16 July 2025

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Department
C/O Staunton State Park
staunton.park@state.co.us and Benjamin.Sharp@state.co.us
12102 S. Elk Creek Road
Pine, CO 80470

Re: Staunton State Park 10-Year Management Plan

Dear Mr. Sharp:

On behalf of Safari Club International, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Staunton State Park 10-Year Management Plan.

Staunton State Park is a relatively new park, having come into the park system in 2013 as the 41st Colorado State Park. The current Management Plan does not allow hunting but does allow fishing. Given the proximity to the Denver metro area and increasing demand for hunting access, SCI would encourage the creation of some limited draw archery big game hunting opportunities, particularly so as the property is a little over 4,000 acres in size and the fact that big game hunting seasons do not coincide with peak summer visitation periods, thereby reducing potential user conflicts while still providing some opportunity.

Further, it is proven that sound science-based conservation involving hunting as the primary management tool, while maximizing opportunities for all huntable species, is necessary to the long-term health of wildlife. Hunters have long paid the way for conservation, both game and non-game wildlife, and maximizing opportunity for hunting is also key to long-term funding for all conservation. Hunting benefits wildlife conservation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the Staunton State Park 10 Year Management Plan. SCI is dedicated to protecting the freedom to hunt and we appreciate the continued partnership with the Department. SCI is always first for hunters.

Sincerely,

W. Laird Hamberlin
Chief Executive Officer
Safari Club International