

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2001

STUDY OF THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

**Report to the
Colorado General Assembly**

**Research Publication No. 481
December 2000**

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December 2000

To Members of the Sixty-second General Assembly:

Submitted herewith is the final report of the Study of the Division of Wildlife. This committee was created pursuant to House Joint Resolution 00-1027. The purpose of the study is to examine the policies, management practices, and state funding mechanisms of the division.

At its meeting on October 16, 2000, the Legislative Council reviewed the report of this committee. A motion to forward this report and the bills therein for consideration in the 2001 session was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Representative Doug Dean
Chairman
Legislative Council

DD/AP/mm

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STUDY OF THE DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Committee Charge

The Interim Committee to Study the Division of Wildlife was created pursuant to House Joint Resolution 00-1027 and charged with examining the policies and state funding mechanisms of the division. Specifically, the committee was charged with considering the division's land acquisition and leasing activities; revenue sources; internal budgeting and revenue allocation processes; management policies for big game and endangered species; proposed whirling disease policy; and implementation of the 1999 State Auditor's recommendations.

Committee Activities

The committee held six meetings and visited three areas of the state outside Denver to hear public testimony on the Division of Wildlife's programs and policies. For example, in Grand Junction, the committee heard testimony from sportspersons who expressed concern about declining deer and elk populations in the state. During the committee's visit to Pueblo, the division described big game management policies and the committee heard testimony from hunters in the area. The committee also visited a private fish hatchery near Leadville and heard citizens' reaction to the Wildlife Commission's proposed whirling disease policy. The committee further discussed fishing issues with the division and the commission at a public meeting the following day.

During its study of the division, the committee learned that the division's revenue comes primarily from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Over the next four years, the division's operating expenses are expected to increase and the sale of licenses is expected to decline. The division described its fish and game management policies. Many division programs such as the Habitat Partnership Program, which provides quality habitat for game animals on private land, are funded through license sales. The division also discussed federal funding for hunting and fishing related activities and the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service explained how it applies provisions in the Endangered Species Act. The division described its programs and policies to keep certain Colorado species off the federal endangered species list.

The committee heard from several state entities that work with or oversee the division. The State Auditor's office explained how the division is implementing recommendations from the 1999 performance audit. Representatives of Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) described how GOCO funds are allocated to the division. The committee examined GOCO's policies that govern the division's use of these funds. The Department of Local Affairs discussed its administration of the search and rescue fund. A percentage of hunting and fishing license fees is used to reimburse authorized agencies for certain expenses incurred during search and rescue operations.

Committee Recommendations

As a result of committee discussion and deliberation, the committee recommends four bills for consideration in the 2001 legislative session.

Bill A – Wildlife Authority to Decrease License Fees. The Wildlife Commission currently has authority to lower license fees in certain conditions such as to promote a larger harvest of game. This bill broadens the commission's authority to lower any license fee when it deems that lower fees are appropriate for better management of the state's wildlife resources.

Bill B – Designate Division of Wildlife an Enterprise. The committee heard from the division regarding an expected increase in operating costs relative to declining revenue in the coming years. As a result, the committee discussed alternate sources of funding to meet the future needs of wildlife management in Colorado. Bill B would designate the division as an enterprise for purposes of TABOR, thus giving the commission more flexibility to request increases in license fees without affecting funding for other government services. The division would be exempt from TABOR as long as it receives less than ten percent of its revenues in grants and has the authority to issue revenue bonds. The bill also specifies that moneys from the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund are not grants and authorizes the commission to issue up to \$10 million in revenue bonds, subject to approval by both houses of the General Assembly and the governor.

Bill C – Financial Incentives for Fish Hatcheries. The committee heard testimony about whirling disease and a new policy proposed by the Wildlife Commission to prohibit the release of whirling disease positive fish into many of the state's waters. To lessen the impact of this proposed policy on private fish hatcheries and create incentives for compliance, the committee recommends Bill C.

Bill C would provide loans and an income tax credit to private fish hatcheries that test positive for *Myxobolus Cerebralis*, the source of whirling disease, and are taking steps to becoming whirling disease negative. The financial tax incentives could be used by private hatcheries to purchase water rights and construct rearing space and conveyances manufactured with impermeable materials. The tax credit would be available for income tax years between January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2004, and would be permitted for up to 50 percent of the total amount spent on eliminating whirling disease each year or \$100,000, whichever is less. Any credit not used can be carried forward for three years. Loans would be made by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Bill D – Habitat Partnership Program. The bill amends the Habitat Partnership Program to assist the division in the prevention and resolution of wildlife conflicts. Beginning in FY 2002-03, program funding will consist of five percent of the proceeds from the sale of big game licenses in program areas and any grants received by the program. Currently, the program is funded through annual appropriations.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Pursuant to House Joint Resolution 00-1027, the Interim Committee to Study the Division of Wildlife was created to examine the policies, management practices, and state funding mechanisms of the division. The committee was composed of six members, three from the House of Representatives and three from the Senate. The committee was charged with, but not limited to, considering:

- the division's land acquisition and leasing activities, its real estate and maintenance plan, and whether the division should have a critical habitat and migratory conservation program;
- the division's revenue sources including license fees, federal grants and state Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board grants and whether the division should continue using GOCO monies;
- internal budgeting and revenue allocation processes;
- new technology to improve customer service and efficiency;
- funding for lobbying and the Wildlife Management Public Education Advisory Council, the cost and value of the division's educational programs;
- the division's primary management concepts and outsourcing opportunities;
- predator, big game and endangered species management policies;
- fish policies including whirling disease management and fish hatchery programs; and
- the division's implementation of the 1999 State Auditor's recommendations.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Division of Wildlife's Responsibilities

Overview of division's responsibilities. The Division of Wildlife (division) manages and protects wildlife and habitat for both game and nongame species. Specifically, it regulates hunting and fishing activities, maintains three regional service centers and 16 area service centers across the state, and manages more than 230 wildlife areas for public recreation. It also conducts research, provides technical assistance to private and other public landowners concerning wildlife and habitat management, and protects threatened and endangered species. The Department of Natural Resources oversees the division. The ten-member Wildlife Commission has independent regulatory authority and may establish policies for the state's game and fish.

Scope of the issues considered by the committee. The committee examined the division's management policies and practices for fish and big game, including land acquisition and the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. These areas were identified as important to sportspersons, wildlife conservationists, and the public. The committee heard testimony from citizens and the division about urban fishing programs and the Wildlife Commission's proposed whirling disease policy. Sportspersons expressed concern about the division's method of determining big game populations in several regions of the state. The committee heard testimony about the quality and quantity of wildlife habitat in the state. The division briefed the committee on endangered species in Colorado and programs designed to protect other species from declining to a point that triggers provisions in the federal Endangered Species Act. The committee learned how division activities relate to search and rescue operations and public education about wildlife management.

Fish management. The division and the Wildlife Commission provided information on the commission's proposed whirling disease policy. Whirling disease is caused by a parasite that attacks and kills certain types of fish, including trout, in their juvenile stage. This resistant disease has been detected in many streams, rivers, lakes and fish hatcheries in Colorado. Under the proposed policy, only whirling disease negative fish may be stocked in waters where the fish can reproduce. Some members of the public testified that the policy will negatively impact the state's fishing industry and financially burden commercial hatcheries that test positive for the disease. Whirling disease positive hatcheries will have three years to eliminate the disease and comply with the proposed policy. Several members of Colorado's Fish Health Board requested that the commission delay policy decisions until more is known about the impact stocking whirling disease positive fish has on the state's waters. The five-member, statutory Fish Health Board reviews proposed recommendations and rules to control the spread of aquatic diseases.

The committee also heard testimony about the division's urban fishing programs. The committee learned that despite Colorado's growing population, the sale of fishing licenses

has stagnated and municipalities often need division assistance to operate fishing programs. The division said that by providing assistance and increasing fishing opportunities in urban areas, it hopes to improve fishing license sales.

Recommendation. The committee recommends Bill C, which will provide loans and an income tax credit for private fish hatcheries that have tested positive for whirling disease and have taken steps to become whirling disease negative.

Big game management. The size of big game herds, such as deer and elk, fluctuates over time and throughout the state. Disease, predation, and changes in climate and habitat affect herd populations. The division described its method of estimating how many big game animals are in Colorado. Based on the estimates, the division decides what management practices will help increase, decrease or maintain herd populations. The number of big game hunting licenses sold is also based on the estimates. For example, the division concluded that the state's mule deer population is declining and, therefore, lowered the number of mule deer hunting licenses. The committee heard testimony from sportspersons who support a method of determining herd size that is used in other western states called "sightability." The sportspersons presented data to support this alternative method and the division agreed to compare the two methods.

Total Licensing Project. Currently, hunting and fishing licenses may be purchased from the division and certain retail stores. The division testified that it is developing a "Total Licensing Project" that would facilitate license sales using the phone or Internet. The division described the benefits of the proposed project including greater customer satisfaction, automatic license calculations, and faster, more accurate information for managing fish and big game harvests. The division is currently examining funding alternatives for the project including out-sourcing or assessing a fee on each license sold.

Recommendation. The committee recommends Bill A. The bill broadens the Wildlife Commission's authority to lower any license fee when it deems that lower fees are appropriate for better management of the state's wildlife resources.

Land management. The expansion of housing and other development in formerly rural areas has reduced and fragmented wildlife habitat. The division identified protection of habitat as an important wildlife management tool. The committee learned that the division protects habitat through land acquisition, leasing land, and establishing conservation easements. The division also promotes cooperative habitat management programs with private landowners. For example, the Ranching for Wildlife program encourages private landowners to improve or maintain wildlife habitat on their property. In exchange, program participants receive a percentage of hunting licenses for each big game season.

Recommendation. The committee recommends Bill D, which amends the Habitat Partnership Program. The program develops partnerships between landowners, land managers, sportspersons, the public, and the division to resolve conflicts between big game animals and livestock on private and public lands.

Endangered species. The committee heard testimony from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the federal classification of species in Colorado as endangered or threatened. Currently, Colorado has 16 species federally classified as threatened or endangered. The state is concerned that an additional 58 species could potentially be classified as threatened or endangered. The division explained that its threatened and endangered species recovery programs prevent other species from declining to a point that would trigger Endangered Species Act provisions.

Search and Rescue Fund. The committee heard testimony about the Search and Rescue Fund that is administered by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. The fund reimburses expenses incurred by county sheriffs and other search and rescue agencies. Revenue for the fund is obtained from a \$0.25 fee on each hunting, fishing, snow mobile, and off-highway license and hiking certificate sold. Only search and rescue missions for parties with licenses and hiking certificates are allowed to be reimbursed from the fund. However, any monies remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year may be allocated to search and rescue organizations for the purchase of search and rescue training and equipment. The law does not prohibit this equipment from being used for searches and rescues of parties that did not purchase a license or hiking certificate.

Public education about wildlife management. The chairman of the Wildlife Management Public Education Advisory Council told the committee that many of the state's new residents are unfamiliar with wildlife management policies. To help educate the public on wildlife issues important to Colorado, the General Assembly created the council in 1998 to oversee a media-based public information program. Since then, the council has received \$60,000 in donations to help pay for its activities. The council's program explains the economic, recreation, and conservation benefits of wildlife management, including hunting and fishing, to the public. Members of the council are appointed by the division's director, big game and fishing license holders, rural counties and municipalities, farmers, and the media.

Division of Wildlife's Revenue and Budget

Overview of the division's operating budget and revenue sources. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2000-01, the division was appropriated \$71.2 million from the Wildlife Cash Fund and 752.5 full time equivalent (FTE) employees. Hunting and fishing license fees pay for approximately 70 percent of the division's operations. Other funding sources for the division include \$15.8 million from the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) board, \$9.7 million from federal sources, and \$400,000 from the Nongame Tax Checkoff. See Table 1, concerning the division's operating budget and revenue sources.

**TABLE 1 - Division of Wildlife's Operations and Revenue Sources for
FY 2000-01**

<u>Line Item Name</u>	<u>Wildlife Cash</u>	<u>Wildlife Cash as % of Total</u>	<u>Other Cash Funds</u> ⁶	<u>GOCO Funds</u>	<u>GOCO Funds as % of Total</u>	<u>Other Cash Funds Exempt</u> ⁷	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Executive Director's Office Costs ¹	6,003,618	94.5%	0	0	0.0%	14,056	335,067	6,352,741
Wildlife & Species Management	7,290,196	39.3%	0	6,961,752	37.5%	387,394	3,905,839	18,545,181
Wildlife Related Recreation ²	18,747,054	81.8%	6,500	193,437	0.8%	0	3,969,003	22,915,994
Wildlife Education & Information	7,884,699	76.5%	501,030	1,081,000	10.5%	143,180	703,215	10,313,124
Responsive Management ³	14,790,650	98.3%	1,500	105,067	0.7%	0	153,572	15,050,789
Special Purpose ⁴	3,328,495	100.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	3,328,495
Capital Construction ⁵	13,135,976	61.2%	0	7,500,000	34.9%	170,000	663,075	21,469,051
TOTAL DOW BUDGET	71,180,688	72.7%	509,030	15,841,256	16.2%	714,630	9,729,771	97,975,375

Notes:

1. "Executive Director's Office Costs" include vehicle leases, health/life/dental insurance costs for division employees, salary survey and anniversary increase costs, capital outlay, and other centrally allocated division expenses.
2. "Wildlife Related Recreation" includes hunting, fishing, watchable wildlife, law enforcement, and licensing.
3. "Responsive Management" includes public policy, human resources, and internal systems.
4. "Special Purpose" includes Commission discretionary funding as well as indirect cost used to fund the Division's share of costs of the Department of Natural Resources' Executive Director's Office.
5. "Capital Construction" includes GOCO Funds used for capital construction, even though these funds are not reflected in the capital section of the FY 2000-01 Long Bill.
6. "Other Cash Funds" consists almost entirely of Colorado Outdoors Magazine subscription revenues
7. "Other Cash Funds Exempt" consists primarily of non-game income tax check-off donations and \$170,000 in duck stump revenues used for waterfowl habitat capital projects.

Overview of GOCO's wildlife grants. The committee heard testimony from GOCO regarding its wildlife grant program. GOCO is an independent state board that allocates Lottery proceeds to state, local and private organizations for outdoor recreation and environmental preservation. In FY 2000-01, the division received 16 percent of its total budget and 35 percent of its capital construction budget from GOCO. The Colorado Constitution requires GOCO to allocate its funds for the enhancement of wildlife resources, outdoor recreation resources, open space and natural areas, and open lands and parks. GOCO is not required to obtain legislative approval of its grants. However, the division must obtain approval from the Capital Development Committee before it acquires title to land purchased with GOCO grants.

GOCO grants for capital acquisition and operations. Some critics contend that GOCO grants have enabled the division to acquire more land than it can adequately manage. In response to this criticism, GOCO testified that it provides money to the division for on-going costs such as maintenance and operations. In FY 1999-00, the division received \$4.5 million for operations and \$5.9 million for capital development from GOCO. Critics also contend that the Colorado Constitution does not authorize GOCO to deny or amend the division's grant requests. In response, GOCO testified that it rarely denies grant requests from the division. Rather, grants are often compromises between the division's preference for operations and maintenance and GOCO's preference for land purchases and other capital acquisitions.

Budget challenges. The committee heard testimony about the division's growing budget challenge caused by declining license revenues and increasing operating expenses. Adjusted for inflation, annual license revenues from FY 1999-00 through FY 2003-04 are expected to average about \$10 million less than FY 1998-99 license revenue. This decline is due primarily to inflation and a drop in deer license sales. Specifically, the decline in deer licenses is caused by a decline in the mule deer population. Also, except for nonresident big game fees, license fees are set in statute and are not adjusted for inflation. Since revenue is declining, the division testified that it is searching for cost-saving opportunities in travel and vehicle expenses, telecommunications, and capital construction costs. For example, spending on new capital construction is projected to decline from \$20 million in FY 1999-00 to \$4.7 million in FY 2001-02. The division explained that increases in operating expenses are the result of new priorities, such as purchasing whirling disease negative trout and cleaning whirling disease positive fish hatcheries. The division will address these expenses by redirecting monies from existing programs. The division also plans on holding meetings with sportspersons to determine their support for a possible increase in residential hunting and fishing license fees.

Recommendation. To help address the division's budget challenges, the committee considered alternate funding sources and methods. Bill B designates the division as an enterprise for purposes of TABOR. As an enterprise, the commission will have more flexibility to request license fee increases without affecting funding for other government services. The division would be exempt from TABOR as long as it receives less than ten percent of its revenues in grants and has the authority to issue revenue bonds.

Audits and Reviews

Scope of the issue. The committee heard testimony from the division and the State Auditor's Office about the three audits and three reviews of the division since 1994. These include two state audits, one federal audit, the 1995 Legislative Interim Committee on Wildlife, and the 1994 Deloitte & Touche management review. The division also underwent an 18-month review of its mission and activities while developing its 1994 Long Range Plan. As a result of these audits and reviews, the division has undergone numerous changes in its operations and mission.

1999 and 1995 performance audits. In 1999, the State Auditor's Office examined the division's property management, capital construction, program management, and customer service activities. The auditor made several recommendations related to property management, including maintaining better control over the division's vehicle fleet and reducing its inventory of confiscated firearms. The auditor also determined that the division should improve the accountability of its capital construction funds and ensure that such projects have accurate budgets and are completed on time. The 1995 audit examined revenue and accountability, fish hatcheries and aquatic functions, law enforcement activities, and support functions. Among other issues, it recommended that the division obtain new sources of funding and propose legislation to improve the predictability of license revenues. The report also recommended that the division improve the grant making process for the "Fishing is Fun" program and better control law enforcement training costs.

1998 federal aid audit. In 1998, the federal Inspector General's audit considered the division's use of the approximately \$11 million that it receives annually from federal taxes on hunting and fishing equipment. To receive these monies, the division is required to spend its hunting and license revenue on wildlife purposes. The federal audit determined that properties purchased with license fee revenue and operated by State Parks were not being used for wildlife. Most of these properties were acquired by State Parks in 1972 when the state's former Game, Fish, and Parks Department was split into separate divisions. The division testified that it will use four non-monetary mechanisms for addressing the federal audit including land exchanges, reversions, partitions and consolidations, and GOCO credits. The proposal affects 16 properties including Steamboat Lakes, Golden Gate, and Rifle Gap Falls.

1995 Wildlife Committee. This legislative interim committee met seven times to examine customer service, game damage, law enforcement, land acquisition, and revenue issues. It recommended four bills. The first bill pertained to training qualifications for wildlife peace officers and implemented the Deloitte & Touche's management review recommendations. The other three bills continued the Habitat Partnership Council, prohibited the division from adopting rules that restrict the taking of raccoons and coyotes to a specific season, and made the state liable for damage to livestock caused by any animal if the taking is regulated by the division.

Deloitte & Touche management review. The 1994 Deloitte & Touche report determined that certain long-term problems have affected the division, including little accountability for accomplishment of plans, low employee morale, and lack of program monitoring. To address these problems, the division made several management changes, such as reducing the number of management-level employees; creating a central planning, budgeting, and evaluation unit; implementing a modified zero base budget system; streamlining the licensing processes; and simplifying the game damage claims procedures.

1994 Long-range Plan. The 1994 Long-range Plan guides the division's policies and programs. The plan originated from an 18-month process that included meetings with sportspersons and members of the general public. As a result of the process, the division increased its support for non-consumptive wildlife programs such as watchable wildlife and endangered species protection. The division also commissioned the Deloitte & Touche management review to identify changes in its organization and management strategies that would help the division implement the 1994 Long-range Plan.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the committee's activities, the following bills are recommended to the Colorado General Assembly.

Bill A — Concerning the Wildlife Commission's Authority to Decrease License Fees

The Wildlife Commission currently has authority to lower license fees in certain conditions, such as to promote a larger harvest of game. This bill broadens the commission's authority to lower any license fee when it deems that lower fees are appropriate for better management of the state's wildlife resources.

Bill A does not have a fiscal impact because it does not affect state or local government revenue or expenditures.

Bill B — Concerning Changes in the Fiscal Policies of the Division of Wildlife to Allow Operation as an Enterprise for Purposes of Section 20 of Article X of the State Constitution

The committee heard from the division regarding an expected increase in operating costs relative to declining revenue in the coming years. As a result, the committee discussed alternate sources of funding to meet the future needs of wildlife management in Colorado. Bill B would designate the division as an enterprise for purposes of TABOR, thus giving the commission more flexibility to request increases in license fees without affecting funding for other government services. The division would be exempt from TABOR as long as it receives less than ten percent of its revenues in grants and has the authority to issue revenue bonds. The bill also specifies that moneys from the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund are not grants and authorizes the commission to issue up to \$10 million in revenue bonds, subject to approval by both houses of the General Assembly and the governor.

The bill has a state fiscal impact because, while it would not affect DOW revenues, it would change the size of TABOR revenues, thus changing the size of the TABOR refund and the size of the excess General Fund reserve. The bill would cause a decrease in the TABOR refund of \$620,000 and an increase in the excess General Fund reserve of \$650,000 in FY 2002-03. However, the TABOR refund would increase and the excess General Fund reserve would decrease each year thereafter.

Bill C — Concerning Financial Incentives for Commercial Fish Hatcheries that Test Positive for Whirling Disease

The committee heard testimony about whirling disease and a new policy proposed by the Wildlife Commission to prohibit the release of whirling disease positive fish into many of the state's waters. To lessen the impact of this proposed policy on private fish hatcheries and create incentives for compliance, the committee recommends Bill C.

Bill C would provide loans and an income tax credit for private fish hatcheries that have been tested positive for *Myxobolus Cerebralis*, the source of whirling disease, and that take steps to becoming whirling disease negative. The financial incentives could be used by private hatcheries to purchase water rights and construct rearing space and conveyances manufactured with impermeable materials. The tax credit would be available for income tax years between January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2004, and would be permitted for up to 50 percent of the total amount spent on eliminating whirling disease each year or \$100,000, whichever is less. Any credit not used can be carried forward for three years. While the bill allows loans to be made by the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the bill precludes hatcheries who borrow money from the Colorado Water Conservation Board from claiming the credit. The bill has a state fiscal impact because, to the extent that hatcheries claim the tax credit, state revenues will be reduced. However, state revenues are expected to be reduced by less than \$20,000 each year, since most hatcheries are not expected to be able to claim a significant tax credit.

Bill D — Concerning the Creation of the Habitat Partnership Program, and, in connection therewith, Changing the Duties of the Habitat Partnership Council, Habitat Partnership Committee, and Director of the Division of Wildlife, and funding the Habitat Partnership Cash Fund

The bill creates the Habitat Partnership Program to assist the division in the prevention and resolution of wildlife conflicts. Beginning in FY 2002-03, program funding will consist of five percent of the proceeds from the sale of big game licenses in program areas and any grants received by the program. Currently, the program is funded through annual appropriations.

Bill D has a state fiscal impact because it would increase cash fund expenditures by \$664,440 annually.

RESOURCE MATERIALS

The resource materials listed below were provided to the committee or developed by Legislative Council staff during the course of the meetings. The summaries of meetings and attachments are available at the Division of Archives, 1313 Sherman Street, Denver. For a limited time, the meeting summaries and materials developed by Legislative Council Staff are available on our web site at:

www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2000/00interim.

Meeting Summaries	Topics Discussed
July 29, 2000	Overview of division of wildlife policies and structure, land acquisition, operation and maintenance, disposal of surplus property, federal issues, financial status, public participation process, and predator and big game management.
August 9, 2000	Review of 1999 State Auditor's Performance Audit and implementation of the audit's recommendations; overview of GOCO grants awarded through the division; resolution of the 1998 federal aid audit; review of the division's four year budget plan and zero based budget; and discussion on funding alternatives for the division.
August 24, 2000	Overview of the division's whirling disease control program; review of the draft whirling disease policy and Fish Health Board's whirling disease policy alternative; and review of draft bag limits policy.
September 11, 2000	Overview of federal endangered species policies and programs in Colorado; presentation by Public Education Advisory Council; review of the division's Habitat Partnership Program and eastern Colorado wildlife management.
September 26, 2000	Review of the division's Urban Fishing Program; overview of the search and rescue fee; and committee action on proposed legislation.

Memoranda and Reports

Division of Wildlife Performance Audit, Report of the State Auditors (October 1999).

Evaluation of Actions Taken on the 1999 Division of Wildlife Performance Audit, Report of the State Auditors (May 2000).

Audit Report, U.S. Department of Interior Office of Inspector General (January 1998).

Final Report of the Wildlife Legislative Interim Committee, Colorado Legislative Council Research Publication No. 409 (October 1995).

Division of Wildlife Performance Audit, Report of the State Auditor (October 1995).

Deloitte & Touche LLP Management Review Final Report, Division of Wildlife, (June 1995).