



DENVER BOTANIC  
**GARDENS**

# Welcome to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Colorado Rare Plant Symposium!



*Ribes niveum* by Bob Powell

September 19, 2025





# AURARIA CAMPUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

# 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL COLORADO RARE PLANT SYMPOSIUM



**WARNER COLLEGE OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



**Friday, September 19, 2025**

St. Cajetan's, Auraria Campus

101 Lawrence Way, Denver, CO 80204

Doors Open: 8:30 AM – Room Exit: 3:30 PM

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration and check-in**

(1) 9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome** – David Anderson, Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP)

(2) 9:15 – 9:30 **Colorado Natural Heritage Program – Botany Tracking List Changes**  
Jessica Smith (CNHP)

(3) 9:30 – 10:15 **Colorado Parks & Wildlife – SCIP Program, State Wildlife Action Plan**  
Savanna Smith (CPW)

10:15 – 10:30 **Break**

- Herbarium specimens of species under discussion will be available throughout the day, courtesy of Molly Nepokroeff, Head Curator of Natural History Collections, Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium, DBG

(4) 10:30 – 11:00 **Review of Selected Central Colorado Rare Plant Species – Part I**  
Jessica Smith (CNHP) and Savanna Smith (CPW)

11:00 – 11:15 **Break**

(4) 11:15 – 12:00 **Review of Selected Central Colorado Rare Plant Species – Part II**  
Jessica Smith (CNHP) and Savanna Smith (CPW)

12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch on your own**

- 5-minute walk to Tivoli Student Center, multiple grab and go options or bring your own lunch

(5) 1:00 – 1:20 **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Program and Selected Species Conservation Updates** – Sarah Quadt and Jay Ruebens (USFWS)

(6) 1:20 – 1:50 **Bureau of Land Management – Program and Selected Species Conservation Updates** – Carol Dawson and Phil Krening (BLM)

(7) 1:50 – 2:10 **Genetic Analyses of Members of *Penstemon* section *Glabri* from northwestern Colorado with a focus on *P. gibensii*, *P. scariosus*, and *P. luculentus*** – Mit McGlaughlin, University of Northern Colorado (UNC)

2:10 – 2:25 **Break and room cleanup**

(8) 2:25 – 2:55 **Denver Botanic Gardens – Introduction of Global Strategy for Plant Conservation/Global Biodiversity Framework and Reporting Goals** – Michelle DePrenger-Levin (DBG)

(9) 2:55 – 3:10 **2024 Research on *Physaria alpina* Reproduction and Habitat Characterization** – My-Lan Le (DBG)

3:10 – 3:15 **Thank you and closing** – Jessica Smith (CNHP)

**THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING PARTNERS!**



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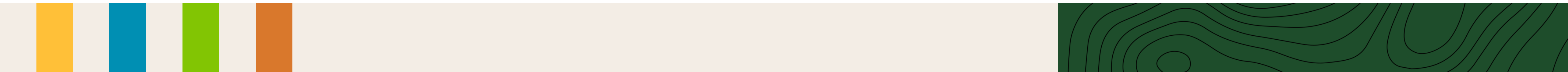




**Thank You!**



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What are you looking for?

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# Annual Conference 2025: Native Plants In Our Changing World

[Learn More and Register](#)







