

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Wetlands for Wildlife Program

2023-2024 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

Competitive Grants for Wetland/Riparian
Restoration, Enhancement, & Creation

Note: *The application deadline is Monday,
February 12, 2024*



Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) seeks applications for wetland and riparian restoration, enhancement, and creation projects to support the two primary goals of its Wetlands for Wildlife Program:

1. ***Improve the distribution and abundance of ducks, and opportunities for public waterfowl hunting.*** Applications supporting this goal should seek to improve fall/winter habitat on property open for public hunting (or refuge areas within properties open for public hunting), or improve breeding habitat in important production areas (including North Park and the San Luis Valley in Colorado, and other areas contributing ducks to the fall flight in Colorado).
2. ***Improve the status of declining or at-risk species.*** Applications supporting this goal should seek to clearly address habitat needs of these species. See species list in Attachment 1. Also, see the identified threats, recommended conservation actions, and progress to date for these species in the Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) [Conservation Dashboards](#).

What's new for 2023-2024:

- For projects on CPW properties (State Wildlife Areas and State Parks), CPW's Regional Water Specialist must be consulted before applying.

Guidance for 2023-2024:

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to use GIS mapping technology to delineate areas to be restored on project sites, and to show these polygons in attached project maps.
- Larger grant applications (including block grants for multiple properties) that accomplish significant acreage of wetland/riparian conservation and include multiple partners (where appropriate) are encouraged. For block grants, all projects must be detailed in the initial application.
- Comprehensive, well-planned, whole-property restoration projects are encouraged, and phased approaches involving repeated funding applications for smaller projects on the same properties are discouraged.
- Phased approaches are allowable for large projects if the long-term vision, approach, and timeline are well-articulated in the Phase I funding application.
- Projects that can be completed within two years following the grant award (i.e., by June 30, 2026) are strongly encouraged. Applicants requiring longer timeframes for

project completion are encouraged to submit a Phase I application for planning, design, and permitting, and defer delivery for future phases.

- Matching funds are not required, but are encouraged and will be rewarded in the application review and selection process.
- Support letters are required from all landowners (private or public) whose properties are included within an application. The letters shall describe the project to be conducted, and any additional public access that will be allowed as a result of a grant.

Project Development Resources: CPW has collaborated with the [Colorado Natural Heritage Program](#) and other partners to create tools for conservation project development, including:

- [Colorado's Conservation Data Explorer \(CODEX\)](#). Users can submit project areas and receive a plethora of information to facilitate project development and review.
- [Colorado Wetland Information Center \(CWIC\)](#). Comprehensive information on Colorado's wetlands, including a [Working in Wetlands](#) section with a variety of restoration-specific resources.
- [Watershed Planning Toolbox](#). A comprehensive resource for incorporating wetlands and streams into watershed planning, restoring wetlands to improve watershed health, and identifying opportunities for wetland conservation. The Toolbox includes an interactive mapping platform that allows users to view wetlands, streams, likely aquatic ecosystem functions, ecological stressors, and high-priority sites for conservation and restoration at the landscape scale. Along with geospatial data, the Toolbox includes a gateway to a variety of other restoration and conservation resources, including the Beaver Restoration Assessment Tool (BRAT).

Project proponents are encouraged to explore these tools and incorporate pertinent information into funding applications.

Available Funding: Up to approximately \$1.121 million. Funding sources are [Great Outdoors Colorado](#) and [Colorado waterfowl stamps](#).

Minimum/Maximum Awards: There is no minimum or maximum grant award. However, small requests (<\$25,000) are discouraged.

Project Completion Timelines: All projects funded in 2023-2024 must be completed on or before June 30, 2027. Applicants will be asked to provide detailed project completion and expense projections, and projects will be assigned to funding appropriations accordingly. Applications for "shovel-ready" projects are encouraged.

***** Note: Project expenditures must begin within the first 12 months following project approval, otherwise the project will be cancelled and the funding will revert. *****

Eligible Grant Recipients: Local governments, other state and federal land management agencies, tribes, non-profit habitat conservation organizations, and private companies. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) staff and other Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff is eligible to apply.

Ineligible Grant Recipients: Previous grant recipients with an active project that has fallen behind schedule relative to the project delivery timeframe identified in the application, and private landowners. Landowners interested in undertaking a wetland or riparian restoration project on their property should contact their local [Focus Area Committee](#) for project funding options. Non-governmental organizations and governments often are willing to receive and

manage grants and coordinate project delivery on private lands. Other funding options for private landowners are available through biologists with the [U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's private lands program](#) and the [U. S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Bill programs](#).

Project Manager: The application must list a Project Manager. This person must be affiliated with the grant recipient's organization, and is the main point of contact for the project. The Project Manager should be knowledgeable about the project and available to provide information on project status as needed. Project Managers are responsible for successful project delivery, following all state procurement and contracting procedures and rules as applicable, spending all the requested grant funds within the timeline shown in the application, quarterly reporting to the Wetlands Program Coordinator, and preparing a final project report.

CPW Project Sponsor: Each application must list a CPW Project Sponsor. Block grant applications encompassing multiple [CPW administrative regions](#) must list a sponsor in each region. It is the applicant's responsibility to build local CPW support for the project and to find sponsors. Sponsors may be any CPW field staff. The sponsor's responsibility is to monitor the status of the project as needed, and to initially approve invoices for payment. If an applicant is unfamiliar with local CPW field staff, they should contact their local [Focus Area Committee](#) if applicable, or the Wetlands Program Coordinator.

Priority Wildlife Species: Projects should be developed with the objective of improving habitat conditions for priority wildlife species (see Attachment 1). Applicants are expected to be familiar with the biology of the species benefitted by the project, and to describe those benefits in detail. [Fact sheets and habitat scorecards](#) are available for many priority species to assist applicants in developing and evaluating projects. Benefits to priority species are the primary criteria on which applications will be evaluated (see Attachment 2).

Eligible Costs:

- Standard costs for conducting on-the-ground wetland/riparian habitat restoration, enhancement, and creation, including labor, travel and transportation, material and supplies, equipment rental or lease, etc.
- Costs associated with habitat manipulations to help beavers recolonize a site (e.g., beaver dam analogs, post-assisted log structures) or to minimize property damage (e.g., pond levelers, culvert and tree fencing, etc.).
- Project planning, engineering, and design expenses and feasibility studies.
- Project monitoring and evaluation expenses.
- Personnel and travel costs to be incurred by the grant recipient should be identified separately in the application.
- Signage to acknowledge CPW and GOCO as funding partners (and display logos; required).
- Indirect costs are allowed but discouraged. These costs should be identified separately in the application and should not exceed 10% of the grant request.

The total cost per acre for restoration, enhancement, and creation practices will be scrutinized closely. Habitat improvements should be designed to last at least 10 years without major renovations or additional funding from this program, and long-term improvements are preferred.

Ineligible Costs:

- Habitat protection through fee title or easement acquisitions.
- Acquisition of water rights.
- Any costs associated with wetlands that are part of a mitigation project or bank.
- Equipment purchases; except pumps are allowed on a case-by-case basis if needed to maintain desired hydrology of a wetland site.
- Routine, annual operations and maintenance expenses such as weed control, water delivery, soil disturbance, etc.
- Personnel and travel costs incurred by any government agency staff. These costs should be shown as matching contributions on the application.
- Costs for use of equipment already owned. These costs should be shown as matching contributions on the application.
- Costs associated with capturing or moving beavers.

How to Apply: *Please contact the Wetlands Program Coordinator before applying* (see contact information below). Submit an application form (see Attachment 2) by the deadline. Be sure to follow all the instructions on the form. Applications should be submitted electronically to the Wetlands Program Coordinator in a single file (both PDF and MS-Word formats) of less than 20MB. Include all maps and photos within the application; do not attach these separately. The file name should closely resemble the project title. Send only the application form, not the other information in this RFA. Please try to minimize application length/page count. Applications from CPW staff also must be entered in the “A4” financial system by the deadline.

Application Evaluation, Selection, and Notification Process:

1. Immediately after the deadline, applications are screened for completeness and adherence to formatting guidelines. Applicants should be available within the first few days after the deadline to address questions and requests for formatting revisions.
2. Applications are sent for review and comments to CPW local, Water Section, and Capital Development staff, and [Wetland Focus Area Committees](#) (if applicable).
3. Applications are scored by a statewide scoring team (using the scoring criteria in Attachment 3).
4. Applications are ranked by CPW regional committees.
5. A statewide project selection committee reviews regional and focus area committee ranks, scores, and comments, and makes funding recommendations to the CPW Director.
6. Final funding approval rests with the CPW Director.
7. Successful applicants receive notification specifying anticipated project start and completion dates, funding information, and reporting requirements.

Agreements, Insurance Requirements, and Invoicing:

For grants to non-DNR entities, the CPW Wetlands Program Coordinator will work with Project Managers to encumber CPW Wetlands Program funding through purchase orders, contracts, task orders, or other agreements. Contracts will be developed if a grant recipient will receive \geq \$250,000 in funding for one or more projects. Funding agreements will be developed only with the grant recipient, and not with any other entities. Please review the [sample grant agreement](#) prior to applying, as the State is not open to negotiation of the terms and conditions.

