Scenic Byways and Watchable Wildlife – Natural Partners

FINAL REPORT

Compiled by John Koshak, SE Region Watchable Wildlife Coordinator

Colorado Division of Wildlife – CDOT Watchable Wildlife On Byways Grant
Driving for pleasure ranks very high on the scale of activities that Colorado residents and visitors enjoy as they travel around our state. Colorado’s outstanding Scenic Byways provide some of the finest “back roads” adventures available in the country, giving travelers a chance to slow down and experience the natural and cultural resources that make Colorado great. While scenery and history have traditionally been the reason for byway designation, these byways are also excellent in their wildlife viewing potential. Development of Watchable Wildlife (WW) sites along our scenic highways provides the byway traveler with a richer and more satisfying experience.

Most byways have been designated to assist local and regional economies of rural areas in their economic development. By attracting visitors to an area, the byway provides much needed income influx to otherwise depressed rural areas. By providing a means of attracting visitors to enjoy the rural communities and their unique lifestyles, the preservation of these rural towns and their cultures can be part of a regional plan that focuses on the protection of the uniqueness in the “way of life” of rural regions and their inhabitants, without changing the very thing that makes them so appealing.

By combining the role of the byways with wildlife watching interpretation and experiences, the visitor will appreciate not only the cultural conditions of rural Colorado but also the critical connection that our rural hamlets have with the natural world. Hunting and fishing recreation have long been an economic boost to rural communities, but it is now time to provide visitors with high-quality WW opportunities, as well. Attracting travelers to WW viewing sites enhances their experience and can serve to attract visitors for a longer time frame, thus enhancing the economic impact of the byway to the community.

This project focuses on coordination of WW interpretation for byway wayside sites and interpretation. By working with each byway and with other partners from private landowners to federal agencies, the Colorado Division of Wildlife provides the expertise and administration to assist each byway in providing watchable wildlife waysides for byway visitors.

Before this grant, a few of the state’s byways had developed some WW interpretation along their routes. And the Division had worked on an individual basis with a handful of the state’s byways to provide some watchable wildlife interpretation, but, the attraction of wildlife and wildlife viewing must be a key component in every byway’s interpretive strategy. As the state’s byways worked with the Division on this project, each participating byway was able to develop their own relationship with the WW resources along their routes, and in doing so they now enable their visitors to find the best viewing sites along their byway and develop expectations of exciting wildlife viewing experiences.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>Page 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project #1: Pawnee Pioneer Trail Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #2: Mount Evans Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #3: South Platte River Trail Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #4: Guanella Pass Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #5: Peak To Peak Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #6: Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #7: Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #7A: Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #8: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #8A: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #8B: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #9: Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project #9A: Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 10: Scenic Highway of Legends Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 11: Frontier Pathways Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 12: Top of the Rockies Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 13: Alpine Loop Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 14: Cache La Poudre - North Park Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 15: Colorado River Headwaters Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 16: Dinosaur Diamond Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 17: Flat Tops Trail Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 18: Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 19: Trail of the Ancients Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 20: Unaweep/Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 21: West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 22: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 22A: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway</td>
<td>Page 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>Page 71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watchable Wildlife on Byways Project – Facts and Figures</td>
<td>Page 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Products</td>
<td>Page 74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project #1: Byway: Pawnee Pioneer Trails Scenic and Historic Byway: Pawnee Grasslands Interpretive Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>700.00 to Pawnee Pioneer Trails S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>6/22/04</td>
<td>DOW NE Region budget</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,880.00 to Pawnee Pioneer Trails S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>4/13/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>850.00 to Pawnee Pioneer Trails S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>6/28/05</td>
<td>DOW NE Region budget</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800.00 to Exhibit Design Associates</td>
<td>2/06</td>
<td>DOW NE Region budget</td>
<td>Change order for corrections and improvements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:
Total DOW contribution: $7,230 (DOW: 2,350; grant: 4,880)
According to project budget records provided to DOW, by the Byway, Pawnee Pioneer Trails S and H Byway contracted with Exhibit Design Associates for this project for a total project cost of $31,850 + $1,600 in change order costs to = $32,450.00.
(DOW does not have any access to or detailed information about Byway or USFS contributions to this project, in part because this project was already planned, and DOW became a partner in it. USFS has explained that the Byway contribution to the project may have come from funding secured as part of a large 1999-2000 grant to the Byway.)

In-kind:
- Doris Williams estimated the Byway council in-kind at more than 40 hours at $50.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $2,000.00 prior to the completion of the project.
- US Forest Service in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, ground preparation, research and content review is substantial, and contributed over several years. DOW does not have in-kind value for this contribution, but estimates it to be over $10,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager, the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator and our Education Assistant participated. DOW does not have in-kind value for this contribution, but estimates it to be over $5,000.

Project Description:
For this project, Pawnee Pioneer Trails Scenic and Historic Byway board and the CDOW staff together decided that the best use of this funding opportunity was to contribute to a larger Byway project on the Pawnee Grasslands that was in progress. It was suggested that our CDOW/Byways funding (the $6,100 per Byway) would make it possible to include wildlife and wildlife viewing as part of the Byway/Pawnee Grasslands story. The Byway adapted its contract with Exhibit Design Associates and Case, Lowe and Hart Inc. to include the DOW grant. The final products for this project include:
- Scenic and Historic Byway orientation panel (2 copies); three historic interpretation panels at Crow Valley; and two interpretive panels at the buttes overlook.

See examples of panels on next page.

Follow up:
The NE Region sees that this was a worthwhile project, and desires to assist the Grasslands with communicating additional wildlife messages to Pawnee visitors. Consequently, we have budgeted an additional $20,000 of our Watchable Wildlife funds for two additional partnership projects with the US Forest Service on the Pawnee Grasslands. The focus of these second phase projects will be birding on the Pawnee, and also general wildlife and ecology; all aspects of this phase 2 project will benefit byway travelers.
Project #1: Byway: Pawnee Pioneer Trails Scenic and Historic Byway: Pawnee Grasslands Interpretive Project

Artwork Samples:

▲ Byway panel; for trailheads

Birds of Piedmont panel: ►
Project #2: Byway: Mt Evans Scenic and Historic Byway: Mt. Goliath/Dos Chappell Nature Center

Payments          Date        Contributor           Notes
500.00  to Denver Botanic Gardens 6/29/04 DOW NE Operating
4,880   to Denver Botanic Gardens April 13, 2005 DOW through Byway Grant
2,000 to Denver Botanic Gardens 6/30/05 DOW through Byway Grant (for changes)
Total: $7,680   (DOW: 500   Grant 6,880)   NOTE: Center opened to public summer of 2006

USFS Funding: Approximately $9,000
Denver Botanic Gardens Funding: approximately $100,000. This funding may have covered costs for Mt. Goliath trailhead improvements/development in addition to the exhibits. (See below).
Other Partner Funding: Approximately $16,000

In-kind: Mt. Evans Byway members, including Byway Coordinator, and representatives from several partnerships participated in planning for the project, contributing numerous hours of work worth at least the $720 required.

Project Description:
When approached for a watchable wildlife interpretation project on the Mt. Evans Byway, the Byway group agreed that their top priority was to provide quality interpretive exhibits in the new Mt. Goliath/Dos Chappell nature center. (The DOW has provided funding and planning assistance for a number of wildlife interpretation products for the Mt. Evans byway in the past. In addition, for eleven years we have managed a volunteer program that focused on helping people see and learn about wildlife).

The addition of funding through the Byway and DOW grant and DOW, which the group agreed would be earmarked for wildlife and wildlife viewing messages, allowed the planning team to broaden the topics covered in the nature center beyond plants only; support for this idea was strong in the USFS. The result was a strong planning team representing a diversity of skills and knowledge areas. The final product includes Byway orientation panels outside the center, which are available to visitors at all times; a real bristlecone pine tree installation, and four interpretive "pods" representing different themes within the center. The exhibits were installed in fall of 2005. The grand opening for the center was summer of 2006.

Follow-up:
During this project, and for the benefit of this project, DOW purchased one of the Byways/Grassroots Interpretive Training packages. We are now engaged in discussions with the USFS, Botanic Gardens and Forest Foundation re: supporting a joint/collaborative volunteer program to staff the new nature center.
Examples of Exhibits:

- Byway orientation panels outside; includes wildlife viewing tips ▼
- Bristlecone tree and interpretive exhibit ▼
- Alpine adaptations exhibit ▲
- Alpine communities exhibit ▼
Project #3  Byway: South Platte River Trail Scenic and Historic Byway:   South Platte River Byway and Julesburg Welcome Center Visitor Info Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11,000.00 to Sedgwick County Economic Development Corp. on PO</td>
<td>6/23/04</td>
<td>DOW NE Region  1,240.00</td>
<td>Byway Grant  9,760.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600.00 to Sedgwick County Economic Development Corp.</td>
<td>6/30/05</td>
<td>DOW NE Region  600.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution:** $11,600   (DOW: $1,840; Byway Grant $9,760)

**South Platte River Trail Scenic and Historic Byway:** contributed $6,000.00 directly to project.

**Sedgwick County Economic Development,** on behalf of the Byway, paid $15,905 to *Highway Information Systems* for 10 watt radio station; included funding from Byway partners and from DOW/grant. A small amount of funding remains for completing a second phase of the project. (See below).