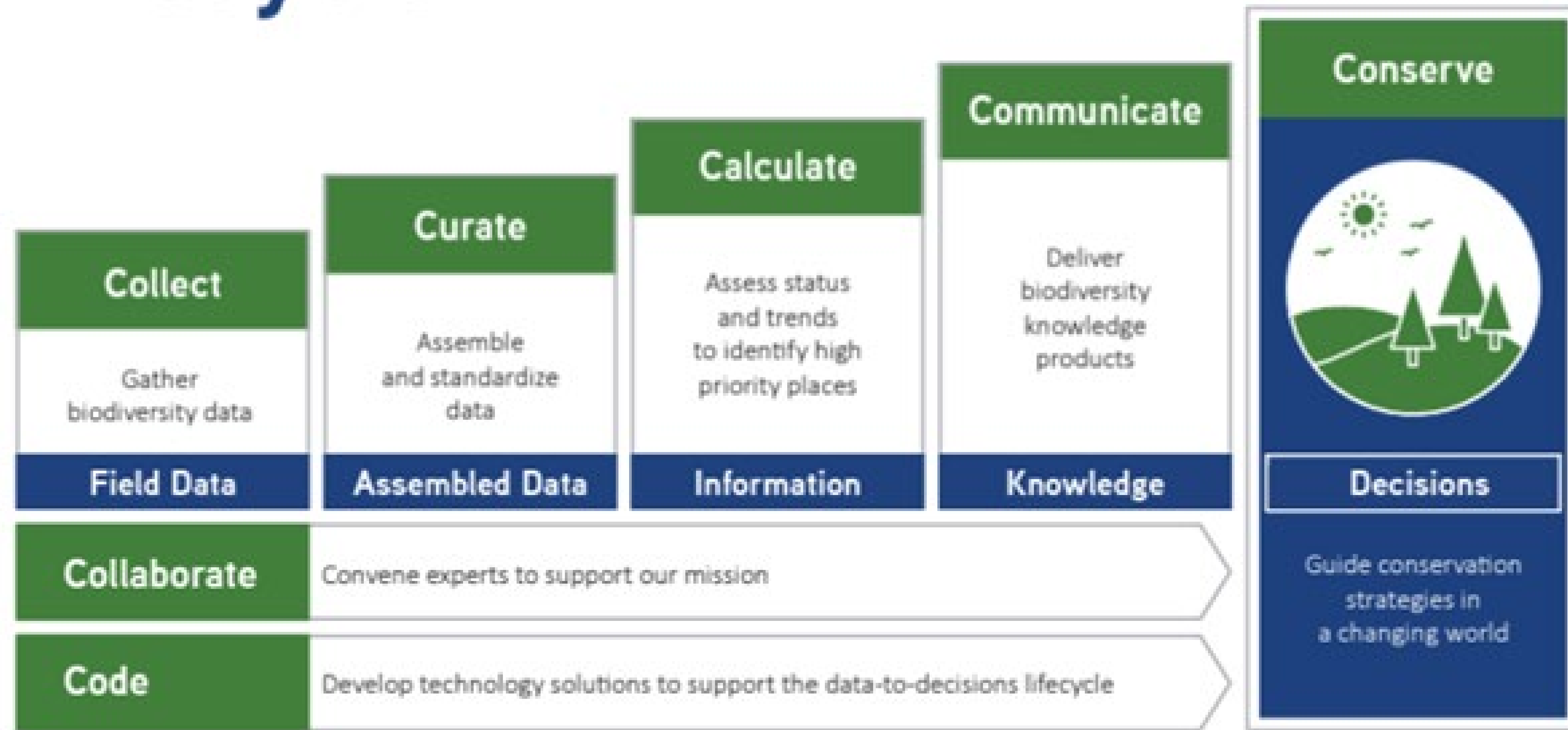
# CNHP is...

- Colorado's trusted source of biodiversity and natural heritage data since 1979
- Part of Colorado State University and the NatureServe network
- Collaborators who support decisions by landowners, agencies, practitioners, and industry by tracking locations and status of rare plants, animals, and habitats
- Soft funded staff of over 50 experts





