

# Table of Contents

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## COLORADO

<i>station/office</i>	<i>telephone number</i>
<b>Fisheries Offices</b>	
Fish and Wildlife Management Assistant Office	303-275-2393
Colorado River Fishery Project Office	970-245-9319
Hotchkiss NFH	970-872-3170
Leadville NFH	719-486-0189
<b>National Wildlife Refuge Offices</b>	
Alamosa/Monte Vista NWR Complex	719-589-4021
Arapaho NWR Complex	970-723-8202
Browns Park NWR	970-365-3613
Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR	303-289-0232
Two Ponds NWR	303-289-0471
<b>Partners for Fish and Wildlife Office</b>	
Denver	303-275-2435
<b>Ecological Services Offices</b>	
Lakewood	303-275-2370
Grand Junction	970-243-2778
Upper Colorado River Recovery Program	303-236-2985x223
<b>Law Enforcement Offices</b>	
Lakewood	303-274-3560
Grand Junction	970-257-0795
Regional Office	303-236-7890x21
<b>North American Waterfowl Management Plan</b>	303-236-8155x252
<b>Federal Aid-Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration</b>	303-236-7392
<b>Migratory Bird Conservation</b>	303-236-8155x259

*The United States  
Fish and Wildlife  
Service's mission is,  
working with  
others, to conserve,  
protect, and  
enhance fish,  
wildlife, and plants  
and their habitats  
for the continuing  
benefit of the  
American people.*

This book is available on the FWS Mountain-  
Prairie Region website:  
<http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/reference>

03/2001

# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Presence in Colorado

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## **Employment**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) employs approximately 124 people in Colorado.

The FY 2000 Resource Management budget for Service activities in Colorado total \$7,336,000.

Over 25,535 hours were donated by 363 volunteers to help with Service projects.

## **Fisheries Facts**

Two National Fish Hatcheries, two Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Offices, and one Colorado River Fishery Project Office.

## **Visitation**

43,500 people visited fisheries facilities in Colorado in 1999.

## **Fishery Contribution**

- 2,240,000 sport fish stocked in Colorado waters in 1999.
- Fish production in Colorado supports over 194,000 angler days per year in Colorado valued at \$9,700,000; and over 68,000 angler days per year in New Mexico valued at over \$3,375,000.

- 4,900,000 trout eggs distributed to Colorado hatcheries in 1999.

## **National Wildlife Refuge Facts**

Six National Wildlife Refuges with more than 79,000 acres.

**Volunteer Hours:** 14,155

## **Visitation**

63,500 people visited Refuges in Colorado in 1999.

Of these:

- 2,000 people fished on Refuges.
- 3,700 people hunted on Refuges.
- 69,000 people visited Refuges to view wildlife.
- 9,200 school children participated in Service educational programs.

## **Federal Aid to Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Programs**

In 2000, Colorado received \$6,200,000 for sport fish restoration, and \$5,200,000 for wildlife restoration and hunter education.

## **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Facts**

With State partners, the Service helped private landowners develop or restore 10,328 acres of wetlands, and develop 4,782 acres of upland projects for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and natural resources.

## **Endangered Species**

### **Recovery Program Facts**

The Service is the lead on endangered Colorado fish and the Preble's meadow jumping mouse.

The Service also provides close coordination with various land management agencies in Colorado.



# Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office (FWMAO)

Contact: Bruce D. Rosenlund  
Project Leader

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Denver, Colorado 80225-0186

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Fax: 303-275-2395

E-mail: [bruce\\_rosenlund@fws.gov](mailto:bruce_rosenlund@fws.gov)

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## Station Facts

This station was established as a fisheries management office in 1977. Acquisition of the 237,000-acre U.S. Army Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in 1983, resulted in the hiring of additional staff to provide technical assistance in the areas of wildlife, rangeland management, and environmental compliance on military lands. Service funding for the station is limited to \$12,000 per year.

## Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 12

Current Budget (FY 00): \$1,800,000 in funds from other agencies.

Annual Visitation: Although this office does not have any landholdings, it serves two of the most popular visitor sites within Colorado: the U.S. Air Force Academy (747,000 visits) and Rocky Mountain National Park (3,115,785 visits).

