



# TOGETHER WE MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN

Western Resource Advocates' Highlights from 2016

## Agreement Saves Millions of Birds on Great Salt Lake

Our work with local, state, federal government agencies, industry, and conservationists in Utah helped create a unique agreement that protects brine shrimp, a critical food source for millions of eared grebes.



## Good News for Rivers and Water Conservation in Colorado

We ensured the new Colorado Water Plan's first year of implementation moved in the right direction for rivers and our water future. The state proposes to spend more than \$10 million on urban conservation, recycling, and stream management plans, all of which will help keep Colorado's rivers healthy.

## New Mexico Advocacy Stops Unnecessary Coal-Fired Power Investment

We prevented customers paying for, and Public Service of New Mexico (PNM) profiting by, PNM's unnecessary \$52 million investment in the coal-fired San Juan Generating Station. If the regulators had supported the investment, it would have justified extending the life of the polluting coal plant unnecessarily in New Mexico, when cleaner, cheaper energy could replace it.





## New Wind Farm Furthers Clean Energy Future

We helped develop and secure an agreement that creates Colorado's largest wind farm. The Rush Creek Wind Project will generate enough electricity to power 180,000 homes and eliminate 1 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> pollution annually. It will also save customers up to \$443 million over 25 years by reducing the amount of fossil fuels utilities must purchase. This new wind project continues to chart a path for Colorado's clean energy transition, while ensuring affordable energy for everyone.

## Legalizing Rain Barrels in Colorado Advances Water Conservation Ethic

We won a legislative battle legalizing rain barrels in Colorado. This legislative victory, two years in the making, allows residents to capture rain water for their planters and gardens, connecting them to where water comes from and how much they use, and developing a greater conservation ethic.



## What People are Saying About WRA



"WRA's work is focused on safeguarding the environment for the benefit of future generations. They are committed to conservation initiatives that are environmentally friendly and make economic sense."

**-Ruben Alvarez, WRA Board Member**



"WRA has become one of the most widely respected organizations in the region. They are the one group that has the vision and capabilities to help create a future for the West that honors all that the Western region has represented to this country throughout history."

**-AJ Grant, WRA Board Member**