

SB 25-049: CONTINUE WILDLIFE HABITAT STAMP PROGRAM

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Marchman; Roberts Rep. Martinez; Winter T.

Bill Outcome: Signed into Law

Drafting number: LLS 25-0166

Fiscal Analyst:

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Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: June 3, 2025

Fiscal note status: The final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill, as requested by the Water Resources and

Agriculture Review Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill continues the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program indefinitely. The program is currently scheduled to repeal July 1, 2027.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

State Expenditures

State Revenue

Appropriations. No appropriation is required.

Table 1 **State Fiscal Impacts**

	Out Year	Out Year	Out Year
Type of Impact ¹	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28
State Revenue (Cash Funds)	\$0	\$0	\$7.9 million
State Expenditures (Cash Funds)	\$0	\$0	\$7.9 million
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in State Refunds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹ Impacts beginning in FY 2027-28 represent a continuation of existing revenue and expenditures beyond the program's current repeal date.

Summary of Legislation

The bill continues the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program, and the Wildlife Habitat Stamp Committee, indefinitely. The program is managed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in the Department of Natural Resources. The program and committee are currently set to repeal on July 1, 2027, following a sunset review by the Department of Regulatory Agencies. The bill also eliminates the scheduled sunset review.

Background

The <u>Wildlife Habitat Stamp Program</u> provides funding for CPW efforts to work with private landowners, local governments, and conservation organizations to protect fish and wildlife habitat. The funding comes from CPW's habitat stamp sales, which must be purchased in order to buy a hunting or fishing license. For the 2024-25 license season, a single stamp costs \$10.59 and a lifetime stamp costs \$318.08. The program currently generates an average of \$7.9 million in habitat stamp fee revenue annually for CPW.

The Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp Committee reviews proposed projects for expenditure of Habitat Stamp funds and makes recommendations to the Director of CPW and the Parks and Wildlife Commission.

State Revenue and Expenditures

The bill indefinitely continues approximately \$7.9 million in revenue and expenditures by CPW from the Wildlife Cash Fund beginning in FY 2027-28. Revenue to the Wildlife Cash Fund is not subject to TABOR. These revenue and expenditures will end in FY 2026-27 under current law.

The bill also minimally decreases workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies from eliminating the scheduled sunset review of the program and committee. No adjustment to appropriations is required from this change.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 15, 2025, and takes effect on August 6, 2025, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Natural Resources

Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the <u>General Assembly website</u>.