through the annual investment proposal or other funding channels within the agency. This program started in December 2016 and has helped to identify several creative ideas that continue to provide benefit or have been adopted more widely. This request represents the state parks purpose portion of the total requested grant.

Primary Activities:

Activities will vary depending on the projects selected for awards by the CPW Director and the selection committee.

Outdoor Recreation: Public Information and Environmental Education

CPW's Public Information and Environmental Education section supports programs and activities that educate and inform Colorado's residents and visitors about available outdoor activities and develop a new generation of wildlife advocates, park users, and outdoor enthusiasts. CPW aligns these activities with various strategic goals and objectives.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Support projects and programs that help children and families get outside more often and experience all the benefits of doing so
- Invest in communication efforts designed to engage the public in outdoor stewardship, elevate understanding, promote action, and cultivate a stewardship ethic among Coloradans and its visitors.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal VI: Connect people to Colorado's outdoors
 - Objective A: Broaden the access and variety of recreation opportunities available to Coloradans and visitors.
 - Objective C: Foster partnerships to enhance recreation opportunities.
 - Objective D: Promote the value of CPW's mission and services to expand awareness, grow CPW's volunteer network, and inspire stewardship.
 - Objective E: Become familiar with the needs, interests, and expectations of residents and visitors who are new to outdoor recreation.

Public Information and Environmental Education	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Public Information Program	\$296,000
Volunteer Program	231,000
Environmental Education and Youth Programs	1,273,500
Total:	\$1,800,500

Public Information

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 493,359
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 296,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	167,550
Perm PS	234,014
Perm PS - Benefits	76,502
Supplies	500
Temp PS	12,090
Temp PS - Benefits	2,703
Travel	0
Total	\$493,359

Description and Objectives:

The Public Information Program helps raise public awareness about Colorado's state parks. The objective of these activities is to increase Coloradans' knowledge beyond the one or two local state parks that are in their backyard, towards the many recreational activities and amenities that are available across the entire state park system. Awareness is the continued objective for the Public Information Program.

Primary Activities:

- Establish annual publication priorities
- Establish product criteria including format, content, and bid specifications
- Design publications and videos
- Write and edit stories and scripts
- Plan and execute illustrations
- Take or buy photographs and video
- Edit videos
- Narrate scripts
- Distribute publications through the mail and customer service centers
- Identify key activities and issues and formulate strategies to effectively address these through the media
- Develop and maintain relations with the media
- Provide information to the media for print and electronic distribution that meet accepted professional criteria for timeliness, format, and interest
- Proactively encourage coverage on issues critical to CPW
- Respond to specific requests from the media regardless of distribution source
- Evaluate the effectiveness of media relations
- Develop and maintain agency presence and information on the Internet

- Develop and implement marketing and promotional strategies that effectively engage our customers in outdoor recreation
- Develop mail and distribution strategies
- Develop new products in response to customer demand
- Participate in recreational expos and staff booths with personnel and volunteers that educate and promote outdoor recreation
- Advise and assist state parks with special events, etc., as requested
- Conceptualize and implement promotional campaigns (spring reservations, holiday, etc.)
- Coordinating requests for speaking engagements, presentations, sponsorship requests, etc., from community groups
- Promoting community involvement and interest with potential visitors
- Assure availability of informational materials and products
- Support and promote Friends groups for state parks
- Provide informational materials to other agencies for distribution to the public in response to requests for information or assistance

(CPW activity 7121, Produce Publications P/OR; activity 7131, Provide Information through the Media P/OR; and activity 7141, Marketing and Promotion P/OR)

Volunteer Programs

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 287,554
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 231,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	14,339
Perm PS	192,056
Perm PS - Benefits	72,159
Supplies	8,000
Temp PS	0
Temp PS - Benefits	0
Travel	1,000
Total	\$287,554

Description and Objectives:

The statewide volunteer program supports the achievement of quality outdoor recreation experiences and resource stewardship for present and future generations. The program provides an organized, efficient, well-guided, and cost-effective approach to managing a wide range of volunteer efforts in CPW. Cooperation and partnership between the public and private sector are enhanced and promoted through volunteer and community engagement. The promotion and cultivation of volunteerism plays a significant role in helping CPW meet its

financial needs now and in the future. Activities supported under this grant are specific to state park activities and include direct recruitment, onboarding and training, supervision and support, and recognition and retention of volunteers at state parks.

The Volunteer Program has a statewide database that provides a management platform for all volunteers serving in a wide variety of roles across Colorado.

Primary Activities:

- Recruit, train, and retain skilled volunteers for state park activities
- Screen and place volunteers for projects and roles, based on location, skills, and interests
- Orient and train volunteers
- Provide adequate equipment and materials needed to complete projects and perform responsibilities successfully
- Manage volunteers and volunteer crews
- Recognize volunteers for their time, participation, and impact, which may include recognition items (pins, mugs, lunch bags) or awards (plaques and certificates)
- Provide miscellaneous reimbursement for costs related to volunteer activities required to complete projects (e.g., parking and mileage reimbursement, postage and printing, office supplies, uniforms, etc.)
- Train agency staff on volunteer program guidelines and policies
- Provide insurance coverage for volunteer events across the state
- Advise and educate agency staff and volunteer leaders regarding overall volunteer management: recruiting, orientating, training, supervising, evaluating, and rewarding/recognizing the performance of volunteers, for the purposes of gaining and retaining a diverse and inclusive volunteer strategy to meet the needs of projects
- Represent the volunteer program in communities, and promote the program and its benefits to the general public, service groups, clubs, partnerships, and other agencies
- Identify, create, and modify processes to measure the impact of volunteer contributions to state parks, and apply these processes for reporting purposes
- Plan, design, implement, and evaluate trainings for CPW staff in areas of volunteer engagement
- Communicate and work with community partners, non-profit, and governmental volunteer programs

(CPW activity 6261, Manage Volunteers P/OR and activity 6262, Manage Volunteers Combined)

Environmental Education and Youth Programs

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 1,689,192
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,273,500

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	370,722
Perm PS	235,023
Perm PS - Benefits	92,007
Supplies	179,934
Temp PS	213,737
Temp PS - Benefits	47,769
Travel	0
To Be Determined	550,000
Total	\$1,689,192

Description and Objectives:

Environmental Education. The Environmental Education Program supports a wide variety of activities to develop environmental education resources for state parks visitors. By providing learning opportunities for visitors of all ages, CPW hopes that people will walk away with a desire to engage in outdoor experiences on their own while creating a stronger bond with, understanding of, and sense of stewardship towards the ecosystems in which we all live. The Environmental Education Program works closely with state parks to provide educational resources and support since their many venues and facilities make ideal outdoor classrooms for connecting visitors to and educating school groups about nature's wonders.

Youth Programs. Colorado Parks and Wildlife is a strong proponent of providing outdoor education programs and opportunities for all ages. This proposal expands CPW's youth outreach programs by expanding and creating new opportunities that capture the attention of Colorado's youth. In addition to these components, CPW continues to support opportunities for Boy and Girl Scout groups, 4-H clubs, and school community service organizations. CPW is uniquely positioned to introduce Colorado's youth to the outdoors, expose them to potential natural resource careers, encourage more physical activity, and educate them about outdoor issues to foster environmental and natural resource stewardship.

Colorado Youth Corps Association. CPW uses youth corps crews at state parks for a variety of resource management and trail projects. In the past, projects have included trail re-routes and new trail development; fuel mitigation and other forest management work; vegetation management activities including Russian olive and tamarisk removal; fence removal, repair, and construction; and shoreline cleanup projects. This program support thus serves a dual

role of improving conditions within the state parks while providing funding for CYCA and individual youth corps statewide. The estimated budget for CYCA in parks is \$266,000.

Youth Internship Program. The purpose of the CPW Youth Internship Program is to prepare the next generation of natural resource professionals. This program is providing training and hands-on experience for youth interested in pursuing natural resource careers. The CPW Youth Internship Program Coordinator is responsible for statewide coordination of the program and prepares extensive training for the interns and CPW staff, monitors and recommends placement of interns equitably throughout CPW, documents activities, and identifies needs of the interns and CPW throughout the year. This program has the capacity to support approximately 55-80 interns throughout both parks and wildlife purposes and solicits youth between the ages of 16-24. The estimated budget in parks is \$550,000.

