

Wildlands Restoration Volunteers ANNUAL REPORT 2017



AND. BUILDING

Rhonda Rankin plants wetland plugs at Pella Crossing Open Space, the site of WRV's first restoration event in 1999. Rhonda, volunteer since 2005, is skilled as a Crew Leader, Crew Leader Instructor, Crew Leader Mentor, Project Leader, Field Cook, and Technical Advisor. She is one of five people who have dedicated over a full time equivalent work-year of their lives through WRV as of 2017! While WRV has been continually involved in post-flood restoration work on waterways and wetlands since Colorado's 2013 floods, we hit a peak in this work in 2017. Thanks to you, WRV was able to rise to the task, completing 46 flood-related projects including this one at Pella Crossing. Volunteers rebuilt wetlands, streambanks and shorelines, rebuilt trails, and removed flooddispersed, non-native tamarisk. Without help from people like you and people like Rhonda, these areas would be in sorry shape for years to come.

Restoring Wetlands and Waterways

Youth and Families

In 2017, your support made it possible for WRV to engage 602 youth in 29 stewardship projects that combined environmental education with civic engagement. Students learned restoration techniques, ecosystem science, and teamwork. Some youth went on to take High School Crew Leader training, where they learned restoration science and interpersonal skills for leading crews of youth and adults in the field. You benefitted children and the environment by bringing them together in a mutually beneficial way!

A Legacy of Achievement

WRV began in 1999 because one person saw that local environmental challenges could be solved by willing volunteers, and many others gathered around to help. That founder was Ed Self, who has now served in every role imaginable for the organization since inception, most importantly Executive Director. During his tenure, Ed won numerous awards, from Boulder County Business Report's Eco-Hero to Boulder Daily Camera's Environmental Pacesetter Award. Here, Ed volunteers with his son, Elias, at WRV's 1,000th Project! They are depicted cutting seed heads of invasive weeds to be bagged and disposed of from the Little Thompson streambank, which had been heavily impacted by flooding. Ed announced in 2017 that he would transition to a new role in 2018 in order to make room for new leadership, and he will be dearly missed. Your gift in 2017 supported Ed's leadership to reach incredible milestones for WRV and for local natural areas. and the work of our staff to search for our new Executive Director, Katherine Thompson.

2017 Financial Statement

Gifts like yours are crucial to recruit volunteers, build partnerships, train leaders, and turn every \$1 donated by an individual into \$13.88 worth of restoration and community building. That's possible because WRV uses these funds to bring together volunteers, write grants, solicit business sponsorships, in-kind donations, and government funds to make it happen. Thank you for making a huge difference by keeping WRV financially strong with unrestricted giving!

2017 was a good year for WRV finances! It was the first time our income and expenses grew to over \$1.5 million, and we took on the largest project in WRV history, which had a huge positive financial impact, and helped us hone our project management skills as an organization. Overall, we had a 28% increase in revenue compared to 2016. Thank you so much for being a part of this positive picture!

2017 Operating Expenses	Amount	Percent
Programs	\$1,303,465	83%
Fundraising	134,042	9%
Administrative	138,665	9%
Total Operating Expenses	1,576,172	100%
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2017 Operating Revenue	Amount	Percent
Individual Contributions	\$184,539	12%
Foundations	149,714	9%
Government Grants & Contracts	178,708	11%
Government Fee for Service	704,730	45%
Training Revenue	6,160	.4%
Misc. Revenue	1,783	.1%
Corporations	138,345	9%
Community Partners	116,307	7%
Special Events	30,866	2%
Rental Income	29,764	2%
In-Kind	40,866	3%
Total Operating Revenue	1,581,783	100%

Temporarily Restricted Activity	Amount
Temp Restricted Revenue	\$8,500
Released Temp Restricted	-38,221
Investments	42,925
Total Non Operating Income	13,204



YOUR INFLUENCE

In addition to the stories featured in this report, your 2017 gift supported volunteers to:

Plant 38,740 native plants, shrubs, and trees, which

rebuild soil, improve fish and wildlife habitat, reverse the establishment of noxious weeds, and prevent erosion.

Restored 29,948 feet of streambanks and shorelands

including removing tamarisk. A single mature tamarisk sucks up 200 gallons of water/day (72,560/year), and sheds salt on the soil, choking out native plants. You helped volunteers prevent tens of thousands of tamarisk seedlings that germinated after the flood from maturing.

Accomplish 27 trail-projects and trail trainings

across a variety of landscapes. Notably, you helped WRV take on a fiveyear project to re-open the beloved Young Gulch Trail near Fort Collins, which was first closed due to fire in 2011 and then flooding in 2013. Look for updates in 2018 and 2019!

Restore 38 acres of forest to health. Colorado forests have been affected by unnatural fire suppression for decades, and through forest thinning and removal of invasive tree species, you reduced the risk of wildfire, and helped rare native species return.

Benefit over 8,324 acres of wildlife habitat.

Accomplish the **I,000th project**, host our **40,000th volunteer**, and reach **\$I0 million** in time and expertise donated to Colorado's natural heritage in WRV history!

AND SO MUCH MORE!

For these and many other reasons, we are dearly grateful for your support!













Thank you to our Sponsors and Partners of 2017!

Your generosity allows us to build community and heal the land!

We are deeply grateful to all our donors - you are vital to our success! Donors and sponsors at all levels are acknowledged in the Annual Report. We pour over these details to get everything right, but if you notice an error, please let us know by calling 303-543-1411.

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