

2012 Annual Report

Bryan Ownen and Keith Kirchner enjoy a fall paddle in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison River. AW's work to quantify recreational flow needs throughout the Gunnison River Basin will help us protect boatable flows, even as water in the Southern Rockies becomes increasingly scarce. Photo: Chris Menges



xers fire it up on Steelhead Falls at approximately 2' on the Husum gage, e Salmon River, Washington. Photo by Thomas O'Keefe

Dear Members,

Our community knows firsthand that you can't love what you don't know. It's our common love of whitewater that makes us such passionate defenders of rivers. The American Whitewater River Stewardship Team is positioned to lead, train, and support community-based activism that represents the interests of boaters and the rivers we enjoy. The framework below provides an illustration of how we function and the impacts of our stewardship efforts.

Protect American Whitewater has been a key player in protecting our treasured free-flowing rivers through growing the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Restore American Whitewater has restored flows to dry rivers below dams across the country, and is a pioneer in bringing political and scientific legitimacy to restoring flows in a way that both improves riparian habitat and connects people to rivers.

Enjov American Whitewater knows that those who have a personal connection to rivers are the most powerful and effective river conservation advocates. We connect the public with rivers through promoting whitewater safety and improving public access to waterways. We also maintain the National Whitewater Inventory - a comprehensive database of over 7,000 whitewater runs, representing the nation's most extensive atlas of whitewater rivers.

This compelling mix of river stewardship allows American Whitewater to foster strong corporate and foundation support. In 2012, we were able to solicit three additional dollars for every membership dollar we received. That three to one match allows us to stretch your membership investment. Where else can you make a one-dollar investment and immediately stretch it to four dollars in support of river conservation? This match, combined with a lean organizational model, allows American Whitewater to leave a footprint much larger than our actual shoe size.

As we look to the future, we continue to appreciate the importance of rivers and their role in supporting the health and well being of the paddling community. We remain committed to giving back to these special places. American Whitewater river stewardship projects are making a real difference to rivers and local communities, while providing flows for healthy rivers and recreation.

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Mark Singleton Executive Director

Norwood Scott President, Board of Directors





We measure success in cubic feet per second — the amount of water flowing freely down a river. If paddlers are floating on that water, celebrating the river and its environment, than we are doubly successful. This was the case when paddlers first floated through the Condit Dam site, and paddled the first scheduled releases on the Upper Nantahala and Bear rivers in 2012. It is also the case in Colorado, Washington, Montana, and across the country where we worked towards permanent protection for hundreds of miles of our nation's wildest rivers. These projects exemplify our work: because of our involvement you can go to a river and see a river — not a reservoir, not a dry riverbed, but a vibrant flowing river. The photos in this report give you a glimpse into some of our major milestones from 2012. We hope they are as inspiring to you as they are to us.



Pacific Northwest

WHITE SALMON: After more than two decades of effort, American Whitewater celebrated the restoration of the White Salmon River following the complete removal of Condit Dam, a project that took place over the spring and summer of 2012. By the fall of 2012, paddlers were introduced to a new section of whitewater that had been buried underneath the waters of Northwestern Reservoir for the past century.

WILD OLYMPICS: In 2012 Congressman Norm Dicks and Senator Patty Murray introduced the Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 2012. This legislation would protect some of the Pacific Northwest's most treasured backcountry paddling destinations that emerge from the majestic old-growth forests of the Olympic Peninsula.

THUNDER CREEK WILDERNESS: While we have not seen much action for land and river conservation in Congress since 2009, Secretary Salazar administratively designated 3500 acres along Thunder Creek in North Cascades National Park as wilderness in September of 2012. This backcountry paddling destination in the Skagit River drainage was at one time considered for hydropower development but is now protected.

California

YOSEMITE: Through American Whitewater's involvement in the Wild and Scenic planning process and ongoing collaborative efforts, Yosemite National Park is now considering opening up paddling opportunities on the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers.

YUBA: Flow studies in 2012 allowed rafters to enjoy the Our House Dam run on the Middle Fork Yuba River. American Whitewater will use the results to negotiate new flow releases for the river, which will benefit aquatic species and whitewater boaters.

Northern Rockies

From big waves to big bears, the rivers of Montana and Idaho are some of the wildest in the United States. American Whitewater has worked to protect the Northern Rockies' wildest rivers from dams and other impacts through pursuing Wild and Scenic River protections.







Southern Rockies

Paddlers have helped AW define recreational flows for nearly every major watershed in Colorado and the Southern Rockies — from high-mountain tributaries, to rolling desert rivers. This year with the information collected from hundreds of rafters, kayakers, and canoeists, AW worked with the US Bureau of Reclamation and Interior Department on the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study to ensure that western water policies preserve boatable flows into the future.

From alpine steep creeks like Oh-Be-Joyful to desert floats like Escalante and Dominguez Canyons, Colorado's Gunnison River Basin provides a wide range of outstanding paddling opportunities that appeal to paddlers of all abilities. In 2012, we developed a strategy to define recreational flow needs throughout the Basin, and added staff capacity to coordinate the new Gunnison River Basin Program. These efforts promise to help us protect recreational flows in 2013 and beyond.

In the dry southwestern corner of Colorado, the Dolores River continues to suffer from persistent low-flow conditions, where boatable days have declined by 50% since McPhee Reservoir was constructed in the late 1980s. This year American Whitewater, the State of Colorado, and the US Bureau of Reclamation developed new Management Guidelines for releases of water from McPhee Dam into the Lower Dolores River that sustain native fish, public safety and improve rafting flows. These guidelines have been published in the draft Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan for the Lower Dolores River.



Southeast

Paddlers sampled the first of 30 years of flow releases on North Carolina's Upper Nantahala in the fall of 2012. American Whitewater worked with our regional partners to negotiate these flows over the past decade, and we are now working with the Forest Service and Duke Energy on improving public access to the river.

Northeast

We launched a new regional stewardship program in the Northeast in 2012 and quickly dove into a wide range of great projects. From negotiating releases on Vermont's Class V Green River, to working to protect river access to the Class II/III Deerfield, our list of projects has something for everyone. We even kicked off successful negotiations for releases on Vermont's big water Mississquoi River.

Mid Atlantic

American Whitewater worked with a diverse coalition of paddlers and sportsmen throughout 2012 to seek clarity and improvements to stream access laws in Virginia. Legislation was introduced to that end, and while it failed to pass, we believe the idea of keeping people connected to rivers will gain favor in the next legislative session.

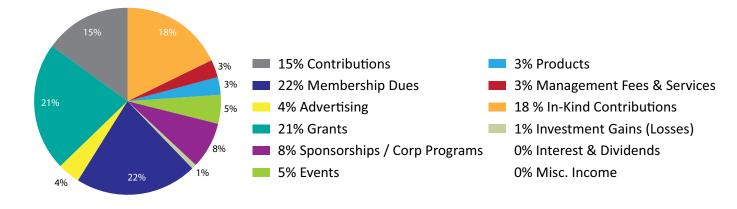




2011 Statement of Activities

Revenue	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2012	Total 2011
PUBLIC SUPPORT				
Contributions	\$104,034	\$114,300	\$218,334	\$167,254
OTHER REVENUE				
Membership dues	\$327,021		\$327,021	\$311,182
Advertising	\$55,716		\$55,716	\$41,387
Grants		\$298,141	\$298,141	\$200,105
Events	\$77,481		\$77,481	\$68,400
Sponsorships/Corp Programs	\$121,317		\$121,317	\$122,817
Products	\$39,339		\$39,339	\$32,637
Investment Gains/(losses)	\$16,415		\$16,415	\$(6,594)
Management Fees & Services	\$42,865		\$42,865	\$86,600
In-Kind Contributions	\$254,550		\$254,550	\$201,399
Interest & Dividends	\$1,851		\$1,851	\$1,775
Misc. Income	\$564		\$564	\$244
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$291,983	\$(291,983)		
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,333,136	\$120,458	\$1,453,594	\$1,228,992
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Access & Conservation	\$745,210	\$-	\$745,210	\$657,121
Public Education	\$403,276	\$-	\$403,276	\$406,892
Total Program Services	\$1,148,486	\$-	\$1,148,486	\$1,064,013
SUPPORTING SERVICES				
General & Administrative	\$117,385	\$-	\$117,385	\$123,664
Fundraising	\$84,962	\$-	\$84,962	\$75,220
Total Supporting Services	\$202,347	\$-	\$202,347	\$198,884
Total Expenses	\$1,350,833		\$1,350,833	\$1,262,897
Change in Net Assets	\$(17,697)	\$120,458	\$102,761	\$(33,905)

2012 REVENUE SOURCES



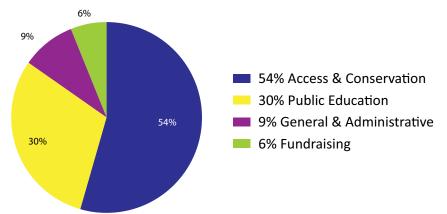


2012 Assets and Liability

Assets		2012	2011
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash		\$473,973	\$490,241
Accounts Receivable		\$20,183	\$51,226
Grants Receivable		\$37,924	\$48,338
Investments		\$336,595	\$223,979
Prepaid Expenses		\$16,891	\$12,535
Direct Deposit Funds Advanced			
Inventory		\$10,160	\$2,394
	Total Current Assets	\$895,726	\$828,713
LONG-TERM ASSETS			
Lands held for protection		\$61,056	\$61,056
Computer equipment, net		\$12,971	\$5,546
	Total Long-Term Assets	\$74,027	\$66,602
	Total Assets	\$969,753	\$895,315

