



THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND
BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM
JUNE 10, 2020

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A meeting of The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund convened at 8:04 am via Zoom on June 11, 2020:

Board Present Via Zoom: Jason Brinkley, David Cockrell, Warren Dean, Pamela Denahy, Charles Garcia (Treasurer), Dan Gibbs, Karma Giulianelli Carrie Besnette Hauser, Hollie Velasquez Horvath (Chair) Mina Liebert, Leticia Martinez Turk Montepare, Jody Rogers (Secretary), Mo Siegel (Vice-Chair), Linda Strand, Julie Thibodeau, Doug Vilsack (Deputy for Gibbs)*

* Votes where Mr. Gibbs is not present and Mr. Vilsack has voted as a proxy will reflect the vote count accordingly, but also have Mr. Gibbs listed as "not present for the vote."

Board Absent Jahi Simbai

Staff Present Tess Barton, Courtney Bennett, Matt Brady, Madison Brannigan, Chris Castilian, Alex Castino, Andrea Conrad, Rosemary Dempsey, Lauren Lecy, Dylan Lewan, Erika Meyer, Jackie Miller, Victoria Nava-Watson, Emily Orbanek, Josh Tenneson, Adrian Varney, Chris Yuan-Farrell

Staff Absent None

Public Present Jennifer Almstead, Larimer County Natural Resources; Daniel Bewley, Colorado Lottery; Travis Custer, Montezuma Land Conservancy; Melissa Daruna, Keep it Colorado; Ralph Duggins, Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission; Tom Hoby, Jefferson County; Fletcher Jacobs, Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Jody Kennedy, Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Dan Prenzlöw, Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Susanne Roller, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; Justin Rutter; Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Russ Schnitzer, Gates Family Foundation; Mike Sukle, Sukle Advertising; Lauren Truitt, Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Christina Wilder, Sukle Advertising; Jeff Ver Steeg, Colorado Parks and Wildlife; Doug Vilsack, Department of Natural Resources; Zac Wiebe, Larimer County Natural Resources; Dan Zimmerer, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

GOCO Board Roll Call Ms. Varney completed the roll call for the GOCO Board by District. Additional meeting participant attendance, both GOCO staff as well as public guests, was recorded throughout the meeting by Ms. Varney and is reflected in these minutes.

Approval of the March 2020 Minutes Ms. Denahy moved to approve the minutes from the March 2020 board meeting; Mr. Gibbs seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Simbai was not present for the vote. (See Attachment 1).

GOCO Finance Update and Spending Plan Amendment Approval Ms. Conrad presented the Finance Update and recommended the board approve amendments to the FY20 plan that support the program reclassification within the Open Space purpose as outlined funding recommendations.

Mr. Siegel moved Resolution 2020-14; Mr. Cockrell seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Simbai was not present for the vote. (See Attachment 2).

CPW Finance Update Mr. Rutter, CFO of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, presented a high-level overview of CPW's financials.

Generation Wild Update Ms. Dempsey and the Sukle Advertising team provided an update on the fourth phase of Generation Wild, the communications program that GOCO board and staff created with partner Sukle Advertising.



GOCO Public Statements

The Board discussed procedural expectations with regard to GOCO issuing public statements.

Partner Impacts Panel: COVID-19

A group of partners presented on the impacts of COVID-19 to their communities, organizations, and work.

GOCO COVID-19 Response Plan

Staff discussed findings from GOCO's stakeholder survey and learnings from ongoing outreach efforts with grantees and partners. Staff recommended directing up to \$15,050,247 in FY 2021 to the proposed Community Resiliency Program including \$5,480,000 in local government purpose and \$9,570,247 in open space purpose funding, as well as the proposed associated timeline for that program.

*Mr. Garcia moved the approval GOCO's COVID-19 Response plan including approving the Community Resiliency Program approach and timeline as presented; Ms. Denahy seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (15-0).** Mr. Gibbs, Ms. Giulianelli, and Mr. Simbai were not present for the vote.*

2020 Strategic Plan Approval & Adoption

Staff presented the final draft version of the 2020 strategic plan and associated 5-year and annual (FY 21) spending plans for approval and formal adoption by the Board.

The first draft of the strategic plan was shared at the board meeting in Del Norte on March 12-13. Staff presented a second version of the plan at the committee meeting of the whole, held virtually on April 20. The third version of the strategic plan, shared at committee meetings in May, reflected revisions by GOCO staff members following careful consideration of comments provided by partners and Coloradans at large.