**CDOT** contributed production and installation of highway signage to inform travelers of the radio information system. Currently CDOT manages and maintains the highway information system, and associated equipment.

**In-kind:** South Platte River Trail Byway members, DOW staff and CDOT staff all contributed time toward planning; will continue to contribute time to planning and producing messages; and volunteers with the Julesburg Welcome Center will help promote and distribute the Byway Tour CD's.

**Project Description:**

For phase one of this project, Byway partners, DOW and CDOT partnered to provide information and tourism promotion to travelers on Interstate Highway 76 as they enter Colorado near Julesburg. Together the team researched, selected, purchased and set up a "travelers information station" system, along with highway signs, and a variety of recorded messages. The 10 watt radio station broadcasts 24 hours a day, and provides information about the area, the Welcome Center, the Byway, wildlife and wildlife recreation, and emergency road information. The broadcast can be heard from I-76, Hwy. 385, Hwy. 138, and a short distance of I-80.

Phase two of this 'traveler information' project is the design, production and distribution of "auto tour travel tapes," (actually CDs,) that can be borrowed and returned by travelers using I-76, and traveling the South Platte River Trail Byway. Shortly after initiating planning for phase two, the planning team lost three of its primary contributors – the District Wildlife Manager, the CDOT representative, and the Byway Coordinator all retired from their positions, and the project came to a temporary stop.

**Follow up:**

*Project continues:* the new Byway Coordinator is aiming to reconvene a new planning group and complete the project for this summer. The remaining funding will cover the production of the CDs, CD covers, and a borrowing system.
Project #4  Byway: Guanella Pass Scenic and Historic Byway: Guanella Pass Ptarmigan Research and Viewing Interpretation Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,500 to USFS</td>
<td>3/16/04</td>
<td>Byway Grant</td>
<td>(Grant Balance should be: 2,380)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Est. 2,000 to Dan Powers/temp employee</td>
<td>Winter 2004</td>
<td>DOW NE Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,242.86 to Colorado Printing Company</td>
<td>4/05</td>
<td>DOW NE Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>762.00 to Raven Hill Mining Company</td>
<td>Winter 04</td>
<td>DOW NE Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total: $6,505</strong> (DOW: 4,005 Byways Grant: 2,500)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

USFS Funding: 2,500 +
DOW and USFS staff and volunteer/in-kind: both agencies contributed at least 240 hours on the ground each year for 3 years, plus at 240 hours office time.
Byway contribution: at this time there has been no official cash donation from the Byway organization itself; however, Byway Coordinator or representatives have participated in planning and implementation to some extent, and the USFS is a partner in the Byway.

**Project Description:**
When approached regarding this funding opportunity for a watchable wildlife interpretation project on the Guanella Pass Byway, the committee discussed a number of projects. Byway interpretive signage was already funded and underway, and uncertainty about road issues and questions about whether a signage project could be completed and installed in within the time frame were discussed. The group decided that ptarmigan viewing, (learning about the demand and the potential resource impacts, and providing information about ptarmigan) was the issue they wanted to pursue. As a group we discussed the questions we wanted answers to, and agreed to support a joint effort by the USFS and DOW to study ptarmigan and recreational use of Guanella pass for ptarmigan viewing. The final products were to be a report regarding the status of white-tailed ptarmigan on Guanella Pass (noting location, numbers, significant changes in last 20 years, and suggesting management implications). In addition, the report would include information on winter ptarmigan viewing use and provide insight into the significance of any viewing impact, and recommendations for mitigation. At least one ptarmigan information product was to accompany the report.

This project is completed now, as research guidelines required a three-year study. A draft of the final report has been written. A white-tailed ptarmigan "trading card" was designed and produced.

**Follow up:**
A recent team meeting resulted in use of this report to guide decisions about permitting commercial birding tour outfitters on Guanella Pass. In addition, based on the research findings, the team is drafting a "ptarmigan viewing" tips/guidelines flyer/brochure for distribution on site and at nearby Loveland pass. The team hopes to reconvene the Byway group and provide a presentation on the results this summer.
## Project #5  Byway: Peak to Peak Scenic and Historic Byway:  Website Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Tourism and Recreation Program of</td>
<td>06/04</td>
<td>DOW NE Region</td>
<td>For initial project planning:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boulder County</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total: $500 (DOW: 500)**

In-kind donation from Peak to Peak S&H Byway:  $500

**Project Description:** DOW was unable to complete a project in cooperation with the Peak to Peak Scenic Byway. Communication with the Byway representative was inconsistent, and with one individual only. When we did connect, DOW learned that the only project the Byway was committed to pursuing at this time was a web-site development in cooperation with the Tourism and Recreation Program of Boulder County and the Wild Bear nature center. The site was to provide detailed natural history about wildlife species that could be found along the Byway and at the nearby Wild Bear campus. As with the other Byway projects, we paid the Byway (in this case the Tourism and Recreation Program of Boulder County) the DOW match of $500.00 after the initial planning meeting (which was over the phone). After that point, we did not hear from the Byway for a long time. When we attempted to re-initiate contact, the Byway coordinator we were working with had resigned. We did not pursue trying to reinitiate the project, but instead used the funding for other active and progressing projects.
Project #6: Byway: Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway: San Luis Environmental Ed. Center

Interpretive Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,888.00 to Los Caminos S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>10/07/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Los Caminos S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>10/25/04</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Los Caminos S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>4/15/06</td>
<td>San Luis Catholic Parish – Knights of Columbus fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:

Total DOW contribution: $5,380  (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)

Los Caminos Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with artist Kelly Ortiz to provide artwork, graphics, text and layout of the interpretive panel for this location.

In-kind:

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at more than 40 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $800 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings with local historians concerning the history of the community and the La Sierra land grant area to the east of the community.
- US Forest Service provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review as well as providing some office and work space used by Kelly Ortiz. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- Artist Kelly Ortiz donated about 80 hours for artwork, design and layout for a total of $1,600, additionally, the watercolor paintings that she created for this project to the byway. Their estimated value is $150 - $200 each, for a total value of around $1,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 25 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $750.

Project Description:

This project includes the design, fabrication and installation of 2 interpretive panels featuring original artwork providing information about the environment surrounding the community of San Luis, along the byway. In particular, the panels feature a description of the mountain area know as La Sierra, along the southern Sangre de Cristo Mts. in Colorado. (also known as the Culebra Mts.) In addition to the scientific information provided, the interesting culture and history of the Spanish land grant and the use of these mountain areas as communal lands to provide food, firewood, other resources and recreation is addressed. The final products for this project include:

- Scenic and Historic Byway orientation panels at the San Luis Environmental Education Center located on the mesa above San Luis adjacent to the Stations of the Cross and the Capilla de San Luis. Panel 1: La Sierra; Panel 2: The Oldest Town

See examples of panels on next page.

Follow up:

As a major partner with the Los Caminos Antiguos since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the 129 mile byway route. Additional panels have been planned for the Great Sand Dunes, Medano-Zapata Ranch and San Luis
Lakes State Park and Wildlife Area. Recent changes in the Great Sand Dunes to National Park status have provided more attention to the area and it would be advisable to provide additional wildlife interpretation along the byway route and at the Sand Dunes for visitors. The opportunities for interpretation at the San Luis Lakes are outstanding, especially for large birds, water birds, raptors and wetlands. The Division of Wildlife has created a Southwest Region in the past few years, and any additional projects for the area will be administered by this region.

Project #6: Byway: Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway: San Luis Environmental Ed. Center Interpretive Sign Project Artwork Sample:

The mountains facing you, or “La Sierra”, are the life of this community. The vast 1 million acres that surround you were all once part of the largest gift of land given to the first Spanish settlers by the Spanish Crown. With the gift, came the responsibility of managing this land for benefit of everyone who lived in the community.

As the caretakers of this land, the people here did not see themselves as wealthy, but they had everything they needed in their lives for a thriving community. Their wealth is measured in their deep connections to the land and each other, not in monetary values.

During the middle part of the 20th century, the people of these mountain communities lost their rights to “La Sierra” during a land purchase. Recently, in an unprecedented case, the local residents have regained access to the traditional uses of these mountains.

To this day, the people who live here represent a pioneer spirit that helped make this community a success. They have struggled to maintain their lifestyle that is independent of the modern world.

For more than one hundred years this area has been able to maintain the traditional land uses, organic farming, and unique spiritual beliefs. As modernization begins to move into these isolated communities the greater the risk that these traditional ways of life may be lost forever.
The birthplace of Colorado is here! On June 21, 1851, the town of San Luis, located just below you, was founded as the first continuous settlement in Colorado. This settlement was in the Northern most frontier of Hispano lands and very few ventured into this unknown territory. Repeated attempts to build communities here were met with difficulties such as the harsh environment and clashes with native people who used this valley as hunting and trading grounds.

The physical as well as economic isolation of San Luis from other communities helped preserve the cultures and traditions exist here as they did over a hundred years ago. The Spanish language that is still spoken here is reminiscent of 16th century Spain and is different than the contemporary Spanish language.

The people who thrived here, brought traditions from Spain but also developed unique lifestyles and religious beliefs.

Many people who live here are the descendants of the earliest settlers who established the first churches, businesses, and traditions that still exist today.

