

C.R.S. 33-1-101

COLORADO REVISED STATUTES

*** This document reflects changes current through all laws passed at the First Regular Session of the Sixty-Ninth General Assembly of the State of Colorado (2013) ***

TITLE 33. PARKS AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE
ARTICLE 1. WILDLIFE - GENERAL PROVISIONS

C.R.S. 33-1-101 (2013)

33-1-101. Legislative declaration

(1) It is the policy of the state of Colorado that the wildlife and their environment are to be protected, preserved, enhanced, and managed for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of this state and its visitors. It is further declared to be the policy of this state that there shall be provided a comprehensive program designed to offer the greatest possible variety of wildlife-related recreational opportunity to the people of this state and its visitors and that, to carry out such program and policy, there shall be a continuous operation of planning, acquisition, and development of wildlife habitats and facilities for wildlife-related opportunities.

(2) All wildlife within this state not lawfully acquired and held by private ownership is declared to be the property of this state. Right, title, interest, acquisition, transfer, sale, importation, exportation, release, donation, or possession of wildlife is permitted only as provided in articles 1 to 6 of this title or in any rule of the parks and wildlife **commission**.

(3) In order to foster the welfare of the inhabitants of the state of Colorado, it is further declared to be the policy of this state to protect and encourage full development of absolute and conditional water rights created under state law and to develop and maximize the beneficial use of the waters to which Colorado and its citizens are entitled under interstate compacts.

(3.5) (a) The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that it supports the recommendation of the Lower Arkansas river **commission** in its plan dated March 25, 1993, to protect and enhance fish and wildlife resources at the Great Plains Reservoirs, and further finds that a joint funding effort, which includes funds appropriated from the wildlife cash fund created in [section 33-1-112](#) to carry out such recommendation, would further the public interest by establishing recreational opportunities in southeastern Colorado.

(b) The general assembly further declares that the joint funding effort described in paragraph (a) of this subsection (3.5) shall not be solely a division responsibility and that the appropriation from the wildlife cash fund shall be used to maximize matching funds from other sources to ensure full implementation of the recommendation.

(4) The state shall utilize hunting, trapping, and fishing as the primary methods of effecting necessary wildlife harvests.

(5) The general assembly declares that it is the policy of the state to prosecute hunters who violate multiple provisions of this title for each violation that contains unique elements.