

Colorado Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office



PURPOSE • PROJECTS • PARTNERSHIPS



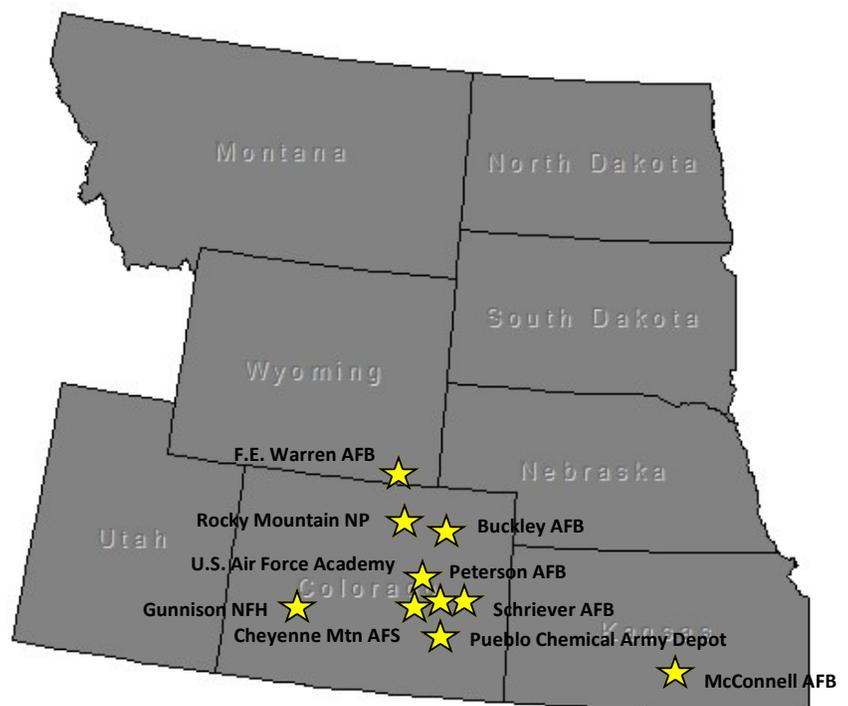
The Colorado Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (COFWCO) is an essential part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's *Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program*. We work cooperatively with:

Department of Defense	National Park Service
U.S. Geological Survey	USFWS National Wildlife Refuge System
U.S. Forest Service	State Natural Resources Agencies (KS, CO, WY)



We provide management of fish, wildlife and forest resources for the mountain-prairie region. Together with our partners, we are involved in natural resource management projects across the region to accomplish restoration and conservation actions for *Federal and State protected and trust species*. Our efforts include stream restoration, invasive species control, establishment of pollinator gardens, fisheries surveys, identification of cultural resources, and implementing actions such as controlled burns to achieve healthy forests.

We work across Region 6 in the following locations:



From Top to Bottom: Brian Mihlbachler tours military leadership around important natural resources areas at the U.S. Air Force Academy; a successful guided hunt on a military installation; Clark Jones presents on burrowing owl monitoring at the Colorado chapter of the Wildlife Society meeting; Laura Mendenhall teaches a Boy Scout how to use a GPS on McConnell AFB.

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Ongoing projects include restoring **Fish Passage** to impacted waterways throughout Region 6. In the photo below, Cole Brittain stands with a Colorado Parks and Wildlife biologist above a new and improved culvert that will maintain important pool habitat downstream but also allow fish to move into upstream areas.



The COFWCO is helping to recover the federally endangered **Greenback Cutthroat Trout** in partnership with the Leadville National Fish Hatchery and Rocky Mountain National Park. In the photo above, Chris Kennedy works with a diverse team of partners to sample tissue from Greenback Cutthroat Trout at the Leadville National Fish Hatchery.

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<https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/fisheries/cofwco.php>

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Biologists are active in **Outreach** and **Education** with military families. In the photo above, a forester at USAFA teaches kids about forest management.

Fish biologists with the COFWCO are monitoring **Rio Grande Chub** and **Rio Grande Sucker** at Baca National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado. In the photo on the left, a portable antenna array records individual fish movement to better characterize habitat needs.