All non-governmental grant recipients must provide an IRS W-9 form and proof of liability insurance (see Attachment 5). Most insurance companies will provide this proof in an “ACORD” form. *Project proponents who are unable or unwilling to show proof of liability insurance should not apply for Wetlands Program funding. Failure to provide the required proof of insurance within 30 days of grant award notification may result in grant cancellation.* Non-governmental recipients should be registered on the [Secretary of State’s website](#) to do business in Colorado and be in good standing in order to have a contract or purchase order issued to them.

Project costs are reimbursed after the work is completed and documented. Invoices (preferably electronic) should be submitted to both the CPW Project Sponsor and the Wetlands Program Coordinator for approvals and payment. Invoices must be submitted by the actual grant recipient, not by other entities. Frequent invoicing is discouraged. Quarterly invoicing is allowed (September 30, December 31, March 31, June 30), and other invoicing arrangements may be made in advance at the discretion of the Wetlands Program Coordinator. All work performed within a state fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) must be invoiced on or before June 30 each year of the project (this requirement applies to multiple-year agreements). Invoices should include the following information:

- Date of invoice.
- Invoice number (please number consecutively).
- Contract, purchase order, or task order number.
- Wetlands Program project number.
- Details and dates of specific project costs and activities to be reimbursed.
- Total invoice amount.
- Payment instructions and vendor contact information.

For grants to DNR staff, the Wetlands Program Coordinator will provide funding codes to the Project Manager, who is responsible for following state procurement procedures when expending funds on their projects. Project Managers must keep accurate project records and files and provide this information to the Wetlands Program Coordinator upon project completion.

Reporting Requirements:

Each calendar quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31) through project completion, the Project Manager must submit a project update (electronically) to the CPW Wetlands Program Coordinator. This update should include:

- Specific details of project accomplishments during the reporting period.
- Total project accomplishments to date.
- Expected progress during the upcoming quarter.
- Expected project completion date.
- Financial status of project - CPW and matching funds authorized, spent, and available, and status of matching funds (secured, pending, or any changes).
- Any changes in project scope, problems and recommended solutions.

Upon project completion, a final project report must be submitted (in MS-Word format with no loose attachments except GIS polygons). This report should include:

- Project title and CPW Project Number.
- Date of final project completion.

- An abstract of the project (≤ 250 words), suitable for use in accomplishment reports. This section should stand alone and describe the project objectives, location, outcome, completion date, costs, partners, habitat treatments, acreage impacted, species benefitted, etc.
- How the final project results differed (if so) from the proposed project (costs, scope of work, etc.).
- Detailed, itemized financial contributions (cash and in-kind) from each partner and funding source.
- Pre- and post-project habitat acreages and habitat treatments used.
- Cost per acre of habitat treatments (proposed and final).
- The pre- and post-project land ownership scenario and the length and expiration date of any management agreements.
- Digital maps showing final project boundaries, wetland boundaries, and other water features.
- GIS polygons (shapefiles) of the project boundary, wetland boundaries, and habitat treatment areas.
- Digital pre- and post-project photographs. Video submissions also are strongly encouraged.
- Post-project [habitat scorecards](#).

***** Note: Failure to submit timely reports will result in project cancellation and reversion of funds. *****

Anticipated Timeline:

December 18, 2023 - Wetlands funding RFA announced, distributed directly to DNR staff and partners, and posted on CPW's [Wetlands Project Funding web page](#).

February 12, 2024 - Applications due to the Wetlands Program Coordinator.

February 19, 2024 - Applications posted for review by regional ranking committees, scoring team, Focus Area Committees, CPW Water and Capital Development Sections, and local staff.

March 11, 2024 - All ranks, scores, and comments due to the Wetlands Program Coordinator.

Late March/early April, 2024 - Statewide selection committee meets to review ranks, scores, comments, and develops funding recommendations to CPW Director.

Late April, 2024 - CPW Director's decisions on funding awards. Immediate notification to applicants.

Late June, 2024 - Agreements developed and signed for external grant awards.

Contact: For further information or to provide feedback on any aspect of the Wetlands Program or this RFA, please contact Brian Sullivan, Wetlands Program Coordinator, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, 317 W. Prospect Rd., Fort Collins, CO 80526. Tel. 970-472-4306; email brian.sullivan@state.co.us

Attachments:

1. Wetlands Program priority wildlife species.
2. Application form.
3. Application scoring criteria.
4. Scoring and selection committees and process.
5. State insurance requirements.

