

**CLEAN
WATER**



**AMPLE
WATER**



**STRONG
CHAMPIONS**



2017 ANNUAL
REPORT



2017 BY THE NUMBERS:

109
GROUPS
supported through
direct consultation

107 GROUPS
received resources
for community events

1 INVESTMENT
PLATFORM
to connect businesses and
water-stewardship projects

29
COALITIONS
and learning cohorts
convened or supported

75,856
INDIVIDUALS
reached through our website,
newsletter, and social media

2,062
PEOPLE
educated through River Rally,
webinars, and workshops

\$120,000
SCHOLARSHIPS
granted to 199 River Rally attendees in need

PRESIDENT AND BOARD CHAIR LETTER

At this time each year we reflect back on the accomplishments and challenges of the previous twelve months. But no year stands alone, especially this one. This marks the end of our three-year Strategic Plan, as well as the close of the three complete years of our partnership as president and board chair in leading River Network.

Three years ago, we began a journey to invigorate River Network's brand and value proposition. With care and deliberation, we focused our attention on three areas: strong champions (strengthening coalitions, organizations, and leaders), clean water (promoting clean water solutions and innovations) and ample water (advancing water supply security and sustainability). We also launched a new website and upgraded our internal systems, technologies, and culture of inclusion, building the backbone necessary for River Network's success and evolution.

By dreaming big yet being methodical, garnering the support and enthusiasm of our funding and strategic partners, and digging deeply to expand our impact, we grew our net assets from slightly over \$860,000 in 2014 to \$1.89 million in 2017. Along the way, we invested in 29 coalitions working toward greater impact in specific geographies and on threats to our rivers and communities, provided financial resources for 134 local events, attracted over 5,000 to our educational events, and reached nearly 200,000 with important news about the waters of our country.

These past three years also witnessed a significant shift in the social and political context of water. As became clear to our team through the events harming the people of Flint, Michigan, and other areas threatened by contamination, flood risk, and drought, the costs of water are not equally distributed, nor are the gifts of access to healthy rivers. We brought these issues to center stage through our quarterly River Voices publication and blogs, our national River Rally annual conferences, and our first Trends Report: Our Water, Our Future. We also did hard work ourselves, examining our values, how we do our work and with whom, as well as our recruitment practices.

As we look forward, we are excited to ignite the power of the network to build a future that includes clean and affordable water as well as healthy rivers for all. In fact, the power of the network will be a central tenet in our next strategic plan which we anticipate releasing in early 2018. This will be a game-changing moment for us, requiring that we grow our community to achieve impact as well as address water equity and inclusion. That's an exciting way to celebrate our 30th anniversary!

We humbly thank all who have helped us accomplish so much during the past three years—staff, volunteers, members, and supporters. We are also excited to welcome Rebecca Wodder as new chair of River Network's board of directors. Together, we are ready to move with confidence into our next chapter.

With gratitude,



Nicole Silk
President



Lynn Broaddus
Board Chair



Nicole Silk
©Juancarlos Soto



Lynn Broaddus
©Callie Broaddus

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

CLEAN WATER

We promote clean water solutions and innovations. More specifically, we improve local understanding of the causes of water quality decline, advance policies and restoration practices that can turn this situation around and sustain improvement over the long term, and foster opportunities for expanded impact through collaboration.

DEFENDING CLEAN WATER

Clean-water safeguards, science-based policy-making, and federal funding for environmental protection and community health are under attack by Congress and the current administration. Responding to our network members' call for increased communication and clarity on critical federal issues, River Network actively synthesized federal policy information and regularly updated our state networks and partners, providing key resources and opportunities to take action.

In 2017, we developed and produced the [*Federal Budget Toolkit*](#) explaining the budget process and how to best tell stories about the impact of federal budget cuts on local communities. Working with the Clean Water for All Campaign, we developed materials on the benefits of environmental and public health regulations for groups to customize to increase strong, documented support from their communities. In the Pacific Northwest and Delaware Basin, particularly, we helped groups connect local efforts with national events through listening sessions, policy analysis, and campaign development. In all of these efforts, River Network helped amplify voices of community and watershed groups as part of the nationwide effort to safeguard clean water protections and fight against rollbacks of our bedrock laws and policies.