Byway panel; La Sierra Overlook
## Project #7: Byway: Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway: Silver Thread Byway Wildlife Viewing Guide

### Payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150.00 to Ken Archer - Photography</td>
<td>07/15/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,800.00 to Hinsdale County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>08/03/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000.00 to Printer B &amp; B Printing</td>
<td>4/13/05</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td>Total Printing: $6,600 for 9,700 Copies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000.00 to Printer B &amp; B Printing</td>
<td>4/13/05</td>
<td>BLM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Project Costs:

**Total DOW contribution: $4,950 (DOW: grant: $4,950)**

Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with B & B printers printed 9,700 copies of the Silver Thread Byway Wildlife Viewing Guide.

### In-kind:

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 40 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $800 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and print the viewing guide brochure.
- The Silver Thread Byway Interpretive Visitor’s Center provided in-kind at approximately 10 hours at $20.00 per hour for around $200.00 as well as providing support for this project through office space, phone and fax communication, and internet access.
- The Creede Visitor’s Center provided in-kind at 30 hours at $10.00 per hour for a value of $300.00 as well as providing meeting space, phone, fax and internet communication and office space for the project.
- US Forest Service provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by Edna Mason. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $1,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 25 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $750.

### Project Description:

This project includes the planning, development, design, and printing of an interpretive brochure to serve as a viewing guide for the Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway. The final products for this project include:

- Sixteen page full color brochure – Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread - 9,700 copies for distribution at the Silver Thread Interpretive Center, the Creede Visitor Center, the DOW and USFS offices and local chambers of commerce in the SLV.

*See pages from the guide on the next page.*

### Follow up:

As a major partner with the Silver Thread Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. The Division of Wildlife has created a Southwest Region in the past few years, and any additional projects for the area will be administered by this region.
Project #7: Byway: Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway: Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread Viewing Guide Project Pages:

Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread – Front and Back Cover

Introduction:

Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread provides great wildlife viewing opportunities for the motorist. The byway traverses two mountain passes and wanders along the Rio Grande Valley offering glimpses of riparian habitat with summer wetlands and wildlife paths that provide winter range for elk and higher along. These species present challenges with the rest of your journey.

Several animals are found in many places along the byway. Certain locations have been noted with the mile marker (MS) number that corresponds to highway markers. Just don’t stop looking after passing the markers because you never know what you’ll see just around the next bend. Most all species are viewed here.

Take your time, your binoculars, be observant, drive carefully, and you will find success enjoying nature on this scenic byway.

Large Mammals Viewing Guide Page:

Cats

Mountain lions and bobcats are found along the byway. They are secretive nocturnal animals and the chance of seeing one is limited. Any sighting should be considered a rare opportunity.

Can dogs have been introduced into the Rio Grande Mountains along the byway. Notice their prey. The snowshoe hare, is so plentiful here. Researchers are carefully following the animals to determine the outcome of the reintroduction. Many of the cats were equipped with radio collars and their movements are closely tracked. In 2007 the first confirmed kittens were born.

Black Bears

Black bears are common here. A chance encounter is unlikely unless you are near a food source such as a dumpster, trashcan, or another place the animal has learned to find food. Bears that have learned to find human food lose their natural fear of man and can be very dangerous and unpredictable. Black bears usually have two or three cubs during the winter in their lair. Sometimes, when the food source is plentiful, they may produce true young. Cubs stay with their mothers for two summers. Although their mother seems to indicate that all of this species are black, they are not. Black bears are brown, blonde, black, cinnamon and some even have white markings on their neck.
Project #7A: Byway: Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway: Silver Thread Byway Wildlife Viewing Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,800.00 to Hinsdale County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>06/15/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,281 to Printer B &amp; B Printing</td>
<td>07/10/05</td>
<td>USFS – Lake City</td>
<td>Total Printing: $6,200 for 9,200 Copies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**
Total DOW contribution: $4,800  (DOW: grant: 4,800)
Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with B & B printers to reprint 9,200 copies of the Silver Thread Byway Wildlife Viewing Guide due to the popularity of the 1st printing. This brochure is available at the Silver Thread Interpretive Center in South Fork, The Hinsdale County Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Center in Lake City, The Creede Visitor Information Center in Creede, and the USFS Service Center in Monte Vista.

**In-kind:**
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 15 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $300 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, redesign, develop and print the revised version of the viewing guide brochure.
- The Silver Thread Byway Interpretive Visitor’s Center provided in-kind at approximately 10 hours at $20.00 per hour for around $200.00 as well as providing support for this project through office space, phone and fax communication, and internet access.
- The Creede Visitor’s Center provided in-kind at 10 hours at $10.00 per hour for a value of $100.00 as well as providing meeting space, phone, fax and internet communication and office space for the project.
- US Forest Service provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout redesign and text rewriting as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by Edna Mason. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 8 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $240.

**Project Description:**
This project includes the planning, development, design, and printing of an interpretive brochure to serve as a viewing guide for the Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway. The final products for this project include:
- Sixteen page full color brochure – Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread - 9,200 copies for distribution at the Silver Thread Interpretive Center, the Creede Visitor Center, the DOW and USFS offices and local chambers of commerce in the SLV.

See pages from the guide on the next page.

**Follow up:**
As a major partner with the Silver Thread Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. The Division of Wildlife has created a Southwest Region in the past few years, and any additional projects for the area will be administered by this region once a watchable wildlife coordinator position is filled. Although the Silver Thread Interpretive Center features many interesting and attractive visitor interpretive displays, the much smaller Lake City Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center does not provide any interpretive experiences for visitors other than available printed material. The DOW and the Byway are interested in providing a changeable display for this visitor center when time and budgets allow.
Project #7A: Byway: Silver Thread Scenic and Historic Byway: Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread Viewing Guide Project Page Samples:

Watching Wildlife on the Silver Thread – Front and Back Cover

Waterbirds Viewing Guide Page:

Small Mammals Viewing Guide Page:
Project #8: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Canon City Riverwalk Interpretive Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$500 to Sherrie York – Panel Design</td>
<td>5/30/03</td>
<td>DOW SE Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000 to Sherrie York - graphics</td>
<td>02/10/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>625.00 to Gold Belt Tour Byway</td>
<td>04/04/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000.00 to Gold Belt Tour Byway</td>
<td>4/17/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600 to Sherrie York - fabrication</td>
<td>6/11/04</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3880.00 to Gold Belt Tour Byway</td>
<td>07/15/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:
Total DOW contribution: $7,005  (DOW: 500; grant: 6,505)
The Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with Sherrie York to provide graphics, layout and design for three low-profile interpretive signs located along the Canon City Riverwalk.

In-kind:
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 35 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $700 through their efforts to complete this project. In-kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the three sites along the riverwalk.
- The Canon City Parks and Recreation department provided approximately 10 hours of in-kind at $15.00 per hour for the installation and site preparation of the sites for each of the three signs. Additional in-kind was provided through participation in design and development meetings. This contribution adds up to approximately $150.
- The BLM provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by Leah Quesenberry. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the BLM to be $1,200.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

Project Description:
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of three low-profile interpretive signs along the Canon City Riverwalk. The final products for this project include:
- Three interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the riparian ecosystems found along the Arkansas River and the Canon City Riverwalk
  Sign #1 “Witness the Changing Scene” Sign deals with seasonal changes for wildlife in the riparian zone
  Sign #2 “A Natural Park in the Heart of Canon City” Sign deals with the importance of protected, natural open space for wildlife along the river
  Sign #3 “The Arkansas River – Life Sustaining Force” Sign explains the crucial habitat provided by flowing water and the plants attracted by it along the river.

See photos of signs on the next page.

Follow up:
As a major partner with the Gold Belt Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include a teachers’ curriculum and guide to use the information included on these signs to provide educational opportunities for classroom students engaged in field trips along the riverwalk.
Project #8: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Canon City Riverwalk Interpretive Sign Samples:

▲ Byway panel; “The Arkansas River – Life Sustaining Force”
Includes partners who worked together on the project

▲ Byway panel; “The Arkansas River – Life Sustaining Force”

▲ Byway panel; “Witness the Changing Scene”

▲ Byway panel; “A Natural Park in the Heart of Canon City”
Project #8: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Canon City Riverwalk Interpretive Sign Sample:

▲ Byway panel and hikers along the trail
Project #8A: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Cripple Creek Visitor Center Wildlife Interpretive Diorama

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55.00 to Derek Rich - Taxidermy</td>
<td>02/10/04</td>
<td>DOW SE Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000.00 to Gold Belt Tour Byway</td>
<td>05/25/06</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:
**Total DOW contribution: $2,055 (DOW: $55 grant: 2,000)**

The Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with Kimmelgraphics to provide graphics, layout and design for a wildlife diorama, interpretive displays and exhibits for the Pikes Peak Heritage Center at Cripple Creek.

In-kind:
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 10 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $200 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the diorama.
- The City of Cripple Creek provided approximately 10 hours of in-kind at $15.00 per hour for this project. This contribution adds up to approximately $150.
- Additionally, the City of Cripple Creek provided over $30,000 from their budget and other grant funds for the design, interpretation and fabrication of the wildlife diorama.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

Project Description:
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of a, “Wildlife of the Pikes Peak Region Diorama” in the Heritage Center. Wildlife species included in the diorama and in throughout the visitor center include: American elk, mountain lion, black bear, chipmunk, bighorn sheep, wild turkey, among others.