Attachment 1. CPW Wetlands Program Priority Species
 (See [Fact Sheets and Habitat Scorecards](#) for many of these species)

	Tier 1	Tier 2
Waterfowl	American Green-winged Teal American Wigeon Blue-winged Teal Cinnamon Teal Gadwall Lesser Scaup Mallard Northern Pintail	Barrow's Goldeneye
Other Birds	Greater Sandhill Crane Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo	American Bittern American White Pelican Bald Eagle Black Rail Black Swift Black Tern Least Tern Lewis's Woodpecker Long-billed Curlew Northern Harrier Piping Plover Short-eared Owl Veery Western Snowy Plover White-faced Ibis
Mammals	Beaver N. Mex. Meadow Jumping Mouse Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse	River Otter
Reptiles	N/A	Black-necked Gartersnake Common (Red-sided) Gartersnake Yellow Mud Turtle
Amphibians	Boreal Toad (S. Rocky Mtn. Pop.) Northern Leopard Frog	Blanchard's Cricket Frog Canyon Tree Frog Couch's Spadefoot Great Basin Spadefoot Gr. Plains Narrowmouth Toad Green Toad Plains Leopard Frog Wood Frog

Fishes	Arkansas Darter Bluehead Sucker Bonytail Brassy Minnow Northern Redbelly Dace Orangespotted Sunfish Orangethroat Darter Plains Topminnow Rio Grande Chub Rio Grande Sucker Southern Redbelly Dace	Iowa Darter
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Attachment 2 - Application Form

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) - Wetlands Program
Funding Application 2023-2024

Wetland and Riparian Restoration, Enhancement, and Creation

Note: The application deadline is Monday, February 12, 2024

Note: Please try to minimize application length, and use black or blue font color

Application Date: _____ CPW Region _____ CPW Area(s) _____

Focus Area (if applicable) _____

See [CPW Region/Area maps](#) and [Focus Area map](#).

Project Title: _____

Project Manager's Name, Title, and Contact Information (address, phone, email):

CPW Project Sponsor's Name, Title, and Contact Information (address, phone, email):

Project Type (mark all that apply):

Wetland Restoration/Enhancement _____ Wetland Creation _____

Acres treated _____ Acres treated _____

Riparian Restoration/Enhancement _____

Acres treated _____

Wetland Acres Pre-project _____ Post-project _____

Riparian Acres Pre-project _____ Post-project _____

Upland Acres Pre-project _____ Post-project _____

Total Project Acreage _____

Please use GIS mapping technology to delineate areas (and calculate acreage) to be restored.

Project Summary: Provide a maximum 150-word summary of the project, including objectives, expected results, justification, need, location, habitat management practices to be employed, habitat acres impacted, benefits to priority wildlife species, project costs and funding sources, timeline, monitoring and evaluation plans, and any unique project aspects.

Project Location and Land Ownership: Describe project location, county, nearest town, basin/drainage name, etc. Describe land ownership.

Project Location Coordinates (for each tract; please use Lat/Long decimal degrees):

Project Objectives and Narrative: Please explain the project in detail, including specific, measureable, and quantifiable objectives, desired outcome, justification, need, habitat management practices to be employed and anticipated wildlife response, habitat acres impacted, and detailed pre-project and post-project habitat conditions including specific vegetation types (and plant sources if applicable). Describe expected seasonal hydrology/hydroperiods of wetland areas (water sources, timing and duration of flooding, average depths and range of depths during flooding). If the project provides waterfowl

hunting benefits, explain water availability during the hunting season. How will you define project success? Be as concise as possible.

Project Deliverables: Describe, in concise, bulleted statements, the deliverables for this project. These could be on-the-ground restoration accomplishments (e.g., acreage restored), matching funds brought to the project, evaluation reports, etc.

Water Rights: Are water rights needed for the project, and will a water right application and decree from the water court be required to ensure long-term viability of the project? For example, are they needed because groundwater is being exposed or water surface area will be expanded? If so, what water rights, shares of ditch or reservoir companies, or wells are associated with the proposed project? (Please attach any supporting documents that you think will assist in evaluation of the water supply for the proposed project.)

Yes No (if No, skip to next section).

- **Surface Water Rights:**

Yes No Direct flow rights

Yes No Storage rights

Yes No Other rights

Name of water right(s): _____

Decree case number(s) if known: _____

Percent ownership of right(s): _____

Decreed flow rate(s) and/or volume: _____

Decreed use(s) of water right(s): _____

Yes No Has the water been used pursuant to the decreed use for this water right(s) in the past 5 years

- **Mutual Ditch or Reservoir Company Shares:**

Name(s) of Mutual Ditch or Reservoir Company: _____

Number of Shares: _____

Decreed use and yield per share if known: _____

- **Wells:** Please describe any wells associated with the project including: permit number(s), decrees, legal pumping rate, augmentation sources and any other information that might assist in the evaluation of the water source.

