Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends,

The last year has been a significant one for our small organization. We've achieved a larger budget than ever before and unlocked new program capacity, updated our internal strategy to better position our response to land exchanges, and created positive movement within many important land management decisions and processes.

CWPL is excited to see new people engaging with public lands on a large scale, and we are proud to help new users participate in our public land systems in novel ways; such as though our April speaker series event Public Lands: Recreation vs. Conservation, or our bilingual birdwatching tour in May. Simultaneously, increased usership brings unique challenges and highlights the immeasurable value of public lands. CWPL's mission to Keep it Open, Keep it Ours rings truer than ever.

Alongside these successes, CWPL has experienced an overwhelming volume of activity in land exchanges and other threats to Colorado’s public lands. Throughout 2022, we engaged with more public land protection projects than ever before as land exchanges become more frequent and the proponents have grown bolder in their tactics to privatize public property. The past year has been a constant stream of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, litigation cases, new land exchanges, and advocacy efforts to improve transparency and public involvement. In response, CWPL has found much success, including:

- Achieving reconsiderations to expand comment opportunities on the Willow Creek exchange near Winter Park and the Mt. Emmons exchange near Crested Butte,
- Delaying (and possibly halting) the Buffalo Creek land exchange near Meeker,
- Convincing the Forest Service to reconsider the appraisals for the Valle Seco land exchange near Pagosa Springs,
- Ongoing policy change efforts to challenge practices of withholding information from the public in these exchanges,
- Developing strong working relationships with land management agency personnel which has led to early notification and opportunities for CWPL to provide positive exchange guidance pre-scoping.

These victories would not have been possible without the overwhelming aid of our dedicated members and supporters. Thanks to you, CWPL has achieved our strongest fundraising year to date and is well poised to respond to any threats to Colorado public lands that come in 2023.

With deep gratitude,

The Colorado Wild Public Lands board of directors:
Stefanie Davis, Franz Froelicher, Nina Itin, James Katzenberger, Neil Levine, Jean Perry, Anne Rickenbaugh, and Erica Rosenberg
2022 By The Numbers

In 2022, CWPL did most of our technical analysis in-house, with many hours of volunteer time and staff assistance. Several of the land exchanges that we are engaged with have progressed to the point of needing legal consultation. CWPL is grateful to our attorneys who have assisted with FOIA appeals and protests to land exchange decisions on a pro bono or reduced fee rate. Despite the busyness we’ve felt in 2022, and the resources required to maintain that level of activity, **CWPL had our strongest fundraising year to date** and was able to end the year with a **net operating gain of $8,230** to help us start a busy and exciting 2023.

**Revenue**
- Corporate Partnerships: $5,285
- Foundations & Grants: $29,050
- Other (<$25): $175
- Abbey ($25+): $5,695
- Pinchot ($250+): $5,165
- Roosevelt ($1,000+): $18,100

**Expenditures**
- Operations (Print, mail, postage): $3,066
- Business Expenses: $1,724
- Staff - Technical Work: $10,482
- Staff - Operations, Outreach, & Admin: $24,806
- Contract Services - Legal, technical & outreach: $15,164

- **Revenue $63,470**
- **Expenditures $55,240**

- **9** land management decisions engaged with
- **5,197** publicly owned acres proposed for exchange
- **$9,048,000** total appraised value of public land proposed for exchange *

- **305** pages of comments, FOIA requests, and protests submitted
- **548** longest stretch of days between request and release of public documents ‡
- **91 (of 91)** most pages redacted from a single public document release §

- **1,164** acres of special status, protected, or wilderness-quality public land proposed for exchange
- **29** sensitive species likely impacted by land exchanges *
- **40,709** feet of publicly owned perennial stream/river frontage proposed for exchange (7.71 miles)*

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* data figure not available for all 9 exchanges
‡ per FOIA regulations, information should be released within 20 working days of request
§ The Blue Valley Ranch draft binding land exchange agreement was completely redacted when originally released
Ongoing Projects

1. Bear Ranch
   Halted by local communities in 2014.

2. Rollins Pass
   Halted by historian & advocacy groups in 2021.

3. Buffalo Horn
   Final decision issued, CWPL submitted a Protest in 2021. (Current Project)

4. Fossil Ridge
   Supported by CWPL in 2019.

5. Mt. Emmons
   Scoping & public process started in 2022. (Current Project)

6. Blue Valley
   Final decision issued, CWPL submitted a protest in 2023. (Current Project)

7. Sutey Ranch
   Decision issued in 2014, CWPL filed a Motion for Reconsideration.

8. Valle Seco
   Final decision issued in 2022, CWPL partnered to file an Objection and Complaint immediately following. (Current Project)

9. Berlaimont Estates
   Final decision issued 2023, CWPL is deciding how to respond.

10. First Fork
    Pre-scoping (Current Project)

11. Locke Park
    Pre-scoping (Current Project)

12. Turkey Creek
    Pre-scoping (Current Project)

13. Unnamed
    Pre-scoping (Current Project)

14. Willow Creek
    Scoping started in 2022. CWPL submitted comments and awaits next steps. (Current Project)

Land Exchange Database

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), one of the primary guiding regulations for land exchanges, agencies must consider the cumulative impacts of such decisions during their review.

