

## James Larson Foundation Relations Officer



James Larson is the foundation relations officer at Western Resource Advocates (WRA). He works to increase funding for WRA's programs to address the West's most pressing conservation challenges. In collaboration with colleagues across the organization, he writes grant proposals and reports for current and prospective funders. He also builds relationships with partners and brings new donors onboard to support WRA's mission.

Before joining WRA in 2020, Larson worked as a development associate and grant writer at the Center for Court Innovation, a nonprofit focused on reforming the criminal justice system and reducing incarceration. He also worked as a development consultant, helping nonprofit clients grow and sustain their strategic goals. Growing up next to the Hudson River in Westchester, N.Y., he witnessed firsthand what was possible when people came together to clean up the historically polluted waterway and protect the vital resource for animals and humans alike. While pursuing a graduate degree, he studied how climate change and environmental threats impact local, regional, and global conflict. WRA provided an ideal opportunity to combine his passion for conservation with his skillset as a fundraiser.

Larson enjoys being able to share WRA's successes with the donors whose support makes it possible. He is proud to be part of a highly effective development team raising the resources needed to allow WRA's expert staff win the fight against climate change. For him, advancing clean energy, and protecting air, land, water, and wildlife is vital for our collective future on our only home, planet Earth.

Larson lives in Denver with his fiancé, where he enjoys riding his bicycle, hiking, skiing, and playing bass in a rock n' roll band. What he loves most about the West are the vast expanses of Canyonlands National Park and the stars on a clear night. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst as well as a Master of Science in International Conflict Resolution from Columbia University.

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