New If the project will occur on a CPW property (State Wildlife Area or State Park), or relies on the use of the project proponent's water rights, consult the CPW Regional Water Specialist before applying. List the date and outcome of consultations. What (if any) sideboards to project design were identified based on water rights considerations?

Project Timeline/Milestones: Describe anticipated project initiation and completion dates, a general timeline, and milestones. Insert a graphical timeline as appropriate.

Project Budget: Complete the following tables; use cost categories such as materials, equipment rental, contracts, etc. Separate planning/design and monitoring/evaluation expenses from on-the-ground work. Personnel and travel costs to be incurred by the grant

recipient should be identified separately; if these costs exceed 20% of the grant request, please justify. Indirect costs should be identified separately and should not exceed 10% of the grant request. Indicate if matching contributions have been secured, or when pending matching contributions are likely to be attained. Insert or delete rows as needed in the tables. Include a narrative or footnotes explaining how cost estimates were derived. Please be conservative in project budgeting to avoid having excess funds at project conclusion. If a Phase II application is anticipated, please provide ballpark estimates for the next funding request.

Activity/Expense Summary					
Activity/expense description	CPW Wetlands Grant \$	Partner Name	Partner Cash Match \$	Partner In-kind Match \$	Total \$ for activity
Totals					

Partner Contribution Summary (total of activities/expenses above)		
Partner Name	Total \$ per Partner	% of Total per Partner
CPW Wetlands Program (grant request)		
Project Grand Total \$ (should equal bottom right cell in table above)		100%

Anticipated Grant Expenses by Fiscal Year (note: CPW grant funds only)	
Fiscal Year	Anticipated Grant Expenses (\$)
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	
July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026	
July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027	
Total Expenses (should equal grant request)	

Cost per Acre: Please fill in the blanks and justify unusually high costs. If >1 habitat management practices will be implemented that have disparate costs per acre, provide separate calculations for each practice. Please use GIS mapping technology to delineate areas (and calculate acreage) to be restored.

Total acres impacted _____
 Total project cost (from tables above) \$ _____
 Total cost per acre \$ _____
 CPW cost per acre \$ _____

Matching funds: If awarded, will any of the CPW wetlands funds requested here be used as matching funds for other grant programs? If so, describe how much, and which grant programs.

Previous CPW Wetlands Grants: Have CPW wetlands funds previously been used for habitat improvements on any properties included in this grant application? If so, describe the year and amount of funding, and previous habitat accomplishments.

Evaluation Questions

- 1. Waterfowl Value.** Describe the value of the project to the Wetlands Program priority waterfowl species (see priority species list in the Request for Applications). These species all are ducks and may be treated as a group/guild. Explain limiting factors, how the habitat management practices are known to benefit the species, and clearly describe the project benefits for fall migration, winter, spring migration, and nesting or brood-rearing. Describe the known or expected abundance/numbers on the site pre- and post-project. How long will it take to observe waterfowl response to the habitat treatments? How will waterfowl response be documented? See [fact sheets and habitat scorecards](#).
- 2. Waterfowl Hunting Improvement.** Explain current waterfowl hunting opportunities on the site (if any), who may participate (e.g., is public hunting allowed?), and how hunting opportunity may increase as a result of the project. Will new hunting areas be available post-project, or will current hunting areas be improved? Explain amount of flooded acreage during hunting season, and any constraints to fall/winter water management. Will additional hunting access be allowed? If so, explain any restrictions on hunter categories, days, party size, etc. Will you consider offering the property for CPW-managed waterfowl hunts through the Novice Hunter Program? How will waterfowl hunting improvement be documented?
- 3. Tier 1 Species of Concern Value.** From the list of Wetlands Program Tier 1 priority wildlife species (non-waterfowl), select *up to 4 species* for which the project will have the largest positive impact (see priority species list in the Request for Applications). Clearly describe the project benefits to those species. Explain limiting factors and how the habitat management practices to be employed on the project are known to benefit the species. Describe the known or expected abundance/numbers on the site pre- and post-project. Is the species found on the project site now? If so, describe data sources. If not, how far away is the nearest population? How long will it take to observe response of these species to the habitat treatments? How will species' responses be documented? If there is considerable uncertainty if a project will benefit a species, DO NOT make speculative claims here. See [fact sheets and habitat scorecards](#).
- 4. Importance to a Conservation Plan or Property Management Plan.** Explain the linkage of the project to a conservation plan. Pertinent conservation plans include Area Wildlife Management Plans, SWA plans, park stewardship plans, [Focus Area Committee plans](#), statewide species conservation plans, [Colorado State Wildlife Action Plan \(SWAP\)](#), Joint Venture plans, national or international bird conservation plans, T&E species Recovery Plans, South Platte Blue Ribbon Panel habitat recommendations, etc. Explain if the project is specifically mentioned in a plan or directly addresses a limiting factor or habitat deficit identified in a plan. Does a management plan exist for any properties within this application? If so, describe the plan briefly here, including how the work proposed in this

application fits the plan. **Submit property management plans along with this application.**