CONQUERING URBAN WATER CHALLENGES

Over the last decade, flooding and weather-related natural disasters have become more severe worldwide. 2017 was no exception. With the goal of fostering more resilient communities, River Network launched the Urban Flooding and Equity for Vulnerable Communities Collaborative to support organizations working at the intersection of water, equity, and climate change. We provided funding, training, and networking support to organizations in Colorado, Georgia, New Mexico, Oregon, and Rhode Island. They are engaging community members in identifying and documenting instances of localized flooding, proposing community-informed and -led solutions, and moving local decision-makers to support solutions that advance equitable outcomes.

River Network continues to coordinate the Urban Waters Learning Network (UWLN), now a 350-plus member group, to provide peer-to-peer support and best practices for protecting and restoring urban waters and urban communities. We hosted 12 webinars that engaged 662 individuals, published 10 [*Impact Stories*](#) showcasing urban waters successes, and convened 70-plus members at a day-long Urban Waters Learning Forum to explore ways to foster stronger upstream-downstream connections in communities. In 2017, our first ever [*Urban Waters Learning Network Awards*](#) celebrated Network members' achievements improving their waterways and revitalizing neighborhoods in cities across the U.S. through stormwater management, environmental education, and community engagement.

FACILITATING COMMUNITY RIVER CLEAN-UPS

Businesses depend on clean water just as much individual citizens. River Network has partnered with Anheuser-Busch facilities across the U.S. since 2010 to engage corporate employees and their families with local river and water conservation organizations. In 2017, River Network supported 21 unique river, lake, and coastal clean-up events, including four new events in Oregon, Washington, Arizona, and Texas. More than 17,000 volunteers donated 45,000 hours of time to remove 336,000 pounds of litter, plant 2,500 native trees and shrubs, remove 1,700 invasive plants, and restore 500 miles of river and streambank. These events supported and leveraged River Network's diverse base of knowledgeable local experts to design events which have lasting benefit to their communities' water resources.

"The experience really helps you to appreciate how much of our trash just ends up in the environment. It's not 'out of sight, out of mind' when you throw away your trash. It's always going somewhere it shouldn't and impacting natural habitats."

—Caroline, Great LA River Clean Up volunteer

RIVER RALLY 2017: GRAND RAPIDS

River Rally 2017 attracted 476 water advocates and enthusiasts from 44 U.S. states and Canada to learn, celebrate, and gain inspiration for a future of clean and ample water for people and nature. Held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan from May 8–11, participants and presenters shared practical solutions for keeping our rivers wet, clean, and healthy, as well as approaches for strengthening coalitions and organizations for greater impact. The event was framed by the challenges surrounding the politics of water across the country.

River Rally attendees included staff and board members of local, regional, and national NGOs; representatives of tribal nations; municipal, state, and federal employees; engaged corporate leaders; as well as lawyers, engineers, academic experts, community representatives, and college students. Thanks to more than \$120,000 in scholarship funding, 199 participants who would not otherwise have been able to attend received assistance to participate and were able to bring the benefits of Rally back to their communities.



River Rally 2017. ©John Wathen.

Flooded park in Houston.



Anheuser-Busch clean up in Oregon.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

AMPLE WATER

We advance water supply security and sustainability. More specifically, we grow local caretaker familiarity with the challenges and opportunities associated with securing an ample supply of water for healthy rivers and communities, craft solutions that meet both human and ecosystem needs, and foster expanded impact through collaboration.

