



**LIVE LIFE
OUTSIDE**

COLORADO OUTDOOR REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS Spring 2024 Grant Information and Resources

Application Period Opens on Thursday, February 29, 2024

Letter of Interest due by Friday, April 5, 2024

Complete Application due Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) offer grant funding for regional collaboration and conservation and recreation planning under the Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Initiative (RPI). Coalitions are invited to join a network of Regional Partnerships working to ensure that Colorado's land, water, and wildlife thrive while also providing equitable and quality outdoor recreation experiences. Grant funding supports coalitions at all stages of development, including those just forming and those already funded under the RPI.

The spring 2024 funding round offers two types of grants:

1. **Partnership Capacity Grants.** \$25,000 to \$150,000 to support coalitions that are committed to convening a broad range of outdoor interests to identify and advance conservation and sustainable outdoor recreation objectives. Coalitions focused on areas where there are no established Regional Partnerships are a priority for capacity funding. See the RPI map at the bottom of this document.
2. **Plan Development Grants.** \$50,000 to \$250,000 to support Regional Partnerships' work to complete regional conservation and recreation plans that complement [Colorado's Outdoors Strategy](#), a collaborative vision for conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable recreation. These grants can also include funding for capacity.

New and existing coalitions are encouraged to invest capacity and/or plan development grant funding in the engagement of traditionally underrepresented communities, including coalition building and planning efforts. This may be outlined in the applicant's grant narrative and as a budget line item. Additional funding may be available to support this work upon request.

VISION: In 2050, Colorado's people and economy will thrive because of our healthy lands, water, wildlife, working farms, and ranches, accompanied by improved, inclusive outdoor recreation, hunting, and angling opportunities for all.

Interested applicants must submit a Letter of Interest to CPW on or before **April 5th, 2024**. CPW will then share an online application form with interested parties who meet program criteria. Final proposals are due **April 30th, 2024**. If you are considering whether to apply and would like more information, please contact Morgan Anderson (morgan.l.anderson@state.co.us or 720-498-3768).

PROGRAM VISION The Regional Partnership Initiative advances this 2050 vision of the [Colorado Outdoor Partnership](#) (CO-OP) by convening outdoor interests to identify and advance objectives and priorities that achieve the vision while considering the unique needs of Colorado’s communities.

GRANT GUIDELINES

REQUIREMENTS

Eligible Applicants:

- Colorado non-profit organizations and government entities that represent a coalition with a broad range of outdoor interests including, conservation, outdoor recreation, working lands, under-represented populations, and government interests OR demonstrate a commitment to building a coalition with these interests.
- Represent new or existing coalitions in areas that do not have a Regional Partnership OR represent an existing Regional Partnership. Please see the RPI map (below) to see if your coalition is eligible.
- Commitment to identifying community-driven conservation and sustainable outdoor recreation values, objectives and priorities while considering opportunities to inform [Colorado’s Outdoors Strategy](#), a collaborative vision for conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable recreation.

SCORING PROPOSALS

Scoring:

Proposals are presented to regional CPW staff and the CO-OP Scoring Committee and scored based on selection criteria. The Scoring Committee then makes recommendations for funding to the Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Executive Director of Great Outdoors Colorado.

CRITERIA

Selection Criteria:

- Proposals demonstrate a path to establishing a regional vision/plan for wildlife and natural resources and sustainable outdoor recreation.
- Show consideration for how to incorporate and assess community values and needs and capture public input that is reflective of the region being served.
- Show consideration for how to build and/or sustain a standing coalition representing broad outdoor interests with commitment to the program vision, regional collaboration, and planning.
- Show consideration for how to assess the conservation and outdoor recreation landscape to inform strategic priorities. This could include use of the

Conservation Data Explorer (CODEX) and other tools and resources informing the RPI.

- Letters of recommendation from partner organizations, agencies and/or governments that demonstrate support from broad outdoor interests.
- A detailed budget and timeline, templates will be provided.

GRANT AMOUNT AND MATCH REQUIREMENTS Grants are offered for the duration of one to two years. For Partnership Capacity grants, applicants may request between \$25,000 and \$150,000 to support coalition building, facilitation, communication, administration, and coordination. For Plan Development Grants, CPW will consider requests between \$50,000 and \$250,000 to support capacity and plan development work including public involvement, communications, research, geospatial analysis, and assessments of current conditions. CPW requires a 10% match of financial and/or in-kind contribution.

APPLICATION PROCESS

LETTER OF INTEREST

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Morgan Anderson, Regional Partnership Program Coordinator, at morgan.l.anderson@state.co.us.

Letter of Interest:

To apply, submit a letter of interest to morgan.l.anderson@state.co.us by Friday, April 5th, 2024. Letters can be in the body of an email and should include the following information:

- Organization name, lead contact name, email address, phone number and physical address.
- Brief description of the geographic area that your proposal will cover.
- A Summary of your collaborative effort in one to two paragraphs, which includes an overview of:
 1. The interest areas and sectors collaborating to advance this work, including preliminary conversations and meetings with key stakeholders that support the viability of a regional coalition
 2. How this work will support conservation and sustainable outdoor recreation planning at a regional or landscape scale

FULL APPLICATION

Application:

Applicants who submit a letter of interest will receive feedback from CPW and information regarding the applicant's next steps. Applicants who meet the basic grant requirements will receive a link for an online application. Final applications require a budget, timeline, and narrative description of how coalitions are committed to advancing the Regional Partnership Initiative criteria, and letters of support. Applicants may be invited to present their proposals to the CO-OP Scoring Committee.

