

GAINING GROUND

Spring 2011

Healing the land...

...building community.



A Fire of Historic Proportions:

The Fourmile Canyon Disaster and Recovery

By Rachel Steel

In September 2010, a wildfire swept through the mountains west of Boulder, burning 6,000 acres and destroying more than 170 homes. WRV staff watched from the office patio as smoke billowed up from the mountains, appearing as though it were erupting from a volcano. The fire directly impacted hundreds of residents and gripped the larger community for weeks, instilling a deep desire to join together to restore the damaging effects. Now, months later, we are still taking stock of the damage, but also looking forward, planning several projects that will engage hundreds of volunteers in the recovery process.

Although wildfire is a natural process that has been shaping our forests for thousands of years, this fire was unlike the fires the area has historically experienced. As described by Erica Christensen of Boulder County Parks and Open Space "Forests in the area had become dense from years and years of fire suppression, increasing the fuel load and resulting in this high intensity fire that spread quickly. This fire was hotter and more intense than historical fires would have been due to the increased fuel loads combined with dry and windy weather." In addition to spreading the flames, high winds carried ashes up to half a mile, igniting fires in new locations. These conditions resulted in a situation where, Christensen explains, "the fire could not be fought directly, but only contained by using existing and newly made firelines."

Unfortunately, the fire's damage did not end when the last flames were extinguished. The conditions after a fire leave the land susceptible to soil erosion, and even dangerous mudslides. Without the presence of plants to absorb precipitation, new drainages will form, soil will be carried away, and water quality will decrease in nearby waterways as sediments accumulate. The aftermath of the burn also leaves the area prone to the invasion of weeds. With most plant species wiped out, weeds will invade the area quickly and prevent native species from getting established.

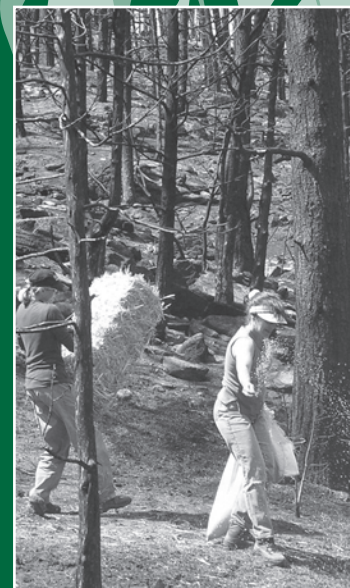
The fire's affects are not all negative however. Wildlife in the Fourmile area is well adapted to a regular cycle of naturally occurring wildfires. Fire is not only the

primary mechanism that returns nutrients to the soil, but it also consumes the litter layer on the forest floor revealing the bare mineral soil necessary for successful germination of some species' seeds, such as the ponderosa pine. If you look closely, you will see that greenery has already begun to return to the Fourmile area. This new growth will gradually create a patchwork of vegetation that is preferred by many native animals.

We now also have the opportunity to do our part to ensure that the forest that will re-grow in the Fourmile area is healthy and diverse. This spring, working in conjunction with Boulder County Parks and Open Space, WRV and Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado will conduct a series of large and small fire restoration projects in Fourmile Canyon. During March and April 2011, more than 500 volunteers will come together to help jump start the recovery process in this area.

Together, we will be helping to implement a restoration plan developed by a multi-agency team of experts. The bulk of this restoration work will involve the planting of native grass seed, which will reduce the risk of both severe erosion and the infestation of invasive weeds. Sand-bagging and extensive aerial mulching will also be done to further combat flooding and erosion. Not only will this work help to heal the land, but it will undoubtedly help in the emotional healing process for residents affected by the fire.

As always, WRV could not be successful in this endeavor without the generous support of our many partners and sponsors. We are very fortunate to have the help of an AmeriCorps NCCC crew this spring that will be able to lead much of the work on our Fourmile projects. We are also fortunate that the Boulder Outlook Hotel has donated seven weeks of housing for the AmeriCorps crew. In addition, we would like to thank First Congregational Church of Boulder, Janus Fund, Noodles & Company, California Pizza Kitchen, SecurCare-Arapahoe, Larkburger and Chipotle for their contributions to this restoration effort.