PROMOTING WATER-SMART DEVELOPMENT

By 2050, the U.S. population is projected to grow to approximately 439 million, a 42 percent increase from 2010. Development in expanding communities across the U.S. means increasing stress on watersheds and significant impact on water quality and quantity. And yet, with smart development, a community's future net water use can be neutral or even reduced. Over the last three years, River Network collaborated with the Alliance for Water Efficiency and the Environmental Law Institute on *Net Blue*, a toolkit that helps communities create locally tailored policies to keep water use at the same or reduced levels as populations grow. By encouraging or requiring developers to integrate water-use offsets (like replacing inefficient fixtures with efficient ones) in land-use and water management planning, communities stretch water supplies, decrease need for new infrastructure, and help ensure ample water for fish, wildlife, and recreation. River Network worked with citizen groups and seven partner communities in California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Montana, New Mexico, Texas, and Wisconsin to gather information to develop the Net Blue toolkit and presented it to the first wave of communities and organizations interested in adopting this innovative approach.

MATCHING WATER PROJECTS WITH CORPORATE FUNDING

Water is an essential ingredient in most consumer products, often a critical component of source materials and the manufacturing process. With enduring drought, climate change, and increasing concerns about water supply for nature and humans, interest in investing in projects that restore or replenish water is growing, particularly among companies with corporate sustainability and water-neutrality goals. However, local NGOs often don't have the capacity to identify and pitch projects to national corporate investors. As a result, larger NGOs have received millions of corporate funding over the past 15 years, leaving smaller NGOs out of the picture.

To expand financial support for worthy projects sponsored by smaller NGOs, River Network teamed with the Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF). This year, with support from the Turner Foundation and the Coca-Cola Company, we launched the *Business for Water Stewardship Project Bank*, an online clearinghouse that connects businesses with on-the-ground projects that restore river flows and recharge ground water. River Network dues-paying members can upload eligible projects into the Project Bank. Businesses can then be "matched" with projects, a win-win solution. Our next step is to educate our network about this incredible resource.

EXPANDING RIVER HEALTH AND RECREATION IN COLORADO

Many communities in Colorado have economic interest in maintaining healthy rivers but few have strategies to protect streamflows. River Network seeks to change that predicament. Colorado's Water Plan provides a groundbreaking opportunity for the people of Colorado to have a voice in their water future. The Water Plan identifies a gap (insufficient water) to meet the flow needs of high-value rivers and streams. Local coalitions and watershed partnerships have an important role to play in the design and implementation of solutions to address this gap. This year, the State of Colorado allocated \$5 million to support local projects that protect or restore watershed health and stream function, including the development of stream management plans.

With support from the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Gates Family Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, and the Walton Family Foundation, River Network has launched a two-year project to enrich and increase the number of local coalitions by demystifying stream management planning, building a repository of technical and capacity-building resources, and fostering collaboration with Colorado's water management, NGO, academic, research, and science communities. The resulting restoration will support Colorado's burgeoning recreation industry, a primary economic driver that accounts for \$6.4 billion in annual direct expenditures in western Colorado alone. This project gives local communities the tools and awareness to do more for their local waters.

COLORADO RIVER FLOW RESTORATION

The Colorado River supports 40 million people, 4 million acres of farmland, 16 million jobs, and \$1.4 trillion in annual economic activity on its 1,450-mile journey through seven states and into Mexico. Literally the lifeblood of the region, it is also over allocated; more water is committed through compacts, water rights, and other agreements than is actually in the system. During the past few decades, conservation organizations have invested in policy reforms and restoration projects to keep more water in the river for the benefit of nature and downstream communities. During the past ten years, increasingly large investments in *environmental water transactions*—voluntary agreements between conservation organizations and farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts, utilities, and others to keep water in, or restore flows to, the river—have begun to make a difference.

Today, efforts include over 100 conservation practitioners and a handful of NGOs. Over the past two years, with support from the Walton Family Foundation and previously the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, River Network has helped connect practitioners, build greater competency in environmental flow transactions, and examine conditions necessary for success. This year, we facilitated a three-part webinar series to build common ground among ranchers, farmers, and conservationists; hosted a multi-day meeting in Yuma, Arizona, that provided education on Lower Basin efforts and the challenges of stewarding water across state lines; helped practitioners remain connected to each other outside of events; and supported a film exploring how ranching and river health can be compatible. According to participant feedback, 100-percent gained crucial knowledge that they will apply to their work.

"River Network is playing a valuable role in bringing together the NGO practitioners engaged in water transactions, ensuring players in far-flung locations get the benefit of a basin-wide perspective."

