

AD Donations and Expenditures

Water: Take it or leave it?

Amount Collected	\$12,775.00
Expenditures	
Coordination	\$ 200.00
Administration	\$ 240.00
Bookkeeping	\$ 90.20
Fax	\$ 2.00
Graphics	\$ 300.00
Postage	\$ 66.75
Travel	\$ 87.78
The Denver Post (October 20, 1996)	\$ 7,323.75
Valley Courier (October 1996)	\$ 798.51
Valley Publishing (November 1996)	\$ 1,021.40
Gazette Telegraph (Co Springs) (January 10, 1997)	\$ 2,802.80
Crestone Eagle (January 1997)	\$ 270.00

Total Expenditure	\$13,203.19
Amount Collected	\$12,775.00
CSLVW Donation	
Fund-raiser 1996	\$ 428.19

Volunteers: Greg Gosar, Greg Stabolepszy, Barbara Mertian, Billy Bond, Jim Gilmore, Dale Weiscamp, Kia Durcum, David Woodward, Evelyn Underwood, David Nicholas, Jerry Freeman, Chris Canaly

Amount of Volunteer hours: 110 hrs.

The Rio Grande

by Jerry Freeman
The Rio Grande begins in the mountains of the Valley, proceeds on its 1875 mile journey to the gulf of Mexico, passing through its basin containing 13 million people. The quality of The River is a reflection of the quality of the people in the basin. The headwaters is blessed.

Some examples are: the San Luis Valley Trails and Recreation Coalition is proposing a "Greenway Trail" from Creede to New Mexico along the Rio; the Rio Grande Water Conservation District and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are using the Closed Basin waters to maintain riparian health in the Rio Grande Corridor; the U.S. Forest Service is releasing a new Forest Plan which will describe mechanisms to protect the very beginnings of The River; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are studying the importance of riparian corridors to populations of migratory birds; and the Bureau of Land Management is about to release a draft management plan, which includes the Rio Grande Corridor, for citizens perusal and comments.

Citizens for SLV Water

(CSLVW) has been active in three efforts. We are a founding member of the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Coalition, a non-governmental, nonpartisan organization of citizen-based working groups; This coalition recently sponsored "Dia Del Rio". Local activities occurred in communities throughout the basin. In the Valley, CSLVW sponsored a conference on religion and the environment (Please see the article by Eliot Graves). The coalition also has meetings, a basin-wide e-mail network, and a homepage on the Internet through which we can discuss issues of concern, e.g. water exportation from the basin, with our downstream neighbors.

CSLVW is also participating in the Rio Grande Corridor Advisory Committee made up of citizens representing ranchers, environmentalists, representatives of federal and local government agencies, grazing permittees, landowners, and business people. (Officers are: Dean Swift, Chairman; Paul Jackson, Vice Chair; Connie Maskey, Sec./Treas.; Jerry Freeman, Program Coordinator) The committee's purpose is to restore the Corridor

to a "healthy, self-sustaining wildlife and livestock unit that enhances water management and the "local economy". Goals and action plans have been established. Proper management of this area will have several benefits: enhanced grazing, biodiversity, aesthetic values, property values, and relationships between private landowners and the BLM. Our work was partially supported by a grant from the *National Rivers Coalition* funded by *Recreational Equipment, Inc.*

Finally, we wish to thank Charlotte Hefner, Alamosa School District and CONNET, Joy R. Werner of UCAN at Adams State College, Ken Swinehart and Rocky Mountain Internet, Inc. for helping us fund project Del Rio, a water quality monitoring program for high school students in the Rio Grande Basin. Students from Del Norte, Alamosa, and San Luis Will be attending training workshops, test water quality, and discuss the river's state with other students in English and Spanish on ECONET of the Internet in order to conserve and sustain a common natural resource.



They're Back

Thank to our Donors

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