



**WESTERN
RESOURCE
ADVOCATES**

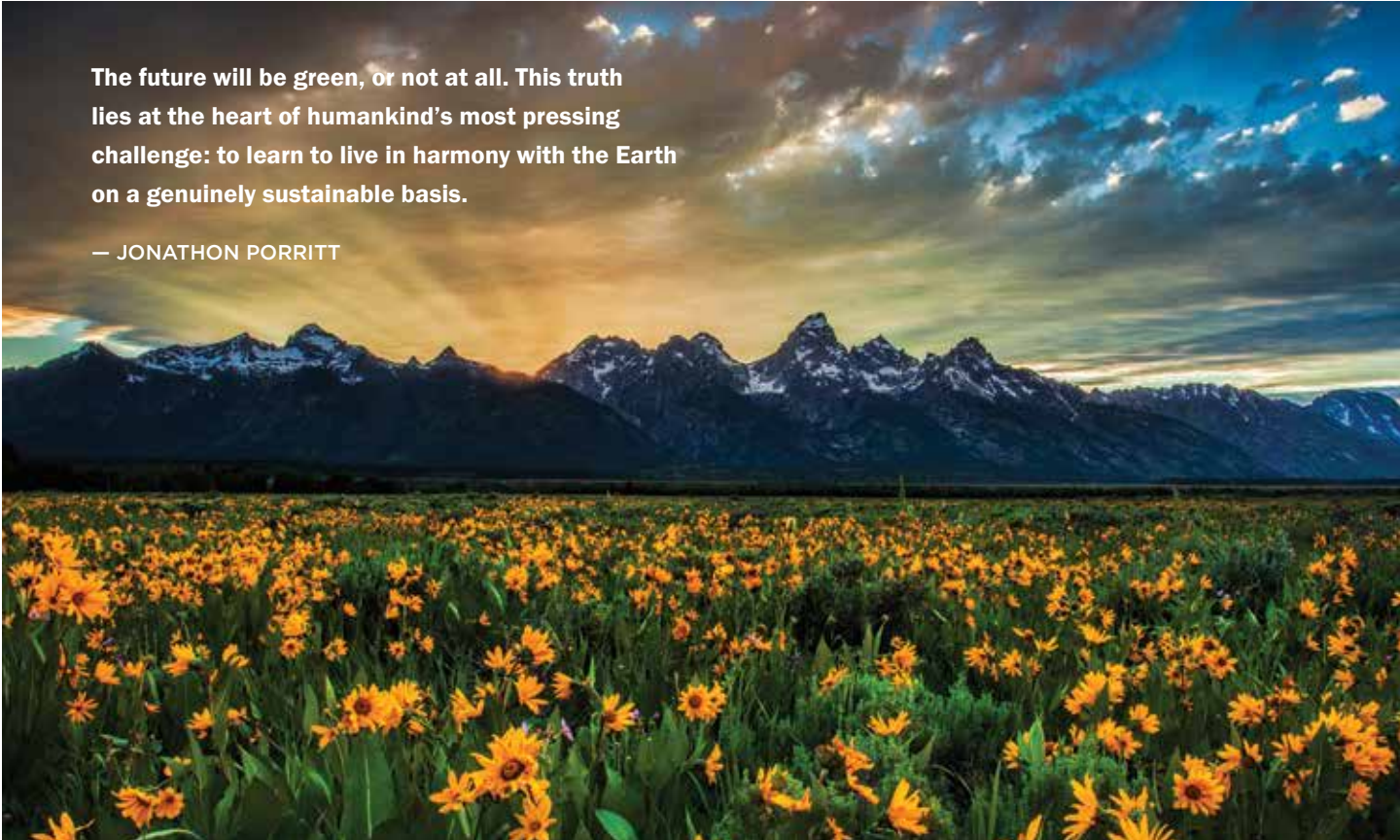
PROTECTING THE WEST'S LAND, AIR, AND WATER

OUR MISSION

Western Resource Advocates protects the West's land, air, and water to ensure that vibrant communities exist in balance with nature.

WESTERN RESOURCE ADVOCATES

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



The future will be green, or not at all. This truth lies at the heart of humankind's most pressing challenge: to learn to live in harmony with the Earth on a genuinely sustainable basis.

— JONATHON PORRITT

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I look back on 2018, I see so much to celebrate:

- Laying the groundwork for substantial carbon reductions and more clean energy,
 - Protecting wilderness from unnecessary dams, and
 - Opposing the reduction of national monuments
- all of which were supported by your philanthropic investment.

In fact, donors gave more to WRA in 2018 than at any other time in our long history, 63% more in fact. That's an astounding increase as well as a significant call to action.

Not only am I humbled by that investment from a broad community of people, I feel pushed to do more, and that is as it should be.

Each of the accomplishments in this report demonstrates how WRA uses its deep understanding of the West, extensive policy and regulatory expertise, and strong collaborative approach to create astute and effective change.

It's when all of these accomplishments are taken together that we see the full power of your investment in WRA.

Your support inspires and challenges us to use our strengths to advance solutions towards our biggest challenge, as Jonathon Porritt states, "to learn to live in harmony with the Earth on a genuinely sustainable basis."

Our aspiration is for WRA to increasingly be a force and an organization that brings people together to help solve what may be our biggest generational challenge of climate change. We are making progress, and I know that with you we can create a more sustainable future. Thank you for trusting WRA to be a partner with you in this most important endeavor.

Sincerely,



JON GOLDIN-DUBOIS | PRESIDENT

CLEAN AIR AND WATER

OUR VISION:

The West will have clean air and clean water to support healthy communities and vital habitat.



DID YOU KNOW?

The U.S. experienced **15% MORE DAYS WITH UNHEALTHY AIR IN 2018 AND 2017** compared to the average from 2013 to 2016.

In the Intermountain West, **13.3 MILLION PEOPLE, OR 60% OF THE POPULATION**, live in areas where the air quality is failing to meet federal health-based standards.

People of color and those earning lower incomes are often **DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY AIR POLLUTION**, putting them at higher risk for illnesses.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS:



Improving Air Quality through the State Implementation Plan

Utah's Serious State Implementation Plan (SIP) – the state's clean air plan finalized in 2018 – adopted several WRA recommendations, including prohibiting Kennecott Copper from burning coal in its power plant throughout the year. This resulted in the company's decision to close the plant and fulfill its future power needs with 1.5 million megawatt hours of renewable energy.

Ensuring Best Emission Controls Are Adopted

During the 2018 SIP process, WRA submitted extensive legal and technical information outlining the “best” control technologies each industrial source is legally obligated to adopt to reduce their emissions. Now the adopted plan requires polluting sources to install additional emission controls, tighten permit limits, adopt more rigorous control technologies, and improve their emissions monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting.

Strengthening Utah's Oil and Gas Rules

With our allies, WRA strongly supported amendments to Utah's oil and gas air quality rules that will mandate more comprehensive and frequent leak inspections and direct methane regulation. The Utah Air Quality Board finalized new rules that modernized regulation methods and set the stage for significant cuts in pollution from wells across Utah. These rules are a good sign as the Environmental Protection Agency and Utah address high levels of ozone in Uinta Basin caused by oil and gas development.

CLEAN ENERGY

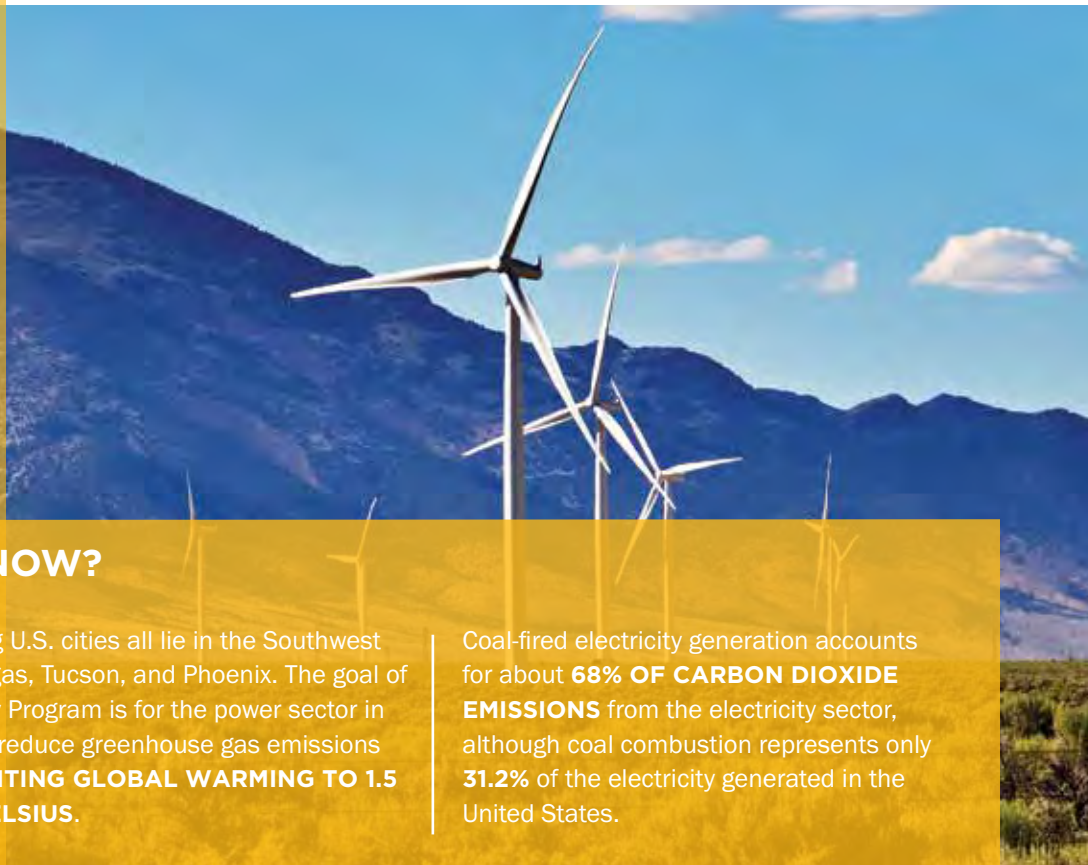
OUR VISION:

Our homes, buildings, and transportation systems are powered by clean energy, and the West prospers in a zero-carbon economy.

DID YOU KNOW?

The fastest-warming U.S. cities all lie in the Southwest and include Las Vegas, Tucson, and Phoenix. The goal of WRA's Clean Energy Program is for the power sector in the Interior West to reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with **LIMITING GLOBAL WARMING TO 1.5 TO 2 DEGREES CELSIUS.**

Coal-fired electricity generation accounts for about **68% OF CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS** from the electricity sector, although coal combustion represents only **31.2%** of the electricity generated in the United States.



2018 HIGHLIGHTS:

Adoption of the Colorado Energy Plan

WRA was instrumental in the creation and adoption of the Colorado Energy Plan, which will cut carbon emissions in Colorado by 4.5 million tons per year. The plan calls for retiring two coal-powered plants, replacing them with clean, renewable energy, and providing \$2.5 billion for investment in renewable energy and battery storage. The Colorado Energy Plan helped lay the groundwork for Xcel Energy's December 2018 announcement that it intends to generate 100% of its electricity from carbon-free resources by 2050 and is committed to cutting greenhouse gas emissions 80% below 2005 levels by 2030.

Advocating for a Renewable Portfolio Standard

In 2018, WRA helped craft Nevada's Ballot Question 6, calling for a Renewable Portfolio Standard that would require the percentage of renewables on NV Energy's system to be 50% by 2030. Voters approved this goal in November 2018 by a 59-to-41% margin, reinforcing that Nevadans are committed to a clean energy future.

Helping Consumers Reduce Emissions & Reduce Costs

In New Mexico, WRA helped secure necessary regulatory approvals for the 550-megawatt Sagamore wind farm. This project will avert more than 2 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually and will save New Mexico electricity consumers \$2.8 billion over the next 30 years.



HEALTHY RIVERS

OUR VISION:

Western rivers and lakes have abundant clean water to support fish and wildlife, communities and farms, and world class recreation opportunities; and the Colorado River flows to the sea.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Colorado River provides drinking water to **40 MILLION WESTERNERS**, irrigates more than **4 MILLION ACRES OF FARMLAND**, and supports a **\$26 BILLION** water-based recreation economy.

When a community reuses its water efficiently, **IT CAN MEET TWICE THE WATER DEMAND** with the same volume of water.

The average annual water supply originating in the Colorado River Basin above Lake Powell could decrease by **BETWEEN 6% AND 20% BY 2050** due to climate change.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS:



Avoided Dams on Maroon and Castle Creeks

WRA worked with partner organizations and the city of Aspen to help find alternative solutions to proposed dams on Maroon and Castle creeks. The agreement, finalized in spring of 2018, will enable the city to meet its water needs while preserving iconic vistas, wildlife, habitat, and recreational opportunities in the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness Area.

Finding Alternatives to the Lake Powell Pipeline

The proposed Lake Powell Pipeline, which would pump 28 billion gallons of water out of the Colorado River each year to two Utah counties, was slowed in 2018 following comments from WRA and others to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. This created an opportunity for Utah communities and lawmakers to pursue more sustainable options for meeting water demands in southwest Utah, including conservation, reuse, and water-sharing agreements explored in a WRA study about alternatives to the pipeline.

Protecting the Gila River

The Gila River – which originates in New Mexico and flows into Arizona – is vital for fish and wildlife, recreational opportunities, and surrounding communities. But proposed water diversions threaten its health. WRA worked with partners in New Mexico to release a report outlining proven, environmentally-friendly water supply strategies that will provide residents with abundant water supplies, save money on their water bills, and keep the Gila flowing free.

WESTERN LANDS

OUR VISION:

Half of western landscapes and habitat will be protected and connected to support thriving wildlife populations and unparalleled opportunities to enjoy the West's natural beauty.



DID YOU KNOW?

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument contains **85% OF ALL THE PLANTS** found in Utah and approximately **2,600 SPECIES OF ANIMALS**.

Between 2001 and 2011, approximately **4,300 SQUARE MILES** of natural areas in the West disappeared because of development—that loss amounts to an area bigger than Yellowstone National Park.

Outdoor recreation generates **\$887 BILLION** in consumer spending annually, supporting **7.6 MILLION** direct jobs and generating **\$59.2 BILLION** in state and local tax revenue.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS:



Standing Up for Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument

In late 2017, the Trump administration illegally reduced the monument by 900,000 acres, putting priceless biodiversity, geology, historical and cultural artifacts, and renowned recreational opportunities at risk. In 2018, WRA worked with Conservation Science Partners to quantitatively document these irreplaceable systems and resources so the report could be considered in an ongoing federal court case. We also drove more than 2,300 public comments opposing the rollbacks to the Bureau of Land Management.

Opposing Rollbacks of the Roadless Rule

Adopted in 2001, the Roadless Rule prohibits logging and road-building in remote roadless areas of National Forests. In 2018, the state of Utah petitioned the U.S. Forest Service for an exemption opening these areas to road-building and timber harvesting, putting at risk recreation and intact wildlife habitat that support many endangered and sensitive species. WRA coordinated with Utah advocates to send hundreds of messages to the U.S. Forest Service and Governor Herbert calling for an end to the petition.

Funding Local Parks & Rivers

Also on the ballot in Colorado was a measure to provide the city and county of Denver with the funds needed to protect local parks and rivers. The initiative dedicated 0.25% of the city and county sales and use tax to Denver's neighborhood parks, mountain parks, rivers, canals, and trails and open space. We were excited to report that, with the help of our advocates in Denver, Ballot Measure 2A passed! The measure will help ensure everyone in Denver has access to healthy parks and rivers.



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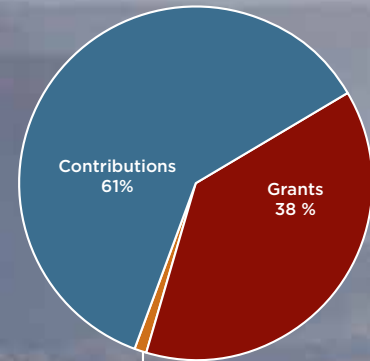
Western Lands Program Director

WRA has a dedicated group of staff working across the Intermountain West to protect our land, air, and water.

You are invited to learn more about them, their experience, and areas of expertise on our website at: <https://westernresourceadvocates.org/staff/>

2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

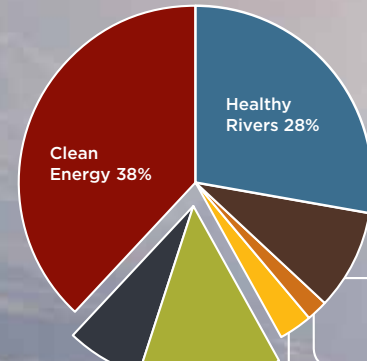
REVENUE



Special Events 1%

Professional Fees, Net Investments/Interest Income, and In-Kind & Other are too small of a percentage to show

EXPENSES



Administration 7%

Development 13%

Government Affairs 3%

Western Lands 9%

Air & Water Quality 2%

Total Programs 80%

REVENUE

Source of Funds

Contributions	\$5,762,874
Grants	3,627,248
Professional Fees	28,055
Net Investment/Interest Income	-28,603
In-Kind & Other	21,932
Special Events	92,269

TOTAL REVENUE \$9,503,775

EXPENSES

Use of Funds

Air & Water Quality	\$106,396
Clean Energy	2,166,522
Healthy Rivers	1,642,097
Western Lands	507,925
Government Affairs	170,832

TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES \$4,593,772

Administration	413,927
Fundraising	768,412

TOTAL EXPENSES \$5,776,111

Net Assets at the Beginning of Year	6,071,150
Net Assets at the End of Year	9,798,814
Change in Net Assets	3,727,664

Our audited financial statements can be found on our website at: <https://westernresourceadvocates.org/about/donation-work/>



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**WESTERN
RESOURCE
ADVOCATES**

Western Resource Advocates is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization (tax identification number 81-1113831) under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

<https://westernresourceadvocates.org/donate-now/>



To learn more, call us at 303.444.1188 or visit our website

www.westernresourceadvocates.org