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E.D. Corner

by Ed Self, Executive Director



March 1, 2011

Every year in February I begin to feel a tickle in my legs. It's the vitality of a new spring beginning to rise from the Earth up my legs to shake off the cold of winter and re-energize my desire to play in the soil. By St. Patrick's Day I'll be out in the garden planting peas with my son Elias. Around the same time, March 19, WRV will be launching another exciting season of

restoration projects, over 60 this year across Colorado and Southern Wyoming.

Introducing: Restoration AS Recreation

We normally think of outdoor recreation as doing one of myriad activities such as hiking, mountain biking, skiing, rock climbing, horseback riding, etc. At these times we are "users" of public lands, aiming simply to have fun with friends and get some good exercise.

I'd like to introduce the notion of restoration AS recreation. Land stewardship and restoration work share all the features of recreation. When you participate in a restoration project, you have a ton of fun; spend time with friends; get great exercise; see beautiful places; eat delicious food; and you even get to camp out if it's a multi-day project. And, you enjoy one additional benefit as well. You get the satisfaction of giving something tangible back to the special places you love, rather than just "using" those places.

This is not to say that land restoration is only fun and games. It's serious work addressing serious problems, for example, healing an area after a devastating wildfire, restoring streams and watersheds to protect our water supply, improving trails for hikers, or improving habitat for endangered wildlife. Those of us in the volunteer stewardship community are good at telling the serious story—that we need action now to avoid future potential catastrophe. But that serious message resonates with only a minority of the general population.

A broader spectrum of people in Colorado simply love recreation. They want to have fun outdoors. And WRV can offer them perfect opportunities for that sort of good clean outdoor fun—in the form of joyful meaningful tangible stewardship work within a community of friends! It's time to engage orders-of-magnitude more volunteers in the stewardship and restoration of public lands. And to have loads of fun in the process!

Stewardship Coalition

What we're talking about is building a movement whereby stewardship-oriented volunteerism becomes part of mainstream culture. To that end, WRV has partnered with a collection of organizations including Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Colorado Mountain Club, Colorado Fourteeners Initiative, Colorado Youth Corps Association, various land management agencies, and others, to join forces and work together to build this movement. We don't yet know how this new loose-knit partnership will evolve or where exactly our nascent coalition is heading, but I see it as the only possible long-term solution for the challenges our wild lands face. In order to influence a mainstream audience, we need the might that only many organizations working together can muster. This past November our coalition group held the Outdoor Stewardship Forum at the American Mountaineering Center with over 100 organizations represented. It was an exciting and powerful step forward!

A Message to Capture the Imagination

I will end with an evocation of President Kennedy's famous 1961 call to send a man to the moon within ten years and bring him back safely. That specific and audacious vision captured the imagination of the American people, and allowed us as a nation to beat that ambitious goal. What do you think is the equivalent message for the stewardship movement—a message that will engage 1,000,000 Coloradans in public land stewardship? If you think you have an answer, post it on our blog at <http://stewardshipmovement.blogspot.com>.

Gaining Ground

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We welcome announcements, articles, letters, artwork, and photos for future editions of the newsletter. Please submit materials to info@wlrv.org.

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New Year Fund-Raising Off to a Great Start

Many thanks to all those who contributed to WRV's Fall Campaign in 2010. The projects that WRV coordinates are only possible because of your steadfast support. If you haven't yet had a chance to make your contribution, please mail your check today to the office address found to the left. Thanks so much for making healing the land and building community a priority with your dollars!

If you have ideas about how to increase WRV's capacity, consider joining the Development Committee to help make it happen. Call Sarah Egolf at 303-543-1411 to express your interest today!

Staff Profile – Rachel Steel, Youth and Inclusiveness Coordinator



Rachel joined the WRV team last fall as an AmeriCorps VISTA. Following in the footsteps of our first VISTA, Katie Renga, Rachel is working to further develop WRV's youth programs, build a more diverse body of volunteers, and secure program funds. Rachel's love of science and nature began at an early age.