—Jennifer Pitt, Colorado River Project, National Audubon Society

River Workshop. Photo courtesy of Nicole Silk.



Colorado River.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

STRONG CHAMPIONS

We strengthen coalitions, organizations, and leaders. More specifically, we ensure that new and existing leaders, organizations, and coalitions are strong, effective, sustainable, results-oriented, and equipped to make the greatest impact for our rivers and other waters in a rapidly changing world.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY WITH FUNDRAISING ESSENTIALS

Our staff continues to provide individualized, in-depth services to build the capacity of organizations across the country. This past year we provided direct support to over 70 organizations on a wide array of topics—facilitating the development of strategic plans and advocacy campaigns, helping them secure the financial resources they need to carry out their missions, guiding their exploration of organizational collaborations or mergers, and training their boards to lead their organizations effectively and strategically. We provide these services in person—traveling onsite to work with board-staff teams—or through individualized mentoring sessions at regional meetings and River Rally.

Our staff also led training sessions at regional conferences and meetings, including the Delaware River Watershed Forum, Watershed Connections (a statewide conference for Pennsylvania watershed groups), the Michigan Watershed Summit, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Forum and others. As we near the end of the year, we have launched Fundraising Essentials for Success, a new five-month training series to help groups learn essential best practices and strategies for focused, effective fundraising.

THE NEW CONSERVATION LENS: EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

We believe that clean, affordable water is a fundamental human right. Every human being needs water, but not every human being has access to it. River Network promotes solutions to close gaps of water inequity across organizations and communities. This year, we clarified and publicized our organizational commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), and our Board EDI Committee finalized a Case for EDI, vital to River Network's mission. Also we developed our Principles for Equitable and Inclusive Work to guide us as we re-envision our activities through the lens of equity and inclusion.

In 2017, River Rally keynote speakers illuminated issues of inequity and exclusion in river conservation and water advocacy arenas, exploring the lack of diversity and the role of privilege at the root of the conservation movement, inequitable impacts of contaminated and unaffordable drinking water, and lessons learned from Standing Rock. We hosted two seminal online EDI trainings that drew the largest audience ever to attend a River Network webinar. And we explored local stories of water equity and civic engagement in our spring issue of River Voices.

"Our organization is just starting to have discussions about how our work can become more inclusive and equitable. It can feel like such an overwhelming and heavy lift. The sessions covered a lot of ground, but also helped me see a number of 'entry points' that can become our focus so we can start digging deeper (rather than spinning our wheels all over the place) and making some progress."

—EDI webinar participant

BOOSTING BACKYARD CONSERVATION WITH RAIN BARRELS

Conversations about water conservation begin at the individual and community level. River Network has partnered with Coca-Cola North America since 2003 to supply free upcycled rain barrels to communities across the U.S. and Canada through the National Rain Barrel Program. In 2017, River Network connected 47 different local organizations with 1,400 rain barrels made from recycled Coca-Cola ingredient drums. More than 3,200 people attended one of 53 workshops in 25 states, including 18 workshops in low-income communities. These rain barrels will help homeowners reduce their water footprint and save money on water bills by capturing up to 1.8 million gallons of rainwater annually. This reduces demand for treated tap water, limits stormwater runoff, saves water for use during droughts, and most importantly encourages strong local river and water champions.

"This was a great opportunity for my kids to learn about the water cycle and the positive impacts that rain barrels can have on our garden."

—Participant in Coosa Riverkeeper's Montgomery Alabama workshop



Coca-Cola Rain Barrel Workshop. Photo courtesy of Colorado Foundation for Water Education.



Coca-Cola Rain Barrel Workshop. Photo courtesy of Pace Academy.

RIVER NETWORK MEMBERS

The following nonprofit organizations, tribal and government agencies, companies, professionals, and students were dues-paying members of River Network during our fiscal year 2017. We are grateful for all that they do to protect and restore rivers and waters for all of us.

ALABAMA

Carol Adams-Davis
Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
Alabama Rivers Alliance
Alabama Water Watch Association
Teresa Bettis
Black Warrior Riverkeeper
Cahaba River Society
Choctawhatchee Riverkeeper
Dawn Coleman
Coosa Riverkeeper
Flint River Conservation Association
Friends of Big Canoe Creek
Friends of the Locust Fork River
Global Water Watch
Karen Jones
Joyce Lanning
Ellis Long
Cindy Martin
Natilee McGruder
Mobile Baykeeper
Yohance Owens
Ben Raines
Mary Leila Schaeffer
Ramsey Sprague
Herb Wagner
Tadric Williams
Joe Womack
Sabrina Zizo

ALASKA

Peter Captain
Copper River Watershed Project
Fairbanks Soil and Water
Conservation District
Harvey Hoffman
Kenai Watershed Forum
Verdene Morgan
Edda Mutter
Debra Pitka
Charlene Wolf
Yukon River Inter-Tribal
Watershed Council

ALBERTA, CANADA

ARIZONA

Friends of Arizona Rivers
Illinois River Watershed Partnership
Prescott Creeks

CALIFORNIA

Alameda County Resource
Conservation District
Alpine County Resource
Conservation District
Alpine Watershed Group
Amador County Resource
Conservation District
Amigos de los Rios
Antelope Resource Conservation District
Karen Askeland
Bard Resource Conservation District
Kelly Bourque
Butte County Resource
Conservation District
Cachuma Resource
Conservation District
Morgan Campbell
Central Modoc Resource
Conservation District
Chowchilla-Red Top Resource
Conservation District

Coachella Valley Resource
Conservation District
Coarsegold Resource
Conservation District
Coastal San Luis Resource
Conservation District
Columbia Resource
Conservation District
Colusa County Resource
Conservation District
Contra Costa County Resource
Conservation District
Vivon Crawford
Del Norte County Resource
Conservation District
Helen Dickson
Dixon Resource Conservation District
East Lake Resource Conservation District
East Merced Resource
Conservation District
East Stanislaus Resource
Conservation District
Eastern Kern County Resource
Conservation District
El Dorado County Resource
Conservation District
Excelesior-Kings River Resource
Conservation District
Fall River Resource Conservation District
Feather River Resource
Conservation District
Firebaugh Resource
Conservation District
Florin Resource Conservation District
Foothill Conservancy
Friends of Hope Valley
Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR)
Friends of the Napa River
Georgetown Divide Resource
Conservation District
Glenn County Resource
Conservation District
Gold Ridge Resource
Conservation District
Goose Lake Resource
Conservation District
Grassland Resource
Conservation District
Guadalupe-Coyote Resource
Conservation District
Gustine-Romero Resource
Conservation District
Honey Lake Valley Resource
Conservation District
Humboldt Baykeeper
Humboldt County Resource
Conservation District
Catherine Iantosca
Imperial Irrigation District
Resource Conservation District
Inland Empire Resource
Conservation District (IERCD)
Inyo-Mono Resource
Conservation District
James Resource Conservation District
Cora Kammeyer
Kern River Conservancy
Kern Valley Resource
Conservation District
Klamath Riverkeeper
Klamath-Trinity Tribal Resource
Conservation District

Lava Beds-Butte Valley Resource
Conservation District
Loma Prieta Resource
Conservation District
Los Banos Resource
Conservation District
Lower Consumnes Resource
Conservation District
Madera Resource Conservation District
Marin Resource Conservation District
Mariposa County Resource
Conservation District
Lindsay McPhail
Mission Resource Conservation District
Mojave Desert Resource
Conservation District
Mono County Resource
Conservation District
Napa County Resource
Conservation District
Nevada County Resource
Conservation District
North West Kern Resource
Conservation District
Alyssa Obester
Jayme Ohlhaber
Palo Verde Resource
Conservation District
Panoche Resource
Conservation District
Picayune Rancheria (Tribal)
Resource Conservation District
Pit River Resource
Conservation District
Placer County Resource
Conservation District
Poso Resource Conservation District
Lili Prael
Resource Conservation District
of Greater San Diego County
Resource Conservation District
of Monterey County
Resource Conservation District of
the Santa Monica Mountains
Rivers for Change
Riverside-Corona Resource
Conservation District
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Resource
Conservation District
San Benito Resource
Conservation District
San Diego River Park Foundation
San Jacinto Basin Resource
Conservation District
San Joaquin County Resource
Conservation District
San Luis Resource
Conservation District
San Mateo County Resource
Conservation District
Santa Cruz County Resource
Conservation District
Shasta Valley Resource
Conservation District
Sierra Resource Conservation District
Sierra Valley Resource
Conservation District
Siskiyou County Resource
Watershed District
John Sisser
Sloughhouse Resource
Conservation District