See photos of Heritage Center and diorama on the next page.

Follow up:
As a major partner with the Gold Belt Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include additional interpretive signs along the byway in partnership with the byway, the BLM and other partners.
Project #8A: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Cripple Creek Visitor Center Wildlife Interpretive Diorama

▲ Pikes Peak Heritage Center – Cripple Creek

▲ Byway display – “Bighorn Sheep”
Project #8A: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Cripple Creek Visitor Center Wildlife Interpretive Diorama

▲ Byway display; “Wildlife of the Pikes Peak Region”
Project #8B: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Phantom Canyon Watchable Wildlife Interpretive Sign Replacement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$4,880 to MJW Designs -</td>
<td>6/28/06</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution: $4,880 (DOW: grant: $4,880)**

The Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with MJW Designs to provide graphics, layout and design updates for four interpretive signs and one orientation sign located along the Gold Belt Tour Backcountry Byway in Phantom Canyon at the Dunnville Picnic Area and Rest Stop. The BLM interpretive staff in Canon City worked with the contractor and other partners to provide these new/updated interpretive signs for the byway and its visitors.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 25 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $500 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at this site.
- The BLM provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by Leah Quesenberry. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the BLM to be $3,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 20 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $600.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design/updat, fabrication and installation four interpretive signs and one orientation panel along the byway in Phantom Canyon. The final products for this project include:

- Four interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the canyon/riparian ecosystems found along Eight Mile Creek and the byway.
  - Sign #1 “Rugged Canyon A Sanctuary For Wildlife” Sign deals with canyon habitat and its benefits for wildlife as well as Wildlife Viewing Tips.
  - Sign #2 “Phantom Canyon’s Wildlife From Top to Bottom” Sign deals with the importance of protected, natural canyon and stream habitat for wildlife along the byway.
  - Sign #3 “A Small Creek Works Wonders For Wildlife” Sign explains the crucial habitat provided by flowing water and the plants found in the riparian habitat along the creek.
  - Sign #4 “Cliffs Hold Predators Great and Small” Sign interprets the canyon and cliff habitat that provides important habitat for predators such as mountain lion and peregrine falcon along the creek. “An Early Spring and a Bountiful Autumn Near the Bottom” on this sign deals with the difference in climate and seasonal changes that occur along the creek as it flows from the higher elevation on Pikes Peak down to its confluence with the Arkansas River.

**See photos of signs on the next page.**

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with the Gold Belt Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include interpretation of rocky mountain bighorn sheep along the Shelf Road fork of the byway.
Project #8B: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Phantom Canyon Watchable Wildlife Interpretive Sign Replacement

▲ Byway display; “Wildlife of the Gold Belt Tour” Interpretive Signs - Update/Replacement at Dunnville Rest Stop and Picnic Area in Phantom Canyon

Byway Panel: “Cliffs and Predators” Interpretive Sign ▶

Byway Panel: “Phantom Canyon’s Wildlife From Top to Bottom” Interpretive Sign ▲
Project #8B: Byway: Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway: Phantom Canyon Watchable Wildlife Interpretive Sign Replacement
Project #9: Byway: Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway: Comanche National Grasslands Interpretive Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,880 to Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>09/04/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>09/04/04</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720 to Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>10/04/04</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:
Total DOW contribution: $5,380  (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)
The Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway project featured two interpretive signs placed at locations along the byway and on the Comanche National Grasslands, southwest of La Junta, CO.

In-kind:
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 40 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $800 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the sites on the Comanche National Grasslands along the byway.
- The USFS provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 20 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $150.

Project Description:
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of two low-profile interpretive signs along the byway. The final products for this project include:
- Two interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the grassland ecosystems found along the byway on the Comanche National Grasslands.
  - Sign #1 “Grassland Wildlife – A Closer Look” Sign at Timpas Picnic Area features the diversity of wildlife found along the byway on the Comanche National Grasslands.
  - Sign #2 “Picketwire Canyonlands Scenic Overlook” Sign features the diversity of wildlife found in the Picketwire Canyon of the Purgatory River on the Comanche National Grasslands.

See photo of signs below.

Follow up:
As a major partner with the Santa Fe Trail since 1999, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include expansion of interpretation and facilities at John Martin State Park and Wildlife Area and the addition of additional lesser prairie chicken viewing facilities along the byway on both public and private lands. Additional interpretation of the byway and the diversity of wildlife found along it should be provided at the Colorado Welcome Centers located at Lamar and Trinidad. Additionally, expansion of the Colorado Birding Trail will include interpretation along the Santa Fe Trail Byway.
Project #9: Byway: Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway: Byway Interpretive Sign Samples:

▲ Byway panel; “Grassland Wildlife – A Closer Look” located at Timpas Picnic area on the Comanche Grasslands

▲ Byway panel; “Picketwire Canyonlands – Home to Many” located at Picketwire Canyon Overlook area on the Comanche Grasslands

Note: Vault toilet in background, located at Overlook Interpretive site
Project #9A: Byway: Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway: Welcome Center Interpretive Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,880 to Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>06/30/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600  to Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>06/30/05</td>
<td>City of Lamar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600  to Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>06/30/05</td>
<td>City of Trinidad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

Total DOW contribution: $3,479 (DOW: grant: 3,479)

The Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway project featured two 2’ X 3’ interpretive signs placed at the Visitor/Welcome Center locations at both ends of the byway in both Trinidad and Lamar, for a total of 4 signs.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 40 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $800 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the two welcome center sites on the byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $750.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 8 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $240.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of two low-profile interpretive signs at Welcome Center locations at each end of the byway. The final products for this project include:

- Two interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the grassland ecosystems found along the byway and on the Comanche National Grasslands.
  - Sign #1 “The Santa Fe Trail – A Special Place for Wildlife” Sign features the diversity of wildlife found along the byway and on the Comanche National Grasslands. It includes a list of viewing sites and features the Picketwire Canyonlands, John Martin State Park and Wildlife Area and the Campo lesser prairie chicken lek.
  - Sign #1 “Watchable Wildlife on the Santa Fe Trail” Sign features the diversity of wildlife and habitat found along the byway and on the Comanche National Grasslands, including the short grass prairie, cholla cactus and other prairie habitats..

*See copy of signs below.*

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with the Santa Fe Trail since 1999, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include expansion of interpretation and facilities at John Martin State Park and Wildlife Area and the addition of more lesser prairie chicken viewing facilities along the byway on both public and private lands. Additionally, expansion of the Colorado Birding Trail will include interpretation, tours and agritourism development along the Santa Fe Trail Byway on the national grasslands and private ranches.
Byway panel; “Watchable Wildlife on the Santa Fe Trail located at Lamar and Trinidad Welcome Center
Project #9A: Byway: Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway: Byway Welcome Center Interpretive Signs:

▲ Byway panel; “The Santa Fe Trail – A Special Place for Wildlife” located at Lamar and Trinidad Welcome Centers

▲ Sign at Lamar Welcome Center
### Payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4000 to Scenic Highway of Legends</td>
<td>07/24/03</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Rural Wide Web for design and</td>
<td>07/24/03</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td>Visitor’s Guide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>photos for Visitor’s Guide</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2500 to Rural Wide Web for printing</td>
<td>09/03/03</td>
<td>Scenic Highway of Legends</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Project Costs:

**Total DOW contribution: $4,500**  **(DOW: 500; grant: 4,000)**

The Scenic Highway of Legends Scenic and Historic Byway project featured the development, design and printing 30,000 copies of a Visitor’s Guide to the Scenic Highway of Legends. “Welcome to the Scenic Highway of Legends

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 50 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $1,000 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and print the visitors’ guides.
- The USFS provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $400.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 6 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $180.

### Project Description:

This project includes the planning, development, design, and printing of 30,000 copies of a Visitor’s Guide.

- The guide features several locations for wildlife viewing along the byway including, Trinidad Lake State Park, Longs Canyon Wildlife Viewing Area, The Purgatoire River Valley, Bosque del Oso State Wildlife Area, Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area, North Lake State Wildlife Area, San Isabel National Forest – Farley Nature Trail, the Spanish Peaks Wilderness, Lathrop State Park and others.

**See Visitor’s Guide sample pages below**

### Follow up:

As a major partner with the Scenic Highway of Legends since 2002, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route and the Purgatoire River. Additional work at these sites will include expansion of interpretation and facilities at Monument Lake and nearby state wildlife areas, and the addition of elk viewing facilities and interpretation along the byway at the Bosque del Oso State Wildlife Area and near the town of Stonewall. Additional interpretation of the byway and the diversity of wildlife found along it should be provided at the State Park Visitor Centers located at both Lathrop and Trinidad.
Project #10: Byway: Scenic Highway of Legends Scenic and Historic Byway: Visitor’s Guide:
Watchable wildlife along the byway, bear, big horn sheep, mountain lion, wild turkey!

▲ Scenic Hwy of Legends Visitor’s Guide –
Watchable Wildlife information along the byway—
Featured in the Visitor’s Guide

▲ Rustic Entrance Sign – located at Bosque del Oso State Wildlife Area
Project #11: Byway: Frontier Pathways Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive signs at Lake Isabel Recreation Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>280.00 to Cimarron Trading Co.</td>
<td>05/22/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td>Fish graphics for WW sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Kimmellgraphics</td>
<td>06/15/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,880 to Kimmellgraphics</td>
<td>06/15/05</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Kimmellgraphics</td>
<td>06/15/05</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,400 to Kimmellgraphics</td>
<td>08/15/05</td>
<td>San Isabel National Forest</td>
<td>Graphics, layout and fabrication – Carhart Sign and Orientation panel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution: $6,160** (DOW: 1,000; grant: 5,160)

The Frontier Pathways Scenic and Historic Byway project featured the development, design, fabrication and installation of four interpretive signs at the Lake Isabel site along the byway and located in San Isabel National Forest.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 10 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $200 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop, fabricate and install these interpretive signs.
- The USFS provided a substantial cash and in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design, and fabrication of four low profile interpretive signs for Lake Isabel along the byway.

- Sign #1 Wildlife Viewing Tips – Fish of Lake Isabel
- Sign #2 Arthur Carhart and the birth of Automobile Recreation
- Sign #3 Lake Isabel – Orientation and trails for recreation and wildlife viewing
- Sign #4 Civilian Conservation Corps – Explains the history of projects using the Civilian Conservation Corps (Sign paid for by USFS)

*See artwork of signs below.*

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with Frontier Pathways since its designation, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include expansion of interpretation and facilities in the Wet Mountain Valley and in nearby state parks and state wildlife areas. Additional interpretation of the byway and the diversity of wildlife found along it should be provided at the State Park Visitor Centers located at Lake Pueblo State Park, at the Byways Information Center located at the El Pueblo Museum in Pueblo, and at the All Aboard Westcliffe visitor center in the Wet Mountain Valley.
Project #11: Byway: Frontier Pathways Scenic and Historic Byway: Lake Isabel Interpretive signs

Lake Isabel – Frontier Pathways/Lake Isabel Orientation sign
Colorado’s Wildlife - It’s Something to See!

Tips for successful wildlife watching:

- Watch from a safe distance. Use binoculars, a spotting scope or camera with telephoto lens.
- Move slowly and don’t approach.
- Don’t chase or harass wildlife.
- Leave your pets at home or keep them leashed. Watch animals carefully. If they appear stressed, limit your time watching them.
- Respect others who are watching the same animals.
- Don’t feed wild mammals. They have specific dietary needs and may become dependent on “handouts.”
- Avoid animals that are acting strangely or aggressively.

Aquatic Residents

Rainbow Trout

Brown Trout

Cutthroat Trout

Lake Isabel’s rich riparian habitat is home to native and non-native fish, minnows, insects and other aquatic creatures that are all part of a healthy environment.

DID YOU KNOW?

Black bears spend their days looking for food and resting. In the fall, their search grows even more focused, as they attempt to consume up to 26,000 calories per day – the energy equivalent of 18 large pizzas – in preparation for hibernation.

www.wildlife.state.co.us

Lake Isabel – Wildlife Viewing tips sign
Arthur Carhart – Recreation Pioneer

Lake Isabel

The end of WWI forged a new era for the industrial workers at the booming steel mills in Pueblo. On summer weekends, over 2,500 people drove their Model T’s into the cool, green Wet Mountains. At the time, no picnic areas or campgrounds were available in the National Forest. This sudden onslaught overwhelmed the canyon – threatening to destroy the natural beauty and tranquility that attracted these pioneering campers.

To combat overcrowding, poor sanitation and the growing danger of wild fires, the Forest Service hired a young Landscape Architect named Arthur Carhart, in 1919. He constructed public campgrounds with toilets, trash receptacles and drinking water. Carhart’s use of picnic tables, outhouses, and fire grates created the first campgrounds in the National Forest System. This new idea called “camping” took off and almost 90 years later, it is one of the most popular activities on public lands.

Flooding washed out the road in Squirrel Creek Canyon in 1947, but the original campground remains, hidden in the dark shadows of the pines standing along the stream.

▲ Lake Isabel – Arthur Carhart sign
Project #11: Byway: Frontier Pathways Scenic and Historic Byway: Lake Isabel Interpretive signs.

Remembering the C.C.C.

A Vision Come True

Work started on Lake Isabel by the Civilian Conservation Corps (Company 812) in 1936. This was one of the few reservoirs in the state of Colorado developed purely for recreation and not for irrigation use. Double shifts worked on the project with 40 trucks hauling clay from three steam shovels and one adzeing grader.

Crews worked through the night with electric power furnished by a 9 kilowatt diesel light plant. The dam was completed in 1939 and the lake was filled the next year. The CCC installed the Lake Isabel signs put riprap on the downstream face of the dam, built roads, and did landscaping.

A History of Service

The Civilian Conservation Corps camp was located in San Isabel City (now San Isabel). It was designated as Camp S9-C. During the late 1930s S9-C was the largest CCC project in the United States.

The CCC was started during the Depression to keep the civilian young men out of trouble. They earned $30 a month, of which $30 was sent home to help their families. For the CCC-made homes was a deep camp within the National Forest or on other public lands. The camps were run by US Army officers and the Forest Service provided staff to oversee the construction of new roads and trails, erosion control, timber in mind, and planting improvements among other public works projects.

Besides the lake, dam, and spillway, little remains of the original CCC construction at Lake Isabel. Most of the men who contributed to the success of this project are no longer around to enjoy it. But the results of their vision, their efforts, and their labor will remain for the benefit of generations to come.

San Isabel National Forest

▲ Lake Isabel – Civilian Conservation Corps sign
Project #12: Byway: Top of the Rockies Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive signs/kiosks at Hayden Ranch
Interpretive site along the byway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13,673 to Conlin Associates</td>
<td>03/14/03</td>
<td>Lake County</td>
<td>Hayden Ranch Recreation Area Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 to Exhibit Design</td>
<td>03/15/04</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4880 to Exhibit Design</td>
<td>04/27/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,200 to Exhibit Design</td>
<td>03/15/05</td>
<td>Lake County</td>
<td>Hayden Ranch Recreation Area Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution: $5,380** (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)

The Top of the Rockies Scenic and Historic Byway project featured the development, design, fabrication and installation of two interpretive signs and a kiosk at the Hayden Ranch site along the byway and located along the Arkansas River. Additional funds for Hayden Ranch Project from Lake County through a grant.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 25 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $500 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop, fabricate and install these interpretive signs.
- The USFS provided a substantial cash and in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $1,000.
- Lake County provided additional in-kind contributions of more than 40 hours at $25.00 per hour and additional services including project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout and editing text, as well as providing meeting, office and work space used by staff and volunteers. Additional wildlife signs were provided by Lake County along the river banks. The total for all this in-kind from Lake County is approximately $1,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 8 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $240.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design, and fabrication of three low profile interpretive signs for Lake San Isabel along the byway.

- Sign #1 Watchable Wildlife Ecosystem Panel discusses plant adaptations to altitude in the Rockies
- Sign #2 Watchable Wildlife “Birds N’ Bugs” Panel discusses animal adaptations to climate and altitude in the Sawatch Range.

*See artwork of signs below.*

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with the Top of the Rockies Byway since 2001, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include expansion of interpretation and facilities both north and south of Leadville and in wildlife viewing areas near Granite. Additional interpretation of the byway and the diversity of wildlife found along it should be provided at the Arkansas Headwaters State Park Visitor Center located in Salida and at the local Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Centers located in Leadville and Buena Vista.
Project #12: Byway: Top of the Rockies Scenic and Historic Byway: Hayden Ranch Interpretive kiosk and signs.
Project #13: Byway: Alpine Loop Scenic and Historic Byway: Byway Interpretive Sign Panels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Western Colorado Interpretive Assoc.</td>
<td>09/15/04</td>
<td>DOW SE Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Western Colorado Interpretive Assoc.</td>
<td>2/13/05</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,880.00 to Western Colorado Interpretive Association</td>
<td>06/14/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution: $5,380**  (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)

The Alpine Loop Byway was provided these funds through the Western Colorado Interpretive Association to provide artwork, graphics, text and layout of the interpretive panels for this backcountry byway as well as for the visitor center in Lake City.

**In-kind:**
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at more than 15 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $300 through their efforts to complete this project.
- BLM and US Forest Service provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review as well as providing some office and work space used by Arden Andersen. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the BLM/USFS to be $1,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the design, fabrication and installation of interpretive panels featuring original artwork providing information about the wildlife and wildlife habitats of the byway. In particular, the panels feature a description life in the alpine tundra of the San Juan Mts. The final products for this project include:
- Scenic and Historic Byway interpretive panel along the byway route.
- Beavers- Nature’s Engineer interpretive panel located at Lake City Visitors’ Center.

*See example of products on next page.*

**Follow up:**

As a partner with the Alpine Loop since 2002, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the backcountry byway route. Additional panels will be planned for the Visitor’s Center and Chamber of Commerce located in Lake City. The Division of Wildlife has created a Southwest Region in the past few years, and any additional projects for the area are administered by that region.
As you travel the Alpine Loop watch for wildlife.

Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep

Bighorn sheep are grazers. They feed on plants in meadows, open woodlands, and above tree line. The majestic, hump-backed Dall sheep live on rocky cliffs. Historically, sheep migrated from mountain range to mountain range. Today, they remain in areas due to roads and subdivisions that have broken up their migration routes.

