

colorado watershed assembly 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

The Colorado Watershed Assembly's mission is to provide support for collaborative efforts among diverse stakeholders to protect and improve the conservation values of land, water, and other natural resources of Colorado's watersheds. The Assembly provides a statewide voice to increase public awareness of watershed issues and plays a variety of roles in supporting grassroots organizations. We place a high priority on building local, community-based leadership and on amplifying local outreach and educational efforts. Our main programs are listed below. For more information, visit our website.



The **River Watch Program** is a statewide, water quality monitoring program for citizen scientists of all ages. This program, which is a partnership with Colorado Parks & Wildlife, is comprised of volunteers from over 125 different public, private, and charter school groups, watershed organizations, and private individuals who monitor over 300 different river sites throughout Colorado each year, making the program the largest collector of data in the state. To support River Watch or start your own team, contact Michaela Taylor, Program Director at Michaela@coloradowatershed.org.

The **Inflow Network** is an electronic information network designed to engage water interested groups and citizens in state water policy and provide up to date information, such as funding opportunities, job openings, trainings and events. Because the Inflow works to bring attention to local watershed efforts, member news keeps this network relevant. Send in your news and events to keep the community informed of what you do. Become a member today and help support this valuable networking tool.

Watershed Planning – The Assembly continues to work with our member groups and funding partners to create a useful resource for local watershed planning efforts. Information collected in collaboration with the Water Quality Control Division and their Measurable Results Program as well as the Watershed Protection and Restoration Program of the Colorado Water Conservation Board is available on our website providing insight into lessons learned and valuable contact information for further networking.

Annual Conference – The Colorado Watershed Assembly hosts the Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference each year as a collaborative effort with the Colorado Foundation for Water Education and the Colorado Riparian Association. This unique conference works to expand cooperation and collaboration throughout Colorado in natural resource conservation, protection, and enhancement. The conference is an important opportunity to inform participants about timely issues and innovative projects while providing valuable networking opportunities. Visit coloradowater.org/Conferences for more information!



The **Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund** is financed by the Colorado checkoff program which provides tax payers the opportunity to contribute to local conservation groups by making a donation when they file their state tax return to assist locally-based conservation groups in their efforts to protect our land and water resources. Donating to the CHRF not only helps local conservation groups conduct restoration projects, but it also shows state agencies that you value healthy rivers. Don't forget to make a donation this April.

*"A watershed group should always be trying to work themselves out of one job and into another. Like an eagle stirs its nest, our goal is to see competent projects fly and be successful. Non-profits, or Non-governmental organizations (NGO's) form a vital link between grassroots knowledge and collective resources. Local watershed groups engaging multiple partners, early, create a valuable resource to protect ecological health, community engagement and emergency response.
P.S. Hug your bookkeeper."*



- Casey Davenhill Executive Director



STAFF

Colorado Watershed Assembly
Casey Davenhill Executive Director
Erika Shioya Member Services Coordinator

River Watch

Michaela Taylor Program Director
Shayna Miller Volunteer Coordinator
Barb Horn Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Matt McIntyre Water Quality Analyst
Patty Fosburg Lab Assistant

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Do you **love**
healthy
watersheds?

Become a member or make a donation to the Colorado Watershed Assembly and help us continue to support watershed groups and water quality monitoring teams throughout the state!

Donate by visiting
www.coloradowater.org



HIGHLIGHTS

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The 2012 Sustaining Colorado Watersheds Conference, Water 2012, in Avon, CO was our best conference yet, with interactive workshops, engaging speakers, and energizing networking opportunities. Over 200 participants found the conference to be a highly valuable opportunity and recognize the importance in our efforts to connect watershed groups with statewide resources.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

The Colorado Watershed Assembly continues to be a leader in citizen science. We were proud to renew our River Watch partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife in 2013.

River Watch continues to increase its number of volunteers through successful trainings held twice a year. This year, River Watch is welcoming 11 new volunteer water quality monitoring teams, bringing the total number of teams to 128 monitoring over 300 sites throughout the state.

River Watch was awarded a number of important grants this year, including those from the Xcel Energy Foundation and the Subaru of America Foundation (photo below with the Golden High School River Watch team).

WATERSHED PLANNING

The Assembly's Watershed Planning Program continues to support local groups in their watershed planning efforts. In 2013, the Colorado Watershed Assembly assisted the Chatfield Watershed Authority with meeting facilitation and increased stakeholder support for the Chatfield Watershed Plan, the Purgatorie Watershed Partnership with organizational support, and the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership with grant compliance and fiscal agency.

HEALTHY RIVERS FUND

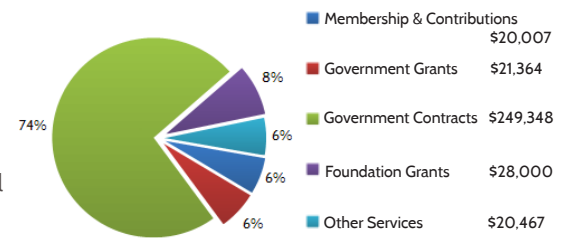
Since the establishment of the Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund in 2003, over 117,000 citizens have donated more than \$1,003,830 from their tax returns to fund more than 65 local water enhancement projects in Colorado.

DATA SHARING NETWORK

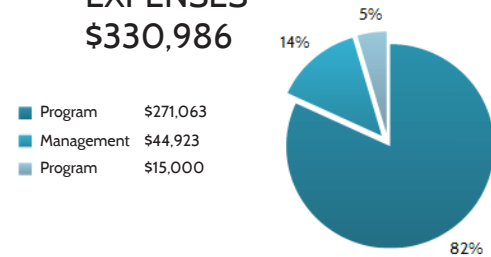
CWA has been the fiscal sponsor for the Colorado Water Quality Monitoring Council (CWQMC) for the past 5 years. In 2013, we helped bring legal review and fiscal structure to this hardworking group of professional volunteers who have created the Data Sharing Network. More information at: www.coloradowaterdata.org



INCOME \$339,186



EXPENSES \$330,986



VALUED MEMBER PARTNERS

Bill McKee
Jeff Crane
Julie Vlier
Jim Shaw
Kirby Wynn
Marc Alston
Patrick Prichard
Paul Lander
Ralph Clark III
Rick Lofaro
Ted James
Virginia Paul
Will and Anna Hutchins

ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES

Amy Conklin, LLC
Barr Lake & Milton Reservoir
Big Dry Creek Watershed Association
Big Thompson Watershed Forum
Biohabitats
Blue River Watershed Group
Clear Creek County Water Bank
Cope Conservation District
Eagle River Watershed Council
Friends of the Lower Blue River
Grand County Water Information Network
Grand Environmental
The Greenway Foundation
Institute for Environmental Solutions
Headwaters Corporation

Lake Fork Watershed Working Group
The Law Offices of Tad S. Foster
Lefthand Watershed Oversight Group
Northwest Corporation
Northern Colorado Water Conservation District
Public Council of the Rockies
Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership
Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association
Western Slope Conservation Center

FOUNDATIONS, GRANTS, and CONTRACTS

Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Chatfield Watershed Authority
Healthy Rivers Fund
McKee Family Foundation
Xcel Foundation
Subaru of America Foundation
Tamarisk Coalition
Colorado Water Conservation Board

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Colorado Foundation for Water Education
Colorado Riparian Association
Colorado Water Quality Monitoring Council

