

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 23-0946.01 Jed Franklin x5484

**HOUSE BILL 23-1274**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**McCormick and Catlin,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**

Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

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

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**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>.)*

The bill appropriates \$5 million from the species conservation trust fund for programs submitted by the executive director of the department of natural resources that are designed to conserve native species that state or federal law lists as threatened or endangered or that are candidate species or are likely to become candidate species for such listing as determined by the United States fish and wildlife service, allocated as

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.*

follows:

- \$750,000 for native terrestrial wildlife conservation;
- \$1,500,000 for native aquatic wildlife conservation;
- \$2,200,000 for the upper Colorado river endangered fish recovery program and the San Juan river basin recovery implementation program;
- \$50,000 for selenium management, research, monitoring, evaluation, and control; and
- \$500,000 for the federal endangered species act litigation program.

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

2           **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 hereby 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;

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) Before obligating funds from the species conservation trust  
19 fund, the species conservation eligibility list is subject to modification  
20 and adoption through the passage of a bill.

1           **SECTION 2. Eligibility list - approval.** (1) The general  
 2 assembly deems the recommended expenditures described in the species  
 3 conservation eligibility list to be in the interest of the people of the state.  
 4 The money specified in this subsection (1) is available in fiscal year  
 5 2023-24 and remains available for the designated purposes until it is fully  
 6 expended. The executive director of the department of natural resources  
 7 is authorized to obligate and expend five million dollars (\$5,000,000)  
 8 from the species conservation trust fund for the following activities,  
 9 programs, and species in the following amounts:

<b>PROGRAM/SPECIES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
(a) Native terrestrial wildlife conservation;	\$750,000
(b) Native aquatic wildlife conservation;	\$1,500,000
(c) Upper Colorado river endangered fish recovery program and San Juan river basin recovery implementation program;	\$2,200,000
(d) Selenium management, research, monitoring, evaluation, and control;	\$50,000
(e) Federal endangered species act litigation program.	\$500,000
<b>Total authorization</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>

25           **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
 26 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
 27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.