## Station Objective

Provide technical assistance in the fields of fisheries, wildlife, rangeland management, natural resource planning, and environmental compliance in partnership with other agencies and conservation organizations.

## Primary Partners

- National Park Service
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Army
- Universities
- Private conservation organizations

## Activity Highlights

Cooperative threatened and endangered species management programs including: greenback cutthroat trout, Colorado River cutthroat trout, bull trout, black-footed ferret, Preble's meadow jumping mouse, and other species.

## Public Use Opportunities

Recreational fishing, hunting, and educational programs are conducted in cooperation with military bases and national parks.

## Rangeland Management

Control of noxious weeds, management of native plants, habitat improvements, and restoration of lands used for military training.

## Environmental Compliance

Environmental review and development of resource management plans.

## Closure of Military Bases

Under the Base Closure and Realignment Act, develop fish, wildlife habitat and opportunities for the public on Pueblo Chemical Depot.

# Colorado River Fishery Project Office

## Grand Junction

Contact: Frank K. Pfeifer  
Project Leader  
Address: 764 Horizon Drive,  
South Annex A  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

Telephone: 970-245-9319  
Fax: 970-245-6933  
E-mail: frank\_pfeifer@fws.gov

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### Station Facts

The Colorado River Fishery Project (CRFP), Grand Junction office, was established in 1979. The Project functions under general guidance provided by the "Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish in the Upper Colorado River Basin," an interagency agreement signed by the Secretary of the Interior and the Governors of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming in 1988. This station also works with the San Juan River Recovery Program, which is a cooperative program between three Federal agencies, three States, and three Native American Tribes.

CRFP in Grand Junction is responsible for basin-wide monitoring programs for rare fish and their habitats, management-oriented research activities, in-stream flow assessments and recommendations, database management and data analyses, and experimental population augmentation and restoration programs.

### Station Objective

The broad mission of CRFP is the identification and implementation of means to recover four endangered fishes (Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, bonytail chub, and razorback sucker) native to the Upper Colorado River Basin. The geographic work area includes the Colorado (upstream of Lake Powell), Gunnison, and San Juan rivers.

### Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 9

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$745,000

### Primary Partners

- Ecological Services (Service)
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- New Mexico Game and Fish Department
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Western Area Power Administration
- Upper Basin water developers
- Environmental groups

### Activity Highlights

Six ponds to hold broodstock and serve as refugia for the endangered fish.

Self-contained hatchery capable of raising 5,000 pounds of endangered fish.

Grow-out pond capable of rearing an additional 18,000 pounds of endangered fish.

Fish passageway that opens up 50 miles of endangered fish habitat that had been blocked for 80 years.

Re-operation of Federal dams (Aspinall & Navajo) to benefit endangered fishes.

Partial restoration of the historic floodplain to benefit native fishes.

# Hotchkiss

## *National Fish Hatchery*

Contact: Adam P. Mendoza  
Project Leader

Address: 807 - 3150 Lane  
Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419

Telephone: 970-872-3170

Fax: 970-872-3643

E-mail: adam\_mendoza@fws.gov

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### **Station Facts**

Established: 1967

Located 5 miles west of Hotchkiss on 58.5 acres.

Trout production and distribution began in 1971.

### **Fishery Contribution**

2,500,000 fingerlings, sub-catchable, and catchable trout per year.

Propagation and stocking supports over 139,000 angler days per year in Colorado, valued at over \$6,950,000.

Propagation and stocking supports over 68,000 angler days in New Mexico, valued at over \$3,375,000.

Hatchery water supply comes from Tommy Dowell Springs located above the Hatchery.

### **Station Objectives**

Supply trout to meet the mitigation requirements of Federal water developments under Section 8 of the Colorado River Storage Projects Act (CRSP).

Provide disease-free trout to the Colorado Division of Wildlife for stocking.

### **Station Fiscal Facts**

Staff: 5

Current Budget (FY 00): \$325,000

Annual Visitation: 7,500

### **Public Use Opportunities**

- Fishery education
- Hatchery tours

### **Activity Highlights**

Annual Children's Fishing Derby.

Watchable wildlife viewing area in conjunction with the local Audubon Society and Youth Alliance Organization.

