

The Colorado Foundation for Water Education

Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016

July 2015-June 2016



Your State. Your Water. Your Future.

YOURWATERCOLORADO.ORG

Letter from the Executive Director

Colorado Foundation for Water Education

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

The Colorado Foundation for Water Education is proud to share our 2016 highlights with you. It's been a year of transition and expansion for us, as we

said goodbye to long-time Programs Director Kristin Maharg, prepared for a change in leadership, and expanded our role in supporting local water educators. Through it all, our members have been steadfast supporters of our work, and I would like to say a personal thank you to each volunteer and financial donor, all of whom are listed in the following pages. We couldn't do it without you!

CFWE's work takes the harder path where the trade-offs of alternate courses of action are openly examined, where civil debate moves the discussion past positions to implementable solutions, and where uncommon allies work together. Our staff and board take our role in Colorado's future very seriously. Our commitment to education that considers diverse perspectives and facilitates important dialogue has earned us the reputation as the place where Coloradans convene with their peers to find the knowledge and skills needed to advance the conversation.

So while staff and programs will come and go over time, I know that CFWE's core mission is valued by thousands of people across our beautiful state and will always remain the center of our focus.





The Colorado Foundation for Water Education is uniquely positioned in Colorado as the only independent, nonprofit organization working statewide to provide water information and education programs with no advocacy agenda. We have a 15-year reputation of delivering trusted information to Coloradans ranging from the highest levels of decision making to ordinary citizens interested in local water issues.

By delivering on our mission of providing balanced and accurate information and education, we envision that Coloradans will make more informed water resource decisions—taking into consideration water’s complexities and trade-offs, developing collaborative and innovative solutions, and ultimately ensuring a sustainable water future for generations to come.

Mission Statement

To promote better understanding of Colorado’s water resources and issues through balanced and accurate information and education.

Vision Statement

Coloradans, through an improved understanding of water's complexities and trade-offs, will make more informed water resource decisions.

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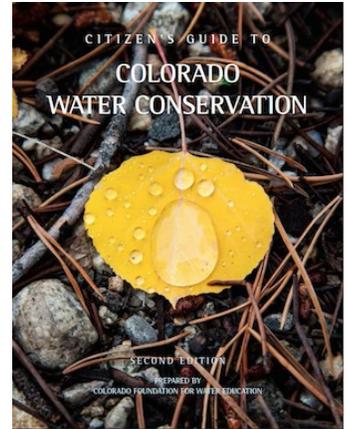
Goal: Awareness

Increase awareness that water is a scarce and valuable resource

Reached over 134,000 through print, radio, and digital media

Highlights:

- Published updated editions of the Citizen's Guide to Colorado's Interstate Compacts and Citizen's Guide to Colorado Water Conservation
- Published three issues of *Headwaters* magazine, exploring the Colorado River Basin, 21st century collaboration, and the economics of water
- Hosted two webinars on agricultural water scarcity and sharing risks in the Colorado River Basin
- Produced six Connecting the Drops radio programs aired by Rocky Mountain Community Radio partners



Goal: Knowledge and Understanding

Enhance understanding of water's role in Colorado and its inherent complexities and trade-offs

Reached 235 through in-person educational workshops and tours



Participants in CFWE programs explored diverse topics, including:

- Water quality improvement projects in the Bear Creek watershed
- Water use in the production of steel, agriculture, industrial hemp, and marijuana in the Pueblo area
- Irrigation efficiencies in orchards and vineyards in the Grand Valley
- Climate change effects on Colorado's water supply
- Water management, use, and improvements in the Gunnison Basin

Goal: Attitudes and Values

Illustrate and examine differing water-related values

70% of 2016 participants said they met someone with a different perspective during the program

“The tour reinforced the fact that collaboration is challenging but a worthy challenge. It's worth being uncomfortable trying to find common ground with people who share a different viewpoint.”
—Gunnison Basin Tour participant

“Through this course I realized the world of water in Colorado is made up of shades of opinion, heritage, new ideas, resource scarcity, demand, economies, climate and everything in between.”
—2016 Water Fluency course participant



Goal: Decision-Making Skills

Develop and promote critical thinking skills and leadership

82% of members say CFWE has influenced their decision making

Highlights:

- 34 community leaders completed the 2016 Water Fluency Course, gaining a comprehensive introduction to Colorado water as well as tools for navigating the culture, complexity, and future of water management and policy issues.
- 16 mid-level water professionals completed the Water Leaders program, participating in extensive self-assessment, executive coaching, and application of learning to water issues statewide.
- Gov. John Hickenlooper accepted CFWE's 2016 Diane Hoppe Leadership Award and Heather Dutton was honored with the Emerging Leader Award



"I love listening to Connecting the Drops and reading the Headwaters magazines. It has influenced my decisions as to where I should work and in what areas I am interested in regarding water."