A Michigan native, she attended many nature camps as a child and spent lots of time outdoors with friends and family. Her interests led her to pursue a B.A. in Environmental Studies from The University of Michigan and continue on to earn an M.S. in Environmental Education and Communication from The University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment. Rachel moved to Colorado in the fall of 2009 to enjoy our beautiful mountains and sunshine. She has spent the last year working in the Denver area as an environmental educator and is excited to now be a part of WRV! When not at work, Rachel enjoys various outdoor activities, including hiking, running, and tennis.

WRV Project Schedule 2011

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers is a non-profit organization providing a variety of opportunities for people to come together, learn about their natural environment, and take direct action to restore and care for public lands. WRV organizes over 60 volunteer projects each year, completing a wide variety of important habitat restoration and conservation work in Northern Colorado and beyond.

PROJECT SIGN UP

To register for projects, visit our website at www.wlrv.org, or send an email to info@wlrv.org, or call 303-543-1411.

PROJECT DIFFICULTY LEGEND

● Easiest ■ Intermediate ◆ Difficult FF - Family Friendly

Youth under 18 are welcome, accompanied by an adult. Minimum ages are listed with each project.

Upcoming Trainings

	Date
Wilderness First Aid Training	Mar 29, 31 & Apr 2
Tool Manager Orientation (Boulder)	Wed, Apr 6
Tool Manager Orientation (Fort Collins)	Thu, Apr 7
Crew Leader Training in Ecological Restoration (Fort Collins)	Sat – Sun, Apr 23-24
Technical Advisor Orientation (Fort Collins)	Tue, May 10
Seed Collection Crew Leader Training	Sat, Jun 25
Trail Skills Training (North: Hewlett Gulch)	Sat, Jul 16
Trail Skills Training (South: West Magnolia)	Sat, Aug 6

Fourmile Canyon Fire Restoration ●/■ Mar 19 (Sat), Mar 31 (Thu), Apr 5 (Tue), Apr 9 (Sat)



In September 2010, the Fourmile Canyon Wildfire swept through the mountains west of Boulder, eventually burning more than 6000 acres and over 160 homes. This fire has left hundreds of acres vulnerable to severe erosion and weed invasion. A multi-agency team has developed a restoration plan for the area that will include aerial mulching and seeding by volunteers. Volunteers may also do some sand-bagging and apply straw mulch. Straw mulch reduces the potential for severe erosion during summer thunderstorms. Native grass seeding

reduces the invasion of weeds and the threat of erosion. Sand-bagging protects some of the most flood-vulnerable sites in the burn area. Volunteers: 100 per event. Min Age: 14

Fossil Creek Restoration ● FF Apr 2 (Sat)

By restoring an urban portion of the creek, volunteers will add tremendous value to the wildlife corridor between the foothills and the plains. Volunteers will help plant hundreds of native trees and shrubs, remove invasive Russian olives, and stabilize eroding stream banks. This project is an important step in attaining sustainability goals set by the City of Fort Collins Storm Water Utility Department and continues an important relationship between WRV and the City of Fort Collins. Join us on the river! Volunteers: 60. Min. Age: 4

Pawnee National Grasslands Riparian Restoration Project ■ Apr 16-17 (Sat & Sun)

On the Pawnee National Grasslands, many riparian areas have been severely denuded over the past few centuries. This is our final project, the last in a series of three, to restore over 1.5 miles of a tree and shrub

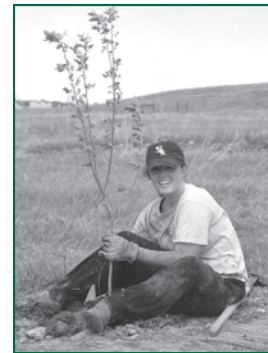
community in the Owl Creek drainage. This restored riparian corridor will serve as important habitat for birds, endangered fish, northern leopard frogs, and other area wildlife. Fencing and a fundamental change in grazing management by the Pawnee National Grasslands will protect this riparian area in the short- and long-term. The site is located northeast of Fort Collins and north of Ault. Volunteers: 45. Min Age: 14

Boulder Creek Adoption Site Restoration ● FF Fri, Apr 22 (Earth Day!), Wed, Jul 20, Wed, Oct 12