*Mr. Cockrell moved the approval of GOCO's 2020 Strategic Plan; Mr. Siegel seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (15-0).** Mr. Gibbs, Ms. Giulianelli, and Mr. Simbai were not present for the vote.*

5-Year Spending Plan & FY21 Spending Plan

In concert with the adoption of GOCO's 2020 Strategic Plan, staff presented the board with a recommended 5-year spending plan to address the priorities and goals set forth in the new strategic plan.

*Mr. Garcia moved the approval of Resolution 2020-16; Mr. Montepare seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (15-0).** Mr. Gibbs, Ms. Giulianelli, and Mr. Simbai were not present for the vote. (See Attachment 3).*

Operating Budget Approval

GOCO staff recommended that the Board approve a FY21 operating budget of \$5,175,573 as presented.

*Mr. Garcia moved the approval of Resolution 2020-15; Ms. Denahy seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Gibbs, Ms. Giulianelli, and Mr. Simbai were not present for the vote. (See Attachment 4).*



Consent Agenda

Ms. Strand presented the recommended projects for approval included on the consent agenda. (See Attachment 5).

*Ms. Liebert moved the approval of the Consent Agenda; Mr. Brinkley seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (15-0).** Mr. Gibbs, Ms. Giulianelli, and Mr. Simbai were not present for the vote.*

Grantee Recognition

Members of the public who were awarded grants with the passage of the consent agenda spoke to the board about the impact of the awards.

The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund meeting adjourned at 1:36 pm on June 11, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jody Rogers, Board Secretary



THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND
BOARD MEETING – DEL NORTE, COLORADO
MARCH 12, 2020

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Spending Plan Amendment	2020-03	2	2



A meeting of The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund convened at 8:32 am on March 12, 2020 in The Windsor Hotel; 625 Grand Ave, Del Norte, CO 81132:

<u>Board Present</u>	In person: David Cockrell, Pamela Denahy, Charles Garcia (Treasurer), Carrie Besnette Hauser, Mina Liebert, Turk Montepare (3/12 only), Linda Strand, Julie Thibodeau, Doug Vilsack (Deputy for Gibbs) Via Zoom: Jason Brinkley (3/12 only), Hollie Velasquez Horvath (Chair), Karma Giulianelli, Leticia Martinez, Jody Rogers (Secretary), Mo Siegel (Vice-Chair), Jahi Simbai
<u>Board Absent</u>	Warren Dean, Dan Gibbs
<u>Staff Present</u>	Courtney Bennett, Matt Brady, Chris Castilian, Andrea Conrad, Rosemary Dempsey, Lauren Lecy, Erika Meyer (phone), Jackie Miller, Emily Orbanek, Josh Tenneson, Adrian Varney, Chris Yuan-Farrell
<u>Staff Absent</u>	Eric Alexander, Tess Barton, Alex Castino, Madison Brannigan, Dylan Lewan, Victoria Nava-Watson
<u>Public Present</u>	Jennifer Anderson, Colorado Lottery; Marty Asplin, Town of Del Norte; Jarett Ellis; Colorado Parks & Wildlife; Dale Pizel, Former CPW Commissioner; Emma Reesor, Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project; Tom Seaver, Colorado Lottery; David Thurow, Prosono; Jacklyn Ward, Prosono
<u>Welcome and Introductions</u>	Mr. Marty Asplin, with the Town of Del Norte, welcomed the GOCO Board to Del Norte for the meeting.
<u>Lottery Update</u>	Mr. Tom Seaver and Ms. Jennifer Anderson, with the Colorado Lottery, presented an update on the Colorado Lottery
<u>Board Member Updates</u>	Board Members provided updates on activities since the last board meeting.
<u>Approval of the December 2019 Minutes</u>	<i>Mr. Cockrell moved to approve the minutes from the December 2019 board meeting; Ms. Liebert and Ms. Thibodeau seconded. Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0). Mr. Dean and Mr. Gibbs were not present for the vote. (See Attachment 1).</i>
<u>Executive Director's Report</u>	Mr. Castilian provided a report summarizing GOCO's major areas of staff activity since the last board meeting, upcoming strategic and tactical engagement opportunities, and key operational and management issues and decisions relevant to the board.
<u>Highlight Reel of Closed Projects</u>	Ms. Bennet and Mr. Brady presented a highlight reel of local projects.
<u>FY 20 & Five-Year Spending Plan Amendment – Resolution 2020-03</u>	Ms. Conrad and Mr. Tenneson recommended the board approve amendments to the FY20 and five-year spending plans as presented to the board that support the outlined funding recommendations and a program reclassification within the Local Government purpose. <i>Mr. Garcia moved Resolution 2020-03; Ms. Giulianelli and Mr. Cockrell seconded. Motion carried unanimously (16-0). Mr. Dean and Mr. Gibbs were not present. (See Attachment 2).</i>



Consent Agenda

Ms. Strand presented the recommended projects for approval included on the consent agenda. (See Attachment 3).

