



**Board of County Commissioners**

970-328-8605

970-328-8629(f)

[eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us](mailto:eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us)

[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)

Amanda Nims  
Land Protection Specialist and CWHP Program Manager  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife  
[amanda.nims@state.co.us](mailto:amanda.nims@state.co.us)

October 18, 2021

Dear Ms. Nims,

On behalf of the Eagle County Board of County Commissioners and Eagle County Open Space Advisory Council, we are pleased to submit this letter of support for the Seago family's grant request in partnership with the Eagle Valley Land Trust (EVLT), to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Habitat Program (CWHP). Eagle County takes pride in its conserved landscapes, community partnerships, and local wildlife populations, and this project seeks to positively impact all of the above.

If this grant request is approved, roughly 35 acres along the Eagle River and west of the Town of Eagle will be protected as important wildlife and riparian habitat. The property will allow CPW to increase their local presence in Eagle County by offering affordable housing to its local employees; thereby facilitating more outreach and educational interactions with the public. We are keenly aware that CPW has experienced challenges recruiting and retaining staff in Eagle County in part due to the lack of affordable housing. This makes it difficult to maintain active relationships with local District Wildlife Managers, and for the DWMs to garner in-depth field knowledge of local wildlife habitat population use patterns and wildlife management challenges.

The Seago property contains riparian habitat and critical winter habitat for mule deer, in addition to providing a local home and storage space for CPW staff and equipment. When surveyed, Eagle County voters have indicated their strong support for wildlife habitat preservation, which is a primary goal of the Eagle County Open Space program. Additionally, public access for fishing along the Eagle River and protection of the property's scenic character and agricultural heritage are also Open Space program goals.

Future management of this property will help safeguard its natural resources and allow public access to the Eagle River. The Seago Family, EVLT, and CPW have worked hard to secure this property for potential public benefit, and we would encourage continued development of this partnership. This is a compelling opportunity to benefit the citizens of Colorado and the local community.



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Please do not hesitate to reach out for any questions or comments regarding Eagle County and EVLT's support for this grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Scherr", with a long, sweeping underline.

Matt Scherr  
Chair, Eagle County Board of County Commissioners

Tom Edwards  
Chair, Eagle County Open Space Advisory Committee



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