# The Data-to-Decisions Lifecycle





Amphibians and  
Reptiles



Arthropods and  
Insects



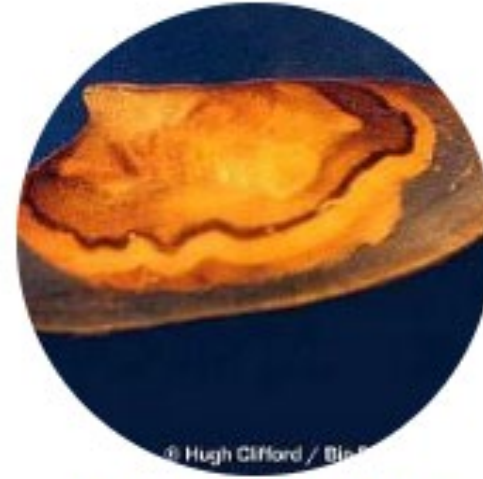
Birds



Fish



Mammals



Mussels and Clams



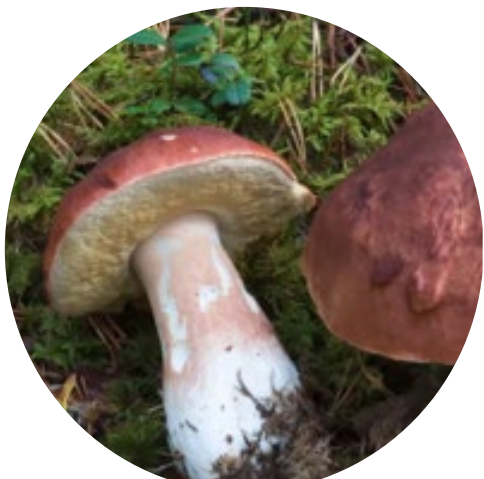
Nonvascular Plant



Plant Communities



Vascular Plants



Macrofungi

# The Five Key Questions

1. What species and ecosystems exist in CO?
2. Which are at risk or otherwise significant?
3. Where precisely are those found?
4. How are they doing at those locations?
5. What are the most important and urgent places to protect?