*Mr. Garcia moved the approval of items #5 (CPW Investment Proposal) and #6 (CPW De-Auth/Re-Auth) on the Consent Agenda; Dr. Besnette Hauser seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Dean and Mr. Gibbs were not present for the vote.*

The remaining items were pulled from the consent agenda to be discussed. After discussion, the following motions were made:

*Mr. Garcia moved the approval of item #7 (Sweetwater Lake Loan) on the Consent Agenda; Ms. Thibodeau seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Dean and Mr. Gibbs were not present for the vote.*

*Mr. Cockrell moved the approval of item #8 (Grant Extensions & Modifications Memo) on the Consent Agenda; Ms. Giulianelli seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Dean and Mr. Gibbs were not present for the vote.*

*Mr. Garcia moved the approval of items #1 (Local Government Grants), #2 (Mini Grants) & #3 (School Yard Grants) on the Consent Agenda; Dr. Besnette Hauser seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0).** Mr. Dean and Mr. Gibbs were not present for the vote.*

Grantee Recognition

Members of the public who were awarded grants with the passage of the consent agenda spoke to the board about the impact of the awards.

Strategic Plan Discussion

Staff presented a draft strategic plan to the board, including the associated draft spending plan. Staff and Board reviewed and discussed the proposed objectives for each of the seven grant programs in the portfolio as well as end results and measurements and the collective alignment with GOCO goals and values.

Del Norte Riverfront Presentation and Site Visit

Ms. Emma Reesor, Executive Director for the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project, presented on the progress of the Del Norte Riverfront Project.

Continued Strategic Plan Discussion

Staff and Board continued discussion on the draft strategic plan.

The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund meeting adjourned at 11:36 am on March 13, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:

Jody Rogers

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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

**State Board of the
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND
Resolution 2020-14
June 11, 2020**

A Resolution Updating the 2016-2020 Spending Plan

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. Per Article XXVII (6)(2)(e) the board shall determine what portion of moneys allocated to the trust fund shall remain in an interest-bearing account.
2. The GOCO Board has adopted and duly considered the policy 2.10 *Mutiyear and Annual Spending Plans* which details all factors that must be considered regarding board authorized spending.
3. GOCO staff recommends a transfer of funds from the Transaction Costs program to the Open Space Opportunity Program within the Open Space purpose.
4. On May 21, 2020, the Finance and Program Committees recommended this amendment be forwarded to the full board for action.

Accordingly, the board RESOLVES:

1. Amend the FY 2020 spending plan, as follows:
 - a. Transfer \$85,000 from the Transaction Costs program to the Open Space Opportunity program.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on June 11, 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Jody Rogers

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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

**State Board of the
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND
Resolution 2020-16
June 11, 2020**

**A Resolution Approving the High-Level 5-year Spending Plan
and the Fiscal Year 2021 Spending Plan**

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. Per Article XXVII (6)(2)(e), the board shall determine what portion of moneys allocated to the trust fund shall remain in an interest-bearing account;
2. On March 15, 2018, via Resolution 2018-08, the GOCO Board approved policy 2.8 and 2.10 *Spending Plans and Opportunity for Public Comment and Multiyear and Annual Spending Plans*;
3. During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe impact on GOCO's partner communities; and
4. On May 21, 2020, the Program's and Finance Committees endorsed the draft high-level 5-year and FY 2021 spending plans and recommended the plans be forwarded to the full board for action.

Accordingly, the board RESOLVES to:

1. Bring local government purposes authorizations back within substantially equal tolerance on authorizations no later than 2023, simultaneously staying within all other spending parameters, by reducing awards granted in the Local Government purpose in FY 2021 and 2022.
2. Provide funds in FY 2021 to promote community resiliency by addressing challenges caused by the impact of COVID-19. Approximately \$15 million will be awarded through the Community Resiliency program in the Local Government and Open Space purposes.
3. Continue ongoing discussions with CPW regarding the flexibility of funding over the next 5 years and potential participation in the Centennial Program.
4. In the interest of reserving maximum flexibility, the spending plan assumes the GOCO board desires to build a financial reserve by: 1) budgeting 2% below the lottery cap; 2) reserving deauthorized funds from the local government and open space purposes; and 3) retaining proceeds equal to an increase in the cap each year, consistent with GOCO's spending policies, but not contributing to a breach of the 25% and 60% cash/outstanding grants floor and ceiling, respectively, as set in policy 2.10.

