



Colorado Sportsmen's Roundtable  
August 11, 2018  
Colorado Youth Outdoors  
Fort Collins, Colorado

SUMMARY

The Colorado Sportsmen's Roundtable met on August 11 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Fifteen Roundtable members, eleven CPW staff and one member of the public attended (see Attachment 1). This document summarizes the group's discussion.

**Welcome**

Bob Hewson, President and CEO of Colorado Youth Outdoors (CYO), welcomed participants with an overview of CYO and its role in connecting families through traditional outdoor recreation. He emphasized the importance of relationships in CYO's mission.

CPW Director Bob Broscheid recognized that the agency exists because of hunters and anglers, and that there is great value in having meaningful relationships with partners such as CYO.

**Introductions & welcome to new members**

The Roundtable welcomed several new statewide members and regional delegates. Attendees included representatives from Artemis, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Colorado Bowhunters Association, other hunting organizations, as well as people representing "average sportsmen" in their region.

**Big game license debrief**

Danielle Isenhardt, CPW Regulations Manager, provided a summary of the [August Parks and Wildlife Commission](#) sportsmen's panel convened to discuss recent developments with big game licenses and the 2019 application process. Common themes heard from the panelists were:

- More access is desired, especially on private land
- Application fees should cover the costs of the draw with nonresidents paying more
- Predictability and integrity of the draw are very important
- There is support for preference point fees in general, especially for sheep, goat, and moose

Attendees had a range of perspectives on preference points. Several spoke about the importance of consideration for the average sportsmen and hunting families, yet there was concern over treating high point holders with fairness. Some were in favor of a time cap to use preference points (e.g., 5 years) in order to reduce "creep." Preference point bidding was discussed as another alternative. Also, after the recent Leftover License Day, one attendee claimed that a reliable system to handle customer capacity is more important to the public than changes to preference points.

## CPW funding study

Meridian Institute updated the group on their study of potential funding mechanisms for CPW. Their strategies fall in three general categories: taxes, fees and donations/voluntary contributions. For each strategy, Meridian is considering potential revenue generation, political viability, equity and potential ramifications under Colorado's TABOR laws. Attendees discussed the viability of license fees and challenges of dispersing funds from user-specific fees. Most support a broad, multi-faceted approach as opposed to a "fix all." Members should contact Robyn Paulekas ([rpaulekas@merid.org](mailto:rpaulekas@merid.org)) with questions/comments.

## CPW Updates

### Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

Jody Kennedy, CPW Public Involvement Specialist, provided an overview of Colorado's Outdoor Recreation Plan. Commonly referred to as the "SCORP", this plan charts a course for conservation and recreation in the state for the next five years. This plan reflects a shared vision and commitment of Colorado outdoor recreation partners. This September, a draft plan will be released for public comment. The Roundtable is encouraged to share feedback.

### Chronic Wasting Disease

Reid DeWalt, Assistant Director Wildlife and Natural Resources and Matt Eckert, Terrestrial Programs Supervisor provided an update on CPW's recent efforts and conversations with sportsmen focused on addressing the increasing prevalence of CWD.

Over the course of 4 months, a CWD advisory group prepared a draft plan with three major sections: 1) monitoring (including mandatory testing), 2) setting a prevalence threshold (currently at 5%), and 3) implementing management actions. This approach gives local managers a discretionary toolbox on how to address CWD in their area.

The 5% prevalence threshold for management was selected as the lowest rate of adult male prevalence that is realistic to manage in herds statewide so as to minimize annual adult female CWD mortality. The prevalence threshold is likely the most contentious topic in the CWD Response Plan. However, concerns are often alleviated once additional understanding is gained in regards to how herd-specific management actions prescribed to curtail CWD will be determined by local herd managers in concert with existing Herd Management Plan objectives. Since Herd Management Plan objectives are developed through an open public process and are approved by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission, any changes in licensing prescribed to reduce CWD prevalence would be aligned with objectives that have already been endorsed. Furthermore, management actions will not be taken until strong confidence in prevalence estimates are generated, which is expected from mandatory testing results. In addition, advisers suggested including mandatory testing areas on draw notifications or licenses.

A draft plan will be finalized in the next few weeks, at which point it will be reviewed internally by staff, shared with neighboring states for peer review, and posted online for a web-based public comment period before going to the Parks and Wildlife Commission this November.

## **Roundtable & caucus updates**

### Caucus updates

Regional delegates provided reports for the four Regional caucuses, which met over the past month. Attendance in August was a challenge for some of the Caucuses, especially in Denver. Topics raised at these meetings reflected many of the items on this Roundtable agenda, including big game license applications, preference points and CWD. Additional items included elk-calf studies in low calf areas, impacts of fire on wildlife, low river flows, wolf management and grant opportunities under the Fishing is Fun program.

Google group. Members discussed management and participation for the Roundtable member managed Google Group. Steve Hilde offered to help manage this group for now.

Private lands. Issues raised included the use of some licenses to address game damage and the importance of tax policies that allow property owners to maintain agricultural land status when working to improve wildlife habitat.

Recruitment, retention, and outreach. Interest in bridging conversations between hunters/anglers and non-hunters to build support and recognition for the value of wildlife management. The 2019 Colorado Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) ties wildlife, hunting, conservation, and recreation into a shared strategy for Colorado's Outdoors. This is an important conversation to continue at future meetings.

### **Big Game Season Structure (BGSS) for 2020-2024**

Danielle Isenhardt gave an update on the upcoming process to review CPW's BGSS. CPW is currently exploring several topics for potential consideration during this review process, including timing and length of seasons for pronghorn, moose, deer, and bears, and issues related to archery seasons including the overlap with muzzleloader and crowding. Staff shared a survey requesting Roundtable opinions on whether archery seasons should be addressed during this BGSS review process.

### **Adjourn**

Thank you for joining CPW in Fort Collins for this all day meeting. Roundtable member time and participation is greatly appreciated.

**Attachment 1: August 2018 Sportsmen’s Roundtable In-person Meeting Participation List**

<b>Roundtable Member</b>	<b>Residence</b>
Adam Gall	Paonia
Chad LeChance	Fort Collins
Cody DeGuelle	Black Hawk
Dan Gates	Canon City
Dan Murphy	Lake City
Dave Roudebush	Southeast
Drew Perez	Northeast
Jamie Nogle	Grand Junction
Jennifer Gluck	LaSalle
Kara Armano	Hesperus
Kevin Alexander	Gunnison
Paul Finley	Hot Sulphur Springs
Roger Tucker	Colorado Springs
Ron Goodrich	Pueblo
Steve Hilde	Loveland
<b>CPW/DNR Staff</b>	<b>Title</b>
Bob Broscheid	Director
Lyle Sidener	Area Wildlife Manager, Area 9
Patt Dorsey	Southwest Regional Manager
Dan Prenzlow	Southeast Regional Manager
Mark Leslie	Northeast Regional Manager
Tony Gurzick	Creative Services and Marketing Section Manager
Jeff Ver Steeg	Assistant Director Research, Policy and Planning
Reid DeWalt	Assistant Director Wildlife and Natural Resources
Danielle Isenhardt	Regulations Manager
Jody Kennedy	Public Involvement Specialist
Matt Eckert	Terrestrial Programs Supervisor
Shannon Bauman	Policy and Planning Assistant
<b>Public</b>	
Scott Cisco	