# Leadville

## *National Fish Hatchery*

Contact: John Seals  
Project Leader  
Address: 2844 Hwy. 300  
Leadville, Colorado 80461

Telephone: 719-486-0189  
Fax: 719-486-3343  
E-mail: john\_seals@fws.gov

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### **Station Facts**

Established: 1889

Located about 6 miles west of Leadville on 3,072 acres. Approximately 2,500 acres of the Hatchery are within the Mt. Massive Wilderness Area.

Facilities include Hatchery building listed on the National Historic Register.

Propagation and stocking support over 55,000 angler days per year in Colorado valued at over \$2,740,000.

Primary species: cutthroat trout, brown trout, lake trout, brook trout.

Hatchery water supply comes from spring water, Turquoise Reservoir, and Rock Creek.

### **Station Objectives**

Support recreational fisheries in Fryngpan-Arkansas Project Reservoirs in the Upper Arkansas Valley.

To support the recovery implementation program for the endangered fish in the Upper Colorado River Basin.

To support recovery of the greenback cutthroat trout, through the establishment of a broodstock and refugia program.

### **Station Fiscal Facts**

Staff: 3

Current Budget (FY 00): \$197,000

Annual Visitation: 36,000

### **Public Use Opportunities**

- Fish viewing and feeding
- Fishing ponds
- Greenback cutthroat trout fishery
- Hatchery tours
- Visitor center
- Nature trail
- Picnic/playground area
- Wilderness access
- Hiking and cross country skiing trails

### **Activity Highlights**

Seasonal college graduate fish culture interns

Annual Children's Fishing Day

Annual Leadville Trail-100 and bike-100 races

Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> and Boom Days parades

Seasonal visitor center hosts

### **Issues**

Recently completed National Environmental Policy Act review to clean-up and retrofit the Hatchery to become whirling disease negative.

# Alamosa/Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Contact: Michael Blenden  
Refuge Manager  
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Alamosa, Colorado 81101

Telephone: 719-589-4021  
Fax: 719-587-0595  
E-mail: mike\_blenden@fws.gov  
Website: www.r6.fws.gov/alamosanwr

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## Station Facts

There are two National Wildlife Refuges in the San Luis Valley of Colorado.

### Alamosa NWR

- Established: 1964
- Acres: 11,169

### Monte Vista NWR

- Established: 1952 (first NWR in Colorado)
- Acres: 14,189

## Station Objectives

Manage wetlands habitats for benefit of nesting and migrating waterbirds.

Manage upland habitats for the benefit of nesting songbirds and waterbirds.

Provide migratory habitat especially for waterfowl, greater sandhill cranes, and the endangered whooping crane.

Provide opportunity and technical assistance for environmental education activities.

Actively pursue goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the San Luis Valley Waterbird

Management Plan through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and Colorado Wetlands Initiative.

Provide wildlife-oriented recreation opportunities.

## Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 12

Current Budget (FY 00): \$677,000 plus \$1,147,000 in partnerships, grants and other special funds

- Annual Visitation: 25,000
- Volunteer hours: 3,734

## Public Use Opportunities at Alamosa NWR

- Visitor contact station at Headquarters.
- Environmental education.
- Two-mile hiking trail through the Rio Grande River riparian zone for wildlife viewing.
- Self-guided auto tour route.
- Auto tour drive to Bluff Overlook on southern end of Refuge for view of wetlands, Rio Grande River, and rangelands to the west.
- Waterfowl and small game hunting.

## Public Use Opportunities at Monte Vista NWR

- Environmental education.
- Self-guided auto tour route.
- Waterfowl and small game hunting.
- Visitor contact station open during the Monte Vista Crane Festival.

## Activity Highlights

Management of both Refuges emphasize coordination with water users: city, county and State governments; private landowners; and conservation organizations to reach common goals for the San Luis Valley.

Monte Vista NWR is known as one of the most productive duck nesting areas in North America.

Monte Vista NWR is the focus of the annual Monte Vista Crane Festival.

Monte Vista NWR provides several outdoor classrooms for regional environmental educators and students Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.



