



COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

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TO: Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
Mike King, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Natural Resources
Members, Agriculture, Livestock, Natural Resources Committee, Colorado
House of Representatives
Members, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Energy Committee, Colorado
State Senate

FROM: State Council, Habitat Partnership Program
Rick D. Cables, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

DATE: November 10, 2011

RE: Habitat Partnership Program Annual Report – FY 2011

As required by statute, attached please find the FY 2011 report for the Habitat Partnership Program (HPP). HPP is authorized by the State Legislature and the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission to “reduce wildlife conflicts, particularly those associated with forage and fence issues, and to assist the Division of Wildlife in meeting game management objectives through duties as deemed appropriate by the Director.” HPP is funded by 5% of big game (deer, elk, antelope, moose) license revenues from HPP areas, which in FY 11 was \$2,061,477, an 11% reduction from the FY 10 allocation.

In FY 11, 19 local HPP committees and the State Council, made up of more than 140 volunteer members representing livestock growers, sportsmen, federal land management agencies and CPW staff met throughout the year across much of Colorado to cooperatively discuss and work towards resolving conflicts between big game wildlife and agricultural operators.

As mentioned above, for the second consecutive year, HPP’s FY 11 budget was impacted by the decline in big game license sales. Despite this, \$2.11 million dollars of HPP money was leveraged with \$6.8 million dollars, in kind services valued at more than \$3.6 million and more than 28,000 hours of labor from our project partners in our efforts to reduce conflicts and meet management objectives.

HPP has strong support at the local level due to the makeup of the local committees and their ability with dedicated funding to implement projects on the ground quickly. Two key benefits of the HPP program are the strong communication and dialogue that takes place among all participants with different perspectives and the subsequent partnerships that are developed to identify and resolve local problems.

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Mike King, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources
Rick D. Cables, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Parks and Wildlife Commission: David R. Brougham • Gary Butterworth, Vice-Chair • Chris Castilian
Dorothea Farris • Tim Glenn, Chair • Allan Jones • Bill Kane • Gaspar Perricone • Jim Pribyl • John Singletary
Mark Smith, Secretary • Robert Streeter • Lenna Watson • Dean Wingfield
Ex Officio Members: Mike King and John Salazar

In addition to improving working partnerships, local HPP committees are involved in many diverse projects with two main ones being habitat improvements and fencing materials. Habitat improvement projects are a priority for most committees and are seen as the best long term solution to resolving conflicts by improving the quality and quantity of range and habitat resources for both wildlife and livestock. Typical habitat improvement projects include weed control, prescribed burning, fertilization, seeding, water developments and shrub and tree cutting and may occur on both public and private lands.

In the spring of 2011, the State Council awarded \$500,000 to 5 applicants for larger scale habitat improvement projects. This was the second time in three years that the State Council has offered this grant as a way to encourage larger scale projects which are more effective in distributing big game and livestock. The projects submitted and funded exemplified the strong and varied partnerships that HPP has developed as well as emphasizing habitat treatments as the preferred long term solution to many resource issues. These projects will be completed no later than June 30, 2012 with benefits to wildlife and agricultural operators alike.

One of the original purposes for HPP was to resolve fence damages caused by big game. One way that most HPP committees accomplish this is by furnishing fence materials to landowners to use to repair minor fence damages. These materials and the quick responsive processes committees have created to provide these materials continue to be very well received by landowners and remain an integral part of the program.

HPP has also been instrumental in working with affected landowners to create fences that work for both livestock and wildlife. A relatively new example of this that is receiving widespread use is the use of a colored top wire along a fence. While not affecting livestock usage, a highlighted top wire allows deer and elk to see the fence and then cross it with minimal or no damage to the fence or to the animal. This results in fewer fence repairs, fewer deer or elk getting caught in the fence and fewer cattle that are able to escape the pasture due to a damaged fence, all of which save a landowner time and money.

The figures used in this report are gathered from projects approved in FY 11. If the project has been completed, actual costs and accomplishment figures are used. If the project is incomplete, original estimates provided at the time of approval are used. As approved projects are completed, it's likely that the final figures will change as accomplishments and costs are finalized.

There is much more detailed information available about the HPP program and projects undertaken by the local committees. If you have any specific questions or would like additional information, please contact Pat Tucker, HPP Coordinator, at (970) 255-6188 or via email at pat.tucker@state.co.us.

HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

ADM – administrative projects, ie. committee administrative assistants, State Council and local committee meeting costs, supplies, etc.

EQP – equipment purchased by committees for project work. (Prior approval needed and there are limitations on use.)

FEN – fencing projects, ie. new construction, repairs (may be labor and/or materials) to existing fences in problem areas, etc.

GBL – for HPP projects, 9 GBL's are used to categorize the type of project being done, ie. ADM, EQP, FEN, GDM, INF, MAN, MTC, OTH, RES

GDM – game damage projects, ie. new stackyard construction, repairs to existing stackyards (may be labor and/or materials), forage purchases, hunt coordinators

INF – information and education projects, ie. brochures, web sites, seminars, workshops, etc.