Activities supported under this grant are specific to state park activities and include intern selection, direct supervision, training, intern wages, and oversight of interns. There may be instances when an intern assigned to park activities has the opportunity to work with a wildlife program. These activities will still be funded within the parks purpose, as long as the activity is primarily for the benefit of the parks purpose.

Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments. The Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE) program is designed to increase youth interest and participation in the outdoors by supporting and enhancing existing environmental education programs in Colorado schools and creating a network of sites and facilities to use as outdoor classrooms. The program has grown exponentially since its inception in 2013. There are now approximately 50 schools across the state participating in SOLE. The estimated budget for SOLE in parks is \$175,194.

Primary Activities:

- Coordinate and recruit schools for participation in the Schools in Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE);
- Establish and coordinate field trips options, in-class programs and family nature night programs with SOLE participating schools and partners;
- Coordinate and provide funding for transportation to field trip locations;
- Provide funding to SOLE participating schools to promote and/or enhance outdoor learning classrooms;
- Administer pre- and post- program surveys for reporting and program evaluation of the SOLE program.
- Present to students in a classroom or field trip settings
- Maintain and provide library materials and resource education kits for teachers;
- Respond to requests for specific interpretive information;
- Create and maintain an Internet home page about interpretive education;
- Administer pre- and post- program surveys for reporting and program evaluation
- Offer guidance and support to state parks with their Community Connections Planning, and provide funds that help sustain and grow parks' education programs by covering costs for community outreach & marketing, printing, educational resources and other supplies;

- Develop a menu of online curricula templates for state parks to select from and implement with their education programs; Host booths at community or organization events or trade shows for parks and outdoor recreation only;
- Develop and organize outdoor skills events that focus on parks and outdoor recreation;
- Develop, implement and manage outdoor education interpretive programs, survival clinics, and general orienteering;
- Provide opportunities for experiential education to youth
- Contract and program management for youth corps;
- Solicit, review and select parks and outdoor recreation related work sites for youth corps
- Establish youth corps work standards;
- Enhance/approve environmental education curriculum for use by youth corps;
- Evaluate program and recommend improvements for youth corps;
- Coordinate work projects with cost center managers for youth corps; Provide assistance, information, educational programs, and events to park visitors;
- Develop self-directed interpretation hikes and experiences, discovery packs, trail brochures and maps, and interpretive signs and exhibits;
- Educational “campfire” programs and Junior Ranger program materials and packets;
- Classroom programs conducted for children of all ages;
- Staff educational exhibits and information centers in park visitor centers;
- Coordination and resources for volunteer naturalists providing programs for visitors;
- Write newspaper columns, park newsletters, plant identification booklets, web page updates, and hunting and fishing information packets;
- Support “kids and families outdoors” initiatives and events.
- Participate in local events that promote State Park recreation activities;
- Providing career booths at large venues (e.g., the International Sportsmen’s Expo, Future Farmers of America events, Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences and the Colorado State Fair); Sponsor Natural Resource Law Enforcement Career Fairs;
- Respond to inquiries related to state parks and outdoor recreation careers.
- Day to day oversight of interns assigned to state parks activities
- Training the enhance the knowledge and skills towards conserving, protecting, and promoting future stewardship of natural resources in state parks
- Develop and coordinate projects for interns related to state park activities
- Provide reimbursement for costs related to interns assigned to state park projects
- Provide adequate equipment and materials needed to complete projects and duties as required
- Attend college career fairs and job fairs throughout the state;
- Expand career services and professional contacts with these institutions;
- Provide regions with displays, photos and recruitment materials;
- Participate in events statewide, that promote and encourage Natural Resource careers;
- Providing career booths at large venues (e.g., the International Sportsmen’s Expo, Future Farmers of America events, Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences and the Colorado State Fair); Sponsor Natural Resource Law Enforcement Career Fairs;
- Expand CPW’s career page;

- Developing working relationships with community groups who share the same goal of increasing diversity in natural resource agencies;
- Develop and update career fair materials;
- Respond to inquiries statewide
- Provide statewide training to enhance the knowledge and skills towards conserving, protecting, and promoting future stewardship of natural resources
- Provide reimbursement for costs related to the overall management of the CPW internship program
- Solicit and evaluate intern qualifications to build and retain interns for the CPW youth internship program
- Identify, create, and modify processes to quantify and tabulate the impact of the youth internship program and apply these processes throughout the program
- Prepare reports that evaluate the progress of the internship program
- Plan, design, implement, and evaluate trainings for CPW staff regarding the process and execution of the CPW internship program

(CPW activity 6120, Schools Outdoor Learning Environments; activity 6132, Support Education Programs in Schools P/OR; activity 6135, Public Education and Outreach P/OR; activity 6221, Encourage Natural Resource Careers P/OR; and activity 6222, Encourage Natural Resource Careers combined)

Outdoor Recreation: Trails and River Greenways

Recreational trails are one of the most popular outdoor recreation amenities in Colorado. The 2019 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) identifies a very high level of demand for trail maintenance and development funding across all regions of the state. CPW aligns these activities with various strategic goals and objectives.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Improve the state's natural and recreational resources.
- Build parks and trails that connect people with the outdoors and its many benefits.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal VI: Connect people to Colorado's outdoors.
 - Objective A: Broaden the access and variety of recreation opportunities available to Coloradans and visitors.
 - Objective B: Provide facilities, infrastructure, and access to support opportunities for premier outdoor recreation experiences.

Trails and River Greenways	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
State Trails Program	\$370,935
Trails Grant Program	1,000,000
Trails in State Parks Program	500,000
Total:	\$1,870,935

State Trails Program

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 528,784
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 370,935

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	115,018
Perm PS	232,489
Perm PS - Benefits	92,763
Supplies	12,946
Temp PS	55,510
Temp PS - Benefits	20,058
Travel	0
Total	\$528,784

Description and Objectives:

The State Trails Program was established through the authority of the Recreational Trails System Act of 1971. The program's primary goal is to provide funds for recreational trails throughout the state. Trail use continues to be by far the most popular outdoor recreation activity in Colorado.

A variety of project sponsors are eligible to receive Trails Program capital funding, including towns, cities, counties, school districts, nonprofit groups, state and federal land-management agencies. Project sponsors are matched to appropriate funding sources to ensure compliance with federal, state, and GOCO eligibility requirements. CPW awards grants for trail planning, maintenance, construction, special projects, and trail equipment.

CPW provides technical assistance to communities, other agencies, land managers, and organizations devoted to trails, conservation, and open space. This assistance includes help with planning, coordination with other agencies, trail volunteers, organization building, funding and other resources, land development regulations, and trail maintenance and management. CPW acts as a clearinghouse for trails information in Colorado and must stay apprised of trail development projects and processes across the country. The grant sponsors workshops and conferences to bring trail advocates, community planners, and agency representatives together to learn new techniques and discuss trails issues. CPW staff also provides assistance in planning, publicity, and programs for regional workshops and statewide conferences.

Primary Activities:

- Administer sub-grant programs for trail planning, development, and maintenance projects
- Develop and maintain recreational trail and signing standards for Colorado, coordinate the development of these standards with federal land managers
- Promote, support, and work with volunteer organizations involved with recreation trails throughout Colorado
- Construct, repair, maintain, and renovate recreational trails
- Promote the development of regional trail connections throughout Colorado
-

(CPW activity 5363, Recreational Trails Management)

Trails Grant Program

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 4,938,015
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,000,000 (capital)

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Budget
Trails Grant - Capital	\$4,938,015
Total	\$4,938,015

Description and Objectives:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife will award this funding to trail management entities across Colorado for the construction of new trails, maintenance of existing trails, and planning for new trail development. Grant funds are awarded each year for individual grants selected by the State Trails Committee. This program has one grant cycle annually, with the recreation trails grant applications due each October.