Yellow-Bellied Marmots

The marmot is the largest member of the squirrel family in North America. They have dark brown fur and a yellowish-brown undercoat. Marmots are also called "whistle pig" because their whistle-like signal can be heard as far away as one mile. They can be seen on any high mountain pass, open meadows, or near rocky outcrops.

Tips for Viewing Wildlife

- Stay in your vehicle and remain quiet.
- Keep your distance. If your helmet changes direction, you will change direction.
- Watch for other drivers — watch your pets chase wildlife.
- Wear clothing that blends with the environment.
- Do not feed wildlife. They may become dependent on human food.

Moose

Moose were scarce to rare until 1993. Between 1993 and 1995, one hundred moose were relocated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) from northern Colorado and Idaho to an area in the San Juan Mountains. This area was chosen because of the wildlife habitat that provides food, shelter, cover, and a quick escape from predators.

Lynx

The lynx is a member of the cat family and is most protected by its thick fur, which helps to shield it from the cold. In 1990, lynx were reintroduced into the San Juan Mountains to reestablish the population. Lynx prefer living in habitats that have thick underbrush used by snowshoe hares. These hare have dispersed widely and may be seen in almost any habitat.
NATURE’S ENGINEERS

The beaver is Colorado's largest rodent and is one of the few animals that significantly change their environment to meet their needs. Beavers are well suited to live and near the water. They have webbed hind feet, a paddle-shaped tail that is used like a rudder, and scales in their ears and nose that close when they swim underwater.

Keep an eye out as you travel along streams for dams, ponds, lodges, canals, sloughs, and gnawed stumps that indicate beavers are in the area.

It takes a beaver about 30 minutes to fell a 5-inch diameter tree. They eat the beaver, bark and young branches of aspen and willow. (They do not eat fish or other aquatic animals.) The rest of the wood and branches may be used to build or repair their dams or lodges.

In the early history of this country, beaver provided a strong incentive for mountain men to explore the west. Beaver were trapped for their thick fur and as a source of their scent glands that was used to make perfume. In many areas they almost disappeared. Today they are trapped occasionally and their survival is secure.

Beaver Ponds — Water Storage in the Arid West

Beavers are an important species in the Rocky Mountains. They create and maintain critical wetlands throughout the arid west. As a result, many species of wildlife are able to survive, especially during dry years. Beaver and the modifications they make to their environment help to:

- Create ponds that store water for use by fish and other animals.
- Raise the water table and recharge springs.
- Reduce soil erosion and flooding in the spring.
- Increase riparian habitat used by many other species.
- When old dams sit in, they turn into lush streamside meadows.

It is recognized that beaver can cause damage when they chew down desirable trees, block culverts, or flood roads and trails with their ponds. In some cases beaver are trapped to reduce problems. In other cases, beaver are relocated into a valley that could benefit from their skills as stabilizers streams and building wetlands.
Welcome

Over 300 species of wildlife can be found in Colorado and of these, more than 100 can be found in the alpine tundra zone at or above treeline.

This guide is an introduction to a few of the common types of animals you might see in the high country of Colorado at elevations above 9,000 feet. Look for wildlife along streams, in open meadows, in high-elevation pastures, and along the ridge lines just after sunrise or in the hours just before sunset along forest margins.

Tips for Viewing Wildlife

- Stay in your vehicle and remain quiet.
- Keep your distance. If your behavior changes their behavior, you are too close.

Snowshoe Hare

These small herds of snowshoe hares inhabit alpine zones. They are known for their white fur, long legs, and bushy tails, which make them easily identifiable. Watch for them hopping through the snow and along the trails.

Wilson's Warbler

Wilson's warblers can be found in vegetation at the edge of wet meadows where they fly between clusters of dwarf willows and riparian willows. Notice the black cap on the otherwise yellow warbler.

White-crowned Sparrow

The black and white stripes on the head of this sparrow distinguish it from other sparrows. It can be found in a variety of alpine habitats, especially in meadows where it finds seed in the uncut grass.

Spotted Sandpiper

These small, active birds can be found on the edges of ponds, lakes, and rivers at elevations up to 15,000 feet. Watch for the spotted sandpiper when it "bobs" its tail as it forages for insects.

Beaver

Beavers are found in riparian areas throughout Colorado. Watch for evidence of those aquatic rodents along streams and rivers where they build their dams and lodges.
Project #14: Byway: Cache La Poudre-North Park Scenic and Historic Byway: Byway Interpretive Sign Panel in Walden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,890.00 to Bruce Andersen and Associates</td>
<td>06/15/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Bruce Andersen and Associates</td>
<td>06/15/05</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Bruce Andersen and Associates</td>
<td>9/13/05</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution:** $5,390 (DOW: 500; grant: 4,890)

Cache La Poudre Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with Bruce Andersen and Associates to provide artwork, graphics, text and layout of the large size interpretive panel (4’ X 8’) for this location along the byway in Walden.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at more than 20 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $400 through their efforts to complete this project.
- US Forest Service provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review as well as providing some office and work space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 8 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $240.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the design, fabrication and installation of an interpretive panel featuring original artwork providing information about the wildlife and habitats found in North Park and along the byway. The Panel highlights the many wildlife viewing opportunities in North Park, similar to the map in the “Watching Wildlife in North Park” brochure. The final products for this project include:

- Cache La Poudre – North Park Scenic and Historic Byway orientation and interpretive panel at the rest area in Walden.

See example of panel on next page.

**Follow up:**

As a partner with the Cache La Poudre – North Park Scenic and Historic Byway since 2003, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the 101 mile byway route. Additional will be planned for the Poudre River corridor, Cameron Pass along CO Hwy 14, as well as State Forest State Park, and the many wildlife viewing sites located in North Park, like the Arapahoe National Wildlife Refuge and several State Wildlife areas that outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities.

Because Sage Grouse viewing has become an extremely popular event for wildlife viewers in the spring, the DOW and the byway should continue to provide well monitored viewing opportunities for these spectacular birds. Currently, the DOW and other partners sponsor grouse viewing in North Park during the early spring. (see www.wildlife.state.co.us for more information,
Project #14: Cache La Poudre-North Park Scenic and Historic Byway: Byway Interpretive Sign Panel at kiosk in Walden:

▲ Wildlife Watching in North Park byway panel

▲ North Park Sage Grouse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,800.00 to Jim Cox</td>
<td>06/16/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Colorado River S&amp;H Byway</td>
<td>05/25/05</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,080.00 to CMS Consulting</td>
<td>06/24/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to CMS Consulting</td>
<td>08/13/05</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**
Total DOW contribution: $5,380 (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)
Colorado Headwaters Scenic and Historic Byway contracted with CMS Consulting to provide artwork, graphics, text and layout of the interpretive panel for this sign panel located in Hot Sulphur Springs, along the byway.

**In-kind:**
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at more than 36 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $720 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the sign at Pioneer Park in Hot Sulphur Springs, along the byway.
- US Forest Service and BLM provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review as well as providing some office and work space used by staff. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $400 and the BLM to be $500.
- Employees of Hot Sulphur Springs Resort provided in-kind labor of approximately 14 hours at $15.00, approximating a value of $210 for installation and site preparation of the site and the sign.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 20 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

**Project Description:**
This project includes the design, fabrication and installation of an interpretive panel featuring original artwork providing information about the wildlife viewing opportunities along the Colorado Headwaters Scenic and Historic Byway. The final products for this project include:
- Scenic and Historic Byway wildlife viewing panel at the Pioneer Park in Hot Sulphur Springs. This sign points out the wealth of wildlife viewing opportunities found along the Trough Road Watchable Wildlife Route.

*See examples of panels on next page.*

**Follow up:**
As a partner with the Colorado Headwaters Scenic and Historic Byway since 2003, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the 80 mile byway route. Additional panels have been planned along the Colorado River corridor. An outstanding wildlife viewing area is currently located along the byway at Windy Gap. Interpretive signs, scopes and a rest area provide a pleasant stopover for visitors along the byway.
Project #15: Byway: Colorado River Headwaters Scenic and Historic Byway: Byway Interpretive Sign Panel in Pioneer Park, Hot Sulphur Springs:

▲ Byway panel; Trough Road Watchable Wildlife Route
Project #16: Byway: Dinosaur Diamond Scenic and Historic Byway: Wildlife Viewing Interpretive Sign Panel at Fruita Welcome Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75.00 to Mt. View Photography - Photos</td>
<td>06/10/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375.00 to Bruce Gill - Photos</td>
<td>06/10/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>675.00 to Paul Gray - Photos</td>
<td>06/10/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75.00 to Terry Bridgman - Photos</td>
<td>06/10/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>466.00 to Angel Sign</td>
<td>08/09/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Dinosaur Diamond</td>
<td>09/15/04</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400.00 to Dinosaur Diamond</td>
<td>09/15/04</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:
Total DOW contribution: $2,441 (DOW: 500; grant: 1,941)
The Dinosaur Diamond Scenic and Historic Byway provided graphics, layout and design for a wildlife viewing interpretive panel located at the Colorado Welcome Center in Fruita.

In-kind:
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 30 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $600 through their efforts to complete this project. In-kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the interpretive panel at the welcome center.
- The BLM provided a substantial in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the BLM to be $800.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

Project Description:
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of a watchable wildlife interpretive panel at the Colorado Welcome Center in Fruita. The final products for this project included:
“Watch For Wildlife”, Interpretive and Orientation Panel at the Colorado Welcome Center in Fruita.
CDOW information included on DVD to be played for visitors at welcome center.

