

**Natural Resources -- Parks and Wildlife**  
*State Trust Land Hunting and Fishing Access Program*

Statewide

965,521 acres

Various locations

---

**Action Required**

Recommend support for the lease renewal with the State Land Board (965,521 acres for approximately \$1,641,510 per year).

---

**Questions and Responses**

None.



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

### Capital Development Committee May 2023 —Property Transaction Proposal

Department of Natural Resources  
*Division of Parks and Wildlife*

<b>Action Requested</b>	Pursuant to C.R.S. 33-1-105(3)(a) and C.R.S. 33-10-107(2) recommend support to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission for the Division of Parks and Wildlife’s proposal to renew a lease with the State Land Board.
-------------------------	---

<b>General Information</b>	
Project Name	State Trust Land Hunting & Fishing Access Program
Number of acres	965,520.51
Location	Statewide
County	Statewide

<b>Costs / Source of Funding</b>		
Purchase Price	\$1,641,510 (Approximate annual lease payment)	Source: Wildlife Cash Fund and Federal Aid.
	Spending authority has already been approved for this project in the Long Bill.	
Annual Operation Costs	Approximately \$200,000 each year.	Funding for operation costs will come from the Wildlife Operations Line Item under the Division Operations Group in the Long Bill.
Development Costs	\$0- development has largely been completed.	
* The Division may alter the source of funds for individual acquisitions based on circumstances that arise in the time period prior to closing.		

**Summary of Proposal:**

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will renew its lease with the State Land Board (SLB) for ten years. The lease currently provides public access to approximately 965,520.51 acres of land identified to have wildlife recreational values for the public. This frame work of the lease allows new enrollments and withdrawals on an annual basis.

The program was formerly known as the Public Access Program, or “PAP”. The SLB has recently renamed the program as the “State Trust Land Hunting & Fishing Access Program.” Other changes to the lease include narrowing the allowed uses under the Program to public hunting and fishing access, as well as incorporating the 2019 amendment into the standard lease, which allowed for a walk-in category.

For more than 140 years the SLB has leased trust land for a variety of uses in order to earn money for school children. The State Trust Lands were given to the State of Colorado at statehood, in 1876, by the Federal Government.

In 1993 the State Land Board and the Division of Wildlife, now CPW, entered into a ten year lease for approximately 500,000 acres of trust lands for wildlife-related recreation. That agreement has typically been modified annually. The renewals involved adding new land and withdrawing other parcels.

In October 2013, a new lease agreement was finalized to provide a more cooperative document that improved the process between these two agencies, and provided stronger support of their mission statements.

In July 2019, a Supplemental Amendment was inaugurated to add up to 500,000 acres in annual increments by June 30, 2022. This is consistent with the Governor's Wildly Important Goal #3 to increase acres of public access, CPW's Strategic Goal VI, to broaden the access and variety of recreation opportunities available to Coloradans and visitors, and CPW's commitment through the Future Generations Act to expand public and private land access.

The current lease expires 6/30/2023.

The ten year lease cost per acre will be subject to CPW adjustments annually. The maximum rental amount of the term of the lease is \$24,000,000. The current lease rate base amount for FY 22/23 is \$2.15 an acre for the standard rate and \$1.14 an acre for the walk-in category.

Attachments: None