Each project receives a composite score derived from an average of the scores awarded by peer reviewers, GOCO staff, and CPW staff.

Project rankings and summary descriptions are provided to the State Trails Committee. This committee and CPW staff consider reviewer evaluations, with a focus on the relative merits and overall qualities of projects, from a statewide perspective. The State Trails Committee presents its funding recommendations to the Parks and Wildlife Commission, who consider the recommendations and make the final decisions on grant awards.

CPW supports a wide variety of trail development and planning projects; these projects vary in scope from relatively short natural surface trails to longer concrete trails that require significant engineering and other technical expertise. Because of this variation, costs can vary significantly from project to project, and CPW cannot estimate with certainty how many total projects will be supported with this GOCO funding. Based on experience from previous trail grant cycles, CPW estimates that between 8-12 individual projects will be funded.

Trails in State Parks

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 1,000,000
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 500,000 (capital)

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Budget
Trails in State Parks	\$1,000,000
Total	\$1,000,000

Description and Objectives:

Colorado's state parks contain more than 700 miles of trails, many of which accommodate multiple uses including hiking, biking, and equestrian use. There are still many opportunities for new trails within the 225,000 acres that comprise the land base of the overall CPW State Parks system. Beginning in 2016, CPW and partners launched a multi-year *Trails Strategic Plan* with the goal of maintaining the existing trail opportunities in our parks and constructing high priority trail segments that will serve the ever-increasing demand for new trail opportunities.

CPW staff continue to incorporate changes into GIS regarding existing and new trails within the parks, including an assessment of their condition as well as identifying possible locations for new trails. CPW has completed a comprehensive effort to accurately map all designated trails in every state park that features trails maintained for public access and use. The interactive format enables a person to track and determine their exact location on any of the trails mapped using a smart phone or tablet with GPS capabilities.

CPW leadership will prioritize the trail maintenance and development projects that will be supported during FY 2022-23. Upon approval, CPW will share this information with GOCO staff as part of the Trails in State Parks program.

Outdoor Recreation: Water for Recreational Purposes

CPW uses GOCO funding to support water conservation, leasing, purchasing, and constructing water storage for outdoor recreation to ensure that CPW state parks and other properties are managed sustainably for the long-term benefit of Colorado citizens and visitors. CPW aligns these activities with various strategic goals and objectives.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Protect priority landscapes, waterways, and habitats across the state.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal I: Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems.
 - Objective D: Protect and enhance water resources for fish and wildlife populations.
- Goal II: Manage state parks for world-class outdoor recreation.
 - Objective B: Explore fiscally sound real estate opportunities for new and expanded state parks.

Water for Recreational Purpose	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Water Program	\$150,000
Water Acquisitions and Leases	300,000
Total:	\$450,000

Water Program

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 153,251
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 150,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	1,500
Other	4,400
Perm PS	103,246
Perm PS - Benefits	37,405
Supplies	4,700
Temp PS	0
Temp PS - Benefits	0
Travel	2,000
Total	\$153,251

Description and Objectives:

The CPW Water Program manages the agency's various water resources activities including assessing and adjudicating water rights, developing stream and reservoir operations, and developing and protecting groundwater assets. This grant allows CPW to provide technical, legal, and water policy expertise necessary to protect and expand CPW's interests in all aspects of water resources management; the Attorney General's office provides additional legal assistance. Management of the program also includes supervising CPW's water court actions, management of groundwater and well permitting, assessing water markets to acquire water for individual parks when necessary, and coordinating with federal, state, and local user groups to maximize the state's water supplies for recreational benefits.

GOCO funds enable CPW to secure water supplies for a variety of state parks that experience inadequate water for drinking and sanitary, landscape irrigation, and recreational uses. This is accomplished in a number of ways, including water purchases and leases, innovative cooperative water management plans with larger water providers, and leasing, purchasing, or constructing water storage in reservoirs to store water for later uses.

Primary Activities:

- Maintain records of all transactions of real property in systematic, legally defensible, and readily retrievable fashion
- Administer appraisals of water rights
- Research, defend, maintain, file for, change, or acquire water rights
- Attend water court hearings, respond to user's actions, and draft water court applications
- Maintain records of water use in state parks
- Monitor minimum or conservation pools in reservoirs where the state has an interest

- Participate in multi-agency water management dialogues to ensure water needs for parks and outdoor recreation are addressed
- Manage water rights and engineering analysis of water
- Perform due diligence and other legal work to secure water
- Coordinate and negotiate appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures for federally permitted water projects with other cooperating agencies and ensure compliance with NEPA and other federal permitting guidelines and timetables as well as timeliness, adequacy, compliance of all mitigation obligations necessary to meet federal requirements
- Purchase or maintenance of specialized equipment needed to manage water obligations

(CPW activity 1351, Secure and Manage Water P/OR)

Water Acquisitions and Leases

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 600,000
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 300,000 (capital)

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Other	\$600,000
Total	\$600,000

Description and Objectives:

The Water Acquisitions and Leases Program was established in 1984 to provide a means to protect water levels at Cherry Creek Reservoir. Since then, the program has grown to include water management plans for 41 parks in Colorado. Approximately 75 percent of the parks have either reservoirs or rivers as a key resource base to serve state park customers, making maintenance of water levels or sufficient stream flows for recreational purposes a high priority for CPW. The most visited parks in our system are parks that offer water-based recreational opportunities; there is a direct correlation between adequate water resources at the park and visitation/revenue levels.

This funding supports ongoing efforts by CPW to secure water for certain parks that experience water shortages or inadequate water levels related to recreational needs. Because of the wide array of water needs within CPW, CPW acquires water through a number of mechanisms, including conventional water purchases, less conventional water options and leases, innovative cooperative agreements with water users, and leasing or purchasing storage space in reservoirs to store the acquired water for later uses.

The water environment in which Colorado state parks operate changes continuously, both with regards to the specific water situation within the parks and the availability of water (for purchase or lease) in watersheds statewide. One common use of this funding in recent years has been leases to supplement/augment water levels at St. Vrain State Park, Cherry Creek, Chatfield, John Martin, Arkansas Headwaters and other parks. In most cases, these are ongoing multi-year leases.

Other potential uses of this funding include:

- Storage space (up to 50 acre-feet) at Lininger Lake owned and operated by Kenosha Trout Club. CPW will store the water associated with its interests in certain water rights in the North Fork of the South Platte River basin in Lininger Lake for later use in Cherry Creek Reservoir and/or in Staunton State Park.
- Lease of reusable water, in varied amounts from the City of Aurora and other entities to replenish water levels in Cherry Creek Reservoir.
- Lease of water (various amounts as it becomes available) from various entities, including the cities of Pueblo, Salida, Town of Ordway, and Colorado Springs, to supplement water levels in Pueblo and John Martin Reservoirs.
- Lease of various amounts of water from various entities as well as lease of storage space, including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to store water to supplement the Arkansas River streamflow through Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area.