# Arapaho

## National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Contact: Greg Langer  
Refuge Manager  
Address: P.O. Box 457  
Jackson County Road, #32  
Walden, Colorado 80480

Telephone: 970-723-8202  
Fax: 970-723-8528  
E-mail: greg\_langer@fws.gov

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### Station Facts

The Complex consists of the Arapaho NWR in Colorado, and Mortenson Lake, Hutton Lake, Bamforth, and Pathfinder NWRs in Wyoming.

#### *Arapaho NWR*

- Established: 1967
- Acres: 24,804

#### *Mortenson Lake NWR*

- Established: 1993, to protect the last known breeding population of the endangered Wyoming toad
- Acres: 1,776

#### *Hutton Lake NWR*

- Established: 1932
- Acres: 1,968

#### *Bamforth NWR*

- Established: 1932
- Acres: 1,166

#### *Pathfinder NWR*

- Established: 1936
- Acres: 16,807

### Station Objectives

Provide the life requirements, including habitat management and protection for endangered/threatened, aquatic, wildlife and plant species present on the Refuge.

Provide breeding, nesting, and brood rearing habitat for migratory birds, and especially for waterfowl.

Wildlife-oriented recreational and interpretive opportunities for the general public compatible with the Refuge's purposes.

### Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 6

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$289,600

- Annual Visitation: 9,000
- Volunteer hours: 2,118

### Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing and hunting.
- Self-guided auto tour route.
- Wetland interpretive walking trail.
- Illinois River overlook and interpretive display.
- Wildlife observation and photography.
- Environmental education.

### Activity Highlights

Wetland enhancement and creation through Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program.

Intermountain West Joint Venture participation in two focus areas (North Park, CO, and Laramie Plains/North Platte River, WY).

Active participant in the North Park Habitat Partnership and Owl Mountain Partnership programs involving Federal, State, and local agency personnel, together with private landowners and businesses, seeking to resolve resource management conflicts.

Sagebrush/grassland, meadow and willow riparian habitat manipulation and maintenance, utilizing a combination of management tools including rest, prescribed burning, various grazing strategies, biological control agents, etc.

# **Browns Park**

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

Contact: Michael J. Bryant  
Refuge Manager  
Address: 1318 Hwy 318  
Maybell, Colorado 81640

Telephone: 970-365-3613  
Fax: 970-365-3614  
E-mail: michael\_j\_bryant@fws.gov

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### **Station Facts**

Established: August 20, 1963

Acres: 13,455

Productive marshes important to migrating and breeding water birds.

Riparian habitat important to migrating birds that breed within forests in the Northern Rockies.

Critical winter habitat for mule deer, elk, pronghorn, and many other wildlife species.

Nationally significant western history.

### **Station Goals**

Conserve and restore native wildlife habitats to the extent practicable, with emphasis on those that benefit endangered and threatened species and migratory birds.

Provide wildlife-oriented recreation opportunities that are compatible with Refuge purposes.

Communicate the natural and human history of the Refuge and surrounding area to visitors.

Cooperate with individuals, organizations, and agencies for the benefit of wildlife conservation within the Green River ecosystem.

### **Station Fiscal Facts**

Staff: 5

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$286,000

- Annual visitation: 10,000
- Volunteer hours: 1,653

### **Public Use Opportunities**

- Fishing and Hunting.
- Accessible fishing pier and hunting blind.
- Old West history in combination with solitude and scenery.
- Wildlife observation.
- Wildlife drive.
- Visitor contact station.
- Campgrounds.
- Hiking and birding trails.
- Refuge tours are provided for schools and organized groups.

### **Activity Highlights**

Changing water management of marshes to provide better habitat for migratory waterbirds.

Reducing the acreage of non-native plants on the Refuge.

Working to restore riparian habitat on the Refuge.

Developing better public use facilities.

Working cooperatively with organizations, agencies, and individuals to conserve wildlife within the Green River Basin in Colorado.

# Rocky Mountain Arsenal

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

Contact: Dean Rundle  
Project Leader

Address: Building 111  
Commerce City, Colorado 80022-1748

Telephone: 303-289-0232

Fax: 303-289-0582

E-mail: [drundle@rma.army.mil](mailto:drundle@rma.army.mil)

### **Station Facts**

- Established: 1992
- Acres: 17,000

The Arsenal was built by the U.S. Army to manufacture chemical weapons for World War II. Arsenal facilities were leased to Shell Chemical (now Shell Oil) from 1952 to 1982 for the production of pesticides and herbicides. In 1987, the Arsenal was designated a Superfund cleanup site, and in 1996, a Record of Decision was signed documenting how the site will be cleaned up. In 1992, Congress passed the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge Act, designating the Arsenal as a NWR upon completion of clean-up. Until that time, the Arsenal will be managed “as if it were” a NWR, subject to remediation.

The Arsenal has diverse habitats ranging from pure moist wetlands, intermittent streams, and permanent lakes. These habitats support abundant and varied animal life and are home to close to 300 wildlife species. Approximately 200 bald eagles spend their winters in

the area, with 80 or more a night on the Refuge.

### **Station Objectives**

Manage wildlife and habitat that contribute to ecosystem management using strategies that recognize the mission of the National Refuge System and the Refuge’s different resource types and legislated purposes.

Interact with communities and organizations through outreach and cooperative agreements to create mutually beneficial partnerships.

Develop environmental education and outreach programs for urban communities to nurture an appreciation of nature and develop environmentally responsible behavior.

Provide opportunities for compatible wildlife-oriented recreational activities.

Utilize the Refuge for research opportunities compatible with Refuge management.

Develop a program support system to provide facilities, funding, and resources necessary to accomplish refuge purposes.

### **Station Fiscal Facts**

Staff: 46

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$1,017,000 Service  
\$2,776,300 Army funded

- Annual Visitation: 16,000
- Volunteer hours: 6,074

### **Public Use Opportunities**

- Catch and release fishing.
- Visitor center with interpretive exhibits.
- Environmental education.
- Trails for wildlife viewing or hiking.
- Eagle observation facility.
- Guided bus and bike tours.
- Wildlife observation and photography.

### **Activity Highlights**

National Fishing Week, National Wildlife Refuge Week, Eagle Festival Days, and Prairie Day celebrations..

Long-term biomonitoring studies to assess overall health of Refuge wildlife.

Cooperative efforts with remediation parties to minimize damage to wildlife habitat during clean-up.

Bald eagle management and habitat enhancement through restoration of prairie dog colonies.

Deer management program.

Participation in national migration study of Swainson's hawks.

Restoration of several thousand acres of native shortgrass and sandhills prairies; developing prairie demonstration plots and native seed production facilities.

# Two Ponds

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

Contact: David Jamiel  
Park Ranger  
Address: Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR  
Building 111  
Commerce City, Colorado 80022-1748

Telephone: 303-289-0471  
Fax: 303-289-0579  
E-mail: [djaniel@rma.army.mil](mailto:djaniel@rma.army.mil)

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### **Station Facts**

Established: 1992

Acres: 71.72

In 1990, a private non-profit citizen group, the Two Ponds Preservation Foundation, solicited the Service for involvement in acquiring and preserving a small natural area in Arvada, Colorado.

### **Station Objectives**

Restore upland and wetland habitats for migrant and resident wildlife.

Provide opportunities for environmental education and wildlife observation in an urban environment.

Provide breeding, wintering, and migration requirements for waterfowl and other migratory birds.

### **Station Fiscal Facts**

Staff: Park Ranger is a collateral duty position from Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR and a bio-technician.

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$80,000

- Visitation: 3,500
- Volunteer hours: 576

### **Public Use Opportunities**

- Limited visitor facilities.
- Guided tours.
- Environmental education.
- Wildlife observation and photography.
- Hiking.
- Off-site programs.
- Yearly open house in June.

### **Activity Highlights**

Environmental education programs and tours offered through partnerships with local conservation organizations.

Volunteers and scouts assist with maintenance, visitor facility construction, and wildlife management.

Monitoring of birds and small mammal populations.

# Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFFW)

Contact: Bill Noonan  
Program Coordinator

Address: P.O. Box 25486, DFC  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0186

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Fax: 303-275-2371

E-mail: [bill\\_noonan@fws.gov](mailto:bill_noonan@fws.gov)

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## **Voluntary Habitat Programs**

Wetland restoration/  
enhancement and creation.

Riparian protection and  
enhancement.

Native prairie restoration and  
enhancement.

Threatened and endangered  
species habitat protection/  
enhancement and restoration.

Environmental education.

