

Good Morning. Madam Chairperson and members of the Committee thank you for allowing me to speak with you today. I am Bob Meulengracht and I am the current chairman of the Colorado Sportsmen's Advocacy Council also known as CSAC. CSAC is a broad based Coalition of Colorado and National hunting, angling, conservation and wildlife advocacy groups. Our mission is to: Advocate for the protection and advancement of Colorado's hunting, fishing, and trapping heritage; to defend sportsmen's right to hunt, fish and trap; and, ensure the enhancement and conservation of Colorado's fish, and wildlife, and their associated habitats, through effective, science based management, and multiple land use.

Seated here with me are representatives from the group that will be providing testimony in support of SB13-175. Ivan James with Colorado Bowhunters Association, David Nickum Executive Director for Colorado Trout Unlimited, Suzanne O'Neill Executive Director of the Colorado Wildlife Federation and Bob Hix, Regional Director for Pheasants Forever. Each of these sportspersons represents a large constituency of hunters, anglers and outdoor recreationists in Colorado. Additionally, they understand the importance of quality habitat for the wildlife and fish that make Colorado their home.

With your permission, I would like to turn the microphone over to Ivan but before I do I would like to ask for your vote in support of SB13-175 as written as it will provide necessary funding for habitat in Colorado now and well into the future. Thank you.