**State Board of the
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND
Resolution 2020-15
June 11,2020**

A Resolution Approving the FY 2021 Operating Budget

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. GOCO endeavors to maximize funds available for grant programs and investments, demanding efficient and fiscally prudent operating budgets on an ongoing basis;
2. The GOCO Board has reviewed the proposed strategic plan and high-level 5-year spending plan identifying programmatic business priorities and anticipated spending levels for grant programs and investments on a multi-year basis; and
3. Achievement of GOCO's strategic priorities is in large part a function of having sufficient operating resources available for GOCO staff to implement the various plans.

Accordingly, the board RESOLVES:

1. To adopt an operating budget for fiscal year 2021 that includes the following expenses:

Budget Category	FY 2021 Budget
Salaries and Benefits	1,743,060
Strategic Planning/ Special Projects	0
Professional Services	243,292
Generation Wild	2,500,000
Other Communication	188,000
Administrative Services	489,221
Capital and Non-Capital Purchases	12,000
Total	5,175,573

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on June 11, 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Jody Rogers

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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

**The State Board of the
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
Consent Agenda
June 11, 2020**

The items below are to be approved by consent. Board members reserve the right to pull any item off the consent agenda for full discussion.

1. 2020 Director's Innovation Fund Grants Resolution

<u>Res. #</u>	<u>Project Titles & Reviewer Scores (*Partial Funding)</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
2020-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bosque del Oso SWA Solar Water Wells – SE • Rifle Gap State Park Hammock Camping – NW • Rabbit Mountain Hunting Program – NE • IGBC Trash Cans – NW • Mueller State Park Backcountry Toilet – SE • *River Watch Sondes – Statewide • Bear Translocation Collars • Navajo State Park Decontamination Station – SW • CPW Podcast – Statewide • *Aerial Estimation Software – SE 	None

2. Transaction Costs Grants

<u>Res. #</u>	<u>Project Titles & IDs</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
2020-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putt Creek Conservation Easement; Moffat County, CD 3 / Grant # 20551 • Protecting Monte Vista Working Wetlands; Rio Grande County, CD 3 / Grant # 20552 • Meek Ranch; Montrose County, CD 3 / Grant #20553 • Borrego Ranch Conservation Easement; Fremont County, CD 5 / Grant #20554 	None

3. Special Opportunity Open Space Initiative Funding Recommendations

<u>Res. #</u>	<u>Project Titles & IDs</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
2020-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keystone Phase I Conservation Easement; Multi-County / Grant #20117 • Coffman Ranch; Garfield County, CD 3 / Grant #20118 • Tucker Open Space Property; Boulder County, CD 2 / Grant #20120 • Laramie Foothills Mountains to Plains 2020 Expansion Project; Larimer County, CD 2 / Grant #20121 	None
2020-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart of the Arkansas; Chaffee County, CD 5 / Grant #20119 	Jody Rogers

4. Grants Extensions

	<u>Grant #</u>	<u>Project Titles & Type</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
a.	17886 - LG	SLV Inspire (Generation Wild Grant)	None
b.	18102 - OS	Acequia Initiative – Working to Conserve Colorado's Oldest Agricultural Communities (Open Space Grant)	
c.	18104 - OS	Smith Rancho 5 – Deep Creek (Open Space Grant)	
d.	18107 - OS	Arkansas River and Riparian Protection (Open Space Grant)	
e.	18855 - OS	Greeley Urban Natural Areas Habitat Restoration (Habitat Restoration Grant)	
f.	18856 - OS	Big Dry Creek Pilot Project Floodplain Restoration (Habitat Restoration Grant)	
g.	19542 - OS	Conservation Futures Project Regional Collaboration Incentive Fund (Conservation Excellence Grant)	

**The State Board of the
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
Resolution 2020-10
June 11, 2020**

A Resolution Approving funding for the 2020 CPW Director's Innovation Fund projects

This Resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) requested \$150,000 for the 2020 round of the Director's Innovation Fund at the March 2020 GOCO Board meeting through the FY20-21 Investment Proposal;
2. GOCO staff and CPW staff reviewed and evaluated 16 applications requesting a total of \$279,982;

Accordingly, the Board RESOLVES:

1. To fund ten projects in total, two of which are recommended at partial funding (denoted on the following list with an asterisk):

