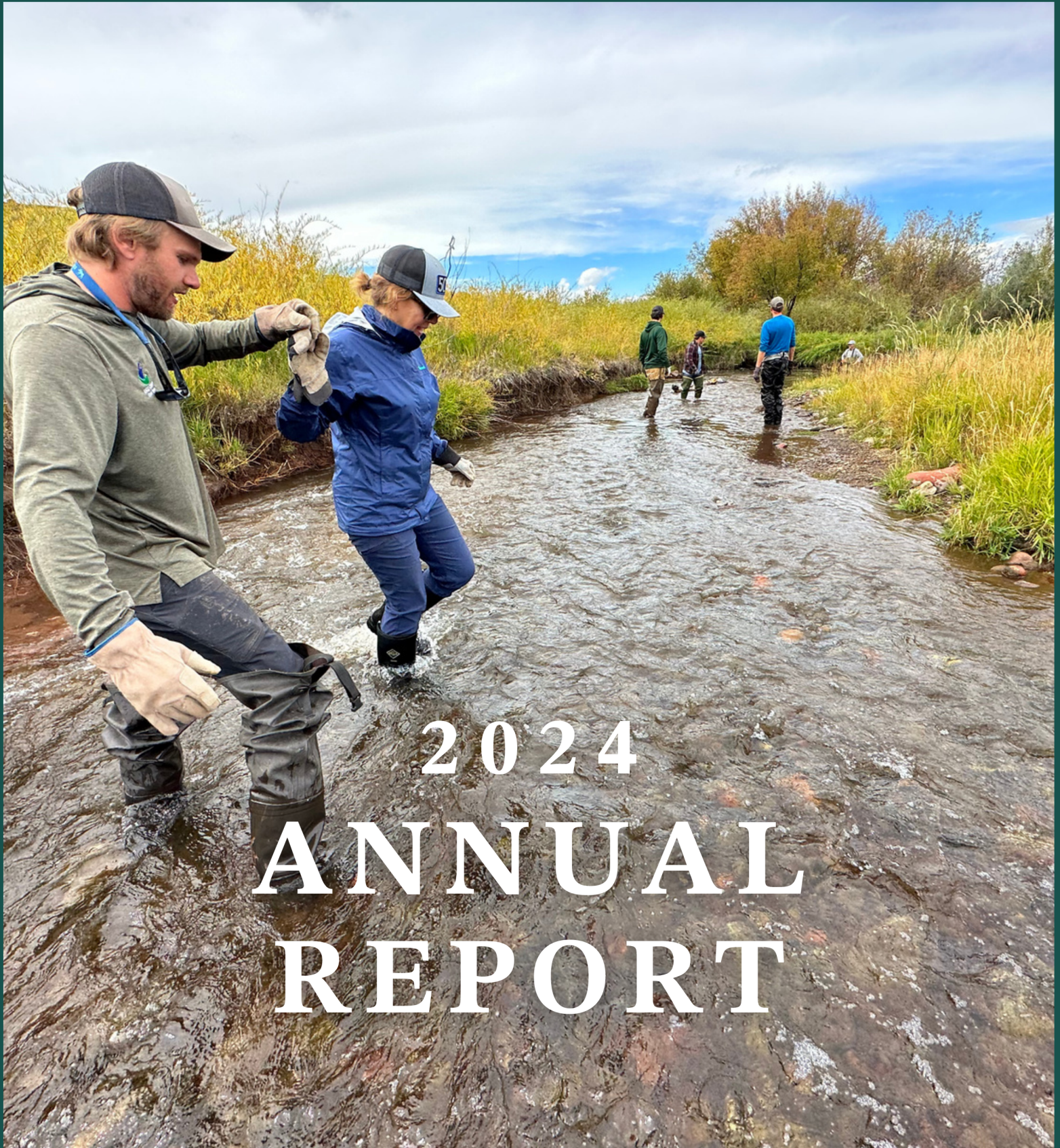




EAGLE RIVER COALITION

eagleriverco.org | 970.827.5406 | EIN: 20-4448864

PO Box 5740, Eagle, CO 81631

Message from Board President and Executive Director

2024 was a notable year for the Eagle River Coalition. From unveiling our new name and brand to welcoming a new executive director, we are embarking on a new chapter of river protection here in the Eagle River Valley.

With new challenges - such as federal funding insecurity around our large, multi-year project grants - contributing to the more familiar (though no less alarming) threats to local rivers, the Eagle River Coalition is investing in our work at the community level.

Water demands are anticipated to continue to increase, making local actions, policies and decisions in the headwaters more critical than ever. With the support of the completed Eagle River Community Water Plan, we know the priority actions to take. These include reducing outdoor water use, evaluating comprehensive water quality data, investing in restoration project opportunities and securing permanent funding for river protection.

The Eagle River Coalition empowers the community to become agents of change to protect local waterways. Together, we can improve river health and safeguard our most essential resource: water.

We hope to see you at an event, volunteer restoration project, education program, workshop, or out enjoying the river.



Peter Wadden



Vicki Flynn

Board of Directors

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Education Program Highlights



Inspired river stewardship in 70 first-time river rafters by holding the annual bilingual Community Float, which includes a free BBQ at the Eagle River Park.



Hosted the 9th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival in Edwards. 170 people joined, and proceeds of the silent auction supported education programming.



Connected 32 participants to the rare antique wetlands in the Homestake Valley, taught species identification skills, and provided Spanish language interpretation.



300+ local 5th-graders came together to learn about water topics from experts at the annual Eagle River Water Festival. Provided interpretation to Spanish-speaking students.



Coordinated with My Future Pathways to connect kids to their river through bug kicking, angling basics, and learning about how water quality and ecosystem health are connected.



Continued to serve as a data clearinghouse for the Eagle River Valley through collecting and analyzing 5000+ water quality data points annually and making it available to the public.



Coordinated the biennial Eagle Mine Tour, allowing 66 participants to learn about the catastrophic 1980's spill, mitigation, and the lasting impacts. A participant said, *"I loved seeing the process and timeline of what happened with the mine originally and how that affected the river - then how it was remediated and what we're doing today."*



**EAGLE RIVER
COALITION**

Protecting Our Local Watersheds

Restoration Project Highlights



Volunteers and partners collectively spent 52 hours in the field at the Brush Creek Valley Ranch Open Space property, planting 750 willows and 18 cottonwoods. They implemented low-tech process-based restoration techniques to install 15 pole-assisted log structures.

The project is already showing signs of success, with indications of increased floodplain reconnection and decreased sedimentation downstream.

Stay tuned for upcoming volunteer opportunities for this project!



Coordinated two county-wide cleanups that removed a total of more than 22 tons of trash from local roads and rivers with the help of 1200+ volunteers.



Conducted a 1:1 tree swap, replacing 71 invasive tamarisk or Russian olives with native plants and pre-ordering 51 additional plants for spring planting.



Implemented established project plans to install Zeedyk and wicker weir water control structures near Castle Peak to reduce erosion and restore impacted riparian habitats.



**EAGLE RIVER
COALITION**

Protecting Our Local Watersheds

Continued collecting temperature data that will be available for stream management, regulatory assessment processes, research - including climate-change issues, and permitting processes. Along similar lines, a real-time website for recreationists and recreation outfitters was developed in 2024 and is now nearing deployment. This resource provides up-to-the-minute flow and temperature conditions on a centralized website, with a user-friendly map interface.



Eagle River Coalition - 2024 Financials

Thank you for helping to make a difference in 2024's programs and projects. We are grateful for your help in continuing to ensure that the **rivers and streams** that connect this valley are **clean and flowing**.

Government | 70%

Individuals | 11%

Foundations | 11%

Businesses | 7%

Other | 1%



Programs | 85%

Management | 10%

Fundraising | 5%



THE
EAGLE
RIVER
FUND

How are the Eagle River Fund & the Eagle River Coalition different?

- The Eagle River Fund is a funding source for river projects in the Eagle River Watershed.
- The Eagle River Coalition is a nonprofit organization that uses funding to advance its mission of protecting local waterways through education, monitoring, and restoration work.

Introducing: The Eagle River Fund

The Community Water Plan, completed in 2024, outlines the priority actions to protect local water resources. Many of these actions include large-scale restoration projects that require vast resources and often a 50% match requirement.

The Eagle River Fund launched in 2024 to provide secure, permanent funding for river-protection work. Available to groups such as the Eagle River Coalition, Trout Unlimited and others, as well as municipalities and governments, a grant will release approximately \$250,000 annually after the fund's \$5 million principle is raised.

Why is the Eagle River Fund necessary?

- Organizations are working hard to address water quality and quantity concerns, but lack sufficient funding to scale efforts.
- Many grants require 25-50% match funding, limiting access to larger funding pools.
- As a permanent and secure funding source, the Eagle River Fund is yet another opportunity for organizations to diversify their funding for critical projects.

To learn more, visit eagleriverfund.org or contact Melanie Smith at eagleriverfund@eagleriverco.org.

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