Primary Activities:

- Maintain records of all transactions of real property in systematic, legally defensible and readily retrievable fashion
- Administer appraisals of water rights
- Research, defend, maintain, file for, change or acquire water rights
- Attend water court hearings, respond to user's actions, and draft water court applications
- Maintain records of water use on parks
- Monitor minimum or conservation pools in reservoirs where the state has an interest
- Participate in multi-agency water management dialogues to ensure water needs for parks and outdoor recreation are addressed
- Manage water rights and engineering analysis of water
- Perform due diligence and other legal work to secure water
- Coordinate and negotiate appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures for federally permitted water projects with other cooperating agencies and ensure compliance with NEPA and other federal permitting guidelines and timetables as well as timeliness, adequacy, compliance of all mitigation obligations necessary to meet federal requirements.
- Purchase or maintenance of specialized equipment needed to manage water obligations

(CPW activity 1351, Secure and Manage Water P/OR)

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Fiscal Year 2022-23
Great Outdoors Colorado Investment Plan
Wildlife Funds
Summary Table #1: Comparison of GOCO Funds
FY 2021-22 to FY 2022-23

	FY 2021-22			FY 2022-23		
	Capital	Program Operating	Total	Capital	Program Operating	Total
INVESTMENT REQUEST						
Habitat Management						
Acquire High Priority Habitat	-	693,000	693,000	1,223,088	693,000	1,916,088
Enhance Habitat on Lands and Water	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Wetlands Conservation	1,100,000	-	1,100,000	1,100,000	-	1,100,000
GIS Habitat Information	-	475,000	475,000	-	475,000	475,000
Wildlife Small Capital	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	-	-	-
Director's Innovation Fund	-	75,000	75,000	-	75,000	75,000
Subtotal	3,100,000	2,243,000	5,343,000	2,323,088	2,243,000	4,566,088
Wildlife Heritage						
Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery	-	610,000	610,000	-	610,000	610,000
Native Species Protection	-	4,439,423	4,439,423	-	4,480,000	4,480,000
Propagation of Aquatic Species at Risk	-	575,000	575,000	-	575,000	575,000
Subtotal	-	5,624,423	5,624,423	-	5,665,000	5,665,000
Wildlife Education and Environment						
Education and Volunteer Programs	-	400,183	400,183	-	400,183	400,183
Youth Programs	-	1,021,317	1,021,317	-	1,021,317	1,021,317
Angler Education	-	161,000	161,000	-	161,000	161,000
Website Redesign	1,300,000	-	1,300,000	-	-	-
Subtotal	1,300,000	1,582,500	2,882,500	-	1,582,500	1,582,500
Wildlife Viewing						
Wildlife Viewing	-	150,000	150,000	-	150,000	150,000
GRAND TOTAL	4,400,000	9,599,923	13,999,923	2,323,088	9,640,500	11,963,588

*Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Fiscal Year 2022-23
Great Outdoors Colorado Investment Plan
Table 2: Comparative Summary of Program Costs
FY 2021-22 to FY 2022-23*

Wildlife Grant Name		FY 21-22 Request			FY 22-23 Request		
		GOCO	CPW	Total	GOCO	CPW	Total
Habitat Management							
	Acquire High Priority Habitat	693,000	11,496,400	12,189,400	1,916,088	10,315,343	12,231,431
	Enhance Habitat on Lands and Waters	1,000,000	1,363,275	2,363,275	1,000,000	1,054,746	2,054,746
	Wetlands Conservation	1,100,000	1,127,034	2,227,034	1,100,000	940,949	2,040,949
	GIS Habitat Information	475,000	481,712	956,712	475,000	553,367	1,028,367
	Wildlife Small Capital	2,000,000	3,000,000	5,000,000	-	-	-
	Director's Innovation Fund	75,000	-	75,000	75,000	-	75,000
Subtotal:		5,343,000	17,468,421	22,811,421	4,566,088	12,864,405	17,430,493
Wildlife Heritage							
	Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery	610,000	253,246	863,246	610,000	343,464	953,464
	Native Species Protection	4,439,423	834,928	5,274,351	4,480,000	1,689,630	6,169,630
	Propagation of Aquatic Species at Risk	575,000	908,681	1,483,681	575,000	914,929	1,489,929
	Subtotal:	5,624,423	1,996,855	7,621,278	5,665,000	2,948,023	8,613,023
Wildlife Education and Environment							
	Education and Volunteer Programs	400,183	151,434	551,617	400,183	84,355	484,538
	Youth Programs	1,021,317	377,072	1,398,389	1,021,317	839,181	1,860,498
	Angler Education	161,000	192,917	353,917	161,000	247,133	408,133
	Website Redesign	1,300,000	-	1,300,000	-	-	-
	Subtotal:	2,882,500	721,423	3,603,923	1,582,500	1,170,669	2,753,169
Wildlife Viewing							
	Wildlife Viewing	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	119,180	269,180
	Subtotal:	150,000	-	150,000	150,000	119,180	269,180
Grand Total:		13,999,923	20,186,699	34,186,622	11,963,588	17,102,277	29,065,865

Budget figures in the "CPW" column represent an estimate of the CPW contribution for projects where there is also GOCO funding, and are shown for informational purposes only.

Wildlife: Habitat Management

Colorado Parks and Wildlife continues to demonstrate leadership in habitat protection and natural resource stewardship not only within our state parks and wildlife areas, but also in concert with our private landowner and public land management partners. These efforts will better protect and enhance Colorado's natural values while also providing a wide range of sustainable recreational opportunities. CPW aligns these objectives with the GOCO strategic goals.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Safeguard essential wildlife habitat.
- Invest in significant habitat restoration and stewardship efforts across the state to meet an increasing demand on wildlife resources.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal I: Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems.
 - Objective B: Preserve and enhance diverse habitat.

Activities funded under the Habitat Management section allow CPW to identify and map important wildlife habitat areas across the state; delineate priority habitat protection areas; implement habitat protection and enhancement efforts built on partnerships with landowners, land trusts, and conservation organizations; support monitoring and management of new and existing properties and easements; and protect wetland resources across the state.

Successful habitat management efforts may prevent the listing of species under the federal Endangered Species Act through the protection of important habitats. Migration corridors and winter range are maintained, providing support that is crucial to the health of Colorado's big game resources. Migratory birds and waterfowl benefit from protection and enhancement of wetland areas. Public angling access to mountain streams and rivers is provided. Wildlife viewers have expanded opportunities to enjoy Colorado's abundant wildlife resources. Additionally, more accurate and detailed habitat and land mapping leads to better-informed land use decisions, more effective species recovery plans, and easier public access to public lands.

Habitat Management	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Acquire High Priority Habitat	\$1,916,088
Enhance Habitat on Lands and Water	1,000,000
Wetlands Conservation	1,100,000
GIS Habitat Information	475,000
Director's Innovation Fund	75,000
Total:	\$4,566,088

Acquire High Priority Habitat

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 12,231,431

FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,916,088

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Land Acquisition	\$11,000,000
Contractual	0
Equipment	2,000
Other	749,500
Perm PS	352,388
Perm PS - Benefits	127,543
Supplies	0
Temp PS	0
Temp PS - Benefits	0
Travel	0
Total	\$12,231,431

Description and Objectives:

The loss of important wildlife habitat is a primary cause for the decline of many wildlife species and outdoor recreational opportunities in Colorado. As ranches and natural areas are developed or converted to new uses, wildlife habitat can become degraded, destroyed, and fragmented. Habitat conversion and loss also reduces opportunities for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing.

Since 2002, joint initiatives between CPW and GOCO have protected more than 300,000 acres of wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities across the state. Priorities for this initiative will be guided by Colorado's Wildlife Action Plan, CPW's 2015 Strategic Plan, and the requirements of specific funding sources.

Program priorities during FY 2022-23 include:

1. Acquisition of conservation easements, fee title, and permanent easements for habitat protection and public access to provide opportunities for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing.
2. Review and rank real estate proposals received in response to a Request for Proposals. Historically, CPW receives between 50-90 proposals in response to the RFP. Conservation easements will be the preferred option in acquisitions. However, CPW will consider fee title acquisitions for properties that are interior or adjacent to SWAs, to provide a more manageable boundary or improved public access, or to enhance management of habitat and wildlife-related recreation.
3. Closing on real estate acquisitions negotiated in response to previous years' RFPs, protecting wildlife habitat.

Primary Activities:

- Acquire and dispose of legal interests in real property (lands)
- Gather information on and evaluate potential acquisition candidates
- Contact and negotiate with prospective sellers
- Work with counties and local governments on proposed acquisitions
- Work with Capital Development Committee and members of the General Assembly on proposed acquisitions
- Administer appraisals and boundary surveys
- File real estate actions
- Develop guidelines and criteria for property management agreements (which are central to landowner incentive programs)
- Negotiate with and enroll landowners in landowner incentive programs
- Participation in multi-agency partnerships to improve wildlife habitat

(CPW activity 1320, Acquire Land and Habitat H/F/W)

Enhance Habitat on Lands and Water

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 2,054,746
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,000,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$26,000
Equipment	22,260
Other	559,921
Perm PS	967,579
Perm PS - Benefits	384,508
Supplies	17,497
Temp PS	42,484
Temp PS - Benefits	9,497
Travel	25,000
Total	\$2,054,746

Description and Objectives:

This program includes habitat conservation on private and public lands. Wildlife habitats on private and public lands are vital to the maintenance and enhancement of wildlife species in Colorado. More than 60 percent of the land in Colorado is held in private ownership; in eastern Colorado more than 80 percent is privately owned. The conversion of wildlife habitat through urbanization and other uses continues to be a major threat to native wildlife species.