5. **Project Permanency.** How long are the project benefits likely to persist, given land ownership, any conservation easements on the site, the length of management agreements, etc.? Describe any existing or anticipated management agreements.
6. **Future Maintenance.** Explain the level of future maintenance that will be required to sustain the project value. What maintenance activities are planned or budgeted for? Estimate costs if possible, including costs of annual water delivery (if applicable). Who pays, and who conducts the work? For vegetation control projects (e.g., tamarisk, cattail), explain how the project site(s) will be maintained or managed to prevent future infestations, and the funding source.
7. **Project Viability/Readiness.** Is the project “shovel-ready”? Explain what steps may need to be undertaken before the project can be initiated. Is a complete plan and budget in place, or is design work still needed? If needed, have permitting and water rights issues been investigated and addressed? How secure are any matching funds? What factors (if any) might constrain project delivery? Explain any reasons that the project should be undertaken immediately. Are any opportunities potentially lost if the project is delayed? How flexible is the timing of the project?
8. **Matching Funds.** Please fill in the blanks:
Grant request (A) \$_____ Example: \$100,000
Cash matching funds (B) \$_____ Example: \$75,000
In-kind matching funds \$_____ Example: \$40,000
Total matching funds (C) \$_____ Example: \$115,000
Ratio of cash match to grant request (B divided by A) __:1 Example: (0.75:1)
Ratio of total match (cash and in-kind) to grant request (C divided by A) ____:1
Example: (1.15:1)
Describe efforts to obtain matching funds for the project.
9. **Project Monitoring/Evaluation.** How will you measure project success? Describe in detail the procedures for project monitoring, including pre- and post-treatment hydrologic and vegetation conditions, and response by wildlife. Describe annual and seasonal frequency of data collection, specific metrics, data storage and reporting protocols, and long-term plans for project monitoring. Explain any limitations to future access to the project by CPW staff and/or contractors for project monitoring and evaluation. Note: Post-project [habitat scorecards](#) are required as part of the final project report.
10. **Other Considerations.** List any other important aspects of the project, including but not limited to beneficial water use, security of the water source, unique partnership aspects, benefits to Tier 2 priority species and other important wildlife species not listed as [Wetlands Program priority species](#), benefits to upland habitats, rare plants, protection from human disturbance, education, equitable access, benefits to traditionally underserved constituents, etc. Use your response to tout your project and describe any benefits not captured in the other questions.

Maps and Photos - Please include a site map or two if possible. Maps should show the general project location and landscape context, and if possible, polygons for each habitat area

affected. Also consider including 1-3 photos of the project site(s) if possible. Include maps and photos within your application, but please be mindful of map and photo resolution and impacts on application file size.

Note: *Please try to minimize application length, and use black or blue font color.*

Application Checklist:

- ✓ Wetlands Program Coordinator contacted before applying.
- ✓ CPW Project Sponsor identified and contacted before applying.
- ✓ Water rights consultations conducted and CPW Regional Water Specialist contacted (if applicable) before applying.
- ✓ Budget justification provided for any unusually high costs.
- ✓ Landowner (public and private) support letters included with application.
- ✓ Only the application form is submitted; all instructional/informational materials are deleted.
- ✓ All maps, photos, and support letters are submitted in the same file as the application. Separate attachments (allowed but not encouraged) should be companion documents, not information directly related to the application.
- ✓ Project title is included in the file name.
- ✓ Both Word and PDF files are submitted.
- ✓ For internal/CPW projects, application is entered into the “A4” financial system by the cost center supervisor.

Attachment 3 - CPW Wetland Grant Application Score Sheet - 2023-2024

Project Name: _____

(Internal) CPW Application #: _____

Reviewer's Name: _____

Total Score: _____

Note: Do not interpolate; use specified point values only.

1. Waterfowl Value (10 pts.)

10 = Major positive impact to fall migration or wintering habitat and populations in the region.

8 = Moderate positive impact to fall migration or wintering habitat and populations in the region, or major positive impact to spring migration, nesting, or brood-rearing habitat.

