

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 25-1017.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 25-1318

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McCormick and Soper,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts and Catlin,

House Committees

Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION FOR SPECIES CONSERVATION TRUST**
102 **FUND PROJECTS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

For state fiscal year 2025-26, the bill appropriates \$5,000,000 from the species conservation trust fund in the state treasury for various wildlife conservation programs directed at conserving candidate species or species that are likely to become candidate species, as determined by the United States fish and wildlife service. The executive director of the Colorado department of natural resources, after consulting with the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

HOUSE
2nd Reading Unamended
April 17, 2025

Colorado water conservation board and its director, the parks and wildlife commission, and the director of the division of parks and wildlife, has submitted to the general assembly, for incorporation into the bill, an eligibility list that describes programs and associated costs that are eligible to receive funding from the species conservation trust fund, as follows:

- \$2,480,000 for the upper Colorado river endangered fish recovery program;
- \$20,000 for selenium management, research, monitoring, evaluation, and control;
- \$1,250,000 for native terrestrial wildlife conservation; and
- \$1,250,000 for native aquatic wildlife conservation.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

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

10 (b) Pursuant to section 24-33-111 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes:

11 (I) The executive director of the department of natural resources,
12 after consulting with the Colorado water conservation board and its
13 director, the parks and wildlife commission, and the director of the
14 division of parks and wildlife, has prepared and delivered to the general
15 assembly a species conservation eligibility list describing programs and
16 associated costs that are eligible to receive funding from the species
17 conservation trust fund; and

18 (II) The species conservation eligibility list is subject to
19 modification and adoption through the passage of this House Bill 25-___,

1 enacted in 2025.

2 **SECTION 2. Eligibility list - approval.** (1) The general
3 assembly deems the recommended expenditures described in the species
4 conservation eligibility list to be in the interest of the people of the state.
5 The money specified in this subsection (1) is available in state fiscal year
6 2025-26 and remains available for the designated purposes until it is fully
7 expended. The executive director of the department of natural resources
8 is authorized to obligate and expend five million dollars (\$5,000,000)
9 from the species conservation trust fund for the following activities,
10 programs, and species in the following amounts:

| 11 | PROGRAM/SPECIES | AMOUNT |
|----|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 12 | (a) Upper Colorado river | |
| 13 | endangered fish recovery | |
| 14 | program; | \$2,480,000 |
| 15 | (b) Selenium management, research, | |
| 16 | monitoring, evaluation, | |
| 17 | and control; | \$20,000 |
| 18 | (c) Native terrestrial | |
| 19 | wildlife conservation; | \$1,250,000 |
| 20 | (d) Native aquatic | |
| 21 | wildlife conservation. | \$1,250,000 |
| 22 | Total authorization | \$5,000,000 |

23 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
24 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
25 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
26 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
27 institutions.