Land Program. CPW's land program initiates, coordinates, negotiates, and implements conservation, research, and habitat projects for priority game and at-risk species, including prairie grassland species. The program draws on resources from private conservation, hunters and anglers, and agricultural organizations, along with major support from Farm Bill conservation. This program delivered more than \$3.5 million for wildlife habitat projects and leveraged program funds nearly 12:1 to enhance wildlife on private lands through the conservation title of the Farm Bill by educating private landowners on funding availability and eligibility requirements.

Primary Activities:

- Coordinate, initiate, plan, and implement cooperative habitat projects on public lands
- Consult with BLM, USFS, and other public land management agencies on habitat improvement projects
- Develop MOUs dealing with cooperative projects for habitat manipulation and improvement
- Contact and work with landowners, assist landowners in analyzing feasibility of projects on their property
- Advise landowners of cooperative programs and various federal cost-share programs
- Provide funding for projects

- Provide input on specifications of grassland restoration methods used in other government programs
- Research and develop management plans for such grassland-dependent species as black-tailed prairie dog, mountain plover, western burrowing owl, swift fox, and ferruginous hawk
- Implement management plans through individual management agreements and acquisitions as outlined in species specific activities

Water Resources Program. The Water Resources Unit (WRU) is responsible for both water quality management and water quantity management (including managing, developing, and protecting the agency's water rights portfolio). The WRU coordinates efforts between CPW and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) regarding in-stream flow protection and has similar coordinating roles with the water quality protection divisions within the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE). WRU staff also work with a wide variety of state, federal, and private sector interests on the issues of drought response and climate change.

Primary Activities:

- Maintain records of all transactions of real property in systematic, legally defensible, and readily retrievable fashion
- Administer appraisals of water rights
- Research, defend, maintain, file for, change, or acquire water rights
- Attend water court hearings, respond to user's actions, and draft water court applications
- Maintain records of water use on SWA's and hatcheries
- Monitor minimum or conservation pools in reservoirs where the state has an interest
- Develop, administer, and implement the In-stream Flow Program, including making recommendations to the CWCB, assisting CWCB staff with aquatic ecological expertise, and testifying before the CWCB
- Development of water storage and water recharge structures and mechanisms on the South Platte River as part of the Tri-State Agreement (Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska)
- Participate in multi-agency water management dialogues to ensure water needs for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife are addressed
- Coordinate and negotiate appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures for federally permitted water projects with other cooperating agencies and ensure compliance with NEPA and other federal permitting guidelines and timetables as well as timeliness, adequacy, compliance of all mitigation obligations necessary to meet federal requirements
- Purchase or maintenance of specialized equipment needed to manage water obligations

River Watch. The River Watch program started in 1989 with six schools collecting water samples along the Yampa River. It has grown to nearly 140 participating organizations (primarily middle and high schools, but also citizen groups, nature centers, youth programs, and individuals) covering every watershed in the state. River Watch volunteers collect water samples monthly for analysis at CPW laboratories. Water quality data collected through the

River Watch program is the most prevalent in the state when measured by stations maintained, samples analyzed, and number of stream segments with data. River Watch sampling also provides valuable input for water quality decisions by the CDPHE.

Primary Activities:

- Develop and recommend water quality standards
- Review and respond to standard changes proposed by other entities
- Provide data and technical input to CDPHE for the sound scientific development of standard setting methodologies
- Monitor hatchery and other point source discharges
- Collect and analyze water quality samples, including those collected through the Rivers of Colorado Water Watch (River Watch) programs in schools and by volunteer organizations
- Analyze and incorporate water quality data into aquatic ecosystem modeling
- Fulfill interagency requests for water quality information

(CPW activity 1350, Secure Water H/F/W; activity 1360, Monitor and Improve Water Quality; activity 1370, Enhance Public Land Habitat; activity 1380, Enhance Private Land Habitat; and activity 1438, Prairie Grassland Conservation)

Wetlands Conservation

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 2,040,949
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,100,000 (capital)

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Capital (Grant Program)	\$1,500,000
Contractual	18,000
Equipment	0
Other	11,000
Perm PS	318,926
Perm PS - Benefits	105,530
Supplies	17,250
Temp PS	53,733
Temp PS - Benefits	12,010
Travel	4,500
Total	\$2,040,949

Description and Objectives:

The CPW Wetlands Program's main objective is to conserve wetland and riparian habitats and their ecological functions by planning and delivering conservation actions on a landscape scale. Through these coordinated efforts, CPW and its partners will ensure that Colorado's wetland and riparian habitat is sufficient to support self-sustaining populations of desired

wildlife species. Wetlands and riparian areas make up less than two percent of Colorado's land but provide benefits to more than 75 percent of the species in the state.

Major goals of the program are to improve the status of declining or at-risk species and to improve the abundance and distribution of ducks and opportunities for waterfowl hunting. The program funds wetland enhancement and restoration projects, conducts strategic planning to prioritize habitat conservation investments, facilitates partnerships, supports local Focus Area Committees, conducts education and outreach on wetlands conservation, and monitors and evaluates wetland projects. In cooperation with partner organizations and landowners, the Wetlands Program has protected, restored, or enhanced more than 300,000 acres of wetlands and adjacent habitats.

In FY 2022-23, CPW will emphasize larger-scale wetland and riparian restoration and enhancement projects on state wildlife areas and state parks to maximize project benefits to priority wildlife species. CPW will also work to increase partnerships with other land management agencies such as the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and others to expand the scale of wetland and riparian conservation projects on other public lands that are open to public access.

Primary Activities:

- Provide project-related expertise, which includes ecology, species biology, and water rights
- Conduct project monitoring and evaluation
- Funding of wetland creation, enhancement, and restoration projects

(CPW activity 1436, Wetlands Conservation)

GIS Habitat Information

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 1,028,367
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 475,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	16,092
Other	167,500
Perm PS	600,987
Perm PS - Benefits	233,788
Supplies	0
Temp PS	0
Temp PS - Benefits	0
Travel	10,000
Total	\$1,028,367

Description and Objectives:

The Geographic Information System (GIS) unit compiles wildlife data into formats that are more useable by wildlife researchers and biologists and are more understandable by the public. GIS documents and analyses have been particularly important to CPW biologists assessing the impact of energy development across Colorado. Other GIS products have facilitated public access to state wildlife areas and supported CPW land use.

Primary Activities:

- Provide data, data modeling, analysis, mapping, and other GIS services for the CPW
- Maintain the existing data sets due to changes that occur over time
- Add new data on wildlife habitats, populations, natural resources, trails, and facilities
- Support CPW personnel in working with county land use planners to understand the impacts of proposed developments on wildlife and provide information for informed public participation in land use decisions as they relate to wildlife
- Generate interactive maps on demand to the public especially through CPW's Internet site

(CPW activity 8240, GIS H/F/W)

Director's Innovation Fund (Wildlife)

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 75,000
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 75,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
To be determined	\$75,000
Total	\$75,000

(Please note that CPW will not know the categorization of these expenses until the final list of projects are selected.)

Description and Objectives:

The CPW Director's Innovation Fund allows CPW staff to apply for funding for unique, one-time projects and programs that would not otherwise be funded through the annual investment proposal or other funding channels within the agency. This program started in December 2016 and has helped to identify several creative ideas that continue to provide benefit or have been adopted more widely. This request represents the wildlife purpose portion of the total requested grant.

Primary Activities:

Activities will vary depending on the projects selected for awards by the CPW Director and the selection committee.