6 = Moderate positive impact to spring migration, nesting, or brood-rearing habitat.

2 = Minor waterfowl benefits in any season.

0 = No waterfowl benefits.

2. Waterfowl Hunting Improvement (15 pts.)

15 = Public waterfowl hunting allowed; project adds new habitat for hunting access (or within refuge areas in close proximity to public hunting areas).

10 = Public waterfowl hunting allowed; project improves existing habitat on hunting areas (or within refuge areas in close proximity to public hunting areas). Or, private land opened to limited public hunting as a result of a grant.

5 = Waterfowl hunting allowed but no public access.

0 = No waterfowl hunting allowed on site.

3. Tier 1 Species of Concern Value (25 pts.)

25 = Project directly addresses limiting habitat factors for one or more Tier 1 nongame priority species. I.e., the project was developed with a primary goal of benefitting a species of concern and will provide major benefits to the species.

20 = Project provides moderate benefits to more than one species of concern.

15 = Project provides moderate benefits to one species of concern.

10 = Project provides minor benefits to more than one species of concern.

5 = Project provides minor benefits to one species of concern.

0 = Project does not provide significant benefits to any species of concern.

4. Importance to a Conservation Plan (5 pts.)

5 = Project site is specifically mentioned in a conservation plan.

3 = Project directly addresses a habitat deficit or limiting factor in a conservation plan.

1 = Project generally addresses a habitat conservation plan.

0 = Project has no linkage to a conservation plan.

5. Project Permanency (20 pts.)

How long are the project benefits likely to persist? Consider land ownership, conservation easements on the site, length of management agreements, etc.

20 = >30 years

5 = 10 - 30 years

1 = <10 years

6. Future Maintenance (5 pts.)

5 = Minimal amount of O&M required; project is self-sustaining.

- 3 = Moderate level of O&M required to maintain project values.
- 1 = High level of O&M needed to maintain project values.

7. Project Viability/Readiness (5 pts.)

- 5 = Clear, detailed budget and realistic plans with timeframes and partners are in place. All due diligence has been performed (e.g., water rights, 404 permitting, cultural resource surveys, landowner agreements, etc.) and the project is ready to be implemented immediately.
- 3 = Some good plans, but further planning and due diligence is needed before implementation.
- 0 = A nice idea is presented, but the project likely won't happen soon because plans are not sufficiently detailed or explained, and ready to implement.

8. Matching Funds (5 pts.)

Ratio of other funds (cash or in-kind) to CPW wetlands program funds:

- 5 = 4:1 or higher
- 4 = 3:1 or higher
- 3 = 2:1 or higher
- 2 = 1:1 or higher
- 1 = < 1:1
- 0 = No matching funds.

9. Project Monitoring/Evaluation (10 pts.)

- 10 = Long-term project monitoring and evaluation plans and protocols are in described in detail with specific metrics. The applicant is clearly committed to monitoring the hydrologic and/or vegetation conditions of the project and wildlife response, and to evaluating and reporting on project success.
- 5 = Project monitoring and evaluation plans are described moderately well. The applicant is committed to project monitoring and evaluation, but the protocols and metrics may need further development.
- 0 = Project monitoring and evaluation plans are described poorly or not at all. The applicant's commitment to project monitoring and evaluation is questionable.

10. Other Considerations (10 pts.)

Subjective scoring (0-10 pts.) for other important aspects of the project, including but not limited to beneficial water use, security of the water source (i.e., managed vs. unmanaged, risks), unique partnership aspects, benefits to other important wildlife species not listed as Tier 1 Wetlands Program priority species, benefits to upland habitats, protection from human disturbance, education, equitable access, benefits to traditionally underserved constituents, etc.

11. Project Scale (10 pts.)

- 10 = Landscape- or watershed-scale project representing multiple tracts of land.
- 7 = Whole-property scale project addressing multiple wetland/riparian restoration issues and opportunities.
- 0 = Sub-property scale project addressing a subset of the wetland/riparian restoration issues and opportunities.

Bonus A - Conservation Priority Areas (5 pts.)

Project site falls within a [CPW waterfowl conservation priority area](#).

Bonus B - Wetland Focus Area Committee (5 pts.)

Score to be determined by the committee based on project quality and partnership aspects.

Attachment 4 - Structure and Function of CPW Scoring and Selection Committees for Wetlands Funding Applications

Regional Committees

Membership - Regional committees include representatives from the Regions, Terrestrial, Aquatics, Capital Development, and Water Sections. Membership includes Area Managers and Senior Biologists or their designees. The committee is self-appointed by consensus of regional staff, and is chaired by the Senior Terrestrial Biologist (or designee) who serves as the liaison with the Wetlands Program Coordinator.