PROJECT NAME	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT
Bosque del Oso SWA Solar Water Wells – SE	\$25,000
Rifle Gap State Park Hammock Camping – NW	\$24,458
Rabbit Mountain Hunting Program – NE	\$23,478
IGBC Trash Cans – NW	\$21,250
Mueller State Park Backcountry Toilet – SE	\$18,570
*River Watch Sondes – Statewide	\$10,359
Bear Translocation Collars – NW	\$9,000
Navajo State Park Decontamination Station – SW	\$8,830
CPW Podcast – Statewide	\$5,500
*Aerial Estimation Software – SE	\$3,554

2. Per resolution 2020-06 these capital funds are available through June 30, 2023 before an investment would be considered overdue and brought back to the GOCO Board;
3. Staff is authorized and directed to take the following actions:
 - a. Provide the Joint Budget Committee with a copy of the proposed transfer of funds to Parks and Wildlife for the Committee's review per standard operating procedure;

- b. Administer the investments in these projects according to the proposal approved by the GOCO Board and the conditions of the MOA;
 - c. Reimburse Parks and Wildlife for expenditures incurred for the investments approved by the GOCO Board.
4. The executive director is hereby empowered to make minor adjustments and additions in the funding awards, in consultation with the director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, except that any shift in the use of these funds from capital to operations must be brought to the GOCO Board for approval.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on June 11, 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Jody Rogers

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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

**The State Board of the
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
Resolution 2020-13
June 11, 2020**

A Resolution Awarding Grants to Open Space Projects

This Resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. For fiscal year 2020, the board authorized funding of up to \$300,000 for the Conservation Easement Transaction Costs Cycle from the open space purpose.
2. For the Spring 2020 Transaction Costs cycle, GOCO received 6 applications requesting \$337,000 in GOCO funding.
3. Certain grant applications involve the acquisition of fee title or conservation easements over multiple properties. In the event any of the originally identified property interests cannot be closed, the grantees may wish to propose substitution properties to be funded under the grant.
4. On May 21, 2020, the Programs Committee recommended to award funding in the amount of \$215,000, to fully fund the top four ranked projects.

Accordingly, the board RESOLVES to:

1. Award \$215,000 to fully fund the following projects:
 - a. Putt Creek Conservation Easement
 - b. Protecting Monte Vista Working Wetlands
 - c. Meek Ranch
 - d. Borrego Ranch Conservation Easementas described in the attached "Transaction Costs Funding Summary List."
2. Finance this award with an allocation of \$215,000 from the open space purpose.
3. Permit the grantee for the following project to propose substitution properties under GOCO's procedure for *Property Substitution for Land Acquisitions Prior to Closing*:
 - a. Protecting Monte Vista Working Wetlands
4. Authorize the executive director to make minor adjustments in recommended funding levels if a project cannot proceed as anticipated. In the event significant funding changes are necessary as these projects progress, the executive director will consult with the board for further direction.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on June 11, 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Jody Rogers

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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

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Transaction Costs Funding Summary List

[Projects Recommended for Funding](#)

May 14, 2020

Rank	Overall Score	GOCO Score	Rev. Avg.	Applicant	Project Title	County	Request Amount	Recommended Amount	Total Project Cost	Congressional District
1	84.50	87.00	82.00	Colorado Open Lands	Putt Creek conservation easement	Moffat	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 98,500	3
2	84.25	85.50	83.00	Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust	Protecting Monte Vista Working Wetlands	Rio Grande	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 139,500	3
3	83.50	84.00	83.00	Colorado West Land Trust	Meek Ranch	Montrose	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 66,000	3
4	82.50	85.00	80.00	Palmer Land Trust	Borrego Ranch Conservation Easement	Fremont	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 62,000	2
							\$215,000.00	\$215,000.00	\$366,000.00	

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**The State Board of the
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
Resolution 2020-11
June 11, 2020**

A Resolution Awarding Grants to Open Space Projects

This Resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. For fiscal year 2020, the board authorized funding of up to \$7,678,775 for the Special Opportunity Open Space Initiative from the open space purpose.
2. For the Spring 2020 Special Opportunity Open Space cycle, GOCO received 15 concept papers and 5 full applications requesting \$8,367,800 in GOCO funding.
3. Certain grant applications involve the acquisition of fee title or conservation easements over multiple properties. In the event any of the originally identified property interests cannot be closed, the grantees may wish to propose substitution properties to be funded under the grant.
4. On May 21, 2020, the Programs Committee recommended to award funding in the amount of \$7,763,775 with the original allocation plus \$85,000 in remaining available funds from the Conservation Easement Transaction Cost cycle, to fully fund the top four projects and partially fund the fifth project.

