

Southeast Regional Office 4255 Sinton Rd. Colorado Springs, CO 80907 P 719.227.5200 | F 719.227.5223

April 07, 2022

El Paso County Planning and Community Development ATTN: Kylie Bagley, Project Manager 2880 International Circle, Suite 110 Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Re: Monument Glamping Special Use

Dear Ms. Bagley,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has reviewed the information about the Monument Glamping Special Use plan for 16315 Rickenbacker Avenue Monument, CO 80132 in El Paso County Colorado. CPW staff has visited the site and offers the following comments for your consideration.

The project site falls within Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse (PMJM) range and potential critical habitat. PMJM is currently on both the Federal and State threatened species list. Temporary and permanent construction impacts in this area may permanently impact resident wildlife. CPW does see that a letter has been received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that indicates the "take" of the PMJM for the project area is of no concern. If changes do occur to the proposed project area or new information indicates that the project may result in the "take" of the PMJM, it is recommended to contact the USFWS immediately.

Black bears are common along the Front Range, and this proposed glamping area will potentially have bears coming into and around it. CPW recommends several measures to reduce the potential for human bear conflicts. First, we strongly recommend the use of bear-resistant trash containers, and that potential users of the proposed glamping area are advised that bears will be present in the area. If bear-resistant trash containers are not used, regular trash containers should then be stored in a locked storage shed until the morning of trash collection during those months when bears are most active (April - November). Second, users of the glamping area should also keep their food locked away bear proof containers or in a secure building. A copy of a brochure entitled, "Living with wildlife in bear country" is available for reference upon request from CPW. Bears that become habituated to people and human foods ultimately have to be euthanized. Proper education and trash/food storage reduces the number of these "problem" bears.

Feeding of all wildlife is prohibited. It is illegal to feed big game including deer, elk, antelope, bear and mountain lion. CPW would recommend that the users of the glamping area be provided with educational material regarding wildlife feeding if they so choose. There is a sizeable resident herd of deer in the area that surrounds the potential glamping location. It is illegal to provide feed for deer because of health and safety concerns both for humans and the deer.



Concentrations of deer will attract predators, including mountain lions. Dangerous conflicts with mountain lions are rare, however care should be used when living in mountain lion habitat.

CPW recommends the development and implementation of a noxious weed control plan for the site. All disturbed soils should be monitored for noxious weeds and noxious weeds should be actively controlled until native plant revegetation and reclamation is achieved. All areas disturbed by the development should be revegetated with native plant species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this development application. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact District Wildlife Manager Corey Adler at 719-439-9637 or via e-mail at corey.adler@state.co.us

Sincerely,

Tim Kroening

Area Wildlife Manager

Cc: Corey Adler, DWM

SE Regional File

Area 14 File