MAN – habitat manipulation projects, ie. prescribed burns, brush/tree treatments, fertilization, reseeding, weed control, water developments, etc.

MTC – maintenance, ie. supplies and ongoing maintenance for HPP owned equipment.

OTH – conservation easement transaction costs and archeological clearances

RES – monitoring and research projects, ie. inventory, habitat, movement studies, project monitoring

Match \$ - actual dollars contributed by a cooperator to a project

In-Kind \$ - goods or services provided by a cooperator to a project that the cooperator has calculated a dollar value for it.

In-Kind Hours – time contributed by a cooperator to complete a project.

HPP Cost – actual HPP dollars approved and spent by a committee for a project

Total Cost – sum of HPP cost, matching funds and in kind funds contributed to a project

Private Cost – HPP dollars spent on private land projects

Public Cost – HPP dollars spent on public land projects

Cooperator Abbreviations

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

CSFS – Colorado State Forest Service

DOW – Division of Wildlife

GOCO – Great Outdoors Colorado

MDF – Mule Deer Foundation

NPS – National Park Service

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service

NWTF - National Wild Turkey Foundation

RMEF – Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

SLB – State Land Board

TNC – The Nature Conservancy

UP Project – Uncompahgre Plateau Project

USFS – United States Forest Service

USFWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service



Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Habitat Partnership Program

Program Accomplishments - Fiscal Year 2011

Units	Description	Accomplishments
Acres Burned	Habitat Improved	1915.00
Acres Fertilized	Habitat Improved	8842.82
Acres Irrigated	Habitat Improved	60.00
Acres Mech. or Hand -Treated	Habitat Improved	5365.21
Acres of Weed Control	Habitat Improved	7274.55*
Acres Seeded / Planted	Habitat Improved	2198.20
Baiting	Projects	2.00
Cattleguards, Gates, etc	Constructed	15.00
Hazing	Projects	1.00
Hunt Coords	Hired	5.00
Miles of New Fence	of New Fence Built	41.60
Plans	Written	10.00
Proj- repair,vouchers,etc	for Minor Fence Repair	463.00
Stackyard Repair	Projects	1.00
Stackyards	Materials Provided	16.00
Tons	of Forage Purchased	425.63
Vinyl Rolls	Provided	159.00
Water Dev	Built and/or Maintained	111.00
Weed control projects	Projects	130.00*

*- `Acres of Weed Control' is used when an actual treatment has been applied to a specific area and the acreage treated can be accurately determined.

* - `Weed control projects' is used when a treatment is applied over a large area (ie. spot spraying) and the acreages cannot be accurately determined and if used, would greatly inflate the actual number of acres treated.



Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Habitat Partnership Program

Program Accomplishments - Fiscal Year 2011

Type	#Projects	Detail
Equipment	1	
Information/Education	7	
Monitoring/Research	13	
Other	1	Archeological Clearances
Other	8	Conservation Easements

This report uses actual project costs and accomplishments for completed projects and uses estimated costs and accomplishments for in-progress projects that were provided at initial project approval. Report numbers are subject to change as in-progress projects are completed.



**Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Habitat Partnership Program**

HPP Program Costs and Hours by GBL - Fiscal Year 2011

GBL	Total Cost	HPP Cost	Match \$	In-Kind \$	In-Kind Hrs
ADM	\$154,502.64	\$154,502.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	3113
EQP	\$3,155.00	\$3,155.00			
FEN	\$589,134.21	\$315,750.48	\$116,930.00	\$156,453.73	11415
GDM	\$205,729.25	\$133,545.25	\$29,375.00	\$42,809.00	1111
INF	\$38,639.93	\$26,739.93	\$6,900.00	\$5,000.00	12
MAN	\$4,300,233.86	\$1,286,131.83	\$2,471,846.63	\$534,755.40	12033
MTC	\$15,303.45	\$5,303.45	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	0
OTH	\$6,795,130.50	\$54,039.50	\$3,968,766.00	\$2,772,325.00	16
RES	\$477,477.49	\$132,488.49	\$211,579.00	\$133,410.00	940
Totals:	\$12,579,306.33	\$2,111,656.57	\$6,805,396.63	\$3,654,753.13	28640

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Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Habitat Partnership Program
Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2011
Summary of Committee Finances