Wildlife: Wildlife Heritage

CPW uses GOCO funding to minimize the need for federal listings under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This requires CPW to utilize the best science, employ models for efficient and effective resource planning, and conduct sound research to adequately protect and conserve Colorado's fish and wildlife populations.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Conserving land and protecting rivers for people and wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal I: Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems.
 - Objective C: Manage and monitor species of greatest conservation need while working with partners to maintain viable populations.
 - Objective E: Conduct research and monitoring to inform management decisions.
- Goal V: Increase awareness and trust for CPW.
 - Objective C: Increase public awareness about the importance of wildlife management.
- Goal VI: Connect people to the Colorado's outdoors.
 - Objective D: Promote the value of CPW's mission and services to expand awareness, grow CPW's volunteer network, and inspire stewardship

Colorado is home to more than 900 wildlife species. The Colorado Wildlife Action Plan identified 210 of those species as being in "Greatest Conservation Need." Activities funded under the three species protection grants allow CPW to monitor a wide range of wildlife populations in the state, assess population trends, determine distribution patterns, identify limiting factors, develop conservation or recovery plans, and work with other state, federal and local agencies, and private landowners on implementing recovery plans. Deliverables listed in these sections can be driven by decisions determined through federal sources and can include multi-year data collection, survey of species and habitats, and monitoring to validate findings over a multi-year period.

Programs and projects in support of species conservation are vital to Colorado's efforts to avert threatened or endangered listings under the federal Endangered Species Act. Success in meeting recovery plan goals or in proactive actions on declining species are crucial to retain wildlife management authority at the state level, allowing water projects to move forward, and preventing costly and burdensome federal actions.

Wildlife Heritage	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery	\$610,000
Native Species Protection	4,480,000
Propagation of Aquatic Species At Risk	575,000
Total:	\$5,665,000

Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 953,464
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 610,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	55,000
Equipment	10,600
Other	9,600
Perm PS	428,498
Perm PS - Benefits	178,677
Supplies	105,799
Temp PS	131,418
Temp PS - Benefits	29,372
Travel	4,500
Total	\$953,464

Description and Objectives:

The main goal of the activities performed within this program is to re-establish and secure self-sustaining populations to prevent or remove the need to list as federally threatened or endangered and to support the de-listing of species within Colorado. Activities include species reintroductions/translocations, habitat enhancement and protection, research on factors affecting demographic parameters and habitat selection, mitigation of impacts to species and their habitats, and other activities as required to reach program goals. These activities are conducted by CPW and in partnership with federal land and wildlife management agencies, state and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners.

In this FY 2022-23 investment proposal, CPW is requesting funding consistent with the prior year, which includes 110,000 for black-footed ferret activities, including the continuation of a landowner incentive project.

Listed below are potential species that will benefit from these activities throughout the year. However, any species may be added or deleted from the research and evaluation activities, contingent upon federal listing or delisting throughout the year:

- Black-footed Ferret
- Canada Lynx
- Piping Plover
- Greenback Cutthroat Trout
- Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse
- New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse
- Colorado River Threatened and Endangered Fish
- Southwestern Willow Flycatcher
- Mexican Spotted Owl

- Gunnison Sage-grouse
- Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Primary Activities:

- Provide survey results and other data to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in response to requests for data as part of the ESA species assessment and listing process
- Identify, secure, and enhance habitat that meets the species' requirements
- Develop and implement recovery plans for species that are listed or candidates for listing under the ESA
- Reclaim streams, monitor, and research stream flows
- Stock, transplant, establish, and monitor the health, breeding, and migration patterns of populations to provide early detection of potential problems within a species
- Initiate cooperative agreements with private landowners regarding prevention of non-native species introductions
- Provide nesting alternatives as required by species
- Conduct research and monitor populations and productivity among reintroduced species
- Review and conduct statewide habitat assessments
- Construct fish passage structures
- Conduct multi-year surveys and monitor populations and habitats of species that are listed or candidates for listing under the ESA
- Update and analyze data and findings for incorporation into reports and studies that detail activities performed and how the results impact the species. This research information will be vital for decisions made by federal and state agencies in the determination to list or de-list a species
- Conduct extensive baseline surveys to determine occurrence, distribution, and relative abundance of species
- Protect and manage habitats of species that are listed or candidates for listing under the ESA and conduct research to improve knowledge of their species-habitat relationships
- Other activities as listed in the CPW Activity Dictionary for the activity codes listed below

(CPW activity 1662, Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse; activity 1670, Lynx Conservation; activity 1659, Gunnison Sage-grouse Conservation; activity 1810, Gray Wolf Management; activity 1815, Greenback Cutthroat Trout Recovery; activity 1820, Upper Colorado River Fish; activity 1830, SW Willow Flycatcher Recovery; activity 1842, Piping Plover; activity 1850, activity 1870, Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery; activity 1880, Black-footed Ferret Recovery)

Native Species Protection

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 6,169,630
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 4,480,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$288,632
Equipment	25,160
Other	474,568
Perm PS	2,484,828
Perm PS - Benefits	990,896
Supplies	848,394
Temp PS	774,521
Temp PS - Benefits	173,110
Travel	109,521
Total	\$6,169,630

Description and Objectives:

The activities performed within the program support the protection, restoration, and enhancement of self-sustaining native species populations in Colorado. Activities conducted to benefit species may include, but are not limited to, conducting surveys and monitoring to determine status of species, developing conservation or recovery plans, monitoring populations for potential diseases, and investigating reproductive success and survival of individuals. These activities are conducted by CPW and in partnership with federal land and wildlife management agencies, state and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners.

In this FY 2022-23 investment proposal, CPW is requesting funding consistent with the prior year. This funding will support a number of different projects and species. CPW will expand the management of cutthroat trout populations; improve habitat for the lesser prairie chicken; and implement additional bat monitoring activities. CPW will also initiate an ongoing program to help prevent prairie dog colonies from “plaguing out” - essentially being wiped out by disease. Supporting prairie dog populations also supports species that rely heavily or entirely on prairie dogs for food, including the black-footed ferret.

Listed below are potential species that will benefit from these activities throughout the year. However, other native species may be added to the research and evaluation activities throughout the year:

- River Otter
- Gunnison’s Prairie Dog
- Boreal Toad
- Mountain Plover
- Black-tailed Prairie Dog
- White-tailed Prairie Dog
- Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse

- Plains Sharp-tailed Grouse
- Greater Sage-grouse
- Bats
- White-tailed Ptarmigan
- Colorado River Cutthroat Trout
- Native Fish within Colorado's tributaries
- Lesser Prairie Chicken
- Brown-capped Rosy Finch
- Burrowing Owl

Primary activities include:

- Develop and implement recovery and conservation management plans and goals within CPW and external conservation stakeholders
- Implement and update the Colorado Wildlife Action Plan to address declining wildlife species recovery and conservation objectives
- Develop and implement basin management plans
- Propagate and augment depleted species stock
- Develop and implement inventory protocols to be used throughout the state
- Conduct extensive baseline surveys to determine occurrence, distribution, and relative abundance of species
- Facilitate design and implementation of a long-term monitoring and evaluation system that measures population trends
- Survey historic and potential suitable habitats for new population introduction
- Monitor breeding populations annually
- Identify and evaluate limiting factors to species survival
- Research to better define suitable habitat and overall biology and ecology of species
- Develop and test techniques and protocols for captive breeding and rearing of species
- Experimental reintroduction of species to vacant historic habitat
- Increase public awareness of the efforts utilized to sustain native species populations
- Translocation of species
- Protect species and their habitat via coordination with land management agencies
- Work with local land use planners and developers to avoid or minimize potential impacts of private land development on species and their habitat
- Develop and finalize recovery goals and criteria
- Resolve genetic questions for broodstock development and stocking
- Conduct research into population dynamics and population genetics
- Protect and reclaim suitable river and stream habitats
- Evaluate stocking into new habitats
- Habitat restoration through riparian, stream channel, water quality, and hydrological considerations
- Monitor health of wild populations
- Other activities as listed in the CPW Activity Dictionary for the activity codes listed below