See photos on the next page.

Follow up:
As a major partner with the Dinosaur Diamond Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route. Additional work at these sites will include species and habitat specific interpretive sign panels and waysides explaining habitat, habitat needs of wildlife, and wildlife viewing ethics.
Project #16: Byway: Dinosaur Diamond Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panel in Public Lands Room at Fruita Welcome Center:
Project #17: Byway: Flat Tops Trail Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels on Colorado Hwy 64 at Ripple Creek Pass

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,880.00 to Interpretive Graphics</td>
<td>12/07/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>560 to Interpretive Graphics</td>
<td>12/07/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td>Shipping, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Flat Tops Trail Scenic Byway</td>
<td>12/07/04</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td>Shipping, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Interpretive Graphics</td>
<td>12/10/04</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**
Total DOW contribution: **$5,380**  (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)
The Flat Tops Trail Scenic and Historic Byway installed three interpretive panels along the byway at Ripple Creek Pass in cooperation with the USFS.

**In-kind:**
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 20 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $400 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the site at Ripple Creek Pass on the byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $700.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

**Project Description:**
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of two low-profile interpretive signs along the Byway Route. The final products for this project include:
- Three interpretive sign panels located at Ripple Creek Pass Interpretive Site along the Flat Tops Trail Scenic and Historic Byway.
  - Sign #1 “No Boundaries” Wildlife Viewing Sign offers information on where to view wildlife species along the byway
  - Sign #2 “Land Of Many Uses” explains the USFS multiple use philosophy to byway travelers
  - Sign #3 “Alien Invasion” provides information on the negative impacts of non-native weeds and management actions. The sign includes photos of five species of these weeds to aid identification

Ripple Creek Pass sits at an elevation of 10,438 feet at the boundary between the White River and Routt National Forests. The Ripple Creek Overlook provides tremendous roadside views into the spectacular backcountry of the Flat Tops Wilderness. At this scenic wayside, in addition to the three signs produced by this project there are also existing signs that allow visitors to learn about the development of the wilderness philosophy, learn about watchable wildlife (elk), and understand the geological development of the Flat Tops and the area.

*See photos of signs on the next page.*

**Follow up:**
As a major partner with the Flat Tops Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route.
Project #17: Byway: Flat Tops Trail Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels on Colorado Hwy 64 at Ripple Creek Pass

Land of Many Uses Sign

▲ Byway panel; Ripple Creek Pass Interpretive Site

Alien Invasion Sign

▲ Byway panel; Ripple Creek Pass Interpretive Site

▲ Byway Panel - No Boundaries – Wildlife Viewing Sign – Ripple Creek Pass Site
Project #18: Byway: Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at the Grand Mesa Visitor’s Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4880.00 to Prism Interpretive Services</td>
<td>08/25/03</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Prism Interpretive Services</td>
<td>10/12/03</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Prism Interpretive Services</td>
<td>10/12/03</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**
Total DOW contribution: $5,380  (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)
The Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway project consists of three low-profile watchable wildlife panels installed at the Grand Mesa Visitor’s Center on the byway. These panels may be removed seasonally due to deep snow.

**In-kind:**
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 20 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $400 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the Grand Mesa Visitor’s Center on the byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 6 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $180.

**Project Description:**
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of three low-profile interpretive signs at the Grand Mesa Visitor's Center located along the Byway Route. The final products for this project include:
- Three interpretive signs featuring interpretation about wildlife and ecosystems found along the Grand Mesa Scenic Byway.
  Sign #1 “The Best Dam Builders in the Land” Sign deals with the biology and habits of beavers on the byway
  Sign #2 “Look For Us” Sign introduces visitors to some of the many birds found along the byway
  Sign #3 “Squirrel or Chipmunk – You Be The Judge” Sign explains the differences between ground squirrels and chipmunks – both commonly found along the byway.

See photos of signs on the next page.

**Follow up:**
As a major partner with the Grand Mesa Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route.
"Watch me work. That's right, if you find my home and stay for months away, I'll let you see how the pro's do it.

We spent the whole summer getting ready for winter by building up our hut and pond, while storing branches for food. Too me, we don't behave like the sleepy marms; we're active under our pond's icy winter.

THE BEST DAM BUILDERS IN THE LAND!

Now, if you come to close to my home, be prepared for a surprise - my tail makes a mighty splash!"
Project #18: Byway: Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at the Grand Mesa Visitor’s Center

▲ Byway panel: Birds
SQUIRREL or CHIMPUNK?

- You be the judge!

Often confused with one another, the Squirrel and Chipmunk dilemma on Grand Mesa is even harder than in most other places - and, you're in Marmot country - Colorado's biggest squirrel (that's right)

"I'm a Golden-Mantled Ground Squirrel, found throughout the Grand Mesa National Forest."

"I'm the most common chipmunk on Grand Mesa; a Least Chipmunk. I'm smaller than Mr. Golden-Mantled over there, but I have more stripes on my back, a dark stripe through the eye and visitors find me much easier."

"Nothing yellow-bellied about this marmot! Think I'll go take a nap."

▲Byway panel: Squirrels and Chipmunks
Project #19: Byway: Trail of the Ancients Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panel at the Cortez Visitor’s Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,880.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>07/07/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>10/12/04</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>10/12/04</td>
<td>DOW Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

Total DOW contribution: $5,380  (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)

The Trail of the Ancients Scenic and Historic Byway project consists of a watchable wildlife panel installed at the Cortez Visitor’s Center on the byway.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 10 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $200 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the Cortez Visitor’s Center on the byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $400.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 10 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $300.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of an interpretive sign panel at the Cortez Visitor’s Center located along the Byway Route.

- This interpretive sign featuring interpretation about wildlife and habitat found along Trail of the Ancients and San Juan Skyway Byways and helpful tips for a successful wildlife viewing experience.

*See photo of sign on the next page.*

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with the Trail of the Ancients Byway, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route.
Project #19: Byway: Trail of the Ancients Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panel at the Cortez Visitor’s Center

Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway
diverse wildlife

Wildlife Habitat
As you enjoy your visit to southwest Colorado, note that this region is home to abundant wildlife. In fact, between the sandstone deserts of the Four Corners and the alpine tundra of the high peaks you can find just about any species the West has to offer.

Take time to explore!

Wildlife Viewing Tips
- Slow down and look closely into the landscape.
- Take side roads to access more remote terrain.
- Use binoculars and spotting scopes for a closer look.
- Look during the optimal hours around dawn and dusk.
- Come back again and again to learn the area and its wildlife.

▲Byway Interpretive Site: Trail of the Ancients Byway – Wildlife Viewing Interpretive Sign
**Project #20: Byway: Unaweep/Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Nine Mile Hill and Norwood Kiosk sites**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,440.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>09/22/03</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>10/12/03</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>10/12/03</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,440.00 to Bruce Andersen</td>
<td>10/23/03</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600.00 to Timberwolf Welding</td>
<td>02/28/05</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td>Pedestal Fabrication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution: $5,980  (DOW: 500; grant: 5,480)**

The Unaweep/Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway project consists of watchable wildlife panels installed along the byway.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 20 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $400 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the Grand Mesa Visitor’s Center on the byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $600.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 6 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $180.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of interpretive signs at the Nine Mile Hill and Norwood Kiosk Interpretive Sites located along the Byway Route. The final products for this project include:

- Two “Haven For Wildlife” interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the wildlife and habitats found along the byway route, as well as wildlife viewing tips for visitors.

**See photo of sign on the next page.**

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with the Unaweep/Tabeguache Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route.
Project #20: Byway: Unaweep/Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Nine Mile Hill and Norwood Kiosk sites
Project #20: Byway: Unaweep/Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Nine Mile Hill and Norwood Kiosk sites

▲ Byway Interpretive Site: Unaweep/Tabeguache Byway – Wildlife Viewing Sign at Interpretive Site
Project #21: Byway: West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at the Museum in Carbondale and at Chamber of Commerce in Crested Butte

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2820.00 to Prism</td>
<td>06/24/04</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Prism</td>
<td>10/12/04</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Prism</td>
<td>11/15/05</td>
<td>DOW W Region Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretive Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Costs:**

**Total DOW contribution: $5,380 (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)**

The West Elk Scenic and Historic Byway project consists of four low-profile watchable wildlife panels installed at the Museum in Carbondale and the Chamber of Commerce in Crested Butte on the byway. Sign bases provided by byway - $1600 fabrication by local craftsman.

**In-kind:**

- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 16 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $320 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs along the West Elk Loop byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $500.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 8 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $240.

