



WESTERN RESOURCE
ADVOCATES

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



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Protecting the West's Land, Air, and Water



From the President



I am pleased to share with you Western Resource Advocates' annual report for 2010. The report describes a thriving and growing organization, one with a stable financial base, skilled management, and an agenda vital to a sustainable future for the Interior West.

Our programs are increasingly interrelated. John Muir's maxim that "everything in nature is connected to everything else" is evident across all of our work, especially in the nexus between energy and water. We are examining the enormous water demands of energy generation facilities and the heavy demands for energy required to support water projects such as pipelines. We are successfully convincing regulatory bodies of the importance of water as a factor in planning for energy generation. Western Resource Advocates is also focused on stewardship of our precious rivers and streams, so that fish and fishermen, river runners and those who sit on the bank and admire the view, will continue to be blessed with flowing water.

The imperative to address climate change informs our priorities and our approaches to creating solutions to the complex energy and environmental issues we face. WRA was instrumental in implementing Colorado's Clean Air-Clean Jobs Act, which calls for the retirement of a number of coal plants in the Denver

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metro area, substantially reducing carbon emissions and providing significant public health benefits.

We remain committed to safeguarding the western landscapes we love. In the past year we protected more than 700,000 acres of crucial wildlife habitat and roadless and wild land areas, assuring a legacy of public lands for all Americans.

In December we lost Charles Benjamin, director of our Nevada Office, to cancer. Senator Harry Reid said of Charles, "He was a feisty advocate for environmental justice and came to Nevada to help drive our state and the nation toward a cleaner energy future." WRA is proud to be the kind of organization that Charles chose for his career.

Our success would not be possible without the extraordinary support of our members, donors, and sponsors. We gratefully acknowledge all those who enable WRA to continue to be the most effective environmental organization in the West.

Sincerely,

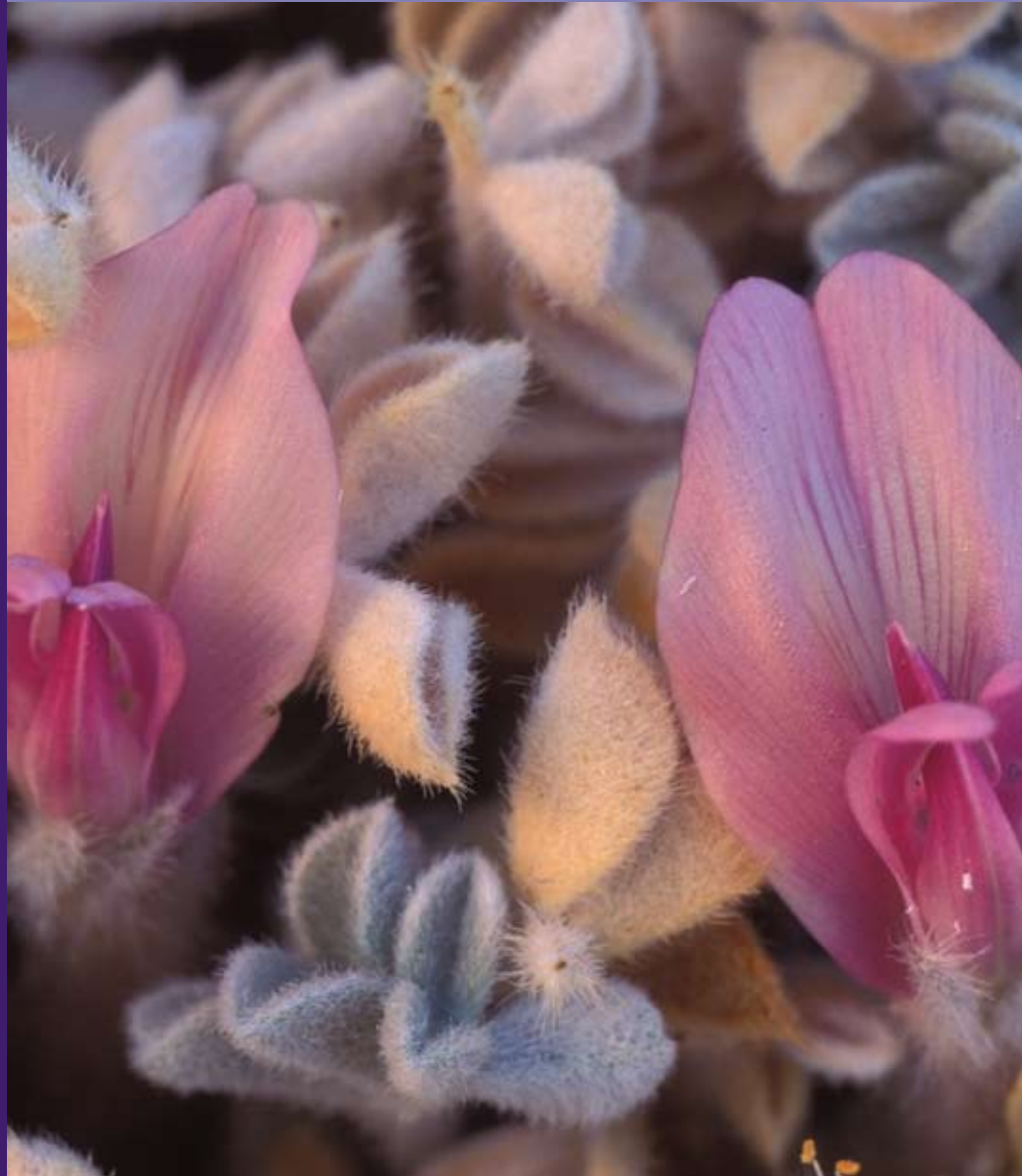
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karin P. Sheldon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Karin P. Sheldon
President

Energy

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

WRA advocates for increased use of the West's natural bounty of renewable energy resources and for greater energy efficiency to reduce the environmental impacts of electricity production. Climate change, caused by greenhouse gas emissions from the production and burning of fossil fuels, will take a particularly hard toll on the mountain and desert West. Some of the already-visible consequences of climate change are increased duration of drought and wildfires, reduced snowpack, and threat of extinction of vulnerable wildlife species.



Promoting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency and greater investment in renewable energy sources are the economically and environmentally preferable ways to manage electricity demand. In addition to state-by-state efforts to increase renewable energy requirements for utilities, WRA engages in innovative partnerships with western utilities to encourage adoption of effective and economically viable greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

WRA partners with western utilities to encourage adoption of effective and economically viable greenhouse gas reduction strategies.



RESULTS:

- ✓ In Arizona, WRA helped develop and secure approval of a beneficial energy efficiency standard to reduce electricity consumption by 22% over the next decade. The plan is among the strongest in the nation.
- ✓ In New Mexico, WRA crafted a precedent-setting plan that will reduce the state's contributions to climate change and cap greenhouse gas emissions now, rather than waiting for federal legislation. The new rules will spur significant clean energy investment in the state.
- ✓ WRA negotiated an agreement with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association to allow public participation in the electrical cooperative's planning process. Tri-State is one of the largest transmission and generation associations in the nation, serving 1.2 million rural customers. Prior to reaching an agreement with WRA, Tri-State had planned to build several new coal plants. After five months of public input, Tri-State is instead looking at a wider range of options, including using more renewable energy and energy efficiency to meet power demands.
- ✓ WRA's report, *Phoenix Green: Designing a Community Tree Planting Program for Phoenix, Arizona*, outlines how a coordinated tree planting effort can reduce electricity consumption in southwestern cities. Unshaded buildings are large consumers of electricity and shade trees are an effective tool for decreasing peak energy demands.

Smart Lines: Energy Transmission for a Renewable Energy Future

Power lines are essential for linking consumers with electricity supply. Traditionally, these lines have been sited without regard for the impacts on lands, wildlife, and other natural resources, to connect fossil fuel, nuclear, and hydro power to markets. As the transition to renewable energy becomes a greater economic and environmental imperative, connecting clean sources of power to the grid becomes more critical. WRA is at the forefront of designing transmission plans for linking areas rich in renewable energy to power lines, while protecting sensitive lands and wildlife.

RESULTS:

- ✓ To assure environmentally responsible transmission of renewable energy to markets, WRA led efforts to secure, for the first time, formal recommendations to address environmental and cultural constraints in long-term transmission plans for the West.
- ✓ Working with a coalition of western environmental groups, WRA is developing a clean energy vision for the West to achieve an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The vision will show how clean energy's environmental, economic, national security, and public health benefits can be achieved in an environmentally and economically sound manner.
- ✓ WRA coordinated planning with SunZia (serving the southwest) and TransWest Express (Wyoming to Nevada) transmission and generation project sponsors to protect wildlife, wildlands, and water while adding future renewable energy to the western grid.
- ✓ WRA leads transmission planning efforts across the West by serving as a board member of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) and as vice-chair of WECC's scenario planning committee to help guide a clean energy future.

WRA is at the forefront of designing transmission plans for linking areas rich in renewable energy to power lines, while protecting sensitive lands and wildlife.



Coal Plant Issues

As regulation of greenhouse gases is debated, high-carbon-emitting coal plants are seen as increasingly financially risky. WRA provides analysis to states and energy utilities proving the economic benefits of shifting from coal to cleaner forms of energy. As a result, the West is transitioning to renewable energy. Coal plant proposals are being withdrawn, shelved, or reconsidered.

RESULTS:

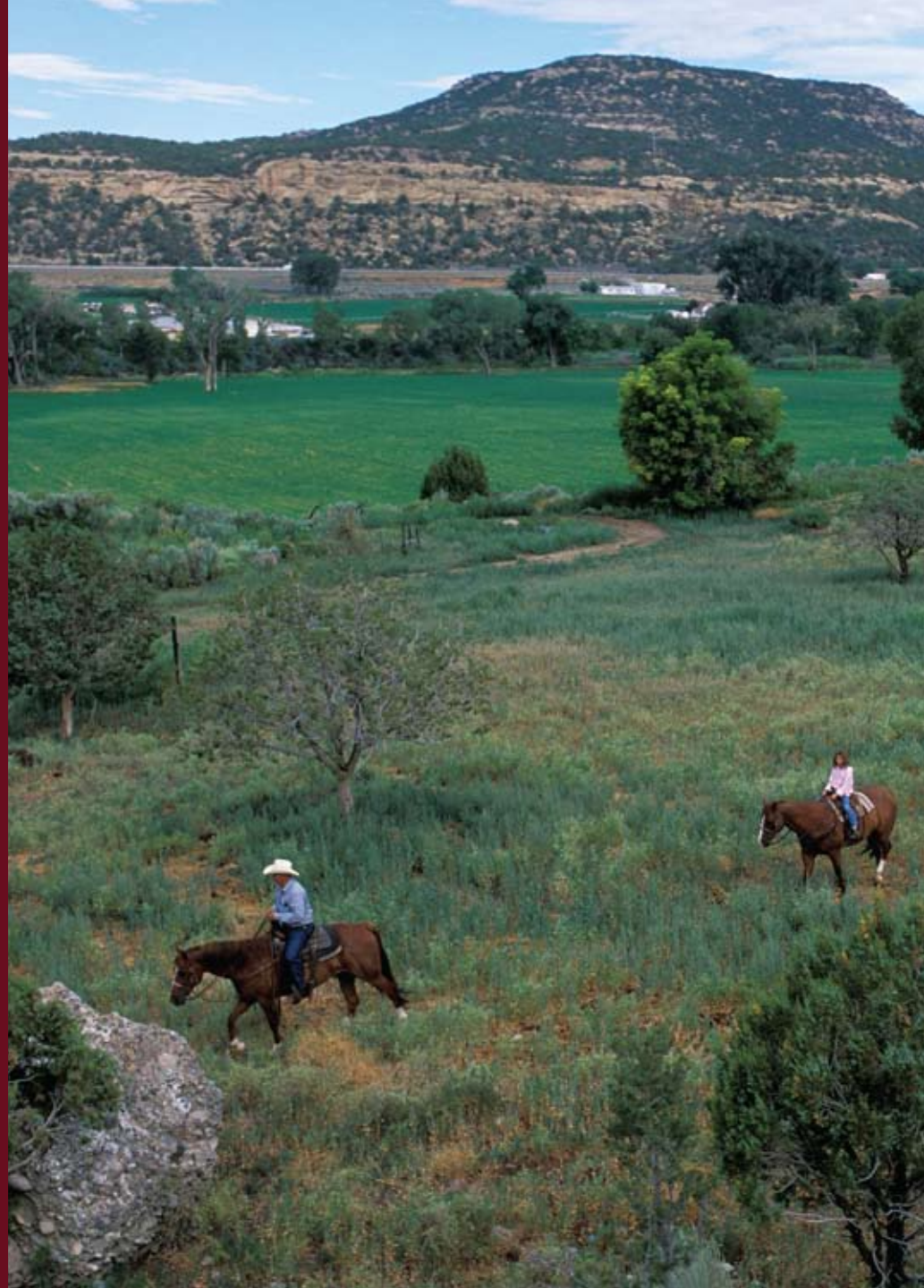
- ✓ In Colorado, WRA played a leading role in implementation of the Clean Air-Clean Jobs Act, which will improve health and air quality. As a result of our collaborative advocacy, four Denver-area coal plant units will be shut down and another switched to use natural gas by the end of 2017. When coupled with planned investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency, the changes will yield *\$250 million annually* in public health benefits from reduced incidence of asthma and other respiratory diseases. Greenhouse gas emissions will be cut by over 7 million tons per year.
- ✓ For several years, WRA and our partners have been in dialogue with Arizona Public Service Company (APS) about the benefits of retiring the company's older, less-efficient coal plants. In November, APS proposed retiring three units at the Four Corners power plant. These retirements will result in significant reductions in air emissions, including an annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of between 2.8 and 5 million metric tons.
- ✓ Thanks to advocacy by WRA and our Nevada partners, Sithe Global Power abandoned plans to build the Toquop coal plant and instead will opt for cleaner energy sources. The Toquop plant was the last of three Nevada coal plant proposals to succumb to the poor economics and risks of coal, part of a nationwide trend that has seen 125 plant proposals withdrawn.
- ✓ WRA won a Utah Supreme Court victory that will likely prevent the Sevier Power Company from building a new 270-megawatt coal plant. Plant emissions would have harmed residents' health and impaired visibility at some of Utah's most popular tourist destinations, such as Canyonlands and Capitol Reef national parks.



Lands

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The stunning landscapes of the West are legendary. They define our region as one of beauty and are cherished by residents and visitors alike. Yet the lands we love are at risk. They have been scarred by a succession of extractive industries ranging from hard rock mining to logging, and now by intensive energy development. WRA advocates for sound stewardship in the face of forces that view our public lands solely as a commercial resource. We are committed to safeguarding the ecological health of public lands.



Oil and Gas Development

WRA continues to work to reform oil and gas development across the Rocky Mountain region. Massive drilling has led to declining air and water quality, habitat and wildlife loss, and negative human health and quality of life impacts for rural communities. To protect against further degradation, WRA supports protection for the West's most special places. Where drilling proceeds, WRA advocates that the energy industry "do it right" by employing modern technologies and state-of-the-art planning that minimize environmental impacts.

RESULTS:

- ✓ Thanks to the Colorado Habitat Stewardship Act, which was largely drafted by WRA, 355,000 acres of lands in northwest Colorado will be better protected from the impacts of oil and gas development. The act has been hailed as a national model for safeguarding wildlife in gas-producing areas, while also providing greater certainty for drillers.
- ✓ WRA helped formulate new sage grouse policies in Wyoming that have the potential to protect millions of acres of core habitat. Our participation in a working group resulted in an executive order by Governor Freudenthal that greatly improves the chances for recovering this imperiled species by preserving remaining intact habitat. The policy is expected to be adopted in large part by federal land management agencies, and will serve as a model for other states.
- ✓ In Utah's Uinta National Forest, we convinced the Bureau of Land Management to suspend oil and gas leases on 140,000

A Wyoming homeowner's well water is now a methane slurry due to nearby extractive industry.



acres, including 90,000 acres of roadless areas. This area of the forest is the source of drinking water for Wasatch Front cities, provides important habitat to many sensitive species, including the Bonneville and Colorado cutthroat trout, and was the focus of millions of dollars of riparian habitat restoration efforts.

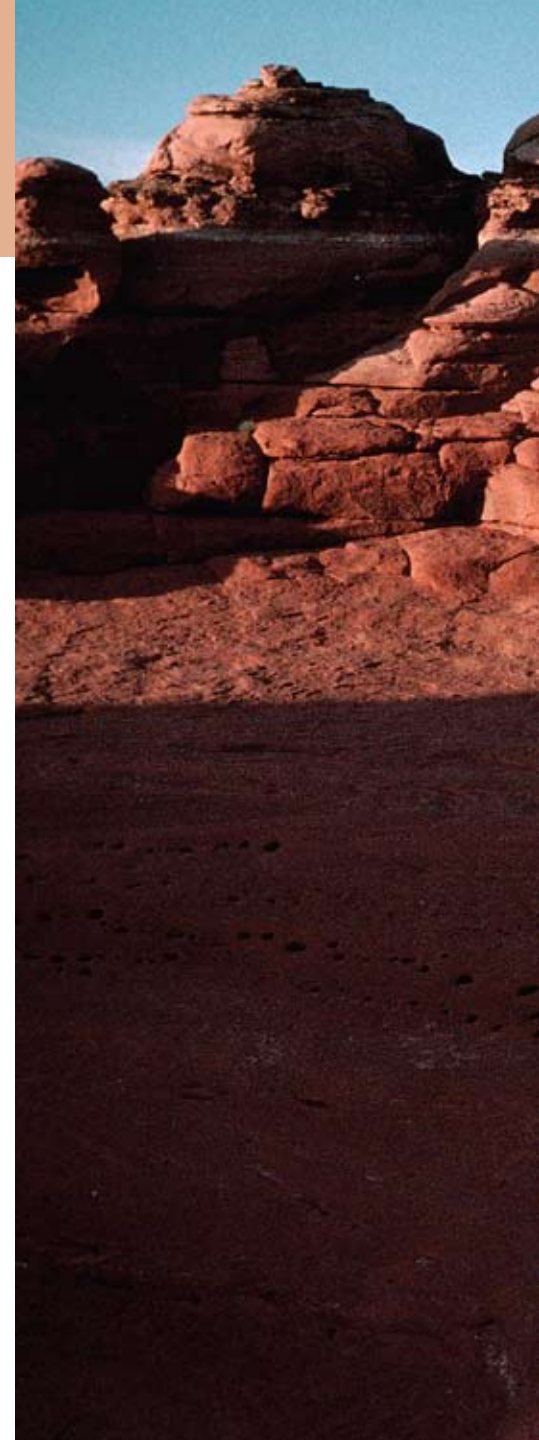
- ✓ WRA protected 2,000 acres of the superlative wild country of Western Colorado's Thompson Creek Divide and Reno Mountain from oil and gas development. These areas are home to elk, bear, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, lynx, wild turkey, boreal owl, and cutthroat trout. They also contain one of the largest stands of aspen trees in the world.
- ✓ WRA was instrumental in securing a Bureau of Land Management decision to analyze the health and environmental impacts of extracting "sour gas" in the rugged Rands Butte area of Wyoming. Sour gas is natural gas that contains hydrogen sulfide, a substance potentially lethal to humans and wildlife. A public safety plan to protect the health of local residents will now be required.

Stopping Oil Shale and Tar Sands Development

Oil shale and tar sands development would irrevocably alter the West by depleting water resources, scarring lands, and contributing to climate change. High petroleum prices are prompting a resurgence of interest in commercial oil shale and tar sands development, despite a lack of proven extraction technologies. As supporters call to open federal lands to commercial oil shale leasing and push for rules favoring industry, WRA has shifted the debate by building a consensus that development should not proceed unless industry proves that it would not unduly impact the environment, climate, and communities.

RESULTS:

- ✓ WRA challenged a permit for a controversial proposed tar sands mine in P.R. Spring, Utah, because it failed to address serious concerns about surface and groundwater contamination. The mining operator plans to use a solvent that is strong enough to dissolve pavement, claiming it is non-toxic but refusing to prove its safety. A decision on the permit is expected this year.
- ✓ WRA released a report, *Fossil Foolishness: Utah's Pursuit of Tar Sands and Oil Shale*, evaluating the impacts and wisdom of developing tar sands and oil shale in Utah. The report found that Utah faces severe impacts to water supply, air quality, and recreation and tourism economies if commercial oil shale and tar sands ventures proceed. The report received wide media coverage and prompted a vital dialogue in Utah.
- ✓ WRA's research on the energy returned from producing oil shale, versus the energy input, concludes that return on energy investment could be as low as zero. The low return calls into question whether there is any merit to developing oil shale as a transportation fuel source, even if the technology to do so is perfected.





Water

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Water, and the lack of it, is a defining feature of the landscapes, history, and culture of the West. Water's scarcity means intelligent use of this essential resource is critical to a sustainable future. WRA's Water Program has four areas of activity: conserving urban water supplies, restoring rivers throughout the West, protecting Utah's Great Salt Lake, and encouraging energy solutions—such as wind and forms of solar power—that have little or no impact on water resources.





Promoting Water Conservation

WRA's Smart Water Project successfully promotes increased urban water conservation and identifies low-impact sources of supply to meet future demand across our region. We strive to keep water in the West's rivers, lakes, and aquifers by working with governments and water providers to implement common-sense strategies, such as conservation-inducing water rate structures, smart land use planning, landscape regulations, and re-use of existing supplies.

RESULTS:

- ✓ WRA awarded our Top Drop Award to the Arizona communities of Phoenix, Tucson, Prescott, and Payson for developing and implementing effective water conservation programs. The awards stem from our *Arizona Water Meter* report that studied 15 Arizona cities to discover what measures are most successful in conserving water.
- ✓ WRA helped secure passage of four important Colorado water conservation bills. These measures will improve plumbing codes, give homeowners more choices to install water-efficient fixtures and landscapes in new homes, expand funding for conservation programs, and help utilities track the effectiveness of their conservation programs.



WRA awarded our Top Drop Award to the communities of Phoenix, Tucson, Prescott, and Payson for their effective water conservation programs.

Protecting the West's Rivers

WRA works to preserve and restore the beauty, ecology, native fish, recreation, and economic benefit of rivers throughout the West, such as the Green, Cache la Poudre, Gunnison, and Colorado.



The endangered humpback chub benefits from WRA's collaborative work with state and federal agencies, and water users, to improve river flows in the Green, Yampa, Gunnison, and Colorado rivers.

RESULTS:

- ✓ A WRA analysis of a 500-mile-long water pipeline proposed by developer Aaron Million shows that water from the project would be far too expensive for its purported customers. This environmentally damaging and energy-intensive project that would pull water from the Green River and run from southwestern Wyoming to Colorado's Front Range has yet to prove it is needed in light of many alternatives that are faster, less expensive, and less controversial.
- ✓ The Colorado Water Conservation Board finalized its plan to protect water flows that sustain Colorado's Dominguez Canyon Wilderness Area. WRA, along with partners, resolved legal and technical details to ensure that water will continue to flow through the spectacular 66,000-acre expanse that is enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year.
- ✓ The Yampa River, one of the West's last undammed rivers, will continue to flow freely. After WRA advocacy, Shell Corporation dropped its application for rights to use Yampa water for oil shale development. This is excellent news for the communities, farmers, ranchers, rafters, fish, and wildlife that rely on the river.
- ✓ WRA continued its work to protect four species of endangered Colorado River fish by collaborating with state and federal agencies, and water users, to improve river flows in the Green, Yampa, Gunnison, and Colorado rivers.

Defending Utah's Great Salt Lake Basin

WRA is part of a strong coalition committed to preserving Utah's Great Salt Lake ecosystem. Our goal is to protect the lake for the enjoyment of its many visitors, including millions of migratory birds that depend on it for survival.

RESULTS:

- ✓ To defend the Willard Spur area of Bear River Bay, we asked for strengthened water quality standards and challenged a permit to discharge wastewater into this vital ecosystem. In response, the Utah Division of Water Quality tightened standards and dedicated \$2 million in research money to ensure that the proposed discharge would not adversely impact water quality.
- ✓ To protect the Bear River and Gunnison bays of Great Salt Lake, WRA appealed five discharge permits that allow toxic chemicals and excessive nutrients to enter the water.
- ✓ To safeguard the American white pelican rookery in Great Salt Lake, WRA protested a mining company's request for 353,000 acre feet of water for its operations. WRA and our partners will continue to work to keep water levels sufficient for the pelicans.

Utah's Great Salt Lake provides important habitat for millions of birds, including the American avocet.



Energy-Water Nexus

Energy and water are linked as use of one resource results in consumption of the other. WRA's Energy-Water Nexus Project creates awareness of the energy demands and carbon footprint of water projects, such as dams and pipelines, as well as the water demands that result from our energy choices. Our research and studies guide decision makers across the region to make informed choices to use water and energy sustainably.

RESULTS:

- ✓ Good climate policy also makes good water policy. A report released by WRA and Environmental Defense Fund, *Protecting the Lifeline of the West: How Climate and Energy Policies Can Safeguard Water*, provides solid evidence that transitioning to cleaner energy sources, such as solar and wind, will use far less water than traditional power generation and reduce strains on water supplies for the parched West.
- ✓ WRA's testimony to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on the volume and value of water saved by replacing coal power with natural gas, energy efficiency, and other sources of energy, helped secure retirement of 900 megawatts of coal-fired capacity in the Denver metro region. The retirement will shut down or re-purpose five coal units, cleaning the air, improving public health, and freeing up over 5,000 acre-feet of water – enough to meet the annual water needs of 52,000 people.
- ✓ Thanks to our advocacy, the Colorado PUC adopted a new regulatory requirement that electric utilities in Colorado must report water use for existing and proposed plants and the water intensity of proposed resource plans.
- ✓ Working with partners in Utah, WRA succeeded in having information about the water impacts of energy generation included in the state's 10-Year Strategic Plan.





2010

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Continental Divide Trail Society
Environmental Center of the Rockies
High Country Citizens' Alliance
Community Shares of Colorado, My Colorado Project
San Juan Citizens Alliance
Utah Air Boat Officers

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Brittany Bowles and Bryan Toth in honor
of Julie Wahlstrom and Phil Zavala
Robert and Miriam Davidow in
memory of Charles Benjamin
Jae Moreno Rand in honor of Helen,
Jurgen, Sarah, and Julie
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Jauna Werner in honor of Sam and Jean Warren
Barbara Young in honor of John Taylor
Anonymous in honor of George and Julie Schwalenstocker

Giving Campaigns

Community Shares of Colorado
Environmental Fund for Arizona

Government

Colorado Water Conservation Board
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

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Dennis and Joanne Keith	John and Laurie McBride		Michelle Selvans	Donald Uding	Joe Zbegner
Albie and Sue Kern	Merdyce McClaran			Darlene Ulickey	Joan B. Zukoski
					18 anonymous donors



Charles Benjamin In Loving Memory

Charles Benjamin, Western Resource Advocates' Nevada office director, died December 13, 2010, after a valiant battle with cancer. He was 60 years old.

During his time in WRA's Nevada office, Charles worked tirelessly to promote clean energy by developing and strengthening relationships with key Nevada stakeholders, including utilities, the state's consumer advocate, legislators, the governor, business interests, and the environmental community. He was sought out by Nevada Senator and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid for his advice on energy questions. He was WRA's point person on energy matters at the Nevada state legislature, and he tracked regulatory proceedings relating to WRA's issues.

Reid marked Charles' passing in the Senate by remarking, "Charles was a feisty advocate for environmental justice and came to Nevada to help drive our state and the nation toward a cleaner energy future."

"Nevada and the nation need more people like Charles who are willing to work hard to tap into the limitless resources of the sun, the wind and the earth, and energy efficiency, to build a stronger, cleaner and more sustainable world," Reid added. "He will be missed."

Charles enjoyed working with environmental groups, politicians, attorneys, and policy wonks, and fought the good fight on all fronts. He made friends easily and charmed everyone with his zest for life. He loved movies and Jewish delicatessen food, and could talk about any subject with gusto and authority. He was one of a kind.

"Charles was a feisty advocate for environmental justice and came to Nevada to help drive our state and the nation toward a cleaner energy future."

—U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid



2010 Feature Photographer Joel Sartore

After several years of working with painters that portray the West, we decided to bring things more sharply into focus for this annual report. How fortunate we are that well-known photographer, Joel Sartore, allowed us to use his images. Joel is best known for his work with *National Geographic Magazine*. Many readers will remember the startling photographs Joel captured in 2005 portraying how the gas boom is changing the American West. Last year, Joel presented unforgettable pictures of the Gulf oil spill.

Joel brings a midwestern work ethic, and often a sense of humor, to his assignments. After more than 20 years and 30 stories with the National Geographic Society, Joel has covered everything from the remote Amazon rain forest to beer-drinking, mountain-racing firefighters in the United Kingdom.



Joel Sartore on assignment in Madidi National Park in Bolivia.

Joel's work focuses on endangered species, natural history, and land use issues. His interest in wildlife started in childhood, when he learned about the very last passenger pigeon from one of his mother's Time-Life picture books. His first *National Geographic* assignments introduced him to nature photography, and also allowed him to see human impact on the environment first-hand. In his words, "It is folly to think that we can destroy one species and ecosystem after another and not affect humanity. When we save species, we're actually saving ourselves."

He has written several books, including *Photographing Your Family*, *Face to Face with Grizzlies*, and *Nebraska: Under a Big Red Sky*. His most recent book, *RARE: Portraits of America's Endangered Species*, is now available wherever books are sold.

Besides the work he has done for *National Geographic*, Joel has completed assignments for *Audubon Magazine*, *Time*, *Life*, *Newsweek*, and *Sports Illustrated* and contributed to numerous book projects. Joel and his work have been the subject of several national broadcasts, including National Geographic's Explorer, the NBC Nightly News, NPR's Weekend Edition, and an hour-long PBS documentary. He is also a regular contributor on the CBS Sunday Morning Show with Charles Osgood.

Joel lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, with his wife, Kathy, and their three children. To see more of Joel's work, please visit www.joelsartore.com.

Profile

Sarah Krakoff

President of WRA's Board of Directors

John Muir's words, "In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks," adeptly describe how WRA Board President Sarah Krakoff found her personal and professional path.

Sarah's interest in western environmental issues sprung from a transformative trip to the American West. "I grew up in suburban New Jersey, and my family was not involved with environmental issues, nor were we hikers or campers back then. After college, I started to do some climbing and backpacking, and then took a road trip out West. I had never heard of John Muir, but his ghost must have been haunting the trails because that trip converted me. My thinking about the human relationship with nature started then."

Sarah's work is now in natural resource and Native American law. Sarah spent three years living and working on the Navajo Nation, where her curiosity and zeal for exploring human relationships to nature deepened. She is currently a professor of law and associate dean for research at the University of Colorado School of Law. She formerly directed the Indian Law Clinic and obtained permanent university funding for the clinic's work.

Sarah received her J.D. from Boalt Hall, U.C. Berkeley and her B.A. from Yale University, where she was captain of the cross-country team. She remains an avid and accomplished competitive runner. Sarah is also widely published in the areas of American Indian law and natural resources law, and writes about environmental ethics, public lands, and global warming.

"Western Resource Advocates is the most effective environmental group in the Rocky Mountain West, and it's an honor to be named chair of this organization."



Photo courtesy of Sarah Krakoff.

Sarah has been a supporter of WRA since 2003. As our newly-appointed board president, Sarah says, "Western Resource Advocates is the most effective environmental group in the Rocky Mountain West, and it's an honor to be named chair of this organization. WRA, with the support of its dedicated members, guides government and industry to better decisions about how to use and protect our land, air, and water. I love being associated with the excellent work that WRA's programs do to ensure that what I love about the West will continue to be available to my daughter and future generations."

WRA looks forward to continued progress and growth under Sarah's expert leadership.

Donor Profile

Daphne O'Connor

Profession: Attorney

Hobbies: Hiking, biking, running, writing, and reading.

How did you come to care about the environment? When I moved to Telluride after college, I began to spend lots of time in the Rockies—hiking, camping, and mountain biking. Those experiences, combined with my University of Colorado law school courses with professors Wilkinson and Getches, solidified my interest in preserving western lands.

The note that came with the gift: To protect the West's land, air, and water, and honeycrisp apples.

Why honeycrisp apples? My husband, Tom, pursued studies in organic agriculture at the University of California, Davis. He gained on-the-ground experience at First Fruits Organic Farms in Paonia, Colorado. He traveled over the Continental Divide every week to sell the orchard's apples, pears, peaches, and cider at several farmers' markets, including Boulder's. Western Colorado honeycrisp apples are, quite simply, the best fruit anywhere.

Western Colorado orchards are seeing increasing encroachment by oil and gas drilling, and the region's agricultural producers have cause for concern over more than one million acre-feet of conditional water rights held by the oil shale industry. Threats to water quality and water rights may imperil one of the most vibrant, sustainable, delicious sectors of our economy—and some of the region's small-business success stories.

"I love the western outdoors and want it to be around for my daughters and grandchildren to enjoy."

Why do you support WRA? I love the western outdoors and want it to be around for my daughters and grandchildren to enjoy. I became aware of WRA specifically through my good friend, Mike Chiropolos (WRA Lands Program Director), who is always begging for money!

What Mike Chiropolos has to say about Daphne's statement that he is always begging for money: Daphne's generous support of WRA might be her best investment in the family's future, this side of the college funds. Our dividends come in terms of clean air, pure water, protected landscapes, and leadership on doing something about climate change before it's too late for our kids. Beyond that, we have an effective division of labor among our law school classmates: the corporate attorneys bill their clients to keep the wheels of commerce turning, and the environmental advocates give their old compadres the chance to stay true to the wild-eyed idealism of our youth.

Photo courtesy of Daphne and Tom O'Connor.



Volunteer of the Year Rick Sprott

WRA is deeply thankful to our 2010 Volunteer of the Year, Rick Sprott. Rick donated more than \$20,000 in expert consulting to help us secure precedent-setting regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in New Mexico. The rules that were decided upon show that states can succeed in being climate leaders even while national climate legislation is stalled. Thanks in part to Rick, New Mexico will have a healthier environment and open its doors to green industries.

Profession: Snowboard instructor at Angel Fire Resort in New Mexico (I specialize in older students, like WRA staffers John Nielsen and Steve Michel); principal in Bear Claw Environmental Consulting (air quality, energy, and climate); and formerly a state of Utah environmental regulator.

Hobbies: Snowboarding, golf, hiking, scuba diving, riding ATVs (responsibly), reading, and watching all the animals around our house. Bear, elk, deer, turkeys, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, squirrels, chipmunks, and rabbits keep us and our cats entertained.

Describe, in your words, what you did for WRA: I was an expert witness during the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board hearing on New Energy Economy's petition for a rule to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Steve Michel, WRA's counsel in New Mexico, authored the proposal. Based on my years as a Utah regulator and as one of Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr.'s climate policy leaders, I told the board why the rule was simple, effective, and easy to implement for regulators and industry alike. It should be used as a national model.



Photo courtesy of Rick Sprott.

Why did you choose to support WRA? I worked with WRA (mainly John Nielsen) and Environmental Defense Fund (Vickie Patton) during my years as a Utah regulator and have always been impressed with their results-focused pragmatism. I don't have much time for groups that come with a lot of rhetoric and few realistic solutions. WRA is a tough advocacy group to be sure, but it works constructively. I like that. The other thing was ... well, it was really hard to say "no" to Steve Michel who works in WRA's New Mexico office!

How did you come to care about the environment? Was there any event or were there special experiences that resulted in your care for the planet? I've always loved the outdoors and I grew up in the 60s and 70s, as the environmental movement emerged. The 1990 Clean Air Act amendments were enacted as I was finishing my first career in the Air Force. It was an exciting advance so I decided to go into environmental management as a second career. Seeing really polluted rivers in the Midwest when I was growing up made a big impression. There were few sewage treatment plants in the 1950s.

What else should we know? Environmental work is serious business, but it is important not to take ourselves too seriously. This stuff is too fun not to have a great sense of humor!

The political atmosphere right now requires careful and skilled communication. We should be about progress rather than perfection. A wise strategy for all sides.

2010

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Albuquerque Bernalillo County
Water Utility Authority

American Wind Energy Association

Arizona Center for Law
in the Public Interest

Arizona Public Interest
Research Group

Arizona Solar Energy
Industries Association

Audubon Arizona

Audubon Colorado

Audubon Society of Greater Denver

Audubon Society of Utah

Audubon Wyoming

Aurora Water

Aveda Corporation

Biodiversity Conservation Alliance

Blancett Ranches

Boulder County

Boulder Water Utility

Bridgerland Audubon Society

Bristlecone Alliance

Carpe Diem

Centennial Water and
Sanitation District

Center for Advancing
Sustainable Architecture

Center for Biological Diversity

Center for Native Ecosystems

Center for Naval Analysis

Center for Resource Conservation

Ceres

Chama Peak Land Alliance

Citizen's Committee to
Save Our Canyons

Citizens for Dixie's Future

City of Boulder

City of Phoenix Parks and
Recreation Department

Colorado Backcountry
Hunters and Anglers

Colorado Bowhunters Association

Colorado Department of
Natural Resources

Colorado Department of Public
Health and Environment

Colorado Environmental Coalition

Colorado Governor's Energy Office

Colorado Mountain Club

Colorado River Water
Conservation District

Colorado Springs Utilities

Colorado Trout Unlimited

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Colorado Waterwise Council

Colorado Wild

Colorado Wilderness Network

Colorado Wildlife Federation

Colorado Working Landscapes

Commercial Energy Users Coalition

Conservation Voters of New Mexico

Dakota Resource Council

Defenders of Wildlife

Denver Water

Department of Defense (TX)

DINE Care

Earthjustice

Earthworks

EcoFlight

El Paso Electric Co.

Environment Colorado

Environment New Mexico

Environmental Defense Fund

Environmental Working Group

Fort Collins Utilities

Friends of Great Salt Lake

Grand Canyon Trust

Grand Valley Citizens' Alliance

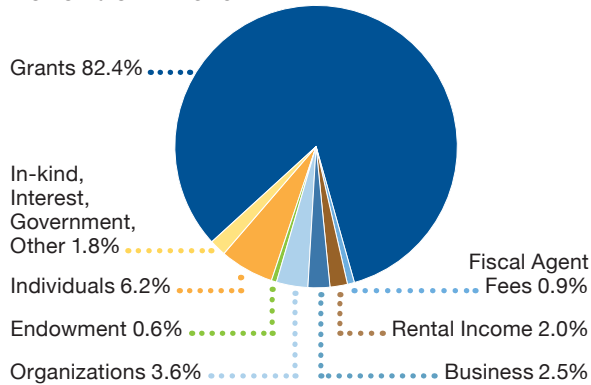
Great Old Broads for Wilderness	Northwest Colorado Council of Governments	SkyTruth	Utah Clean Energy
Great Salt Lake Audubon Society	Oil and Gas Accountability Project	Sonoran Institute	Utah Dept. of Natural Resources, Division of Water Rights
Greater Yellowstone Coalition	Pacific Institute	Southern Nevada Water Authority	Utah Environmental Congress
Gunnison County	PacificCorp	Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance	Utah Moms for Clean Air
Headwaters Economics	Phoenix Permaculture Guild	Southwest Energy Alliance	Utah Physicians for Healthy Environment
HEAL Utah	Powder River Basin Resource Council	Southwest Energy Efficiency Project	Utah Rivers Council
High Country Citizens' Alliance	Prosperity Works	Southwest Research and Information Center	Utah Waterfowl Association
Interstate Renewable Energy Council	Public Service Company of New Mexico	Southwestern Public Service Co.	Wasatch Audubon Society
Interwest Energy Alliance	Red Cliffs Audubon Society	SunEdison Corporation	Wasatch Clean Air Coalition
League of Women Voters of Salt Lake	Red Rock Forests	The Nature Conservancy	Western Clean Energy Advocates
LightHawk	Renewable Energy Industry Association, New Mexico	The Navajo Nation, Counselor Chapter	Western Clean Energy Campaign
Living Rivers	Resource Media	The Ormond Group	Western Colorado Congress
National Audubon Society	Rocky Mountain Climate Organization	The Vote Solar Initiative	Western Conservation Foundation
National Geographic	Rocky Mountain Energy Campaign	The Wilderness Society	Western Electricity Coordinating Council
National Outdoor Leadership School	Rocky Mountain Farmers Union	Think New Mexico	Western Energy Project
National Parks Conservation Association	Rocky Mountain Institute	Thompson Divide Coalition	Western Environmental Law Center
National Renewable Energy Laboratory	San Juan Citizens Alliance	Trout Unlimited	Western Governors' Association
National Trust for Historic Preservation	San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Western Grid Group
National Wildlife Federation	Save the Poudre	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	Western Mining Action Project
Natural Resources Defense Council	Sheep Mountain Alliance	U.S. Department of Energy, Wind Powering America	Western Organization of Resource Councils
Nevada Wilderness Project	Sierra Club	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Western Water Assessment
New Energy Economy	Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter	U.S. Public Interest Research Group	Western Wildlife Conservancy
New Mexico Coalition for Clean Affordable Energy	Sierra Club, Rio Grande Chapter	Union of Concerned Scientists	Wild Utah Project
New Mexico Environmental Law Center	Sierra Club, Rocky Mountain Chapter	University of Colorado, Boulder	Wilderness Workshop
New Mexico Public Interest Research Group	Sierra Club, Utah Chapter	University of Colorado Environmental Center	Wind River Alliance
New Mexico Wilderness Alliance		Upper Green River Alliance	Wyoming Outdoor Council
Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District		Upper Gunnison River Water Conservation District	Wyoming Wilderness Association
Northern Plains Resource Council		Uranium Watch	Wyoming Wildlife Federation
		Utah Airboat Association	

