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GOCO INVESTS A PORTION OF ANNUAL COLORADO LOTTERY REVENUES IN PARKS, TRAILS, WILDLIFE HABITATS, RIVER CORRIDORS, PLAYGROUNDS AND OPEN SPACES IN ALL 64 COUNTIES. CREATED BY A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE IN 1992, GOCO IS MANAGED BY AN INDEPENDENT BOARD AND USES NO TAX DOLLARS. IT ALSO HELPS SUPPORT COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES. LOTTERY REVENUES ALSO SUPPORT THE COLORADO CONSERVATION TRUST FUND AND EDUCATION CONSTRUCTION.



GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO FUND



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

**HOW WILL WE
PRESERVE
COLORADO FOR
OUR KIDS?**

**CONNECTING
COMMUNITIES
AND REGIONS
VIA TRAILS**

TRAILS | PARKS | WILDLIFE | OPEN SPACES | RIVERS

Our trails, our parks, our wildlife, our open spaces and our farms and ranches make Colorado an incredibly special place. That's why you're here. And that's why many more people are on the way.

In the face of rapid population growth and increasing congestion, how do we preserve what we love best about Colorado? How do we maintain our quality of life, our treasured outdoors and traditions for our kids? And their kids?

THAT'S WHAT GOCO DOES.

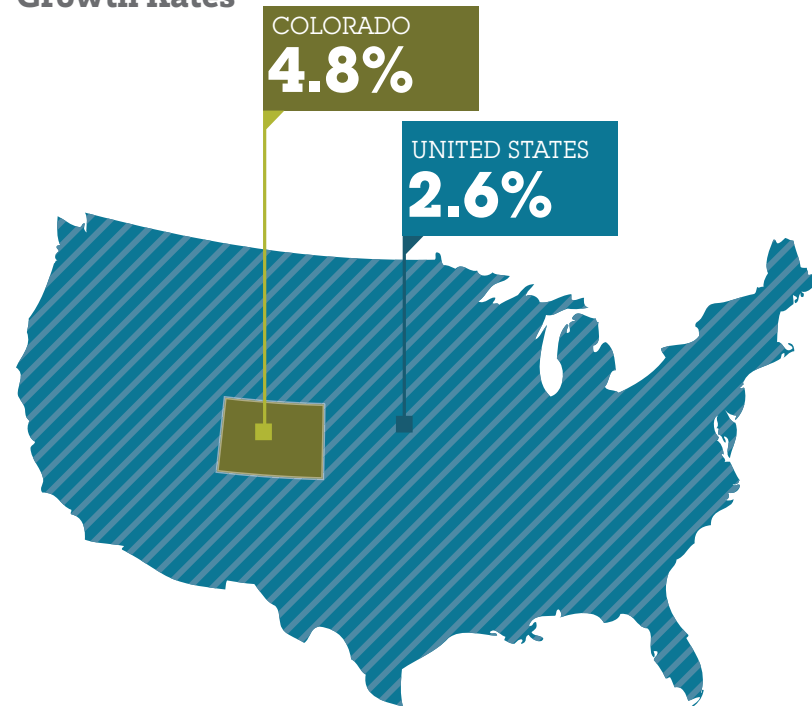


**WHAT
COLORADO
WILL SHE
INHERIT?**

IT'S HARD BEING POPULAR.

Since 1990, nearly two million people have moved to Colorado. Three million more are expected by 2040. That's a lot of people on your favorite bike trail, in your neighborhood park, and at the city pool. More farmland will disappear to make way for new homes, and **COLORADO WILL LOOK AND FEEL A LOT DIFFERENT BEFORE WE KNOW IT.**

Growth Rates



WHAT IS GOCO DOING?

It's possible to grow gracefully, however. We know. We've been helping Colorado do it for more than 20 years.

GOCO was created specifically to preserve, protect and enhance Colorado's parks, rivers, trails, open spaces and wildlife through competitive grants to local governments and land trusts, and investments via Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

For a complete list of FY2013 grant awards, see www.goco.org/grants/fy2013.

IN THE LAST YEAR ALONE, WE HELPED:

Leverage \$27.9M in matching funds for projects awarded GOCO grants.*

Protect 13 properties in 13 counties, ensuring that 9,900 acres of open space and agricultural lands are preserved forever.

Provide 16 new play yards and outdoor learning areas so more than 6,000 school kids will be more active and get hooked on nature.

Send 17,000 urban kids fishing for the first time in an effort to introduce them to a new, fun outdoor experience.

Protect more than 68,000 acres of wildlife habitat so big game and other species can survive and thrive.

Make possible a new 3,828-acre state park within 40 miles of Denver, acquiring land and supporting park operations.

*Includes only projects that closed in FY 2013.

GOCO BY THE NUMBERS.

TO DATE

1M acres preserved

750+ miles of trails

1,100 parks and outdoor areas

400+ youth jobs annually

3,500+ projects in 64 counties

712+ miles of rivers

OUTDOOR RECREATION IN COLORADO GENERATES ANNUALLY

\$13.2B in consumer spending

125K jobs

\$4.2B in wages, salaries

\$994M in state, local tax revenue

CHALLENGES AHEAD

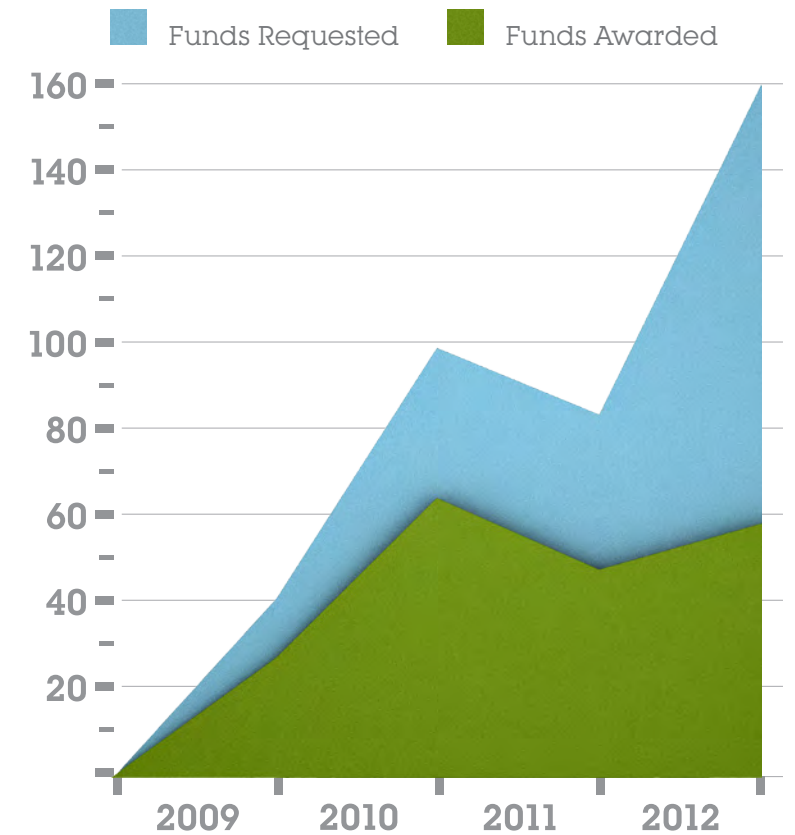
1.9M new residents since 1990

2.9M expected by 2040

2.7M acres of ag land lost in the last 60 years

3M acres could be lost in the next 30

THE DEMAND CONTINUES



PARKS AND TRAILS.

Our parks and trails are a big deal. Eight out of 10 Coloradans use our trails. Outdoor recreation in our state parks generates **\$1.7 BILLION IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY** alone. Moreover, parks and trails are crucial to our health and quality of life – and that of our children.

In the past year, GOCO grant awards have helped:

- open Staunton State Park near metro Denver. Colorado's newest state park measures 3,828 acres and boasts over 20 miles of trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding, a natural climbing wall and a waterfall.
- create or improve more than 13 miles of trails that connect communities and regions statewide, and lay the groundwork for more miles to come.
- develop playgrounds and parks in 15 rural communities with populations of less than 2,000.