**Project Description:**

This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of low-profile interpretive signs at the museum in Carbondale and the Chamber of Commerce in Crested Butte, located along the Byway Route. The final products for this project include:

- Two interpretive signs featuring interpretation about wildlife found along the byway at the Mount Sopris Historical Museum in Carbondale and at the Chamber of Commerce in Crested Butte
  - Sign #1 “Wildlife on the Loop” Sign deals with wildlife found along the West Elk Loop Scenic Byway
  - Sign #2 “West Elk Loop” Sign is an orientation panel for visitors

*See photos of signs on the next page.*

**Follow up:**

As a major partner with the West Elk Loop Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route.
Project #21: Byway: West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at the Museum in Carbondale and at Chamber of Commerce in Crested Butte
Project #22: Byway: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Granite State Wildlife Area site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contributor</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000.00 to Sherrie York</td>
<td>05/06/06</td>
<td>DOW through Byway Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720.00 to Sherrie York</td>
<td>05/06/06</td>
<td>Byway Partners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500.00 to Sherrie York</td>
<td>05/24/06</td>
<td>DOW SE Operating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Costs:
Total DOW contribution: $2,500  (DOW: 500; grant: 2,000)
The Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway project consists of two low-profile watchable wildlife panels installed at the Granite State Wildlife Area on the Arkansas River along the byway.

In-kind:
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 30 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $600 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the Granite State Wildlife Area site on the byway.
- The USFS provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the USFS to be $1,100.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 36 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $1,080.

Project Description:
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of two low-profile interpretive signs at the Granite State Wildlife Area located along the byway route. The final products for this project include:
- Two interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the riparian and upland ecosystems found along the Arkansas River.
  Sign #1 “Riparian Wonders” Sign deals with the habitat for wildlife in the riparian zone along the Arkansas River
  Sign #2 “Sheep Shapes” Sign deals with the cliff habitat found along the Arkansas River at Granite and the rocky mountain bighorn sheep that live there.

See photos of signs on the next page.

Follow up:
As a major partner with the Collegiate Peaks Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route, the Arkansas River and its tributaries.
Project #22: Byway: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Granite State Wildlife Area sites

Byway Interpretive Site: Collegiate Peaks Byway – Granite State Wildlife Area – Sheep Viewing Interpretive Site

▲ Byway Interpretive Site: Collegiate Peaks Byway – Granite State Wildlife Area – Bighorn Sheep Viewing Interpretive Site –
Project #22: Byway: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Granite State Wildlife Area sites

▲ Byway Interpretive Site: Collegiate Peaks Byway – Granite State Wildlife Area – Sheep Viewing Interpretive Site – Riparian Wonders Sign
Project Costs:
Total DOW contribution: $5,380 (DOW: 500; grant: 4,880)
The Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway project consists of two low-profile watchable wildlife panels installed at the Tiger Lily Creek State Trust Lands recreational site on the Arkansas River on the byway.

In-kind:
- Byway committee members provided in-kind at approximately 30 hours at $20.00 per hour; approximating a value of over $600 through their efforts to complete this project. In kind contributions included meetings to plan, design, develop and fabricate the signs at the Tiger Lily State Trust Lands Site on the byway.
- The BLM provided a small in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement in project coordination, communication, research and content review, graphics and layout design and text writing as well as providing meeting, office and work space. The approximate in-kind value for this contribution was estimated by the BLM to be $1,000.
- DOW in-kind contribution, by way of staff involvement, communication, research and content review is also substantial; the District Wildlife Manager and Technicians and the Watchable Wildlife Coordinator provided many hours of time in meetings and providing research information and biological/ecological knowledge toward the completion of this project. The in-kind value for this contribution is estimated to be approximately 24 hours of staff time at $30.00/hour for a total of $720.

Project Description:
This project includes the planning, development, design, fabrication and installation of two low-profile interpretive signs at the Granite State Wildlife Area located along the Byway Route. The final products for this project include:
- Two interpretive signs featuring interpretation about the riparian and upland ecosystems found along the Arkansas River.
  - Sign #1 “Helping Sheep” sign deals with sheep biology and management by the CDOW and the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Society
  - Sign #2 “Cliff Hangers” sign deals with the cliff habitat found along the Arkansas River at near Granite and the many other wildlife species found there.

See photos of signs on the next page.

Follow up:
As a major partner with the Collegiate Peaks Byway since its dedication, the CDOW will continue to work with the byway to establish additional viewing sites and wildlife interpretive sites along the byway route, the Arkansas River and its tributaries.
Project #22A: Byway: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Tiger Lily Creek State Trust Lands site
Project #22A: Byway: Collegiate Peaks Scenic and Historic Byway: Interpretive Sign Panels at Granite State Wildlife Area sites

▲ Byway Interpretive Site: Collegiate Peaks Byway – Granite State Wildlife Area Sheep Viewing Interpretive Site – Helping Sheep Sign

Byway Interpretive Site: Collegiate Peaks Byway – Granite State Wildlife Area – Sheep Viewing Interpretive Site – Cliff Hangers Sign
Conclusion: What are byways?

Byways are an opportunity to drive down the “road less traveled” for those who wish to really experience the area they are traveling through. They are not the fastest way from point A to point B. They are not interstate highways. They are specifically designated routes that “steer motorists to areas of natural beauty where scenic views include state and local parks or other public lands, historic, recreational or archaeological areas.” In Colorado, our byways are marked with distinctive highway signs featuring a blue columbine. The Colorado byways are considered to have exceptional scenic, historic, recreational, ecological, and/or cultural value.

They are usually dedicated to preservation of the unique features, both natural and cultural/historical, of an area and tend to come about through grassroots efforts and support of the local community or communities, involved. Their mission generally is to educate the public, and in so doing, protect the valuable resources that are found along the byway route. They are usually managed cooperatively, with Memoranda of Understanding between small communities, larger communities, counties, state and federal land managers, other government agencies, non-profits, and the state Dept. of Transportation. They are a cooperative effort among private citizens, local groups, local governments and state and federal government agencies.

What are the benefits of cooperating with a Scenic Byway?

Scenic byways provide convenient access to areas with outstanding natural scenery, wildlife resources, recreational areas, parks, historic sites and communities. One of the key benefits of byway designation is increased/controlled tourism. Statewide promotional programs advertise the byways through maps and other literature, expanding the number of visitors to an area, which can generate economic growth, and increases community recognition.

Byways have access to available grants, as well. These monies can be used to fund a variety of different byway programs and facilities from studies, management plans, administration, staffing, educational exhibits and displays, visitor centers, interpretation, etc. Most byways strive, through their efforts, to provide a richer more varied experience for their byway travelers and also foster visitors who understand, appreciate and respect the uniqueness of the local community. So, they become “greener” travelers, who are looking for a special experience – “a time warp” – where they can truly experience an area “the way it used to be.” Attracting visitors who leave the area better than they found it, is the ultimate goal of many byways.

Watching Wildlife on Byways

In Colorado, and most other states, the routes that scenic byways follow lead through some of the best wildlife viewing around. And, it is a natural fit. Byway visitors are looking for a slower, more real, more intimate experience. They want to feel like they have “gotten something” special or extra out of their byway drives. They are more likely to stop at
overlooks, kiosks or waysides and get out of their car. They are there for the experience. They want to see wildlife and learn more about it, as well as the more commonly interpreted cultural and historical themes.

So, we are working to give the byway travelers that experience. We hope that more projects will come out of this effort, and know that there are lots of opportunities to provide outstanding Watchable experiences and interpretation on these designated roads. We know that people are traveling these routes, we are taking advantage of that and providing them with a richer – more wildlife related- experience.

**Planning to fit each Byway’s interpretive story**

These were the questions considered when projects were evaluated with the byways for their inclusion in this grant project:

1. *How will byway travelers benefit from the proposed project?*
   Projects should improve the quality of the visitors’ experience, which is essential to attracting more visitors and/or enticing them to stay longer.

2. *What part of the byway’s story will the proposed project help tell or enhance?*
   Managing the intrinsic qualities which shape a byway’s story and interpreting the story for visitors are important to improve the quality of the visitors’ experience.

3. *How will the proposed project help strengthen the byway organization?*
   The vitality of a byway is only as strong as its leadership. Scenic byway funds can be used to strengthen a byway organization’s capacity to implement a corridor management plan for a National Scenic Byway or All-American Road.

4. *To what extent is the project part of a grander vision for the byway?*
   Successful projects reflect multi-year priorities; coordinated efforts among state, local, and private entities; leveraging of alternative funding sources; and the objectives listed in a corridor management plan.

**A good project shows direct benefits to byway travelers and visitors.**

It is important for the CDOW to continue to be involved with each byway and get to know the individuals and committees that administer them. Partnering with WW programs is a natural fit, for most of these groups, but you may find it very interesting in just how the relationship becomes established and how wildlife viewing and wildlife interpretation may fit in to the byways plans and needs.

Being flexible and working within each byway’s parameters should allow the development of WW projects along most byways. Providing their visitors with a richer and more diverse experience is the pay-off for these byways, and taking advantage of the opportunities that present themselves to attract byway travelers for a longer stay is the economic benefit to the communities along the byway and the local business that service these byway travelers.
The Watchable Wildlife on Byways Project: Facts and Figures

22 Byways

27 Projects

20,000+ Watchable Wildlife Guide Brochures

30,000 Visitor Guides

58 Interpretive Sign Panels

14 Waysides

8 Visitor Center Interpretation Projects

3 Colorado Welcome Center Interpretation Projects

1 Nature Center Interpretation Project

1 Visitor Information Radio Network

1 Riverwalk Interpretation Project

1 Wildlife Trading Card

1 Museum Interpretation Project

1 Chamber of Commerce Interpretation Project

1 Wildlife Diorama

1 DVD Project
Additional Products that were created via Byway/CDOW partnerships, but not paid for with this grant: