

# Colorado's Public Lands: Keeping Colorado's Outdoors Special

## Report on Colorado's Volunteer Stewardship in 2014

### Report Purpose

Volunteers work on Colorado's public lands to restore habitats, build and maintain trails, preserve historic structures, provide services to visitors, and much more. In this time of crisis facing our public lands and natural resources, community engagement is needed now more than ever. Making an investment in volunteerism can pay off tremendously for Colorado's outdoors, and already has. The primary purpose of this report is to document and share the impact of volunteers working on Colorado's public lands in 2014. It has been prepared by a coalition of federal, state, and local public land agencies and nonprofit stewardship organizations.

### Data Highlights

Public land agencies across Colorado were asked to assess how they are utilizing volunteers, as well as gather data about volunteer engagement. Other volunteer groups were also asked to collect data about who is organizing volunteers to work on Colorado's public lands. These groups include: nonprofit volunteer stewardship groups, recreational user groups, and service organizations such as youth corps and AmeriCorps who award stipends to youth volunteers.

- The total labor value rate of volunteer work throughout all agencies in 2014 equates to **\$34,797,159**.
- The total number of hours contributed by volunteers to public lands in Colorado in 2014 was **1,386,341**.
- The total number of volunteers reported in 2014 was **63,174**.

AGENCY	Total Volunteer Hours 2014	Percentage of Total	Total Volunteer Hours 2012	Total Volunteer Hours 2011	Total Volunteer Hours 2010
Federal Land Agencies	697,896	50%	637,772	610,201	721,075
State Land Agencies	355,046	26%	342,749	320,872	271,304
Local and County Municipal Agencies	333,399	24%	284,975	274,105	310,290
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,386,341</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,265,496</b>	<b>1,203,927</b>	<b>1,302,669</b>



<b>VOLUNTEER SOURCE</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours for 2014</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours for 2012</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours for 2011</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours for 2010</b>
Nonprofit Stewardship Organized	395,710	29%	409,576	475,470	360,332
NCCC and CYCA Stipended	544,791	39%	489,935	486,012	685,675
Direct Agency Volunteer Estimate	445,840	32%	366,168	242,445	256,662
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,386,341</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,265,496</b>	<b>1,203,927</b>	<b>1,302,669</b>

*Data was collected from:*

- Federal Agencies: USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, The National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- State agencies: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and Colorado State Forest Service
- 26 Municipal and County Government Agencies
- 47 Non-Governmental and Nonprofit Stewardship Organizations
- National and Community Service Stipend Volunteer Programs: AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, Colorado Youth Corps Association

Full report is available at [www.voc.org](http://www.voc.org), or by contacting Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado at 303-715-1010.