YOUTH AND OUTDOORS.

What we wouldn't give to be told to "go play outside." But **KIDS TODAY SPEND HALF AS MUCH TIME OUTDOORS AS THEIR PARENTS DID**, glued to computers and playing video games. Research shows that early introduction to outdoor activity has a lasting, positive effect on kids' health and love of the outdoors. For this reason, creating opportunities for outdoor play and learning is one of our top priorities.

In the past year, GOCO grant awards have helped:

- Create 16 play yards with outdoor learning components at schools statewide.
- Create three new bike areas and six new skate parks in Colorado communities.
- Create more than 400 outdoor jobs statewide through the Colorado Youth Corps Association to help build and maintain trails, restore habitat along rivers, and perform fire mitigation.

OPEN SPACES.

Colorado wouldn't be the same without its wide open spaces. From nearby natural areas, to mountain parks, to the working ranches we see along the highway, we rely on the landscapes that define our state for our agriculture, our wildlife and our quality of life.

In the past year, GOCO grant awards have helped:

- preserve eight properties across Colorado that offer public access where none existed before. This means **NEW PLACES TO FISH, HIKE AND TAKE YOUR KIDS TO LEARN ABOUT NATURE.**
- protect more than 20 miles of land and wildlife habitat along Colorado's rivers.
- conserve 3,790 acres of land along state and national scenic byways, keeping your Colorado road trips as breathtaking as ever.





WILDLIFE.

Nearly 1,000 species make their homes in Colorado's mountains, valleys, rivers and plains. It's estimated that hunting, fishing and wildlife-viewing brings \$3 billion to Colorado each year, and supports **33,800 JOBS IN THE STATE.**

In the past year, GOCO grant awards have helped Colorado Parks and Wildlife:

- fund research to protect and recover threatened and declining species like sage grouse, the Colorado River cutthroat trout and the Canada lynx.
- protect more than 1,200 acres of wetlands.
- preserve nearly 38,800 acres of big game habitat for species like deer and elk, and just over 29,200 acres of sage grouse habitat.



LOOKING FORWARD.

We're really good listeners. And next year we'll travel across Colorado once again to hear your concerns, needs and wishes for your community. Your input is critical in helping us develop our funding priorities—otherwise known as our strategic plan—for the years ahead.

We will post our public meetings schedule at goco.org, or you can sign up for email updates so you won't miss a meeting near you.



FLOOD RECOVERY.

Sudden flooding last fall took eight lives, destroyed more than 200 miles of roadways and wrecked hundreds of homes in a few short, devastating days. The destruction also included many trails and park facilities that people rely upon for regular exercise and recreation. Coloradans tell us that the flooded communities won't be made completely whole until their parks and trails are restored along with their roads and homes. To help with the recovery, GOCO has created a \$5 million program to assist communities in putting the pieces back together. Recovery grants from GOCO will help communities raise additional funds and start the planning needed to replace mountain and urban trails, bridges on trails, and damaged outbuildings and roads in parks.

Details at www.goco.org/flood.

FINANCES.

GOCO's financial reports are always available to the public. The following summary is based on state audit reports for 21 years of GOCO's operation. **For our complete 2013 financial statements, visit: www.goco.org/resources.** For past audit reports, contact us at info@goco.org.

Since fiscal year 1993-1994, GOCO has authorized grants from lottery proceeds for:

- local government park, outdoor recreation and environmental education facilities projects.
- outdoor recreation projects through the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife.
- open space projects.
- planning and capacity-building projects.
- trail projects.
- special opportunity and "Legacy" projects that integrate parts of GOCO's four constitutionally-mandated funding categories.

Administrative expenses are approximately three percent of total revenues, substantially less than interest earned on cash balances. GOCO is not tax-supported.

REVENUES

Great Outdoors Colorado revenues are primarily from Lottery proceeds and interest income.

REVENUES	FY 2012-2013	FY 1993-1994 FY 2012-2013
Lottery Proceeds	\$59,171,757	\$848,936,189
Interest and Other Income	856,835*	36,734,090
Total Revenues	\$60,028,592	\$885,670,279

EXPENDITURES

Great Outdoors Colorado expenditures include payments to grantees and covering administrative expenses. Administrative expenses include operating expenses and Board expenses.

EXPENDITURES	FY 2012-2013	FY 1993-1994 FY 2012-2013
Grant Expenditures	\$52,383,167	\$825,005,661
Administrative Expenses	1,845,693	30,275,838
Total Revenues	\$54,228,860	\$855,281,499

BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 ESTIMATED BUDGET

Lottery Proceeds	\$59,000,000	Grant Expenditures	\$50,000,000
Interest and Other Income	200,000	Administrative Expenses	1,947,620
Total Revenues	\$59,200,000**	Total Expenditures	\$51,947,620**

Grant Authorizations: The GOCO Board has approved a spending plan for FY2014 of grants and investments not to exceed \$53.4 million.

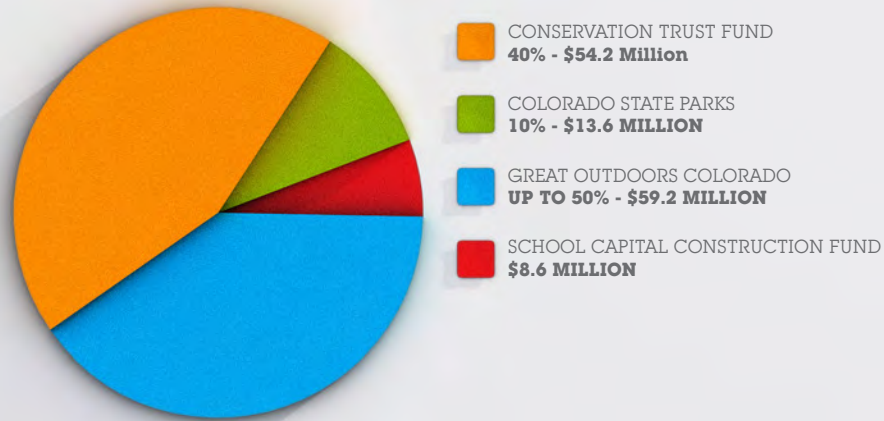
*Reflects one-time Colorado Health Foundation grant for School Play Yard Initiative.

**Difference between budgeted revenues and expenditures reflects monies designated for prior grant obligations.

MISSION.

Constitutional Mandate

The Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund was created in 1992 when voters approved Amendment Article XXVII to the Colorado Constitution to allocate Colorado Lottery proceeds. It directs a portion to GOCO for projects that preserve, protect and enhance the state's wildlife, park, river, trail and open space heritage, and created a board of trustees to govern distribution. The text is available at www.goco.org/amendment.



The Constitution requires GOCO to allocate funds to four areas in substantially equal portions over time.



GOVERNANCE.

An Independent Board

Board members decide how GOCO allocates its funds and which projects receive grants. They are responsive to communities' needs while remaining accountable as the trustees of public funds. More information is available at www.goco.org/board.

Members by Congressional District

- 1: Peggy Montañó (D), Jim Smith (U, chair), both Denver
- 2: Matt Sugar (D), Winter Park; Tom Swanson (R), Evergreen
- 3: Tom Burke (R), Grand Junction; Alan Schwartz (D), Snowmass Village
- 4: Chana Reed (R), Lamar; Jody Rogers (U), Yuma
- 5: Heather Carroll (D), Dave Palenchar (R), both Colorado Springs
- 6: Jason Brinkley (R), Linda Strand (D), both Aurora
- 7: Jacy Rock (U), Golden; Jim Spaanstra (D), Lakewood

State Agency Representatives

Natural Resources: Mike King

Parks and Wildlife Commission: Gaspar Perricone, Jim Pribyl

GOCO Leadership

Lise Aangeenbrug, executive director

U = Unaffiliated.

Sources include *CPW Path Forward* and *CCT's Colorado's Rapidly Increasing Population: Impacts on Our Land and Water*.

Annual Report designed by **Betterweather**.

Cover photo by Tom Stillo.