(CPW activity 1560, Inventory Native Terrestrial Species; activity 1638, Species Conservation Planning and Coordination; activity 1641, Reptile and Amphibian Conservation; activity 1642, Mollusks and Crustaceans Conservation; activity 1643, Boreal Toad Conservation; activity

1644, Eastern Plains Fish Recovery; activity 1645, Colorado River Native Species Conservation; activity 1646, Arkansas River Native Species Conservation; activity 1647, South Platte River Species Conservation; Activity 1648, Rio Grande River Species Conservation; activity 1649, Republican River Species Conservation; activity 1650, Black-tailed Prairie Dog; activity 1651, Gunnison Prairie Dog; activity 1652, White-tailed Prairie Dog; activity 1656, Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse; activity 1657, Plains Sharp-tailed Grouse; activity 1658, Lesser Prairie Chicken; activity 1663, Terrestrial SSC/SAR Conservation; activity 1664, Wolverine Conservation; activity 1665, Mountain Plover Conservation; activity 1666, River Otter Conservation; activity 1680, Bird Conservation; activity 1686, Small Mammal Conservation)

Propagation of Aquatic Species at Risk

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 1,489,929
 FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 575,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	14,300
Other	166,360
Perm PS	720,368
Perm PS - Benefits	294,597
Supplies	177,238
Temp PS	93,474
Temp PS - Benefits	20,892
Travel	2,700
Total	\$1,489,929

Description and Objectives:

The prime purpose of the Native Aquatic Species Propagation Program is to collect eggs, produce and rear progeny, and stock a wide array of native aquatic species every year. These efforts are crucial to allow CPW to maintain and enhance existing species populations, reintroduce them in new areas where suitable habitat exists, prevent listings under the ESA, and meet recovery goal objectives.

Primary Activities:

- Obtain genetically appropriate brood stocks
- Captive rearing to obtain viable numbers for population re-establishment
- Stock species into suitable habitats to re-establish viable, sustainable wild populations
- Operation and maintenance of Native Aquatic Species Rearing Facility
- Includes work at other state fish hatcheries involved in the rearing of state and federal listed and SSC/SAR native aquatic species

(CPW activity 1570, Produce and Distribute Native Aquatic Species of Special Concern)

Wildlife: Wildlife Education and Environment

The wildlife education and environment grants support outreach to Colorado citizens to educate, expand volunteer members, and promote natural resource stewardship. These programs are supported through these strategic goals and objectives:

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Partner with communities to break down barriers to the outdoors.
- Support projects and programs that help children and families get outside more often and experience all the benefits of doing so.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal I: Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems.
 - Objective A: Manage sustainable populations of game and nongame species to support fishing, hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Goal VI: Connect people to Colorado's outdoors.
 - Objective A: Broaden the access and variety of recreation opportunities available to Coloradans and visitors.
 - Objective B: Provide facilities, infrastructure, and access to support opportunities for premier outdoor recreation opportunities.
 - Objective D: Promote the value of CPW's mission services to expand awareness, grow CPW's volunteer network, and inspire stewardship.
 - Objective E: Become familiar with the needs, interests, and expectations of residents and visitors who are new to outdoor recreation.

Activities funded under the wildlife education and environment grants allow CPW to introduce children, youth, adults, and families to wildlife through fishing clinics, training educators in wildlife management concepts that can be used in classroom and field instruction. The program also provides opportunities for partners to connect their audiences to wildlife using CPW materials, equipment, and expertise. These activities build awareness and understanding of wildlife and wildlife management, helping to meet the long-term vision of creating future stewards of the land and wildlife.

Wildlife Education and Environment	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Education and Volunteer Programs	\$400,183
Youth Programs	1,021,317
Angler Education	161,000
Total:	\$1,582,500

Education and Volunteer Programs

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 484,538
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 400,183

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	28,100
Perm PS	210,061
Perm PS - Benefits	84,260
Supplies	78,106
Temp PS	66,214
Temp PS - Benefits	14,797
Travel	3,000
Total	\$484,538

Description and Objectives:

The statewide volunteer program supports the achievement of quality outdoor recreation experiences and resource stewardship for present and future generations. The program provides an organized, efficient, well-guided, and cost-effective approach to managing a wide range of volunteer efforts in CPW. Cooperation and partnership between the public and private sector are enhanced and promoted through volunteer and community engagement. The promotion and cultivation of volunteerism plays a key role in helping CPW meet its financial needs now and in the future. Engaging volunteers and providing them with the tools to volunteer effectively with CPW leadership support ensures success. The volunteer program has a statewide database that provides a management platform for all volunteers serving in a wide variety of roles across Colorado.

In addition to volunteer activities, CPW operates a variety of services that provide the best available resources, training, and support to pre-K through college educators. With training from CPW, educators can reach many more students than CPW employees alone. Outcomes include a Colorado citizenry knowledgeable about wildlife, wildlife management, and outdoor recreation. This program invests in efforts that provide educators the knowledge and training so that in their classrooms they can create future stewards who will make informed decisions about wildlife and their environment. Funding supports efforts to work with partners to create wildlife education and professional development opportunities across the state.

Primary Activities:

- Recruit, train and retain skilled volunteers for state park activities
- Screen and place volunteers for projects and roles based on location, skills, and interests of volunteers and complexity of the project
- Orient and train volunteers for wildlife management, conservation, and outdoor recreational projects and needs
- Provide adequate equipment, materials, communication, and support needed to complete projects and perform responsibilities successfully
- Manage volunteers and volunteer crews
- Maintain database records of volunteers and projects and utilize this information to address regional and statewide needs
- Recognize volunteers for their time, participation, and impact, which may include recognition items (pins, mugs, lunch bags) or awards (plaques and certificates)
- Provide miscellaneous reimbursement for costs related to volunteer activities required to complete projects (e.g., parking and mileage reimbursement, postage and printing, office supplies, uniforms, etc.)
- Train CPW staff on volunteer program guidelines and policies
- Provide annual excess insurance coverage for volunteers across the state
- Advise and educate CPW staff and volunteer leaders regarding overall volunteer management: recruiting, orientating, training, supervising, evaluating, and rewarding/recognizing the performance of volunteers, for the purposes of engaging and retaining a diverse and inclusive volunteer strategy to meet the needs of wildlife management and conservation projects
- Represent the Volunteer Program in communities, and promote the program and its benefits to the general public, service groups, clubs, partnerships, and other agencies
- Identify, create, and modify processes to measure the impact of volunteer contributions to wildlife management and conservation, and apply these processes for reporting purposes
- Plan, design, implement, and evaluate trainings for CPW staff in areas of volunteer engagement planning and implementation
- Communicate and work with community partners, nonprofit, and governmental volunteer programs
- Develop, evaluate, and implement education standards and incorporate those standards into the education program
- Provide wildlife curriculum and training to educators to promote wildlife conservation messages in schools (Project WILD)
- Other activities as listed in the CPW Activity Dictionary for the activity codes listed below

(CPW activity 6130, Wildlife Education Evaluation; activity 6140, Educator Training and Support; activity 6260, Manage Volunteers H/F/W; and activity 6262, Manage Volunteers Combined)

Youth Programs

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 1,860,498

FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 1,021,317

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	464,379
Perm PS	531,501
Perm PS - Benefits	224,438
Supplies	32,644
Temp PS	56,452
Temp PS - Benefits	1,084
Travel	0
TBD	550,000
Total	\$1,860,498

Description and Objectives:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is a strong proponent of providing outdoor education programs and opportunities for all ages. This proposal expands CPW's youth outreach programs by expanding and creating new opportunities that capture the attention of Colorado's youth. In addition to these components, CPW will continue supporting opportunities for Boy and Girl Scout groups, 4-H clubs, and school community service organizations. CPW is uniquely positioned to introduce Colorado's youth to the outdoors, potential natural resource careers, encourage more physical activity, and educate them about outdoor issues to foster environmental and natural resource stewardship.