Function - The committee meets to discuss each application, develop a short narrative describing the project and its pros and cons, rank the applications and make funding recommendations. Regional rankings and justification for the ranks are transmitted to the Wetlands Program Coordinator.

Scoring Committee

Membership - The scoring committee includes representatives from the Regions and the Terrestrial, Aquatic, and Research Sections. Members are selected based on their expertise on the biology and habitat needs of wetlands program priority wildlife species, and habitat management practices that benefit those species.

Function - Each member scores each application using the criteria in Attachment 3. Scores are averaged over all members.

Statewide Selection Committee

Membership - Regional Managers, Terrestrial Section Manager, Aquatic Section Manager, Capital Development Section Manager, Water Rights Program Administrator (or designees).

Function - The committee reviews scores, regional rankings and recommendations, Focus Area Committee comments and rankings (if available), and regional project narratives for all projects statewide. All comments submitted on individual projects will be available for review if requested by the committee. The committee meets and makes project funding recommendations to the CPW Director in the context of this information and available funding. The Wetlands Program Coordinator and Habitat Supervisor facilitate the meeting.

Attachment 5 - State of Colorado Insurance Requirements

Grantee shall obtain and maintain, and ensure that each Subcontractor shall obtain and maintain, insurance as specified in this section at all times during the term of this Agreement. All insurance policies required by this Agreement that are not provided through self-insurance shall be issued by insurance companies as approved by the State.

A. Workers' Compensation

Workers' compensation insurance as required by state statute, and employers' liability insurance covering all Grantee or Subcontractor employees acting within the course and scope of their employment.

B. General Liability

Commercial general liability insurance covering premises operations, fire damage, independent contractors, products and completed operations, blanket contractual liability, personal injury, and advertising liability with minimum limits as follows:

- i. \$1,000,000 each occurrence;
- ii. \$1,000,000 general aggregate;
- iii. \$1,000,000 products and completed operations aggregate; and
- iv. \$50,000 any one fire.

C. Automobile Liability

Automobile liability insurance covering any auto (including owned, hired and non-owned autos) with a minimum limit of \$1,000,000 each accident combined single limit.

D. Additional Insured

The State shall be named as additional insured on all commercial general liability policies (leases and construction contracts require additional insured coverage for completed operations) required of Grantee and Subcontractors.

E. Primacy of Coverage

Coverage required of Grantee and each Subcontractor shall be primary over any insurance or self-insurance program carried by Grantee or the State.

F. Cancellation

All commercial insurance policies shall include provisions preventing cancellation or non-renewal, except for cancellation based on non-payment of premiums, without at least 30 days prior notice to Grantee and Grantee shall forward such notice to the State within seven days of Grantee's receipt of such notice.

G. Subrogation Waiver

All commercial insurance policies secured or maintained by Grantee or its Subcontractors in relation to this Agreement shall include clauses stating that each carrier shall waive all rights of recovery under subrogation or otherwise against Grantee or the State, its agencies, institutions, organizations, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers.

H. Public Entities

If Grantee is a "public entity" within the meaning of the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, §24-10-101, *et seq.*, C.R.S. (the "GIA"), Grantee shall maintain, in lieu of the liability insurance requirements stated above, at all times during the term of this Agreement such liability insurance, by commercial policy or self-insurance, as is necessary to meet its liabilities under the GIA. If a Subcontractor is a public entity within the meaning of the GIA, Grantee shall ensure that the Subcontractor maintain at all times during the terms of this Grantee, in lieu of the liability insurance requirements stated above, such liability insurance, by commercial policy or self-insurance, as is necessary to meet the Subcontractor's obligations under the GIA.

I. Certificates

For each commercial insurance plan provided by Grantee under this Agreement, Grantee shall provide to the State certificates evidencing Grantee's insurance coverage required in this Agreement within seven Business Days following the Effective Date. Grantee shall provide to the State certificates evidencing Subcontractor insurance coverage required under this Agreement within seven Business Days following the Effective Date, except that, if Grantee's subcontract is not in effect as of the Effective Date, Grantee shall provide to the State certificates showing Subcontractor insurance coverage required under this Agreement within seven Business Days following Grantee's execution of the subcontract. No later than 15 days before the expiration date of Grantee's or any Subcontractor's coverage, Grantee shall deliver to the State certificates of insurance evidencing renewals of coverage. At any other time during the term of this Agreement, upon request by the State, Grantee shall, within seven Business Days following the request by the State, supply to the State evidence satisfactory to the State of compliance with the provisions of this section.