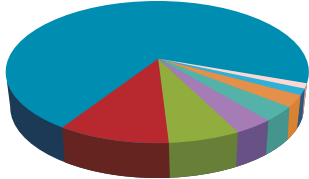


FINANCIALS FY 2017

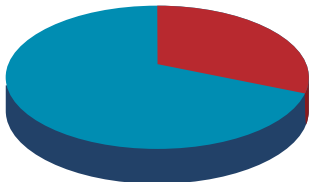
Unaudited

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT



- Foundations (\$984,500)
- Government and Government Agencies (\$140,254)
- Individuals and Small Businesses (\$88,472)
- Nonprofit Organizations (\$50,000)
- Corporations (\$48,500)
- Special Event Income (net) (\$33,265)
- In Kind (\$19,048)
- Other (\$13,344)

EXPENSES



- Program Services (\$697,134)
- Core Support Services (\$321,166)

For our complete 2017 financial statements, please visit ColoradoWaterTrust.org/2017AnnualReport

We are grateful for the generous support of our donors. Please visit ColoradoWaterTrust.org/2017AnnualReport for a list of individuals, foundations, and corporations that sponsored our work in 2017.

THANKS TO YOU:

17 Years of helping rivers in need
Over 9 Billion Gallons of water restored to
Nearly 400 Miles of Colorado's rivers

Dear Friends of Colorado Water Trust,

2017 was a year of change for the organization. With new leadership and growing programs, we are moving beyond individual water transactions and implementing innovative strategies for flow restoration that are new to Colorado. We are creating water-sharing agreements between agricultural partners and the environment and building water markets that can work with multiple water rights holders at once to increase flexibility and the amount of water available to a river.

This year's annual update highlights three of these larger and more comprehensive projects that we have spent years developing. This is an exciting time for Colorado Water Trust! These larger projects take enormous amounts of time, energy, and resources, but thanks to your consistent support, Colorado Water Trust has made tremendous headway and is in this for the long-haul.

Together, we are changing the way we restore rivers in Colorado.

Thank you!



Andy Schultheiss
Executive Director



Michael A. Sayler
Board President

Colorado Water Trust

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720.570.2897 | www.coloradowatertrust.org



COLORADO WATER TRUST

2017 ANNUAL UPDATE

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, RIVERS ARE FLOWING.

Thank you for helping us to restore over 1.6 billion gallons of water to 113 miles of Colorado's rivers and streams in 2017!

2017 Volume Restored (million gallons):

Alamosa River: **271**

Boulder Creek/Blue River: **230**

Hat Creek/East Brush Creek: **173**

Hermosa Creek: **14**

Maroon Creek: **282**

Upper Fraser River and its tributaries: **159**

Washington Gulch/Slate River: **82**

Yampa River: **391**

These projects would not be possible without the help of our partners that generously contribute water rights, time, capital, and support.

THREE OF COLORADO WATER TRUST'S **MOST GROUNDBREAKING PROJECTS**

For a full list of our projects, go to: [ColoradoWaterTrust.org/Impact/Projects](https://coloradowatertrust.org/Impact/Projects)



WATER MARKETS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT: *Restoring Flows to the Poudre River*

Colorado Water Trust and its partners are working on creating a water market to restore flows to the Cache La Poudre River. The idea is based on a commonly used method water users have benefitted from for decades to pool their water resources in times of shortage. We've taken that model and flipped it on its head, allowing water to be voluntarily returned to the river and pooled for environmental purposes.

Once the market is operational, water will flow through sections of the Poudre that would normally be dry, keeping the river connected and improving natural habitat for fish and other wildlife.

This project is a unique collaboration with the cities of Fort Collins, Greeley and Thornton; Cache La Poudre Water Users Association; Colorado Water Conservation Board; Colorado Parks and Wildlife; and Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. It demonstrates that by working together, we can restore rivers and help sustain local economies. It also spotlights a new attitude towards rivers. Back in the 1980s, environmental protection on the Poudre River sparked strong debate among water users. Now those same water users are at the table helping to design the project.



GREEN FIELDS AND BLUE RIVERS: *Crystal River Project*

Colorado's rivers provide the most important resource to the agricultural industry—water. Agriculture generates \$41 billion for the state's economy annually.

Colorado Water Trust is developing new ways to keep farms and ranches productive while restoring flows to dry rivers. The Crystal River near Carbondale supports a vibrant agricultural community, but a 2015 report identified routine streamflow shortages that are impacting the river's health. Colorado Water Trust has been working with ranchers on the river since 2012 to find a sustainable solution that helps the river and ensures their livelihoods and water rights are not compromised.

We have recently finalized an agreement with a Crystal River rancher for a three-year pilot project. We will compensate the rancher to retune the ranch's irrigation so as not to pull water out of the Crystal River when it's at its lowest levels. We have a detailed monitoring plan in place to tell us whether this kind of arrangement will benefit the river and whether it fits in with the calculus of running a working ranch.



BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS: *Request for Water Acquisitions Program*

In 2017, we laid the groundwork to launch a program for water users that would break down barriers and streamline the process required to contribute water to a river in need. Colorado Water Trust, in partnership with the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), is piloting a Request for Water Acquisitions program that provides opportunities for voluntary water-sharing arrangements or acquisitions that benefit rivers and water users alike.

Project goals:

- To provide a user-friendly mechanism for water rights owners to explore working with the CWCB and Colorado Water Trust on water transactions
- To streamline transaction processes
- To facilitate implementation of Colorado's Water Plan objectives
- To add flows to river segments in need