TIMELINE

Fall 2024 Funding Application Timeline:

- February 29th: Application Period Opened
- March 18th (week of): Informational Q&A Session
- April 5th: Letter of Interest Deadline
- April 30th: Application Deadline
- May 2024: CPW & CO-OP Scoring Committee Review
- June 2024: Applicant Presentations
- June 2024: Awards Announced

CO-OP SCORING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

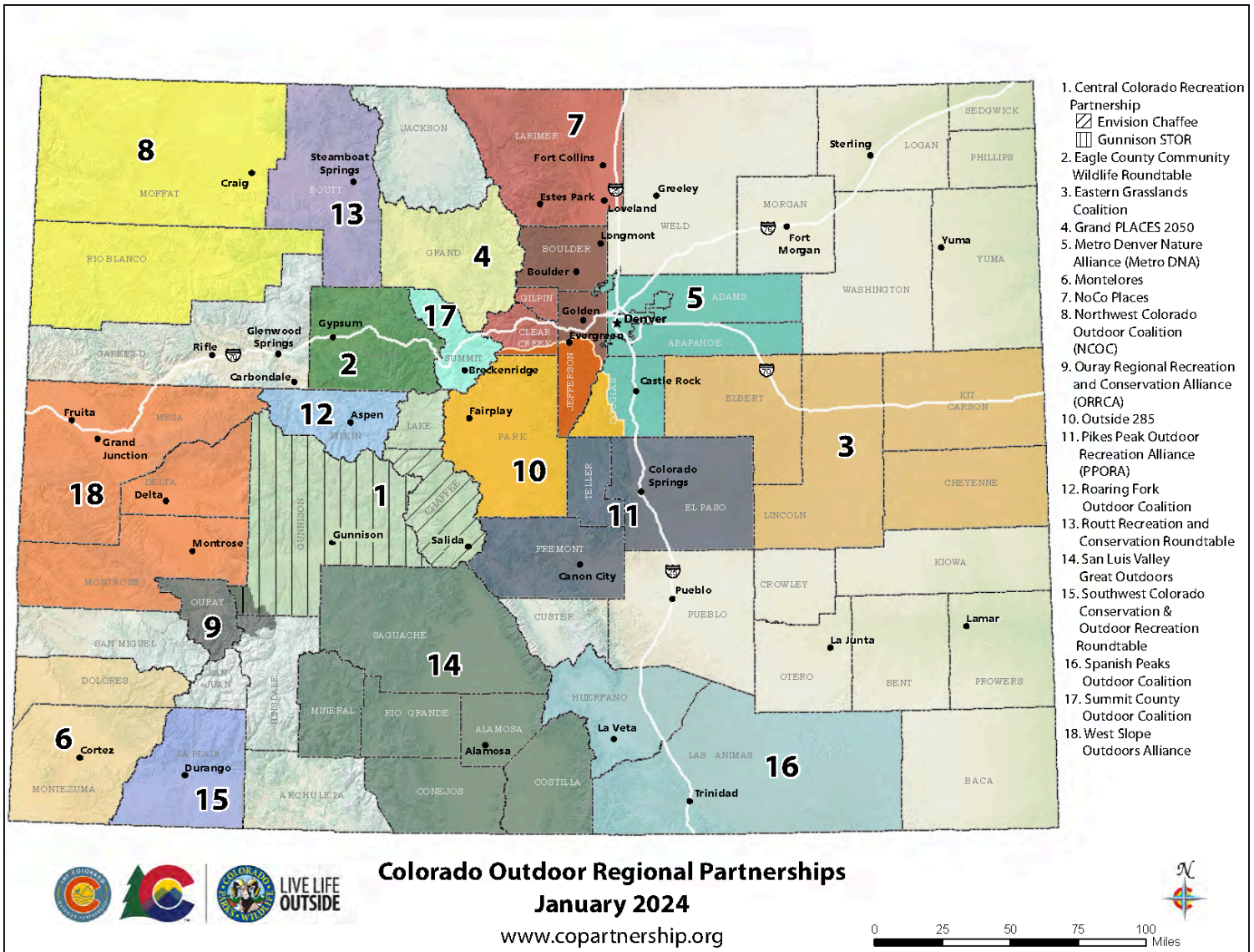
As a statewide cooperative, the CO-OP advises on the Regional Partnerships Initiative as codified by [Executive Order B 2020 008](#). Committee members are selected based on balancing outdoor interest areas/sectors and availability.

Colorado's Cattlemen's Association
Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition
Colorado Outdoor Recreation Industry Office
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Colorado Wildlife Federation
Colorado Youth Corps Association
Department of Natural Resources
Great Outdoors Colorado
Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the Outdoors (HECHO)
The Nature Conservancy
Safari Club International

RESOURCES

- [Colorado Outdoor Partnership \(CO-OP\)](#)
- [Regional Partnerships Initiative Story Map](#)
- [Colorado's Outdoors Strategy](#)
- [Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Executive Order](#)
- [Colorado's Guide for Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind](#)
- [Colorado's Conservation Data Explorer \(CODEX\)](#)
- [2019 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan \(SCORP\)](#)
- [Colorado's Outdoor Principles](#)
- [Conserving Colorado's Big Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors](#)
- [State Wildlife Action Plan](#)
- [State Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Executive Order](#)

Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships Map



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