

An Act

HOUSE BILL 15-1277

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Vigil, Becker J., Becker K., Brown, Buckner, Fields, Ginal, Hamner, Kraft-Tharp, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Primavera, Rankin, Rosenthal, Ryden, Salazar, Winter, Hullinghorst;
also SENATOR(S) Sonnenberg, Carroll, Crowder, Jones, Newell.

CONCERNING MEASURES TO EFFECTUATE THE CONSERVATION OF NATIVE SPECIES IN COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE SPECIES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND FOR PURPOSES RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) Pursuant to:

(a) Section 24-33-111 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, the species conservation trust fund has been created in the state treasury to fund programs designed to conserve native species that have been listed as threatened or endangered under state or federal law or that are candidate species or are likely to become candidate species as determined by the United States fish and wildlife service;

(b) Section 24-33-111 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, the executive

director of the department of natural resources, after consulting with the Colorado water conservation board and its director, the parks and wildlife board, and the director of the division of parks and wildlife, has prepared and delivered to the general assembly a species conservation eligibility list describing programs and associated costs that are eligible to receive funding from the species conservation trust fund; and

(c) Section 24-33-111 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, prior to obligating funds from the species conservation trust fund, the species conservation eligibility list is subject to modification and adoption through the passage of a bill.

SECTION 2. Eligibility list - approval. (1) The general assembly deems the recommended expenditures described in the species conservation eligibility list to be in the interest of the people of the state. The money specified in this subsection (1) is available in fiscal year 2015-16 and remains available for the designated purposes until it is fully expended. The executive director of the department of natural resources is authorized to obligate and expend five million dollars (\$5,000,000) from the species conservation trust fund for the following activities, programs, and species in the following amounts:

PROGRAM/SPECIES	AMOUNT
(I) Native terrestrial wildlife conservation	\$1,092,000
(II) Native aquatic wildlife conservation	\$558,000
(III) Colorado natural areas program	\$234,500
(IV) Colorado resource stewardship program	\$115,500
(V) Native species management, monitoring, and propagation	\$1,000,000
(VI) Gunnison river basin selenium management plan	\$500,000

(VII) Upper Colorado river basin nonnative species control program	\$1,000,000
(VIII) Colorado river lease of water for instream flows for endangered fish recovery purposes	\$500,000
Total authorization	\$5,000,000

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,

determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Dickey Lee Hullinghorst
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bill L. Cadman
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

APPROVED _____

John W. Hickenlooper
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO