

# COLORDAO WILDLIFE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC. 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

#### **Our Mission:**

To ensure a wildlife legacy for Colorado through support of environmental stewardship, conservation of wildlife and the protection of critical habitat

## Why We Were Formed:

In 1986, a group of concerned citizens, convened by then Governor Richard Lamm, recognized that Colorado's abundant and diverse wildlife makes an immense contribution to the quality of life we enjoy in the state, and to its economy. At the same time, they recognized that wilderness habitats face the greatest threats from development and that state funds for preserving wildlife, which have historically come from hunting and fishing license fees, have declined. Recognizing that future public funding would probably be insufficient to sustain and manage the state's wildlife, the group made a series of recommendations aimed at preserving wildlife across the state into the 21st century and beyond. Among those suggestions was the creation of a foundation whose purpose would be administering funds for the benefit of wildlife. Thus, in 1989 the Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation came into existence to help solve a long-term problem; we were formed to work in cooperation with state and federal agencies, other non-profit organizations and individuals in order to fill the funding gap for conservation practices and Colorado's wildlife.

# Our uniqueness:

- We are not a typical foundation, as we do not have a "pot of money" from which to designate funds; we act as a resource for those in search of funds for their wildlife benefiting projects, or for those who wish to donate to one.
- We support *all* 960 wildlife species and the habitats they need to survive in Colorado.
- We work in cooperation with state and federal agencies, other non-profit organizations and individuals in order to fill the funding gap for Colorado's wildlife by offering individuals and organizations of all types a means to join forces to support wildlife.
- Through our many partnerships, we have the ability to leverage the necessary resources to make a difference for wildlife.
- Our continued belief is that we must protect our unique wildlife heritage through a balanced approach; keeping in mind the needs of the wildlife, the people and the businesses of Colorado to ensure a rich wildlife legacy and strong economy for those who call Colorado home now and for the generations to come.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

# **Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Program**

The Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Program was initiated in 1989 with the passage of state legislation requiring that waterfowl hunters have a valid state waterfowl stamp in their possession while hunting. The purpose of the legislation was to provide funds for waterfowl-wetlands habitat conservation projects. The program is a dedicated partnership between the Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation and Colorado Parks and



Wildlife. Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation administers the Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Program and has managed this important program since 2001.

Each year, the Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Program holds a contest for original waterfowl artwork that will be depicted on the Colorado waterfowl stamp. A stamp and a print of the artist rendition are created and sold to waterfowl and wetland enthusiasts, bird watchers, and stamp and print collectors. The net proceeds from these sales are used to support wetland projects that benefit ducks, geese, shorebirds and other wetland-dependent wildlife species. Richard Clifton's "Misty Afternoon" was the winning entry in the 2012 Colorado Waterfowl art contest.

## **Colorado Schoolyard Habitat Grant Program**

The Colorado Schoolyard Habitat Grant Program, a vital program managed by the Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation, affords students the opportunity to learn first-hand about wildlife and ecosystem interactions as they go through the process of planning and creating a schoolyard habitat project. Students develop important proficiencies as they work as a team, apply critical thinking skills and incorporate math and science knowledge – all of which support in-class curricula. In this way, the program helps teachers fulfill academic standards while providing an exciting hands-on learning



opportunity for students. Most importantly, students create and pass on a legacy of positive change in the process. Each year, students are excited to go outside, get their hands in the dirt, and see the impact their work has on wildlife and their school.

In support of the Schoolyard Habitat Grant Program, CWHF administers grants of up to \$1,000 to public and private schools. Established by the former Colorado Division of Wildlife in 1987 and administered by the Foundation since 1989, the program has awarded nearly \$150,000 to 250 schools across Colorado to help students improve wildlife habitat at their schools. In 2012, grants were awarded to the following schools:

Pinnacle Charter School	Westminster, CO	\$300
Mackintosh Academy	Littleton, CO	\$1,000
Greenwood K-8	Denver, CO	\$1,000
Custer County Middle School	Westcliffe, CO	<u>\$850</u>
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#### **Mitigation Funds**

In support of our mission, we work closely with state & federal agencies, multinational corporations, nonprofit organizations and the public to provide funding and resource support services for wildlife and habitat conservation projects statewide. Towards that end, the Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation administers over \$2.0M in mitigation funds and conservation land easements. The Foundation manages in excess of \$1.1M in restricted funds for the Bureau of Land Management, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado Department of Health and Environment, Eagle County and Encana Oil & Gas USA.