Liabilities & Fund Balances		2012	2011
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable		\$23,970	\$32,661
Other liabilities		\$1,638	\$2,155
Deferred Revenues		\$63,449	\$83,940
Payroll Liabilities		\$20,389	\$19,013
	Total Current Liabilities	\$109,446	\$137,769
NET ASSETS			
Unrestricted Net Assets		\$523,002	\$540,699
Restricted Net Assets		\$337,305	\$216,847
	Total Net Assets	\$860,307	\$757,546
	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$969,753	\$895,315

2012 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



ENDURING RIVERS CIRCLE

A new program established in 2012 to recognize people who have helped to continue our river stewardship efforts through their estate plans.

Thomas J. Christopher Jennie Goldberg Joseph Greiner Christopher Hest Chris Hipgrave Karl and Jo Ann Koenig David Mason Peter Stekel

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Class V – \$20,000+

Fluid Kayaks KEEN Priority Worldwide Services

Class IV – \$15,000

Class III – \$10,000

Dagger Jackson Kayak Kayak Session Kokatat Smith Optics Wave Sport Whitewater Rescue Institute

Class II – \$7,500

Clif Bar Exact Target Subaru

Boof - \$5,000

Chaco Down River Equipment French Broad River Fest Immersion Research Pyranha US Inc. Watershed Werner Paddles Yakima

Wave – \$2,500

Cascade Designs Columbia Sportwear Diamond Brand Mountain Buzz Paddling Life

Eddy – \$1,000

AT Paddles

Launch – \$500

Osprey

IN KIND DONATIONS

\$30,000+

Patton Boggs LLP

\$10,000+

Gentry, Locke, Rakes & Moore, LLP Kayak Session KEEN Kostov Productions Nelson Galbreath, LLC

\$5,000+

Andy Maser Exact Target Jackson Kayak Kokatat Leiter & Cramer, PLLC Smith Optics

\$1,000+

Advanced Composites / Cataract Oars AIRE Cascade Designs CPU Software & Consulting Dagger Fluid Kayaks Immersion Research Jesse Kodadek Matt Kiedaisch Pyranha, US River Network Watershed, LLC Wavesport

\$500+

Sean T. Malone – Attorney at Law

DONATIONS

\$5,000+

Brookfield Renewable Energy Group LLC Charles and Margaret Clark Family Charitable Fund Yvon and Melinda Chouinard Patagonia Mort Fuller and Sue Langfitt Fuller Gentry, Locke, Rakes & Moore, LLP Kenney Brothers Foundation National Paddling Film Festival O'Keefe Family Foundation Sutherland Foundation Inc.

\$2,500+

Robert and Andrea Forster Katherin and James Hardy Christopher Hest John Jerger Scott Kazmar Jesse Kodadek Megi Morishita RDH Foundation Rebbecca and Stanley Simonson Nick and Emily Troutman

\$1,000+

Ace Adventure Gear Laura Blalock Rich and Stephanie Bowers Alan and Suzanne Bressler Arnold Schaeffer and Deborah Chandler Ed Clark Colorado Environmental Coalition Magdalena Dale Lester E Hurrelbrink Oscar Espinoza The FIFO's Joel E. Freedman Friends of the Yampa Joshua Gaffney Joseph Greiner Ironman Foundation Inc Keelhauler Canoe Club Matt Kiedaisch Chris Kirkman



Stephen Lex Douglas and Marie Liu National Parks Conservation Ass'n Nicholas B. Paumgarten PDXKayaker and Next Adventure Rocky Mountain Kayak Lee Rust Norwood Scott Brady Sleeper Roger L. Starring Edward Stockman Stride Stand Up Paddleboards Barry and Kitty Tuscano Universal Joint Charlie and Sandy Walbridge