Financial Summary

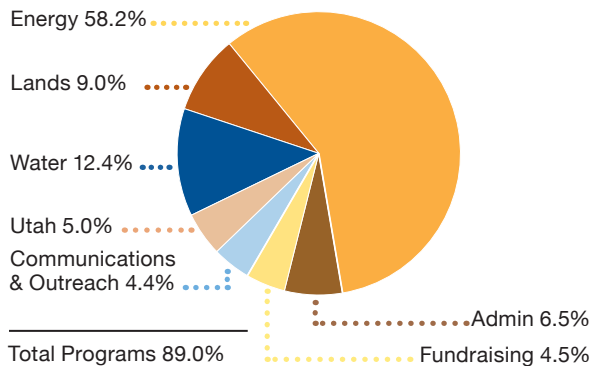
2010

2009

Revenue in 2010



Expenses in 2010



REVENUE

Grants	4,257,269	3,345,537
Individuals	323,041	218,246
Endowment	30,758	58,727
Organizations	186,075	128,445
Attorney Fees	0	13,500
Interest Income	21,065	23,502
Other	23,877	4,266
Government	23,940	42,797
Business	131,743	92,418
In-kind	23,688	1,153
Rental Income	102,424	109,699
Fiscal Agent Fees	45,250	49,550

TOTAL REVENUE \$5,169,130 \$4,087,840

EXPENSES

Expenses by Program		
Energy	2,636,218	2,009,699
Lands	408,259	495,825
Water	557,126	374,572
Utah	226,522	231,539
Communications & Outreach	199,030	141,682

Total Program Expenses 4,027,155 3,253,317

Fundraising	205,638	209,801
Administration	292,912	288,649
Loss on Disposal of Assets	0	11,283

Total Nonprogram Expenses 498,550 509,733

TOTAL EXPENSES \$4,525,705 \$3,763,050

Change in Net Assets \$643,425 \$324,790

Net Assets at Beginning of Year \$4,765,666 \$4,440,876

Net Assets at End of Year \$5,409,091 \$4,765,666



WRA Staff, September, 2010. Photo: Peter Roessmann.

Staff, 2010

Karin P. Sheldon	President
Penny Anderson	Energy Program Administrative Assistant/Computer Operations Manager
Drew Beckwith	Water Policy Manager
Charles Benjamin	Nevada Office Director
David Berry	Chief of Policy Analysis
Andria Bronsten	Office and Human Resource Manager
Lowrey Brown	Senior Energy Policy Analyst
Mike Chiropolos	Lands Program Director
Jennifer Coken	Director, Western Clean Energy Campaign
Kerry Cowan	Individual Giving Officer
John Curl	Senior Policy Analyst
Richard Dougherty	Information Technology Manager
Rob Dubuc	Staff Attorney
Jorge Figueroa	Water Policy Analyst
Gary Graham	Transmission Project Director
Robert Harris	Staff Attorney
Dan Heilig	Staff Attorney
Kathryn Holm	Vice President of Finance and Administration
Nancy Kelly	Senior Energy Policy Advisor

Victoria Mandell	Senior Staff Attorney
Steve Michel	Chief Counsel, Energy Program
Bart Miller	Water Program Director
Glenda Murphy	Legal Assistant
Regina Nichols	Office Administrator/ Legal Assistant
John Nielsen	Energy Program Director
Amelia Nuding	Water/Energy Analyst
Christine Quenroe	Bookkeeper
Peter Roessmann	Media and Marketing Coordinator
Anita Schwartz	Vice President of Development, Communications, and Program Administration
Stacy Tellinghuisen	Senior Energy/Water Policy Analyst
Nicole Theerasatiangkul	Development and Communications Coordinator
Madeleine Tengler	Development and Communications Assistant
Joro Walker	Utah Office Director
Phil Williamson	Senior Energy Policy Advisor
Justin Wilson	Organizing Director, Western Clean Energy Campaign

Board of Officers & Directors, 2010

Sarah Krakoff	Boulder, CO	President
David Robertson	Boulder, CO	Vice President
A.J. Grant	Boulder, CO	Secretary
Ken Ransford	Basalt, CO	Treasurer
Patrick De Freitas	Salt Lake City, UT	
Merritt Frey	Salt Lake City, UT	
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Paul Komor	Boulder, CO	
Robert Martin	Longmont, CO	
Heidi McIntosh	Salt Lake City, UT	
Bryan Morgan	Boulder, CO	
John Taylor	Boulder, CO	
Chris Wirth	Boulder, CO	

Leadership Council

Maggie Fox	Jay Kenney
David Getches	Robert Musser
Eugene and Emily Grant	Gail Schwartz
James Kelley	Michael Yokell



www.westernresourceadvocates.org

Colorado Office 2260 BASELINE ROAD, SUITE 200 • BOULDER, CO 80302 • 303-444-1188
FAX: 303-786-8054 • E-MAIL: INFO@WESTERNRESOURCES.ORG

Utah Office 150 SOUTH 600 EAST, SUITE 2AB • SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84102 • 801.487.9911
EMAIL: UTAH@WESTERNRESOURCES.ORG

Nevada Office 204 N. MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE A • CARSON CITY, NV 89703 • 775.841.2400
FAX: 866.223.8365

New Mexico Office 409 E. PALACE AVENUE, SUITE 2 • SANTA FE, NM 87501 • 505.820.1590

Arizona Office P.O. BOX 1064 • SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85252 • 480.990.7209



WESTERN RESOURCE
ADVOCATES

2260 BASELINE ROAD, SUITE 200
BOULDER, CO 80302

Above: Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Arizona.

Front: WRA is protecting the magnificent sandhill crane by ensuring
that power lines are located outside of concentrated flight areas. ►

Inside Front Cover: "Bear World" in Rexburg, Idaho. ►