# What is the Statewide Natural Heritage Survey?

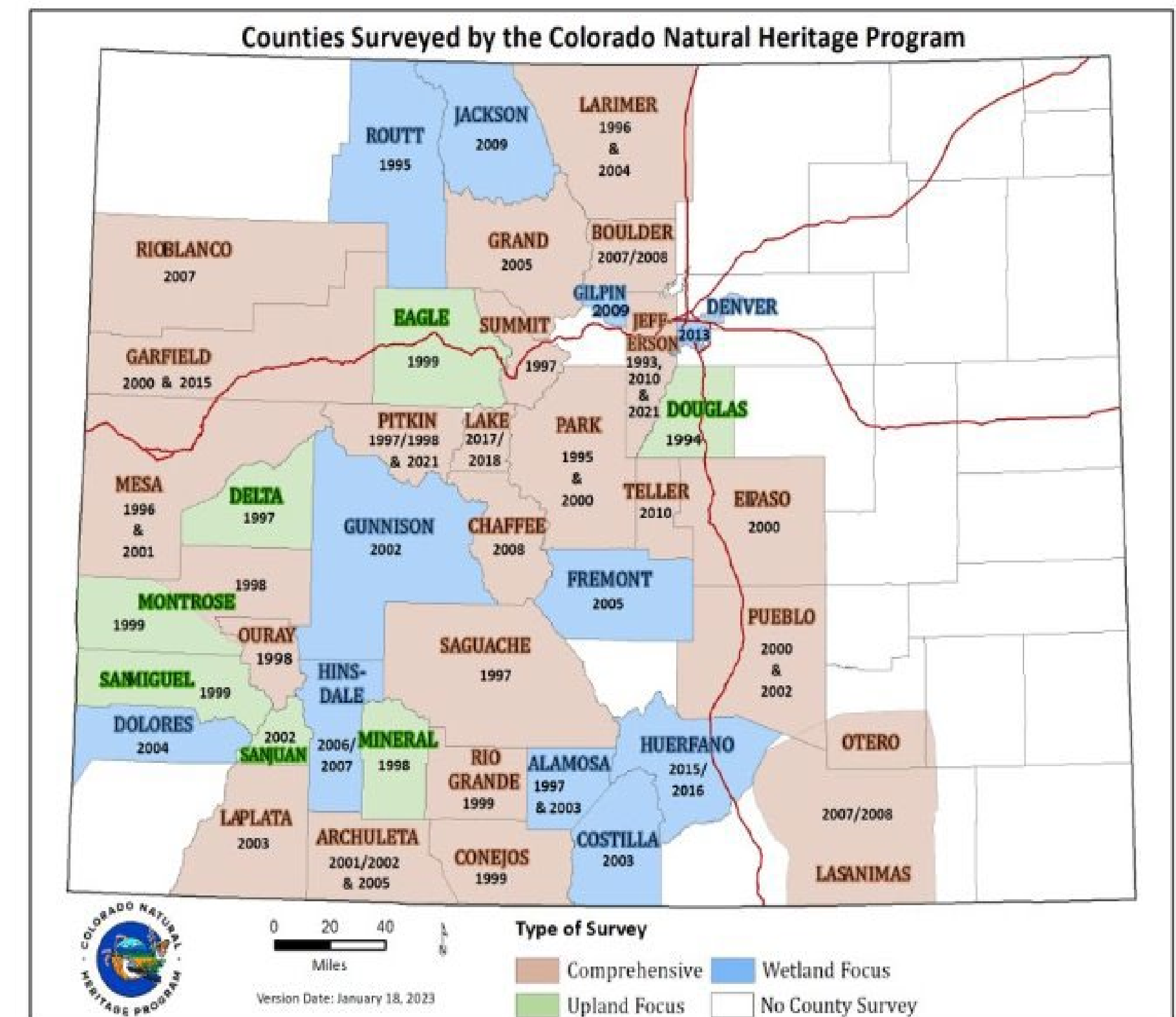
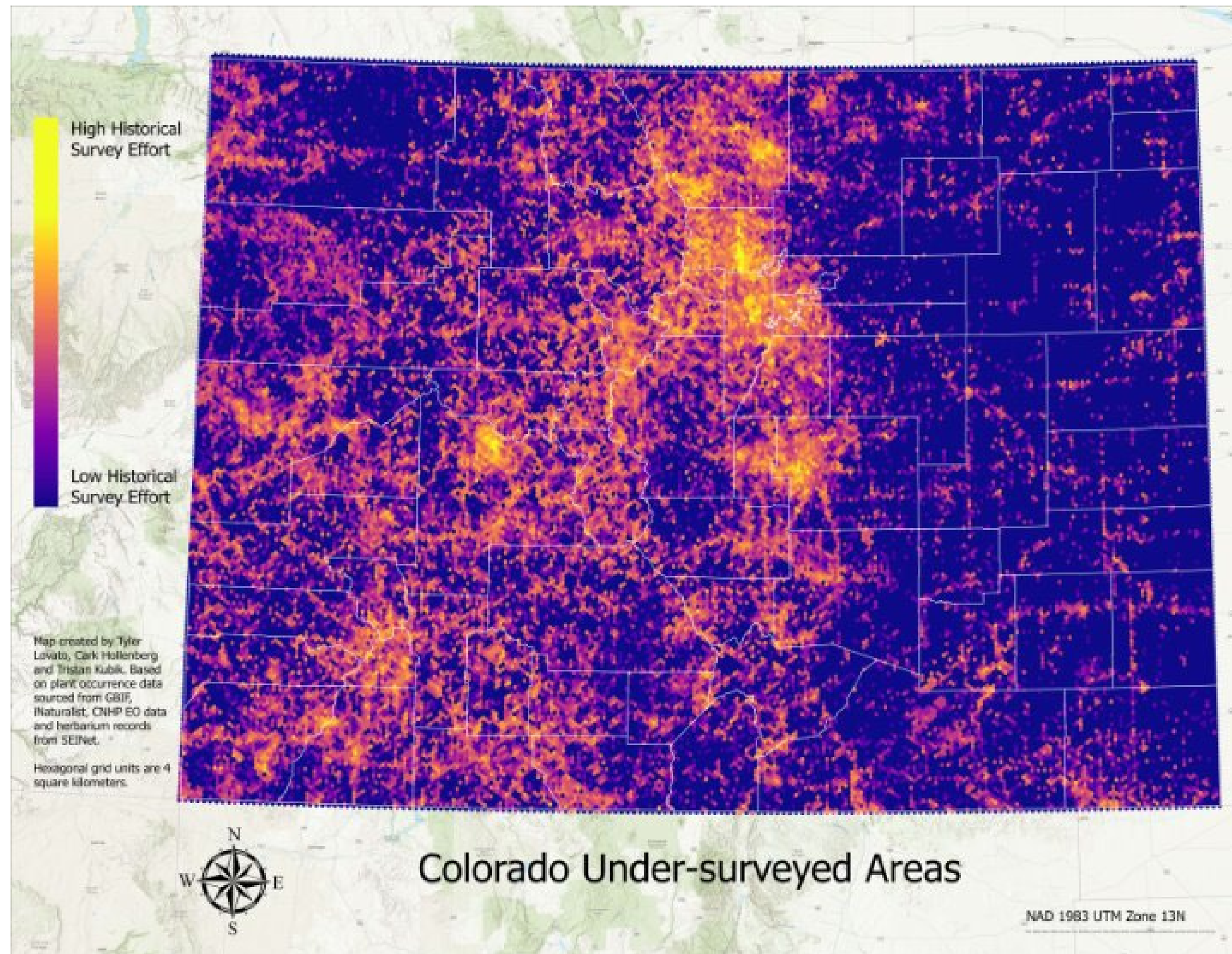
- An expansive project that will level-up natural heritage data of Colorado
- Targeted surveys with willing landowners to map rare species and habitats so that we can plan on their behalf
- Engaging community scientists to greatly expand our reach
- Connecting with our Tribes to empower them in the collection of natural heritage data
- Collaborating with the Regional Partnerships, land trusts, and other conservation partners to connect with communities and landowners
- Sharing data via CODEX and building a dashboard where all Coloradans can access information