Accordingly, the board RESOLVES to:

1. Award \$6,138,775 to fully fund the following projects:
 - a. Keystone Phase I Conservation Easement
 - b. Coffman Ranch
 - c. Tucker Open Space Propertyand partially fund the following project:
 - d. Laramie Foothills Mountains to Plains 2020 Expansion Projectas described in the attached "Open Space Funding Summary List."
2. Finance these awards with an allocation of \$6,138,775 from the open space purpose.
3. Permit the grantee for the following project to propose substitution properties under GOCO's procedure for *Property Substitution for Land Acquisitions Prior to Closing*:
 - a. Laramie Foothills Mountains to Plains 2020 Expansion Project
4. Authorize the executive director to make minor adjustments in recommended funding levels if a project cannot proceed as anticipated. In the event significant funding

changes are necessary as these projects progress, the executive director will consult with the board for further direction.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on June 11, 2020.

DocuSigned by:

Jody Rogers

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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

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Special Opportunity Open Space Funding Summary List

[Projects Recommended for Funding](#)

May 14, 2020

Rank	Overall Score	GOCO Score	Rev. Avg.	Applicant	Project Title	County	Request Amount	Recommended Amount	Total Project Cost	Congressional District
1	89.00	91.00	87.00	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	Keystone Phase I Conservation Easement	Multi-County	\$ 1,576,300.00	\$ 1,576,300.00	\$ 4,229,439.00	3
2	87.00	88.00	86.00	Aspen Valley Land Trust	Coffman Ranch	Garfield	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 7,560,500.00	3
3	85.50	87.00	84.00	Central Colorado Conservancy	Heart of the Arkansas	Chaffee	\$ 1,625,000.00	\$ 1,625,000.00	\$ 5,860,900.00	5
4	82.00	84.00	80.00	Boulder County	Tucker Open Space Property	Boulder	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 3,183,000.00	2
5	80.00	82.00	78.00	Larimer County	Laramie Foothills Mountains to Plains 2020 Expansion Project	Larimer	\$ 1,416,500.00	\$ 812,475.00	\$ 5,781,400.00	2
							\$8,367,800.00	\$7,763,775.00	\$26,615,239.00	

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**The State Board of the
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
Resolution 2020-12
June 11, 2020**

A Resolution Awarding Grants to Open Space Projects

This Resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. For fiscal year 2020, the board authorized funding of up to \$7,678,775 for the Special Opportunity Open Space Initiative from the open space purpose.
2. For the Spring 2020 Special Opportunity Open Space cycle, GOCO received 15 concept papers and 5 full applications requesting \$8,367,800 in GOCO funding.
3. Certain grant applications involve the acquisition of fee title or conservation easements over multiple properties. In the event any of the originally identified property interests cannot be closed, the grantees may wish to propose substitution properties to be funded under the grant.
4. On May 21, 2020, the Programs Committee recommended to award funding in the amount of \$7,763,775 with the original allocation plus \$85,000 in remaining available funds from the Conservation Easement Transaction Cost cycle, to fully fund the top four projects and partially fund the fifth project.

Accordingly, the board RESOLVES to:

1. Award \$1,625,000 to fully fund the following project:
 - a. Heart of the Arkansasas described in the attached "Open Space Funding Summary List."
2. Finance this award with an allocation of \$1,625,000 from the open space purpose.
3. Permit the grantee for the following project to propose substitution properties under GOCO's procedure for *Property Substitution for Land Acquisitions Prior to Closing*:
 - a. Heart of the Arkansas
4. Authorize the executive director to make minor adjustments in recommended funding levels if a project cannot proceed as anticipated. In the event significant funding changes are necessary as these projects progress, the executive director will consult with the board for further direction.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on June 11, 2020.