## **Technical Assistance**

Private landowners

Local, State, and Federal  
agencies

Private conservation  
organizations

## **Primary Habitat Accomplishments:**

- Landowner habitat agreements: 386
- Wetland habitat: 6,910 acres
- Upland habitat: 18,863 acres
- Riparian habitat: 50.35 miles

## **Primary Partners**

- Colorado private landowners
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Ducks Unlimited (DU)
- Great Outdoors Colorado
- Pheasants Forever
- Playa Lakes Joint Venture
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

## **Funding and Special Projects for FY 00**

\$450,000 for technical assistance and habitat restoration to private landowners.

\$74,400 Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Fund.

\$22,000 Ducks Unlimited.

\$200,000 Colorado Division of Wildlife and Great Outdoors Colorado.

\$50,000 Private Landowner Incentive funding for Preble's meadow jumping mouse projects.

\$60,000 Private Landowner Incentive funding for lesser prairie chicken projects.

# Ecological Services (ES) Field Offices

## *Lakewood and Grand Junction*

*Contact:* Le Roy W. Carlson  
Field Supervisor  
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Lakewood, Colorado 80225-0046  
*Telephone:* 303-275-2370  
*Fax:* 303-275-2371  
*E-mail:* leroy\_carlson@fws.gov

*Contact:* Al Pfister  
Acting Assistant Field Supervisor  
*Address:* 764 Horizon Drive, South Annex A  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81506-3904  
*Telephone:* 970-243-2778  
*Fax:* 970-245-6933  
*E-Mail:* al\_pfister@fws.gov

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### Station Facts

The Colorado ES Field Office is responsible for the administration of Service regulations and policies relating to the impacts to Federal trust resources resulting from activities authorized, funded, or constructed by Federal agencies.

The Office consists of two field stations, in Lakewood and Grand Junction. This arrangement maximizes efficiency in serving Service customers relating to the conservation of Federal trust fish and wildlife resources, including threatened and endangered species and migratory birds. The Lakewood ES Office primarily handles issues on the Eastern Slope, while the Grand Junction Office primarily handles West Slope issues.

### Station Objectives

Administer Endangered Species Act (ESA) regulations and policies in Colorado relating to the conservation

and recovery of federally listed and candidate species.

Review the status of declining fish, wildlife, and plants that may become eligible for Federal listing.

Participate in novel approaches to the conservation of declining species that may be effective alternatives to Federal listing.

Address contaminant impacts on fish and wildlife.

Contribute to wetlands conservation by review of activities authorized under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and implementing the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program with private landowners.

### Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 9 in Lakewood,  
9 in Grand Junction

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$2,328,886

### Activity Highlights

Lead office for administration of ESA issues relating to conservation of federally listed species in Colorado.

Involvement in the recovery of federally listed fish and wildlife in the Colorado and Platte River basins, including those recovery programs.

Lead for identifying black-footed ferret recovery sites in Colorado, and for activities relating to conservation of the boreal toad and Preble's meadow jumping mouse.

Conduct intensive and extensive investigations to define the role of contaminant exposure to the conservation of federally listed fish, waterfowl, and amphibians in Colorado.

Lead for the assessment and reclamation of damages from mining at the California Gulch site in Leadville, under Natural Resources Damage Assessment regulations.

# Upper Colorado River Recovery Program

Contact: Vacant  
Program Director  
Address: PO Box 25486, DFC  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Telephone: 303-274-7985 x223  
Fax: 303-236-5262  
E-mail:

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## Program Description

The Upper Colorado River Recovery Program is a multi-State partnership aimed at recovering the endangered Colorado pikeminnow, razorback sucker, bonytail chub, and humpback chub, while allowing for future water development. The Program complies with all applicable laws, including the Endangered Species Act, State water laws, river laws, and interstate water compacts. The program is directed at the Upper Colorado River Basin, which is upstream of Lake Powell in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, and is administered by staff in Denver.

## Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 12

Current Budget (FY 00):  
\$638,400

## Primary Partners

- Bureau of Reclamation
- Western Area Power Administration
- State of Colorado
- State of Utah
- State of Wyoming
- Environmental Defense Fund
- National Audubon Society
- Colorado Wildlife

- Federation
- Wyoming Wildlife Federation
- Colorado Water Congress
- Utah Water Users Association
- Wyoming Water Development Association
- Colorado River Energy Distributors Association

## Activity Highlights

Monitoring endangered fish populations and developing recommendations for stream flows that will help recover endangered fish.