—CFWE supporter

"Water Leaders exposed me to many of the on-the-ground issues across Colorado and developed my network within the water community, which will help me with future decisions with which I am faced."

—CFWE supporter

Goal: Responsibility and Participation

Inspire a commitment to informed water decision making

More than 700 individuals and organizations contributed financially to CFWE in 2016, and over 160 people volunteered their time to help CFWE spread water education across the state and beyond

"I believe in the importance and value of water. CFWE informs and improves the communication of water issues with a wide variety of Coloradans."

—CFWE member



THANK YOU

FOR HELPING US SPREAD WATER EDUCATION ACROSS COLORADO

Thanks to the valuable contributions of our members and donors, the Colorado Foundation for Water Education has been able to deliver quality, comprehensive water education programs across Colorado since 2002. A sincere thank you to our Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016) members and donors.

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CoBank • Colorado Water Conservation Board

HEADWATERS (\$5,000+)

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TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!

CFWE relies on hundreds of volunteers to help brainstorm, plan and implement our programs. Their involvement in our work is so very important. Thank you to all who gave time in FY2016 (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016) to help Colorado “speak fluent water!”

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Pete Ampe
Steve Anderson
Jeff Ayotte

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— **Y** —

David Yates

Statement of Financial Position¹

For the year ended June 30th, 2016, with comparative totals for 2015

	Reviewed 2016	Audited 2015
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	\$ 152,776	\$ 121,804
Cash and cash equivalents - fiscal agent	-	11,139
Contracts receivable	36,503	58,023
Memberships receivable	8,247	9,850
Prepaid expenses	2,775	2,775
Total assets	<u>\$ 200,301</u>	<u>\$ 203,591</u>
<u>Liabilities and net assets</u>		
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ 7,203	\$ 32,366
Payroll accruals	18,285	28,692
Deferred revenue	2,000	-
Fiscal agent	-	11,139
Line of credit (Note 3)	-	-
Commitments (Note 4)	-	-
Total liabilities	<u>27,488</u>	<u>72,197</u>
<u>Net assets</u>		
Unrestricted		
Operating	<u>172,813</u>	<u>131,394</u>
Total net assets	<u>172,813</u>	<u>131,394</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 200,301</u>	<u>\$ 203,591</u>

¹The Colorado Foundation for Water Education is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation. Financial statements are reviewed by Taylor, Roth and Co., an independent accounting firm. If you would like a copy of the full reviewed financial statements, please send your request to info@yourwatercolorado.org.

Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30th, 2016, with comparative totals for 2015

	Reviewed 2016			Audited 2015
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Total
<u>Revenue and other support</u>				
Government grants and contracts	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 189,931
Contributions	140,680	-	140,680	122,870
Membership dues	105,532	-	105,532	100,420
Program fees	104,658	-	104,658	132,745
Grants	-	50,000	50,000	-
Special events	30,008	-	30,008	28,479
Less: direct event expenses	(25,148)	-	(25,148)	(16,579)
Sale of materials	17,155	-	17,155	22,676
Interest	25	-	25	8
All other	2,116	-	2,116	2,244
Net assets released from restrictions (Note 5)	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Total revenue and other support	575,026	-	575,026	582,794
<u>Expense</u>				
Program services	372,544	-	372,544	373,626
Supporting services				
Management and general	103,539	-	103,539	166,659
Fund-raising	57,524	-	57,524	50,019
Total expense	533,607	-	533,607	590,304
Change in net assets	41,419	-	41,419	(7,510)
Net assets, beginning of year	131,394	-	131,394	138,904
Net assets, end of year	\$ 172,813	\$ -	\$ 172,813	\$ 131,394