In 2010, WRV adopted a 2.3 mile stretch of Boulder Creek near 55th and Valmont in Boulder for long term restoration. In this area, historic wetlands have been degraded or eliminated. The non-native tree canopy is unnaturally dense, which over shades the ground and prevents native understory shrubs, grasses and wildlife from thriving. Depending on the season, volunteers will help remove non-native tree species (like Russian olive, crack willow and green ash), remove biennial weeds, and/or plant native species, such as plains cottonwood, peachleaf willow, western snowberry, wood's rose, wild plum, western chokecherry, sandbar willow, and golden currant. Volunteers: 40 per event. Min Age: 12

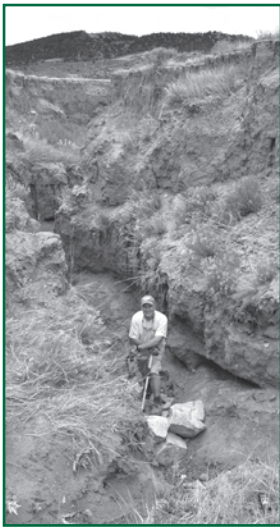
Rock Creek Restoration ● FF Apr 16 (Sat)

Join us on this early season planting event in an amazingly pristine open space near a historic working farm in Broomfield. In 2005, WRV volunteers planted over 5,400 wetland plants just a stones throw away, literally. Then in 2010 WRV returned three miles up stream to plant over 500 native shrubs and willows in a newly restored section of this stream channel. As part of Boulder County Parks and Open Space's larger effort to restore the entirety of Rock Creek this year, volunteers will plant native grasses trees and shrubs and restore a another stretch. Volunteers: 55. Min Age: 13



Carnage Canyon Shrub Planting ●/■ FF Apr 23 (Sat)

Celebrate Earth Day and help us complete the final phase to restore a once-pristine stream that was devastated by motorized recreation. Our efforts in Carnage Canyon are part of our eight-year participation in an award-winning restoration project in the Left Hand Canyon Travel Management area, which dates back to 2004. In 2011, volunteers will plant over 1,000 native shrubs at key points along the stream to complete the process of re-establishing native vegetation to provide critical stabilization to vulnerable stretches of the newly created stream bank. Volunteers: 50. Min Age: 14



Campbell Valley Adopt Site Restoration

Apr 30 (Sat) ■, May 21-22 (Sat & Sun) ◆, Jun 18 (Sat) ■

Campbell Valley is 20 miles north of Fort Collins in one of the most important foothills-plains transition zones in the Front Range. This fascinating and historic ranch is managed with a conservation easement by The Nature Conservancy. In the early 1900's, the North Poudre Irrigation Ditch breached, flooding the Valley. Gullies range from five to 30 feet deep and run up to 1,000 feet long. Volunteers will help to restore the riparian plant community and begin implementing a long-term gully stabilization project.

This project engages multiple partners in design and implementation and is an important phase of a multi-phase and multi-year restoration program. Volunteers: 30 per event. Min Age: varies

Spring Creek Wetland ●/■ FF May 13 (Fri)

Along the popular Spring Creek recreation corridor lies an oasis of plants at the Gardens on Spring Creek. This project is designed to showcase some Colorado natives by establishing hundreds of wetland sedges, grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees. Volunteers will plant native species and install signage through the demonstration site. Get ready for a fun-filled day at the Gardens! Volunteers: 30. Min Age: 16

St. Vrain Greenway Restoration ● FF May 14 (Sat)

The St. Vrain Greenway near County Line Road and Sandstone Ranch is an active wildlife area along the St. Vrain Creek, which winds its way through Longmont. Once a gravel mine, this area of lowland ponds and meandering stream is now being reclaimed for native species from grasses and willows to water fowl and bald eagles! Join WRV for a great spring day of planting many native species of trees, shrubs and other small plants along the creek. Volunteers: 120. Min Age: 8

Moraine Park Willow Carr Restoration ■ Jun 3-5 (Fri-Sun)

In Rocky Mountain National Park, overgrazing by elk has contributed to the decimation of willow habitat that is important for so many other species of wildlife. Successful restoration of willow habitat is dependent upon restoring the hydrology, developing a sound revegetation design, and reducing grazing pressure. A multi-phase approach within the existing elk enclosures will successfully accomplish these goals within a few years. Volunteers will harvest and install about 3,000 native willow cuttings to recreate native habitat. This area is a beautiful U-shaped glacier carved valley in Rocky Mountain National Park. Camping in the park will be provided for volunteers. Volunteers: 20. Min Age: 16



