

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Environmental Assessment for Colorado Parks and Wildlife Ft. Collins Office Construction Ft. Collins, Colorado

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has prepared this document in accordance with Executive Order 14154, Unleashing American Energy (Jan. 20, 2025), and a Presidential Memorandum, Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity (Jan. 21, 2025), which require the Department to strictly adhere to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq. Further, such Order and Memorandum repeal Executive Orders 12898 (Feb. 11, 1994) and 14096 (Apr. 21, 2023). Since Executive Orders 12898 and 14096 have been repealed, complying with such Orders is a legal impossibility. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service verifies that it has complied with the requirements of NEPA, including the Department's regulations and procedures implementing NEPA at 43 C.F.R. Part 46 and Part 516 of the Departmental Manual, consistent with the President's January 2025 Order and Memorandum as it applies to the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (WR) as amended (50 Stat. 917, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 669 et seq.).

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has submitted a grant application titled *Ft. Collins Office Construction* to the Service for approval to receive WR grant funds to complete the project. The Service's decision to approve the grant application constitutes a Federal action subject to NEPA. To address this requirement, the Service prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the impacts of the proposed project on the human environment.

Described as the Proposed Action in the draft EA, CPW will construct a new 40,935 square foot multi-purpose facility on the 27 acres of land known as the Bird Farm SSA property owned by CPW. The project also proposes construction of a joint outfall channel to convey stormwater from the developed CPW property at the Kelley and Johnson properties, which are south of the Bird Farm SAA. In addition to the building construction, the Proposed Action would include access improvements to nearby roads, specifically along a portion of Mountain Vista Drive and the East Frontage Road of I-25. The Proposed Action has been developed over several years through internal discussions with CPW leadership, staff and other key stakeholders, and development of the Feasibility Study. Initially, CPW considered other properties they owned for the Ft. Collins Office relocation; however, because the Bird Farm SAA property is underutilized and previously disturbed with low-quality wildlife habitat, this site was the only alternative carried forward for analysis.

The EA's Proposed Action would not negatively impact wildlife, floodplains, historical properties, cultural resources, or wetlands. A No-Action Alternative was considered and while this alternative would not impact any natural resources in the area, the ability to meet CPW's mission and provide services to the public would be increasingly difficult.

The draft EA was issued for a 30-day public comment period which ended on November 5, 2025. During that time, four public comments were received: two in support of the project and one substantive comment in opposition and one substantive comment with questions on traffic. All were addressed in the Final EA.

Based on review of the EA, the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action which would significantly impact the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. I also find that all reasonable alternatives were considered in the evaluation of the proposed project and that this project complies with the intent of the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988 "Floodplain Management" and Executive Order 11990 "Protection of Wetlands." Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the project will have no effect on any listed species or critical habitat. Consequently, I have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The EA is on file at

the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Conservation Investment, 1 Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado, 80225 and is available upon request.

APPROVAL:

Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6

Date