\$500+

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KCCNY

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\$250+

4 Corners Riversports Jeffrey Abel Kim Abney R. W. Adamchak William R. Allen, DDS **Thomas Allen** AMC NY-NJ Chapter **Richard Ernie Anderson** Terrell and Michelle Anderson **Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts** John Arthur David M. Ashley **Chris Barchet Kemper Begley** Chris Bell Shane Benedict Peter R. Bernstein Boaters of the Roanoke Valley and Beyond **Tyler Boeing** Patrick Brennan Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey Anne Brindle John Brower Robert (Mike) Brown Dennis and Karen Buccella **Robert Butera** Ed Callahan Mark Canada Daniel E. Carlson John Carter David and Mary Cernicek Ross and Tara Cherry **Chico Paddleheads** Jesse Costello-Good Lora Cox Adam Cramer Sandra and Tom Dale David Dalthorp Daniel Kanner Jason Darby Meera Lynn Datta Chad Daugherty David Douglas Family Jeffrey J. Dean **Polk Deters** Mark Divittorio Jim Dobbins Ken Donahue Jared Ebelhar Randy Ebersole Susan Eckerly **Endless River Adventures** Donna K. Ennis Terry Ewanochko Jeremy Floberg George and Leslie Fuller

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\$100+

Russell Adams Jim Addington Steve Agnew Keith Aldridge Robert Allegrucci John Allen Jonathan and Renata Altman AMC Delaware Valley Chapter Scott and Katy Anderson Jane and Steven Andraka John Andrechak Henry C. Annable

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National Policy Hydropower Policy and Legislation Federal Agency Partnerships Hydropower Reform Coalition Invasive Aquatic Species Control Land and Water Conservation Fund National Forest Planning Outdoor Alliance River Management Society Wild and Scenic River Management

SOUTHEAST

Catawba River (NC, SC) Chattooga river (NC, SC, GA) Cheoah River (NC) Nantahala River (NC) Saluda River (SC) Tallulah River (GA) Tuckasegee River (NC) Watauga River (NC) West Fork Tuckasegee (NC)

MID ATLANTIC

Blackwater and Cheat Rivers (WV) Gauley River (WV) Johns Creek (VA) New River Dries (WV) Ohiopyle Falls (PA) Savage and NB Potomac Rivers (MD) Susquehanna River (PA) Upper Yough (MD) Virginia Access (VA)

NORTHEAST

Ausable River (NY) Connecticut River (MA, VT, NH) Deerfield River (MA) Farmington River (CT) Green River (VT) Missisquoi River (VT) Mongaup River (NY) Saranac River (NY) West Canada Creek (NY) West River (VT)

MIDWEST

Elkhorn Creek (KY) Fox River (WI) Red River (WI) Vermilion River (IL) Wisconsin River (WI)

NORTHERN ROCKIES

Bear River (ID) Boulder Creek (ID) Boundary Creek (ID) East Rosebud Creek (MT) Little Potlatch Creek (ID) Lochsa River (ID) Madison River (MT) Middle Fork Salmon (ID) Potential Wild & scenic rivers (MT,WY,ID) Snake River Headwaters (WY) Sullivan Creek (WA) West Rosebud Creek (MT)

SOUTHERN ROCKIES

Animas River (CO) Arkansas River (CO) Big Thompson River (CO) Blue River (CO) Boulder Creek (CO) Cache la Poudre River (CO) Colorado River (UT) Colorado River, Glen Canyon Dam (AZ) Colorado River Access (CO) Colorado Water Supply Future (CO) Colorado Basin Supply Study Dolores River (CO) Eagle River (CO)

East Creek (CO) Fish Creek (CO) Fraser River (CO) Green River (WY,UT,CO) Gunnison River (CO) Hermose Creek (CO) Mad Creek (CO) Oh Be Joyful Creek (CO) Piedra River (CO) San Miguel River (CO) San Juan (CO/UT) Slate River (CO) Snake River (CO) Solomon Creek (CO) St. Vrain River (CO) Taylor River (CO) Uncompangre River (CO) Upper Colorado (CO) Virgin River (UT) West Creek (CO) White River (CO) Yampa River (CO)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Chehalis River (WA) Chelan River (WA) Chetco River (OR) Cispus River (WA) Clackamas River (OR) Cooper River (WA) Crooked River (OR) Elwha River (WA) Green River (WA) Hood River (OR) Illabot Creek (WA) Illinois River (OR) Klamath River (OR/CA) Little Wenatchee River (WA) McKenzie River (OR) Middle Fork Snoqualmie River (WA) Molalla River (OR) Nooksack River (WA) North Fork Snoqualmie River (WA) North Santiam River (OR) Owyhee River (OR) Pilchuck Creek (WA) Rivers of the Olympic Peninsula (WA) Rivers of Volcano County (WA) Rogue River (OR) Sandy River (WA) Similkameen River (WA) Skagit River (WA) Skykomish River (WA) Snake River (WA) Snoqualmie River (WA) Sultan River (WA) White Salmon River (WA) White Water Creek (OR)

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