DocuSigned by:
Jody Rogers
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Jody Rogers, Board Secretary

DRAFT

Special Opportunity Open Space Funding Summary List

[Projects Recommended for Funding](#)

May 14, 2020

Rank	Overall Score	GOCO Score	Rev. Avg.	Applicant	Project Title	County	Request Amount	Recommended Amount	Total Project Cost	Congressional District
1	89.00	91.00	87.00	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	Keystone Phase I Conservation Easement	Multi-County	\$ 1,576,300.00	\$ 1,576,300.00	\$ 4,229,439.00	3
2	87.00	88.00	86.00	Aspen Valley Land Trust	Coffman Ranch	Garfield	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 7,560,500.00	3
3	85.50	87.00	84.00	Central Colorado Conservancy	Heart of the Arkansas	Chaffee	\$ 1,625,000.00	\$ 1,625,000.00	\$ 5,860,900.00	5
4	82.00	84.00	80.00	Boulder County	Tucker Open Space Property	Boulder	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 3,183,000.00	2
5	80.00	82.00	78.00	Larimer County	Laramie Foothills Mountains to Plains 2020 Expansion Project	Larimer	\$ 1,416,500.00	\$ 812,475.00	\$ 5,781,400.00	2
							\$8,367,800.00	\$7,763,775.00	\$26,615,239.00	

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM

To: GOCO Board
From: Courtney Bennett & Matt Brady - Grants Officers
Date: June 11, 2020
Re: Grant Extensions

Consistent with the board's procedure on overdue grants, staff sent reminder notices to grantees with approaching due dates. Subsequent communications with grantees led staff to make the following recommendations.

Generation Wild Grant

#17886 SLV Inspire – \$1,000,000.00

On December 8, 2016, the board awarded \$1 million in local government purpose funds to the City of Creede, the Towns of Antonito and Saguache, and Mineral County to work as a coalition to address the unique challenges young people face in the San Luis Valley connecting with nature and getting outside. The original completion date for the project is June 30, 2020. The SLV Inspire vision is progressing, however, the City of Creede's park development component is unable to move forward.

Of the \$1 million SLV Inspire grant, the City of Creede received \$157,600.00 to restore and redevelop the Willow Creek Corridor. Due to changes in the environmental status of the existing floodplain, construction of the proposed pedestrian trail and park within the corridor is no longer viable. To continue advancing the SLV Inspire vision, the city submitted a project modification request to staff to reallocate funding from the park development project to outdoor leadership programs and park enhancements that will accommodate introductory recreation clinics for youth of all ages. The city will collaborate with regional partners to run these programs in summer 2020 and 2021. Per GOCO's program procedures, staff approved the city's modification request and the city is now requesting a board extension through June 30, 2021 to execute the modified project and submit final reporting.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by June 30, 2021.
If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.



Open Space Grant

#18102 Acequia Initiative – Working to Conserve Colorado’s Oldest Agricultural Communities – \$638,000.00

On December 15, 2017, the board awarded \$638,000 in open space purpose funds to Colorado Open Land (COL) to acquire conservation easements on three ranches outside of the Town of San Luis to protect their water rights and the associated irrigation ditches for the benefit of the community. The ranches total more than 850 acres and are visible from the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic Byway. The acequias (or ditch systems) the project is working to protect hold some of the most senior water rights in the state, making them a prime target for water transfers.

The original completion date for the project was December 15, 2019. COL requested and received a staff extension through June 30, 2020 to address delays associated with the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Project (RCPP) funding. Unfortunately, the NRCS – RCPP funding is still causing considerable project delays. As a result, COL is requesting a GOCO board extension through June 2021 to account for these extended delays, to provide enough time to complete the due diligence requirements for all three properties, and to get through the NRCS closing review process.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Completion of the Acequia Initiative by June 30, 2021.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

#18104 Smith Rancho 5 – Deep Creek – \$969,250.00

On December 15, 2017, the board awarded \$969,250 in open space purpose funds to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to acquire the fifth conservation easement on the Smith Rancho property in Routt County, northeast of Hayden. The Smith family and TNC have worked together for years to conserve the ranch, previously protecting more than 12,000 acres. The fifth conservation easement adds 4,080 acres to the previous conserved landscape and is adjacent to BLM land and the 18,000-acre Wolf Mountain Ranch State Habitat Area.

TNC requested and received a staff extension through June 15, 2020 prompted by extended landowner negotiations. Unfortunately, due to shifting priorities resulting from the novel Corona Virus, Routt County has limited staff capacity to complete the due diligence review associated with their Purchase of Development Rights Program (PDR). Routt County’s PDR program is providing the matching funds for the Smith Rancho 5 transaction. TNC and Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust have been working diligently with the county to identify creative solutions to address the county’s staff capacity and shifting priorities including hiring



outside counsel to help move the PDR due diligence review forward. Given these creative solutions, TNC is slated to close the Smith Rancho Conservation Easement on June 11, 2020. Because the estimated closing date is only a few days before the grant expiration date, GOCO staff advised TNC to request a board extension. TNC is therefore requesting a board extension through October 15, 2020. Hopefully, the extension will not be necessary, and the transaction will close within the staff extension deadline. That said, the extension will account for any unforeseen delays that could potentially push closing beyond the current expiration date. Ultimately, this is a precautionary measure to ensure the successful completion of the project.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Completion of the Smith Rancho 5 – Deep Creek Conservation Easement by October 15, 2020.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