Improving river habitat by making river-side wetlands accessible to young endangered fish, which need these areas to survive and grow. Also, fish ladders and passageways are being built around dams, enabling endangered fish to migrate to historic spawning sites.

Efforts are being made to maintain adequate stream flows for the fish. For example, Federal dams are now being operated in ways that more closely mimic natural seasonal river flow patterns, with high flows in the spring and lower, more stable flows the rest of the year.

Working to limit stocking of nonnative fish to areas where there is little potential conflict with endangered fish.

Construction of hatchery facilities and “refuge” ponds for endangered fish near Grand Junction, Colorado, and near Vernal and Big Water, Utah. Many of the fish raised at these facilities are being stocked in the river.

Progress made in this program has enabled the Service to allow city governments, developers, farmers, and oil companies to complete nearly 600 water projects in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, providing over 600,000 acre feet of water for human use and local economic development.



# Law Enforcement

Contact: Roger Gephart, Senior Resident Agent Telephone: 303-274-3560  
Leo Suazo, Special Agent Fax: 303-274-3568  
Ken Dulik, Special Agent E-mail: roger\_gephart@fws.gov  
Address: 755 Parfet Street, Suite 230  
Lakewood, Colorado 80211

Contact: Steve Stoinski, Special Agent Telephone: 970-257-0795  
Address: 764 Horizon Drive, South Annex A Fax: 970-245-6933  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81506-3946

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## What is Wildlife Law Enforcement?

Wildlife law enforcement is one of the basic tools used by FWS to achieve its wildlife management goals. LE personnel assist in controlling human interactions with the wildlife resource. They promote, through outreach and other educational programs, voluntary compliance with Federal wildlife laws. LE personnel apprehend those individuals and organizations who elect to violate the law.

Special Agents are criminal investigators who enforce Federal wildlife laws across the U.S.. Their investigative activities include surveillance, undercover work, developing intelligence on suspected violators, collecting evidence, making arrests, and preparing cases for court. Special Agents often work with other Federal, Tribal, foreign, or State LE agencies, as well as provide training to them about wildlife law enforcement techniques.

Wildlife Inspectors are the

front line defense against the illegal wildlife trade - a criminal enterprise that threatens species worldwide. They are stationed along the Canada border and interior Customs Ports of Entry to inspect wildlife, their parts and products that are being imported into or exported from the U.S. When violations are encountered, they either refuse entry into the U. S., detain the shipment for further inspection, or seize the shipment, either seeking abandonment or referring to a Agent for investigation.

## Activity Highlights

- Protect endangered species and their habitats, from illegal take, import/export, and commercialization.
- Investigate illegal take, transportation, and commercialization of big game and other wildlife.
- Ensure compliance with Federal migratory bird hunting regulations.
- Protect bald and golden eagles from being illegally poisoned, trapped, shot, electrocuted, or illegal commercial activity.

- Ensure wildlife being is legally imported/exported, including being in compliance with international treaties (CITES) and other applicable laws.

- Investigate illegal take of migratory birds associated with environmental hazards such as oil production facilities, exposure to herbicides/pesticides, electrocution on power lines, and primary and secondary poisonings.

- Assist with law enforcement on Service lands, including protection of National Wildlife Refuges, wetland, grass land, and other conservation easements.

NOTE: Effective November 19, 2000, the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repositories in Commerce City, Colorado will be managed by the Service's National office in Arlington, Virginia (703-358-1949).

**Partners**

- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Other land management agencies (National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service)
- Native American Tribes
- U.S. Customs Service
- U.S. Attorney's Office (DOJ)
- Fort Carson, Colorado



# North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP)

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## About the Plan

International agreement signed in 1986.

**Goal:** Return continental waterfowl populations to levels of mid-1970's.

- Achieve population goals by protecting, restoring, and enhancing wetland and grassland habitat.
- Includes 12 habitat joint ventures and two species joint ventures in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

## Partner Involvement

- Private landowners
- Nonprofit organizations
- Corporations
- Local, State, and Federal government agencies

## Colorado Projects

Intermountain West Joint Venture projects include: wetland development on private lands, Mishak Lakes, Uncompahgre River Wetland, San Luis Valley Restoration, and North American Wetlands Conservation Act Projects.