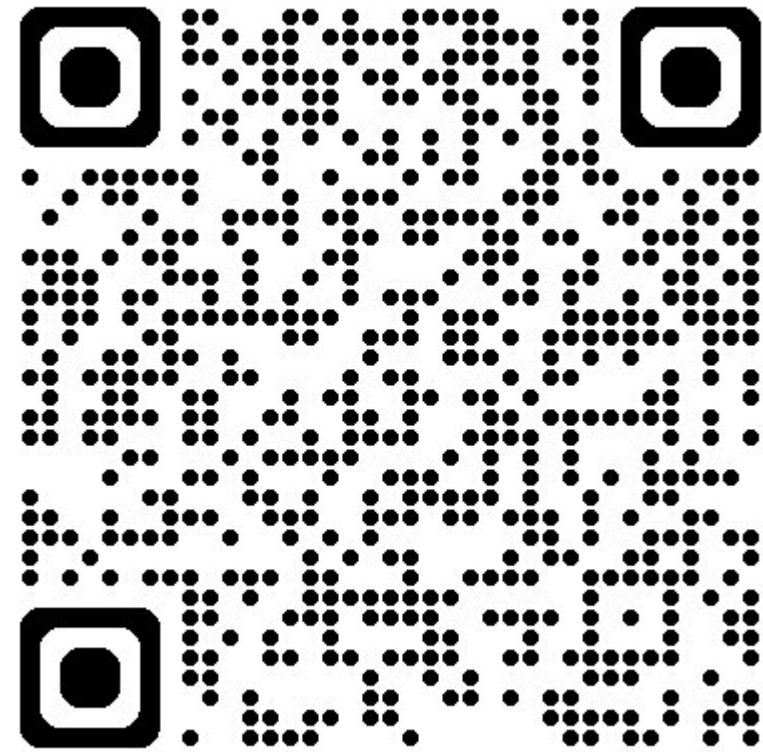
# Why the SNHS?

- Climate change and habitat loss are driving factors impacting biodiversity
- Colorado needs a balanced baseline map of our natural heritage wealth as a guide
- We need to develop recreation that does not diminish the reason that people love Colorado in the first place





# Get involved



Click on **Engagement** for community science resources





# Thank You- Partners & Funders





# Collaborating with RPs

- Need for data equity within each Regional Partnership to support their planning for robust and sustainable economic growth through recreation and conservation
- The time for this is now, as we implement the Colorado Outdoors Strategy, setting a baseline against which to measure our progress