#18107 Arkansas River and Riparian Protection – \$505,500.00

On December 15, 2017, the board awarded \$505,500 in open space purpose funds to the Central Colorado Conservancy (CCC / Conservancy) to purchase eight properties owned by the Andrik family totaling 90 acres along the Arkansas River between Leadville and Granite. The plan is to open the properties for public fishing access to be jointly managed with the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area. The acquisitions will expand CCC's existing Arkansas River Preserve and continue to maintain habitat for bighorn sheep, elk, mule deer, bobcat, mountain lion, and various bird species. The properties follow the Top of the Rockies National Scenic Byway, the Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway and the future Stage and Rail Trail.

While the original project completion date was December 15, 2019, the Conservancy requested and received a staff extension through June 30, 2020. The staff extension was granted so the Conservancy could work through an issue regarding matching funds and enable work to continue on the required due diligence reports. The Conservancy was also going through a change in leadership at this time and Adam Beh has since taken over as Executive Director. In April, Mr. Beh successfully resolved the funding issue by securing \$760,000 from the Natural Resource Damage and Assessment Trustees. This funding is replacing the match originally committed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW). It should be noted that CPW helped promote the project to the NRDA and that they are still a strong supporter of the project.

The transaction encountered another setback and delay resulting from the untimely passing of Sean Andrik, owner of one of the eight parcels. John Andrick, Sean's father is now working to secure ownership of Sean's parcel so he can serve as the sole seller on the bargain sale contract. Despite these challenging and unfortunate circumstances, the project has made great headway on the required transaction due diligence including the completion of a draft conservation easement, a draft water rights report, draft environmental assessment, and title



work. Given the status of the project, the Conservancy expects the project to close by the end of 2020, if not sooner. As a result, the Conservancy is respectfully requesting a board extension through December 31, 2020.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Completion of the Arkansas River and Riparian Protection transaction by December 31, 2020.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

Habitat Restoration Grant

#18855 Greeley Urban Natural Areas Habitat Restoration – \$67,000.00

On December 15, 2017, the board awarded \$67,000.00 in open space purpose funds to the City of Greeley to restore nearly 96 acres of upland and riparian habitats on three city-owned natural areas along Sheep Draw Creek. The original completion date for the project was December 15, 2019. The city received a staff extension through June 11, 2020 to accommodate a final spring seeding. Due to COVID-19 the project manager with the city's natural area and trails division was furloughed, halting work on the project. Assuming staff return this summer, the city can attempt a fall seeding and closeout by the end of the 2020. Given the uncertainty of the time and how long furloughs will persist, the City of Greeley is cautiously requesting a board extension through June 30, 2021 to complete the project and submit final reporting.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by June 30, 2021.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

#18856 Big Dry Creek Pilot Project Floodplain Restoration – \$100,000.00

On December 15, 2017, the board awarded \$100,000.00 in open space purpose funds to the City of Thornton to pursue floodplain and stream channel restoration on approximately 25 acres within city-owned Big Dry Creek Open Space. The original completion date for the project was December 15, 2019. The city received a staff extension through June 11, 2020 as permitting with the Army Corps of Engineers took longer than expected and high spring runoff in 2019 delayed access to the creek. To-date, channel work is complete, but a wet spring has delayed planting. Baring additional heavy wet weather, the planting is slated to be finished this summer. As such, the City of Thornton is requesting a board extension through December 10, 2020 to complete the project and submit final reporting.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:



- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by December 10, 2020.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

Conservation Excellence Grant

#19542 Conservation Futures Project Regional Collaboration Incentive Fund – \$75,000.00

On September 28, 2018, the board awarded \$75,000.00 in open space purpose funds to Colorado Open Lands in partnership with the Conservation Futures Project (CFP) steering committee and Gates Family Foundation to offer incentives for land trusts to implement new ideas for collaboration through regional funding opportunities. The completion date for the project is September 28, 2020. One of core groups awarded re-grant funding is requesting additional time to further build the relationships necessary to create the Arkansas Basin Conservation Alliance. Specifically, Southern Plains Land Trust has committed to take lead on this process going forward but requests more time to complete their project. As such, Colorado Open Lands is requesting a board extension through September 30, 2021 to complete the project and submit final reporting.

Recommendation: Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by September 30, 2021.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it may be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.