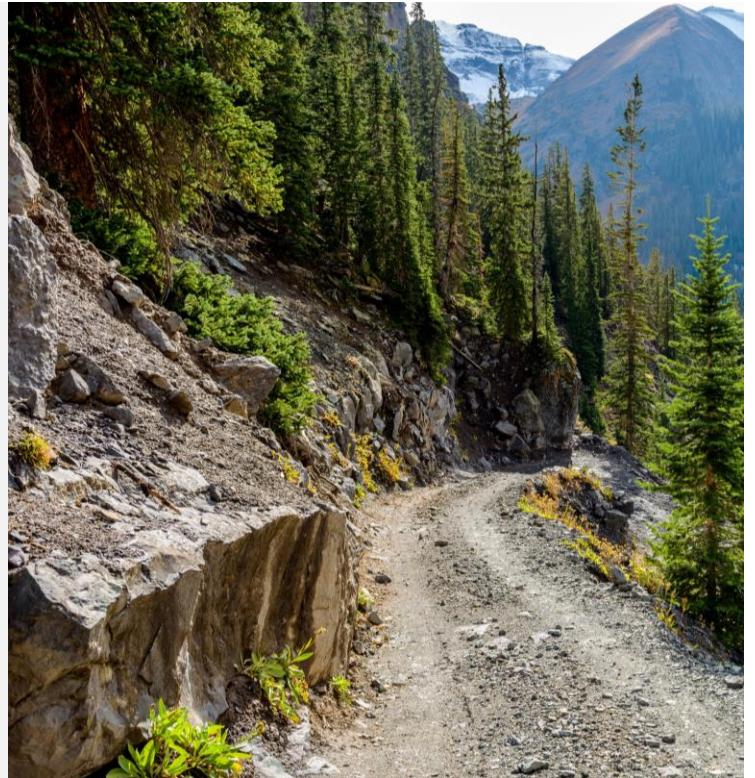




1989 Legacy Society

Wins for the West Summer 2024

As a WRA 1989 Legacy Society member, your planned gift demonstrates your commitment to ensuring that we continue to fight the impacts of climate change now and well into the future. Thank you for leaving a legacy that protects what you love most about the West for generations to come.



We find ourselves at a critical tipping point. Without urgent action, rising temperatures, drought, and habitat degradation will have profound effects on people, wildlife, and ecosystems across our region. WRA is harnessing your committed generosity to expand our work across the West, effectively reducing emissions and protecting rivers and lands in the face of climate change. We can meet the moment we are in thanks to the collective energy and resources of many people and partners, including you.

We're pleased to share a snapshot of some wins from 2024 with you. These accomplishments belong to all who have invested in WRA. As a member of the 1989 Legacy Society, you are part of a strong community of climate champions making noteworthy progress happen – we sincerely appreciate and value your meaningful commitment.



In May, WRA was a driving force behind the drafting and advocacy that led to the passage of legislation creating a new fee on oil and gas production. This bill makes landmark investments ensuring oil and gas operators are paying for remediation of the harm caused to the environment. Starting July 2025, the estimated revenue generated for Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), which could be as much as \$50 million annually, will go toward significant investments in things like creating new state parks and state wildlife areas, slowing biodiversity loss and improving ecosystem resilience, improving wildlife connectivity and migration corridors, and restoring lands to compensate for those lost to oil and gas development.

In March, WRA's leadership in Colorado ensured a bill prohibiting the installation of non-functional turfgrass and artificial turf in new or redeveloped non-residential properties. By 2050, the bill could result in sustained savings of 48,000-acre feet of water per year – the approximate annual usage of 145,000 Colorado households. We made additional strides for water conservation in May, when we completed our 4th Growing Water Smart workshop in Utah. With this, 25 city and county teams across the state have educated their decision-makers in using public engagement, planning, and policy implementation tools to help their community teams realize water efficiency, smart growth, watershed health, and water resiliency goals.



In February, the Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), the state's largest electricity provider, adopted a strong transportation electrification plan thanks to WRA's advocacy at every point in the process. The plan includes \$35 million investments for a variety of transportation electrification uses, from transit and the purchase of zero-emission vehicles to e-bike rebates, all with a strong focus on equity and inclusivity. Incentives are designed to make it easier for customers to use and apply to fleet, workplace, multifamily, and public charging programs – with the goal being increased adoption. In addition, PNM is now required to track incentives for underserved communities.

Together, we are creating a hopeful and sustainable future for our home and for nature.

Climate change is a threat multiplier – it drives up temperatures, speeds water evaporation, increases habitat loss, and amplifies air pollution. Generously including WRA in your future plans drives policy solutions that address these impacts and advance the fight for a livable climate, thriving wildlife, and beautiful, protected landscapes for all to enjoy.

Thank you, again, for turning your love for the West into meaningful change.

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