Primary activities include:

- Present to students in a classroom or field trip setting
- Maintain and provide library materials and resource education kits for teachers
- Respond to requests for specific wildlife education information or programming
- Create and maintain an internet home page about wildlife education
- Administer pre- and post-program surveys for reporting and program evaluation
- Develop cooperative agreements with schools and other entities
- Develop formal educational materials and activities for use at CPW's wildlife viewing sites
- Host booths at community or organization events or trade shows
- Develop and organize outdoor skills events that focus on wildlife-related recreation, survival skills and orienteering
- Provide opportunities for experiential education to youth
- Contract and program management for youth corps
- Solicit, review, and select wildlife related work sites for youth corps

- Establish youth corps work standards
- Enhance and approve wildlife education curriculum for use by youth corps
- Evaluate program and recommend improvements for youth corps
- Coordinate work projects with cost center managers for youth corps
- Other activities as listed in the CPW Activity Dictionary for the activity codes listed below
- Coordinate and recruit schools for participation in the SOLE program
- Establish and coordinate field trips options, in-class programs, and family nature night programs with SOLE participating schools and partners
- Coordinate and provide funding for transportation to field trip locations
- Provide funding to SOLE participating schools to promote and enhance outdoor learning classrooms
- Administer pre- and post-program surveys for reporting and program evaluation of the SOLE program

(CPW activity 6120, Schools Outdoor Learning Environments; activity 6131, Support Education Programs in Schools H/F/W; activity 6134, Public Education and Outreach H/F/W; activity 6220, Encourage Natural Resource Careers H/F/W; and activity 6222, Encourage Natural Resource Careers Combined, 6140 Educator Training and Support)

Colorado Youth Corps Association. The Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) is a statewide coalition of ten accredited youth conservation corps. For more than a decade, CYCA crews across Colorado have worked with CPW on angler education clinics, fence removal or repair at state wildlife areas, non-native invasive weed control, riparian habitat improvement projects, and hatchery maintenance projects among others. CYCA work crews learn first-hand about wildlife and habitat stewardship while developing job skills and experience that help them in future employment. CYCA uses a percentage of this allocation to help defray administrative and overhead costs, including project management and reporting, technical training, evaluation and data tracking, site visits, and accounting and support services. In previous years, this percentage has averaged approximately 12 percent. The estimated budget for CYCA in wildlife is \$203,817.

Youth Internship Program. The purpose of the CPW Youth Internship Program is to prepare the next generation of natural resource professionals. This program is providing training and hands-on experience for youth interested in pursuing natural resource careers. CPW has assigned a Youth Internship Program Coordinator that is responsible to provide statewide coordination for extensive training for the interns and CPW staff, monitor and recommend placement of interns equitably throughout CPW, document activities and identify needs of the interns and CPW throughout the years. This program has the capacity to support approximately 55-80 interns throughout both purposes and solicit youth between the ages of 16-24. The estimated budget in wildlife is \$550,000.

Activities supported under this grant are specific to wildlife activities and include intern selection, direct supervision, training, intern wages, and oversight of interns. There may be instances when an intern assigned to wildlife activities has the opportunity to work with a parks program. These activities will still be funded within the wildlife purpose, as long as the activity is primarily for the benefit of the wildlife purpose.

Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE). The Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE) is designed to increase youth interest and participation in the outdoors by supporting and enhancing existing environmental education programs in Colorado schools and creating a network of sites and facilities to use as outdoor classrooms. The program has grown exponentially since its inception in 2013. There are now approximately 50 schools across the state participating in SOLE. The estimated budget for SOLE in wildlife is \$225,853.

Angler Education

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 408,133
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 161,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	1,000
Perm PS	185,937
Perm PS - Benefits	79,287
Supplies	122,821
Temp PS	15,600
Temp PS - Benefits	3,488
Travel	0
Total	\$408,133

Description and Objectives:

CPW's Angler Education Program reaches 35,000 participants in 250 fishing clinics statewide. This program continues to promote fishery resource conservation and resource stewardship by providing volunteer and educational opportunities. A secondary goal is to have participants leave the clinic with a positive image of CPW and its mission. In addition, this program works to develop and enhance partnerships with local angling groups, park and recreation departments, and other community organizations.

Primary Activities:

- Assess demand for clinics
- Recruit and train instructors (paid and volunteer)
- Develop and maintain partnerships with government, business, and community groups
- Evaluate and obtain appropriate instructional materials
- Develop and print new angler education materials
- Work with manufacturers to obtain fishing equipment for distribution to clinic participants
- Conduct clinics for both youth and adults

- Hatchery tours for both students and adults
- Education programs for youth on hatcheries and angling

(CPW activity 6420, Angler Education)

Wildlife: Wildlife Viewing

A 2008 study by BBC Research and Consulting for CPW estimated that wildlife viewing activities in Colorado generate more than \$1.2 billion in direct and secondary economic benefits, supporting more than 12,500 jobs. This program continues to identify, develop, and help establish wildlife viewing opportunities on public lands, including CPW properties and state parks; develop and establish wildlife viewing opportunities in cooperation with landowners on private lands; and prepare and distribute informational materials on wildlife viewing techniques and opportunities.

Great Outdoors Colorado 2020 Strategic Plan:

- Connect people with the outdoors and its many benefits.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife 2015 Strategic Plan:

- Goal I: Conserve wildlife and habitat to ensure healthy sustainable populations and ecosystems.
 - Objective A: Manage sustainable populations of game and nongame species to support fishing, hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing opportunities.

Activities funded under the wildlife viewing grant allow CPW to produce and provide information to the public on how to safely and non-intrusively view wildlife in their natural setting. The grant also supports wildlife viewing and educational activities.

Wildlife Viewing	Great Outdoors Colorado Funding FY 2022-23
Wildlife Viewing Program	\$150,000
Total:	\$150,000

Wildlife Viewing

FY 2022-23 Total Projected Budget: \$ 269,180
FY 2022-23 GOCO Funding Request: \$ 150,000

Categorized Budget:

Expense Category	Projected Budget
Contractual	\$0
Equipment	0
Other	45,293
Perm PS	52,858
Perm PS - Benefits	17,191
Supplies	79,400
Temp PS	60,840
Temp PS - Benefits	13,598
Travel	0
Total	\$269,180

Description and Objectives:

The Wildlife Viewing grant supports activities to establish new wildlife viewing and education opportunities – such as the increasingly popular wildlife festivals – and work with partners to develop and improve existing viewing resources. Currently, these documents are available on the CPW website, at CPW Park Offices, and at Welcome Centers.

Primary Activities:

- Review and update database of statewide wildlife viewing opportunities and prioritize these opportunities for future development
- Develop cooperative projects with local, state, and federal agencies
- Identify opportunities to develop wildlife viewing sites
- Design and construct wildlife viewing sites
- Publicize wildlife viewing opportunities on CPW properties
- Plan future projects
- Partnerships with a variety of federal, state, and private organizations to support activities that promote wildlife viewing opportunities throughout the state
- Develop information and interpretive materials to support wildlife viewing festivals around the state
- Develop brochures, guides, lists, newsletters/website articles, interpretive signs, highway signs, boardwalks, wildlife viewing stations, and other information that enhance wildlife viewing experience
- Promote and manage the Colorado Birding Trail
- Research to gain better understanding of viewer recreation typologies

- Research to gain an understanding of the impacts of wildlife feeding activities on both wildlife and people, and the success of various approaches to influencing behavior
- Research viewer impacts on resources including evaluation of resources before and after the development of recreation facilities
- Provide training by CPW personnel at professional organization meetings and specially designed workshops
- Initiate studies to determine how well specific projects and products meet CPW goals
- Develop annual and 5-year statewide watchable wildlife recreation plans
- Implement pilot projects to incorporate and evaluate results of research and assessments
- Pursue alternative funding for watchable projects
- Evaluate the efficacy of CPW efforts

(CPW activity 5110, Watchable Wildlife with Partners; activity 5210, Watchable Wildlife on CPW Lands; activity 5260, Watchable Wildlife Interpretive Programs; and activity 5310, Watchable Wildlife Evaluation and Research)