Boulder Prairie Restoration ● FF Jun 4 (Sat)

Building on seven years of progress, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers will continue the urgent quest to remove Mediterranean Sage from Boulder County. Left unchecked, this Colorado A-listed weed

aggressively invades grasslands, reduces native plant populations, and degrades wildlife habitat. We'll be part of a multi-agency partnership, targeting our removal efforts at the highest priority sites in Boulder County. With sustained action, state wide eradication is possible. Indirectly, this work will help protect thousands of acres of Colorado grassland habitats.

Bring your children or grandchildren ages 5-12 along to participate in WRV's exciting Youth Service Learning Day Camp! A partnership program between WRV and CSU's Environmental Learning Center, this program will engage our youngest land stewards in a day of adventure, investigation, and service while you enjoy a day helping to preserve our beautiful prairie ecosystems! For more information about the education camp, or to sign up a child, please email rachel@wlr.org. Volunteers: 100. Min Age: 10

San Luis Valley Volunteer Vacation ■ Two Parts:

San Luis Fen Restoration: Jul 6-8 (Wed-Fri)

Valley View Hot Springs: Jul 9-10 (Sat & Sun)

Get away from it all, protect a rare fen wetland, remove invasive plants to protect conservation land, soak in luxurious hot springs, and enjoy the long days of mid-summer in the scenic Sangre De Cristo mountain range. We'll start off at the San Luis fen site and then move 15 miles down valley to Valley View Hot Springs. You can sign up for one or both parts of this event. However, volunteers working on the San Luis Fen have top priority to attend the Valley View Hot Springs portion. Volunteers: 25 per event

San Luis Fen Restoration: Fens are a rare form of wetland that harbor unique plant associations; they can take thousands of years to develop. This beautiful site on the Rio Grande National Forest has been degraded by grazing, which has caused the water table underneath the fen to drop. We will work to stabilize an erosion gully adjacent to and currently draining the fen, thus raising the water level. Volunteers will install 2,000 feet of buck-n-pole and 3-strand wire fences to protect the fen, and seed some eroding slopes next to the fen.

Valley View Hot Springs: Join us in our fifth year by working two half-days to remove houndstongue, bull thistle, and other invasive plants at the Orient Land Trust. The rest of the time, we'll soak in the luxurious hot springs, enjoy local trails, and more. Volunteers enjoy FREE entrance (\$26 value) for each half-day of work. Note: Valley View Hot Springs is a wholesome family-friendly, clothing-optional facility. Min Age: 12

Summit Lake Alpine Restoration ◆ Jul 8 -10 (Fri-Sun) 9 -11 (Fri-Sun)

Summit Lake Park is one of five iconic landscapes managed by the Denver Mountain Parks (DMP) system; it encompasses Summit Lake (12,800 feet in elevation) and 160 acres of the surrounding alpine tundra environs. Recreation in the area has far outstripped the capacity of the local trail system, resulting in severe damage to sensitive alpine tundra. A new high use trail is being installed and substantial restoration work is needed to repair decades of damage. Building upon the hard work of two volunteer projects and a Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Volunteers will harvest and transplant alpine tundra, help create a sustainable trail, and enjoy three days in a spectacular alpine setting. Volunteers: 40 per event. Min Age: 18



Mt. Yale 14er Alpine Restoration ◆◆ **Jul 21-24 (Thu-Sun)**

Note: Thursday morning arrival and commitment to all four days. This is one of WRV's most strenuous projects requiring a two-mile hike to camp carrying all your personal gear. There will also be a two-mile hike from camp, at 11,000 ft, to the work site, at 13,700 ft, each day.

Mt. Yale overlooks the pristine and remote Sawatch Range and is the 21st tallest of Colorado's 14ers. Partnering with and building on the hard work of many Colorado Fourteeners Initiative projects, WRV volunteers will spend a long weekend restoring a section of the old trail which has eroded in some places to over 20 feet wide. Due to wilderness restrictions on group size, only 12 lucky volunteers will get the chance to build check dams, transplant alpine plugs, add rock cover and enjoy pristine one-of-a-kind views. Volunteers: 12. Min Age: 18

Vedauwoo Seed Collection (Pole Mtn) ● FF **Jul 30-31 (Sat & Sun)**

Vedauwoo (pronounced "veedavoo") is one of the most attractive natural features in southern Wyoming. A rock climbers paradise, this location boasts a tremendous variety of fauna and flora as well. We will camp at Vedauwoo and spend two relaxing days collecting native seeds among the lush foliage and dramatic cliffs. Many land restoration projects depend on precious hand-collected native seed because purchased seeds are unavailable, too expensive, or not an acceptable match to the local native species ecotypes. These seeds will be multiplied agriculturally by an inter-government agency partnership. This process increases seeds up to 1,000-fold for revegetation projects on local public lands. Volunteers: 20. Min Age: 12



Hewlett Gulch Trail ■/◆ **Jul 23 (Sat) & Jul 24 (Sun)**

The Hewlett Gulch trail is a popular mountain biking and hiking destination in the Poudre River Watershed. Severe erosion gullies have formed in particularly steep sections of the trail. This project will provide a sustainable single-

track trail. Climbing turns will be used in place of switchbacks to accommodate bikers. Restoration of the old gullied trail will improve the aesthetics of the loop portion of the trail, reduce erosion, and restore native habitat. This project will include 1,000 feet of trail maintenance, 2,500 feet of trail closure/rehab, and 4,200 feet of trail re-route to create a sustainable well-drained trail. WRV is collaborating with the Overland Mountain Bike Club, Single-Track Trails, and Poudre Wilderness Volunteers on this project. Volunteers: 40 per event. Min Age: 16

Medicine Bow Routt Seed Collection ● FF **Aug 6-7 (Sat & Sun)**

North Park is a hidden natural resource and recreation treasure in northern Colorado. A birder's and angler's dream, this location is home to a tremendous variety of fauna and flora. We will camp in a mountain meadow and spend two relaxing days collecting native seeds in charismatic mountains. We just might see a moose or have a "musical leaf" contest. Many land restoration projects depend on precious hand-collected native seed that are multiplied agriculturally to increase seeds up to 1,000-fold. Volunteers: 20. Min Age: 12

West Magnolia Trail and Restoration ■ **Aug 13 (Sat & Sun)**

The West Magnolia trail network southwest of Nederland will be severely impacted by the mountain pine beetle epidemic, which will result in extreme wildfire danger. Extensive treatment by the USFS will impact over nine miles of these popular and volunteer-enhanced trails.

In August, WRV will conduct a pilot project on about 7,000 feet of the trail system in an effort to mitigate the effects of the USFS treatments and create preserved "habitat islands." Collaborating closely with the Boulder Mountainbike Alliance, volunteers will reconstruct, re-route, install anchor rocks and natural trailside barriers, revegetate, and plant trees. Volunteers: 70. Min Age: 16

Kingston Peak Restoration ■/◆ **Sep 17-18 (Sat & Sun)**



Situated south of the James Peak Wilderness and Mammoth Gulch, along the popular Apex Road, Kingston Peak has spectacular views of the Continental Divide. Several alpine and

subalpine sites have been impacted by motorized recreation along over 2,000 feet of unofficial roadways, forming erosion gullies in this sensitive environment. Heavy equipment will prepare the site. Volunteers will plant seeds, transplant vegetation, install erosion matting, and construct drainage structures while camping in a lovely forested area nearby. Volunteers: 70. Min Age: 16

Left Hand Canyon Restoration ●/■ **Sep 24-25 (Sat & Sun)**

Celebrate National Public Lands Day and help WRV complete its eighth and final year of award-winning watershed-scale restoration in Left Hand Canyon by removing miles of unofficial roads and re-creating a mile of stream. In 2011, volunteers will add the finishing touches by removing thousands of feet of roadways, planting seeds, installing erosion matting, and spreading mulch to prevent erosion. Heavy equipment will prepare the site and for the first time ever, we'll have a chance to camp in the area, enjoying the fall colors in the foothills. Volunteers: 60. Min Age: 14

Red Rocks Trail Restoration ●/■ **Oct 1-2 (Sat & Sun)**

Surrounded by towering sandstone rocks of red and the echoes of world-famous music, volunteers will get the chance to spend two full days restoring over 400 feet of gullies and nearly 2,000 feet of disturbed foothills while camping in and around the nearby, historic CCC bunkhouse. Combine with a new management plan the restoration done over this weekend will turn the ecological tide on this Denver Mountain Park geological gem that was once designated one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Volunteers: 70. Min Age: 16

Pawnee National Grasslands Watershed Restoration ■ **Oct 8-9 (Sat & Sun)**

This project complements our 2009 and 2010 riparian restoration projects on Little Owl Creek. Historic land use on the eastern plains has resulted in erosion scars that can cause sedimentation impacting fish, turtles, amphibians, and other wildlife. Help protect Little Owl Creek and other sites in the PNG by seeding, and installing erosion matting and erosion control structures. Come enjoy some dramatic prairie views! Camping provided. Volunteers: 40. Min Age: 14

Thank you to everyone who donated in 2010 and 2011!

Your generosity allows us continue our volunteer restoration efforts.

\$25,000 and above

Boulder County Parks and Open Space
City of Denver - Natural Resources Division, Mountain Parks & Park & Rec Div.
Colorado State State Parks- State Trails Program
Denver Water
Gregg Campbell
James Creek Watershed Initiative
National Forest Foundation
The Nature Conservancy - Boulder Office
\$10,000 and above
Alan Carpenter
Colorado Division of Wildlife
Environmental Protection Agency
John S. Surci Foundation
REI-National Office with contributions from, Boulder, Fort Collins, and Westminster
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
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City of Fort Collins - payments
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Stacy Blanchard

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Turley's Restaurant
Vitamin Cottage
Wallaroo
Wear it Again Sam
Whole Foods - Fort Collins
Whole Foods - Ideal Market Boulder
Winter Park Resort

South Boulder Creek Aquatic Habitat Restoration ● FF Oct 15 (Sat)

Due to its uniform, wide, shallow flow, this section of South Boulder Creek makes for poor aquatic habitat. OSMF plans to narrow the stream, add sinuosity, and create pools, in the process creating areas of new stream bank that extend out into the current stream channel. Volunteers will seed and plant these areas with native shrubs, cottonwoods, and willow stakes, providing essential wildlife habitat in a largely urbanized corridor. Volunteers may also remove Russian olive or other non-native trees, if it is not too late in the season. Volunteers: 80. Min Age: 12

Garden Park Restoration ■ Oct 21-23 (Fri-Sun)

By obliterating and rehabilitating key roads in this area, this project will truly reduce threats to one of the most important late Jurassic vertebrate localities in North America, Garden Park State Natural Area. Here fossils of fish, turtles, crocodiles, dinosaurs, and mammals can all be alongside three of Colorado's rarest plant species. Work will include seeding, erosion control, and mulching. Beautiful camping and access to nearby regional rock climbing hotspots are just a few of the attractions. Volunteers: 40. Min Age: 16

Native Seed Collections around Boulder County ● FF

15 event dates TBD – mostly mid-week evening events plus some ¾-day weekend events

Seed collection is the most relaxing activity WRV offers. Volunteers will hand-collect a variety of species, including grasses, sedges, and wildflowers, depending on the vagaries of Mother Nature. Many land restoration projects depend on precious hand-collected native seed because purchased seeds are unavailable, too expensive, or not well adapted to local conditions. These seeds will be cultivated agriculturally by an inter-government agency partnership, multiplying seeds 100- to 1,000-fold. Volunteers: 25-40 per event. Min Age: 8

Tool Fests ● FF Boulder: Oct 29 (Sat)

Fort Collins: Nov 5 (Sat)

Volunteers will gather to celebrate another great season of accomplishment and put our tools to bed for the winter—cleaning, sharpening, painting, and oiling tools, and re-organizing our tool shed. Volunteers: 30. Min Age: 16

Volunteer Steve Johnson

By Angie Francis and Jarret Roberts



Steve Johnson always goes above and beyond for WRV. Literally. On the Summit Lake project, for example, he took his excavator where few other pieces of heavy machinery

have ever gone, scaling extremely steep slopes at nearly 13,000 ft. His work was vital to getting the trail up to grade during the very short summer window on Mt. Evans. Steve is a jack-of-all-trades. When not finessing multi-ton boulders into rock walls with the steel teeth of his excavator, he is just as skillfully laying out a transect, or putting his vast technical knowledge of wetlands to use as a Technical Advisor. In addition to this amazing skill set, Steve is one of the niceness and most genuine people we know. In fact, the only time we ever see him being mean is when he is tearing through a patch of Russian olive! The WRV community is grateful for all that Steve has contributed as a volunteer a TA, and a Crew Leader with WRV since 2005. Thank you, Steve!

MEMBERSHIP

Yes, I want to help restore and preserve precious natural areas along the Northern Colorado Front Range and beyond!

Please become a member of WRV at www.wlrv.org or by filling out the form below!

A successful membership program is essential to building an organization that endures. A growing membership helps to fund our stewardship projects, and demonstrates to other funders and partners that the community supports our work. Member benefits include: priority registration on projects; seasonal newsletter; WRV logo items at a reduced minimum donation; and more. Thank you for your support!

Amount	Membership Level	How Your Support Helps
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	Student	buys ten tree seedlings
<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	Friend	purchases one tool
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	Family	purchases one roll of erosion control matting
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	Supporter	plants 35 feet of stream bank vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	Patron	feeds 30 volunteers three meals for a day
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	Sustainer	purchases native seed to plant one acre
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	Leader	trains ten volunteer crew leaders
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	Benefactor	helps WRV fund an entire restoration project
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	\$ _____	

- My company will match my gift up to the amount of \$ _____
(Enclose matching gift form)
- I would like my contribution to be anonymous

Contact Information

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**Donate online at www.wlrv.org
or send checks payable to:
Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
3012 Sterling Circle, Suite 201
Boulder, CO 80301**

2011 Project Schedule Inside



3012 Sterling Circle, Suite 201
Boulder, CO 80301

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WRV's first ever High School Crew Leader Training is off to a great start!

In October 2010, WRV kicked-off a brand new program designed to provide high school students with hands-on training in outdoor leadership and principles of restoration ecology. Meeting monthly between October and April, participants take an in-depth look at what it takes to lead crews on WRV projects, while also exploring what it means to be a leader in the community and a participant in the greater stewardship movement. The current class of seven students began their training by participating in the Longmont St. Vrain Creek restoration last October and they are looking forward to participating in WRV's regular Crew Leader Training this March. The program will culminate with the students putting their skills to work as they shadow Crew Leaders at the Rock Creek project on April 16, 2011. We encourage volunteers to join us on this project and show their support for these young leaders by watching them receive certificates at the end of the day!



Many Thanks to Our Partners for 2010/2011

Many thanks to our partners for 2011 (some of whom also provided funding): Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest, Boulder County Parks and Open Space, City of Boulder OSMP, US Fish and Wildlife Service, St. Vrain State Park, Pike San Isabel National Forest, City of Longmont, The Gardens on Spring Creek, City of Fort Collins, Pawnee National Grasslands, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, James Creek Watershed Initiative, NOAA, Bureau of Land Management, Garden Park, Colorado Mountain Club-Boulder Group, The Nature Conservancy, Roberts Ranch, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado Youth Program, Boulder Mountainbike Alliance, Overland Mountain Bike Club, Laramie Rivers Conservation District, Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, Outdoor Stewardship Institute, Colorado Natural Areas Program, Colorado Native Plant Society, Colorado Fourteeners Initiative, South Platte Park—Littleton, Jackson County Lions Club, Colorado Youth Corp Association, Colorado Youth Program, "I Have A Dream" Foundation, St. Vrain School District MESA Program, Boulder Valley and Poudre School Districts, Castlewood Canyon State Park, Colorado Riparian Association, Denver Mountain Parks, Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest, Rio Grande National Forest, Orient Land Trust, Science Adventure Program, Society for Ecological Restoration-Central Rockies Chapter, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Trail Ridge Runners, Mile Hi Jeep Club, Carmel Community Living Corp., Strijek Designs, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Boy Scouts of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Denver, Mile High Youth Corps, Sunbelt Rentals, Trees Water & People, Watershed School, Friends School, Budhoe Backhoe, and Sweet Design.