Farmers, ranchers and other landowners; Federal, State and local agencies; and conservation organizations and community groups participate in these projects.

## Habitat Accomplishments

Over 22,000 acres of wetlands and associated uplands in Colorado have been restored, enhanced, or protected through North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grants.

## Financial Contributions to Colorado

- Total NAWCA projects: \$8,277,205
- NAWCA contributions: \$1,550,000
- Partners contributions: \$6,727,205

## Public Benefits

- Broad coalition of partners that support "voluntary" wetland conservation.
- Improved water quality.
- Enhanced floodwater storage.
- Improved community and landowner relations.
- Enhanced wildlife diversity.
- Increased public recreation opportunities.

# Colorado Federal Aid-- Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration

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## Source of Funding

Federal excise taxes paid by anglers, hunters, and boaters on fishing and hunting equipment; portion of the Federal fuel tax; and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats.

## How the Money Can Be Used

Fish and wildlife research; habitat enhancement; technical assistance; environmental review of public projects; land acquisitions; operation and maintenance of areas and facilities; boating and angler access improvements; comprehensive planning for fish and wildlife resources; and hunter and aquatic education.

## Federal Aid to Colorado (FY 00 Apportionments)

- Sport Fish Restoration: \$6.2 million
- Wildlife Restoration: \$5.2 million

## Percent Federal Aid in State Wildlife Budget:

15%

## Number of Participants and Economic Benefits to Colorado

### Fishing:

- Number of anglers 1998: 769,846
- Economic Impact of Angler Expenditures:\* \$634 million

### Hunting:

- Number of hunters 1998: 362,927
- Economic Impact of Hunter Expenditures:\* \$660 million

## Federal Aid Project Types in Colorado \*\*

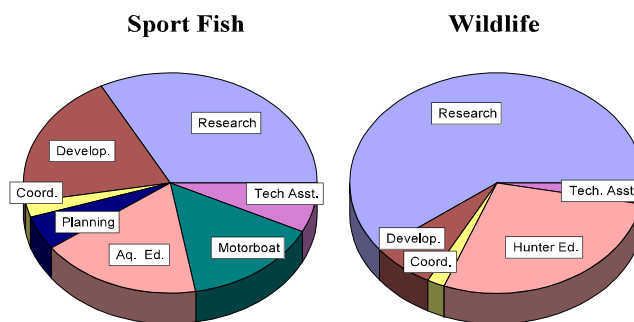
### Sport Fish Restoration Projects:

- Research: 33%
- Development: 20%
- Coordination: 2%
- Planning: 5%
- Aquatic Education: 18%
- Motorboat Access: 15%
- Technical Assistance: 7%

### Wildlife Restoration Projects:

- Research: 61%
- Coordination: 2%
- Development: 7%
- Hunter Education: 28%
- Technical Assistance: 3%

Percentage of Colorado Project Types in Federal Aid:



\*\*  
Based

\* Based on the "1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation."

on approved 1998 Grant obligations (percentages reflect  $\pm 1\%$ ). State has five years to obligate Motorboat Access funds.

# Migratory Bird Conservation

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## **Inventory and Monitoring**

Nongame bird monitoring

Mourning Dove call count survey

Mid-winter waterfowl survey

Duck banding program

Habitat inventory and monitoring consultation

## **Research**

Monitoring and survivorship in a willow riparian community at Arapaho NWR.

Monitoring and demographics of shortgrass prairie species, with emphasis on species of management concern.

Long-billed curlew surveys and monitoring.

Cassin's sparrow status assessment and conservation plan.

## **Management**

Migratory Bird permit issuance and management

Migratory Bird hunting regulations development

Migratory bird population surveys and management

Wildlife habitat management

Grassland/wetland restoration, creation, enhancement, and protection

## **Partnerships**

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Colorado State University and University of Colorado

Colorado Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

Fort Lewis State College

## **Outreach**

International Migratory Bird Day

Biological intern program

Student Career Experience Program