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Eagle River Watershed Council

2015 Annual Report

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2015 Restoration Projects

Accomplishments

The addition of a Habitat Restoration Intern in 2015 allowed for more focus on volunteer opportunities and restoration projects.

- ◆ 656 volunteers
- ◆ 1885 volunteer hours
- ◆ 453 plants planted
- ◆ Hundreds of invasive plant species were removed from riparian areas
- ◆ Six truck-loads of beaver exclusion fencing were removed from established trees. Non-toxic sand paint was added to tree trunks for continued protection from beavers.



2015 Board & Staff



L to r; Gary Brooks, 2015 Board VP; Cliff Simonton, 2015 Board Secretary; Rob Sperberg, 2015 Board Treasurer; Chip Bair; Bill Carlson; Holly Loff, Executive Director; Pete Denise, 2015 Board President; Kate Burchenal, Education & Outreach Coordinator; Seth Mason, Water Programs Director; Greg Espegren; Larissa Read; Brian Tracy; Kim Gortz; Tania Landauer; Brooke Ranney, Projects & Events Coordinator. Not pictured: Jacque Collins; Meg Blankenship, Habitat Restoration Intern.

Community Pride Highway Cleanup

April 25th, 2015

975 Volunteers

20,000 pounds of trash

Over 140 miles of roadways cleaned



Eagle River Cleanup

September 12th, 2015

300 Volunteers

4000 pounds of trash removed

68 River miles



250+ volunteers attended the Eagle River Cleanup BBQ presented by Vail Resorts in Arrowhead

Water Quality Monitoring

Continued to collect water quality and macroinvertebrate data at various long-term monitoring sites throughout the Eagle River Watershed. Additional partnerships allowed for expansion with 12 new sites on tributaries of the Gore Creek Watershed.

Education

Over 600 youth were reached through our engaging school curriculum.



Students collected, identified and counted river macroinvertebrates (insects) & learned about the correlation between bugs and river health

And over 440 adults were reached through free Watershed Wednesday tours and presentations.



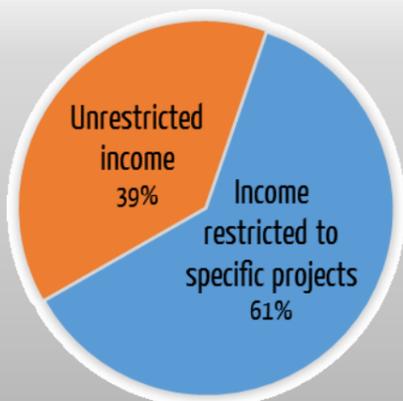
A July 2015 tour of the Eagle Mine Superfund site

Native Species Conservation

2015 marked the inaugural year of our program with the White River National Forest to train citizen scientists to identify locations of native fish populations by sampling eDNA (environmental DNA) in small streams throughout the watershed. 12 streams were sampled- 8 were found to have genetically-pure cutthroats. Habitat protection projects are being planned now using this data.



Eagle River Watershed Council's Funding



"Restricted Funds" have guidelines that limit their use to specific projects. "Unrestricted Funds" are available to be used where the dollars are most needed without any guidelines.