Committee	HPP Cost	Match Amt	In-Kind Amt	Total Expenses	Private Cost	Public Cost	In-Kind Hrs
Arkansas River	\$55,157.12	\$23,050.00	\$22,800.00	\$101,007.12	\$21,109.13	\$27,069.54	959
Grand Mesa	\$122,657.28	\$248,227.88	\$45,438.00	\$416,323.16	\$108,361.71	\$6,617.50	2126
Gunnison Basin	\$47,623.16	\$56,069.00	\$30,310.00	\$134,002.16	\$0.00	\$32,877.86	1349
Lower Colorado River	\$142,106.79	\$201,973.85	\$85,621.00	\$429,701.64	\$120,470.33	\$6,326.20	3776
Middle Park	\$117,300.19	\$172,250.00	\$13,800.00	\$303,350.19	\$50,265.40	\$63,007.20	690
Montelores	\$81,436.60	\$738,689.00	\$989,945.00	\$1,810,070.60	\$19,766.49	\$0.00	354
Mount Blanca	\$74,443.32	\$4,250.00	\$34,800.00	\$113,493.32	\$49,542.70	\$800.00	416
North Fork Gunnison	\$104,518.00	\$10,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$135,018.00	\$92,919.76	\$6,247.50	717
North Park	\$48,081.52	\$64,575.00	\$17,700.00	\$130,356.52	\$23,957.77	\$19,049.00	1043
Northern Larimer County	\$31,131.14	\$35,625.74	\$7,862.73	\$74,619.61	\$17,324.32	\$7,369.75	425
Northwest Colorado	\$150,577.13	\$249,470.00	\$280,880.00	\$680,927.13	\$110,784.13	\$27,698.00	3408
Republican Rivers	\$38,042.89	\$74,539.57	\$3,525.00	\$116,107.46	\$26,850.89	\$0.00	200
San Juan Basin	\$102,268.91	\$571,574.00	\$0.00	\$673,842.91	\$66,413.88	\$30,833.53	1750
San Luis Valley	\$66,208.56	\$3,339,800.00	\$1,860,800.00	\$5,266,808.56	\$1,366.25	\$32,155.66	847
Sangre de Cristo	\$69,553.99	\$120,810.00	\$18,500.00	\$208,863.99	\$41,667.74	\$23,836.25	1010
South Park	\$59,641.43	\$80,200.00	\$25,500.00	\$165,341.43	\$20,154.39	\$27,351.64	1429
State Council	\$406,614.58	\$98,850.00	\$27,460.00	\$532,924.58	\$37,372.40	\$257,136.00	314
Uncompahgre	\$114,902.81	\$523,716.00	\$124,852.40	\$763,471.21	\$104,609.59	\$4,675.88	5525
Upper Yampa River	\$82,614.83	\$56,660.85	\$29,309.00	\$168,584.68	\$66,319.08	\$4,960.80	1153
Yampa / White River	\$196,776.32	\$135,065.74	\$22,650.00	\$354,492.06	\$162,859.29	\$13,365.00	1149
HPP Program Totals:	\$2,111,656.57	\$6,805,396.63	\$3,654,753.13	\$12,579,306.33	\$1,142,115.25	\$591,377.31	28640

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Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Habitat Partnership Program
Project Cooperators, Fiscal Year 2011

HPP Program Totals

Cooperator Name	HPP Cost	Match Amt	In-Kind Amt	In-Kind Hrs
	\$329,358.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
BLM	\$297,306.18	\$270,869.00	\$39,080.00	523
BLM Grazing Adv Board	\$8,640.00	\$9,300.00	\$0.00	40
County Gov't	\$39,083.10	\$169,273.00	\$216,866.00	2387
CSFS	\$14,841.92	\$642,964.00	\$0.00	0
DOW	\$74,007.26	\$128,244.00	\$124,114.00	1272
GOCO	\$5,416.67	\$1,720,800.00	\$0.00	0
HPP Committee Members	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2963
HPP State Council	\$1,666.67	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	150
Local Govt	\$700.00	\$6,000.00	\$500.00	100
Local Land Trust	\$13,250.00	\$577,000.00	\$5,825.00	0
Local Soil Cons. Dist	\$5,099.00	\$5,300.00	\$0.00	0
Local Weed Control Dist	\$11,463.69	\$35,000.00	\$3,228.00	85
MDF	\$17,248.00	\$25,830.00	\$0.00	0
NRCS	\$50,421.51	\$1,630,281.00	\$14,000.00	418
NWTF	\$2,666.66	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	0
Other HPP Committee	\$15,508.28	\$24,000.00	\$0.00	0
Other Wildlife Group	\$71,628.78	\$232,820.00	\$17,000.00	400
Owl Mtn Partnership	\$5,666.67	\$12,950.00	\$0.00	0
Private Business/Org	\$35,841.61	\$83,500.00	\$20,000.00	0



Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Habitat Partnership Program

Project Cooperators, Fiscal Year 2011

Cooperator Name	HPP Cost	Match Amt	In-Kind Amt	In-Kind Hrs
Private Landowner	\$912,725.99	\$882,475.88	\$3,105,060.13	18058
Private Local Assoc.	\$4,600.00	\$21,600.00	\$0.00	0
RMEF	\$47,348.54	\$135,260.00	\$0.00	0
SLB	\$11,278.87	\$51,200.00	\$0.00	0
State Gov't	\$8,333.00	\$32,000.00	\$1,000.00	500
UP Project	\$994.40	\$1,000.00	\$150.00	8
USFS	\$106,184.34	\$86,479.75	\$71,700.00	1496
USFWS	\$20,376.79	\$1,250.00	\$36,230.00	240
Totals	\$2,111,656.57	\$6,805,396.63	\$3,654,753.13	28640

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