CWPL has argued in many comments, protests, and objections that the purpose of a meaningful cumulative impacts analysis is to look outside the action and the Analysis Area to assess whether these seemingly inconsequential past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions taken together with other actions are creating larger impacts. If individual land management decisions were truly considered in conjunction with others around the state, the agencies would notice net losses of sensitive species habitat, natural wetlands and riparian areas, cultural resources and stream frontage, and, because it affects the human environment, impacts on quality and types of public access and recreational assets.

Land management agencies (BLM and Forest Service) consistently fail to adequately consider the true cumulative impacts of these decisions, which is why CWPL has worked hard in 2022 to acquire a significant grant from the Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative to pursue a robust land exchange database and mapping tool that will be monumental for our effective advocacy to protect public lands & access, sensitive species & habitat, and the inclusion of conservation & recreation easements in exchanges. In addition, it will allow us to assist federal agencies in the identification of potential “bait” properties, and foster the leverage of land exchanges as a beneficial conservation tool rather than a means by which wealthy proponents quietly sequester private lands.

NEPA defines cumulative impact as:
"the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time"
Thanks to our Supporters

On behalf and in recognition of all public lands in Colorado, CWPL would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our members and supporters in 2022. Last year was our biggest fundraising year to date and we are working hard to make 2023 even more impactful.

### Abbey ($25+)
- Paul Andersen
- Glenn Auerbacher
- Lon Baronne
- Keith Brand
- Karla Breitenstein
- Ken Canfield
- Eileen Caryl
- Patti Clapper
- Jane Dally
- Paul Damato
- Michael Derzon
- Ben Dodge
- Susan Downey
- Charles & Doris Downey
- David Downey
- Melinda Downey
- Joellen Fonken
- Eric Froelicher
- Weaver Froelicher
- Ginni Galicinao
- Dee Gall
- William Gibson
- Helene Gude
- Allyn (Perry) Harvey
- Adele Hause
- Arlan Hemphill
- Cindy Houben
- Katherine Hudson
- David Hyman and Barbara Reid
- Molly Irwin
- Suzanne Jackson
- Tracy Jennings
- Jan Johnson
- Elise Jones
- Suzanne Jones
- Steve and Kim Jordan
- John Katzenberger
- James Katzenberger
- Diane Kenney
- Lani Kitching
- Paul Komor
- Joseph Krizmanich
- Chris Krupp
- Matt Kuhn
- Jennifer Lawton
- Lisa Lefferts
- Howie Mallory
- Daniel Marz
- Andrea Marsh
- Maura Masters
- Angela & Jeremiah McElwee
- Marlene Mickey
- Mandela Mischler
- Hugh Moore
- Dorsey Moore
- Brian Mordecai
- Dawn Mullally
- Rick Neiley
- David O'Keefe
- Kent Obee
- Sarah Perry
- Jennifer Phelan
- Rachel Richards

### Roosevelt ($1000+)
- Nina Beardsley Itin and Tim Itin
- Francis Froelicher
- Stephen (Hawk) Greenway
- Jean Perry
- Alison and Randy Rice
- Anne Rickenbaugh
- Heather Wilfley

### Pinchot ($250+)
- Dave Argo
- Melissa Bowers
- Robin Danell
- Stefanie Davis
- Kristen Henry
- Jane A. Kelly
- Albert and Mary Krueger
- Betsy Marston
- Dave Nordstrom
- Ken Ransford Esq.
- Erica Rosenberg
- Susan Sheridan
- Rick Tingle
- Diana J. Vernazza
- Suzanne Wolff

### Corporate Partnerships
- 777 Investment Corp.
- Alpine Bank
- City Market Community Rewards
- Green Century Funds
- KPCO LLC
- Yamaha Motor Corporation

### Grants & Foundations
- Maki Foundation
- Margaret A Frank Fund of The Chicago Community Trust
- Network for Good
- Pitkin County Commissioners
- Swaha Foundation

### Join us for our next Board Meeting!
- April 26, 2023
- 5:30 pm
- 23272 Two Rivers Road, Basalt, CO
Graham Ward  
Staff

Who We Are

Stefanie Davis  
Board President

James Katzenberger  
Board Vice-President

Jean Perry  
Board Treasurer

Anne Rickenbaugh  
Board Secretary

Erica Rosenberg  
Board Member (New in 2022!)

Franz Froelicher  
Board Member

Nina Itin  
Board Member

Neil Levine  
Board Member

CWPL Needs Your Help!

Help us decide on a new name! Since our founding in 2014, we’ve been known as Colorado Wild Public Lands but we’re not convinced that name accurately reflects our work any longer. Given that we focus more on access than wilderness, we think it may be time for a refresher.

Do you have any ideas for a new name for our organization?

Send your name ideas to coloradowildpubliclands@gmail.com for a chance to win prizes from Patagonia or Folsom Skis!