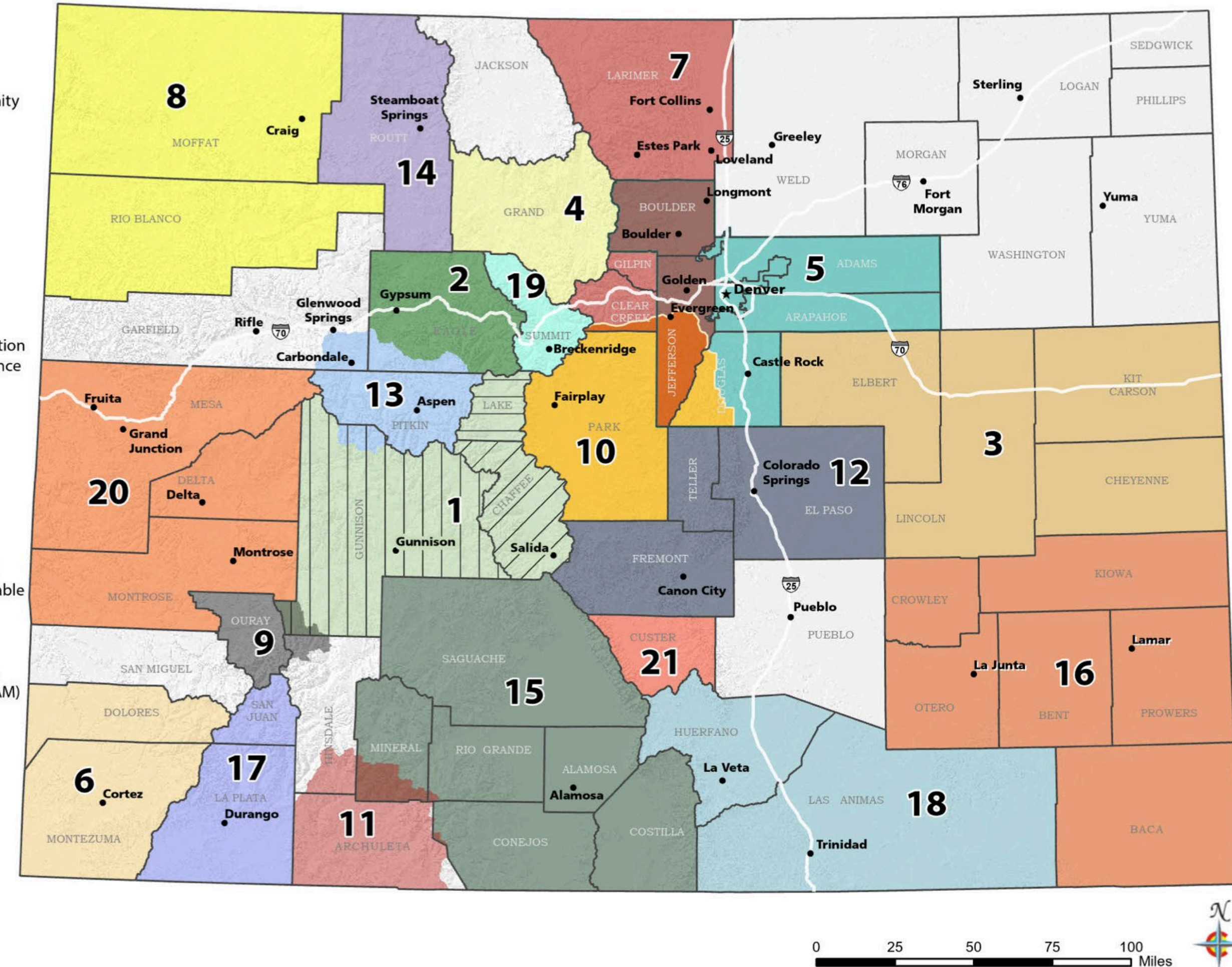


## Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships January 2025



[www.copartnership.org](http://www.copartnership.org)

1. Central Colorado Recreation Partnership
  - Envision Chaffee
  - Gunnison STOR
  - Lake County
  - Outdoor Alliance
2. Eagle County Community Wildlife Roundtable
3. Eastern Grassland Coalition
4. Grand PLACES 2050
5. Metro Denver Nature Alliance (Metro DNA)
6. Montelores
7. NoCo Places
8. Northwest Colorado Outdoor Coalition (NCO)
9. Ouray Regional Recreation and Conservation Alliance (ORRCA)
10. Outside 285
11. Pagosa Area Recreation Coalition
12. Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance (PPORA)
13. Roaring Fork Outdoor Coalition
14. Routt Recreation and Conservation Roundtable
15. San Luis Valley Great Outdoors
16. Southeast Colorado Rec. Outdoor Alliance Movement (SECO ROAM)
17. Southwest Colorado Conservation & Outdoor Recreation Roundtable
18. Spanish Peaks Outdoor Coalition
19. Summit County Outdoor Coalition
20. West Slope Outdoors Alliance
21. Wet Mountain Valley Outdoors





# Survey Geographies by Year