#### **Conservation Easements**

The Foundation holds over 65,000 acres of land under conservation easement, preserving Colorado's open lands for wildlife and for people. CWHF staff conducts easement monitoring on Fox Ranch and Medano Zapata Ranch annually to ensure all land uses fall within the guidelines of the easement. In



2012, Fox Ranch hosted a youth turkey hunt with Colorado Parks and Wildlife for ten youth and four adults. CPW organizes these hunts to introduce youth to proper hunting practices, instill stewardship and conservation ethics, and help young people understand wildlife management. The Medano Zapata Ranch also provides educational and recreation opportunities to the public, in addition to preserving critical habitat for wildlife.

#### Partners in Conservation - Colorado Parks & Wildlife

International Sportsmen's Exposition

In January 2012, the Foundation joined Colorado Parks & Wildlife in welcoming over 25,000 sportsmen and outdoor enthusiasts to Denver to learn about outdoor products, services and opportunities available. This annual event allows CPW and CWHF to interact with wildlife supporters from Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and Kansas.

## Glenwood Springs Service Center

When the Division of Wildlife was forced to curtail its planned upgrade of Service Centers due to revenue reductions, CWHF agreed to explore the possibility of assisting with this effort. The Foundation, with the agreement of the DOW, began looking for a suitable location in Glenwood Springs to replace the leased office / warehouse space the Division is currently occupying.

A property was located just off of Interstate – 70 at exit 109. The Foundation purchased the property and leased it back to the Division of Wildlife who is constructing a new service Center at that location. The approximately three-acre property is directly adjacent to Interstate 70 and will provide direct access via a new ramp from the overpass to the Service Center. Construction began in June of 2011; the grand opening of the new Service Center will take place in February 2012.

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Foundation serves all Coloradans by supporting and protecting one of Colorado's most unique and valuable natural resources – wildlife. Our areas of focus include: wildlife conservation and research, habitat restoration and preservation, environmental education and the integration of sustainable human and wildlife land use practices. Thank you to all those who supported our mission in 2012! Contributions were solicited via written correspondence, phone conversations, face-to-face meetings and web donation requests. The Foundation's Administrative Fundraising (AFR) percentage in 2012 was 37.9%.

# **FINANCIALS**

2012 Financials		
Public Support and Revenues:	2012 Totals (\$)	
Revenues		
Contributions	23,672	
Grant Revenue	0	
Special Events	0	
Merchandise Programs	22,865	
Service Revenue	133,601	
In-kind Contributions	0	
Misc Income	0	
Interest Income	123	
Total Revenue:	180,261	
<u>Expenses</u>		
Wildlife Projects:	29,396	
General Administration	143,682	
Fundraising	0	
In-Kind Expenses	0	
Total Expenses:	173,078	
Net Profit (Loss)	7,183	
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash	409,608	
Accounts Receivable	0	
Property held for others	592,927	
Conservation Easement Properties	152,086	
Property and Equipment	5,068	
Computer Hardware/Software	15,000	
Accumulated Depreciation	(20,068)	
Net Property and Equipment	1,174,689	
Other Assets (prepaid expense)	833	
Total Assets:	1,175,522	
Liabilities and Equity		
Current Liabilities	940,286	
Restricted Equity Assets	152,086	
Net Profit	7,183	
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$1,099,555	

# **STAFF**

Hank Luria, Executive Director

Hank Luria is a multi-disciplinary senior executive with over 30 years experience building and leading socially responsible corporations and organizations. Mr. Luria has served as Senior Executive and Board Member of a NYSE company and Florida Company of the Year, as well as President and CEO of corporate and nonprofit organizations. Additionally, he has been a member of the board of numerous nonprofit organizations and has worked in leadership roles on a wide range of committees. Hank has managed multi-million dollar budgets and negotiated complex agreements with multinational companies and state and federal agencies. His community milestones include establishing a comprehensive student grant program and founding Global Action: an Environmental Expo for the Americas.

Executive Director as of November 2011

# Kelly Diehl, Program Director

Kelly Diehl has worked in the field of Environmental Science at the nonprofit, state and federal levels in Texas, Wyoming and Colorado. Her experience with environmental education (EE) includes planning programs, teaching students and providing statewide support for educators. She has volunteered for multiple environmentally-focused non-profit organizations in both administrative and programmatic capacities. Kelly is also trained in nationally recognized EE curricula such as Project WILD, Project Learning Tree and Growing Up WILD. Kelly brings a wealth of experience and passion to CWHF and is spearheading the expansion of the Colorado Schoolyard Habitat Program.

Program Director as of July 2012

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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