Solano County Resource
Conservation District
Sonoma Resource
Conservation District
South Yuba River Citizens
League (SYRCL)
Suisun Resource Conservation District
Sutter County Resource
Conservation District
Tahoe Resource Conservation District
Tehachapi Resource
Conservation District
Tehama County Resource
Conservation District
Temecula Elsinore Anza Murietta
Resource Conservation District
Trinity County Resource
Conservation District
Tulare County Resource
Conservation District
Tulare Lake Resource
Conservation District
Tuolumne County Resource
Conservation District
Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource
Conservation District
Upper San Luis Rey Resource
Conservation District
Ventura County Resource
Conservation District
West Stanislaus Resource
Conservation District
Western Shasta Resource
Conservation District
Westside Resource
Conservation District
Yolo County Resource
Conservation District
Yuba County Resource
Conservation District

COLORADO

Marc Alston
Jennifer Back
Big Thompson Watershed Forum
Colorado Foundation for
Water Education
Colorado Water Trust
Colorado Watershed Assembly
Erin Cooper
Jeff Crane
Eagle River Watershed Council
Jessica Egan
Jim Morris
Friends of the Poudre
High Country Conservation Advocates
Barb Horn and Steve Krest
Julie Knudson
Lake Fork Valley Conservancy
Jonathan Milne
Poudre Heritage Alliance
Nicole Seltzer
Upper Colorado River Watershed Group
Victoria Yu

CONNECTICUT

Farmington River
Watershed Association
Housatonic Valley Association
Pequabuck River
Watershed Association
Pomperaug River
Watershed Coalition

DELAWARE

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
American Rivers
Lincoln Boykin
Dennis Chestnut
Clean Water Fund
Clean Water Network-
Environment America
Groundwork Anacostia River DC
Scott Kaiser
MDB, Inc. (Michael D Baker)
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Fish Habitat Partnership
National Park Service (NPS)
Potomac Riverkeeper Network
U.S. Water Alliance

FLORIDA

Apalachicola Riverkeeper
Katie Britt
St. John's Riverkeeper
GEORGIA
Broad River Watershed Association
Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
Chattahoochee RiverWarden
Flint Riverkeeper
Friends of South Newport River
Georgia River Network
Ogeechee Riverkeeper
Satilla Riverkeeper
Save Our Rivers, Inc.
Upper Etowah River Alliance
West Atlanta Watershed Alliance
WWALS Watershed Coalition

HAWAII

IDAHO

ILLINOIS

Alliance for Water Efficiency
Conservation Foundation
Meghan Elgan
Friends of the Fox River
Amanda Marshall
Openlands
Prairie Rivers Network
INDIANA
Laurel Cornell
Douglas Kaufman
The Watershed Foundation
Wabash County Waste Management
District
Wabash River Enhancement
Corporation
White River Alliance

IOWA

Iowa Rivers Revival
KENTUCKY
Nicole Clements
Kentucky River Watershed Watch
Kentucky Waterways Alliance
Watershed Watch in Kentucky

LOUISIANA

Atchafalaya Basinkeeper
Andrea Bourgeois-Calvin
Bridge the Gulf Project
George Gehrig
Groundwork New Orleans (NOLA)
Gulf Restoration Network

MAINE

Androscoggin River Watershed Council
Association of State Wetland Managers
BlkH20 Consulting
Downeast Salmon Federation
MARYLAND
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Anacostia Watershed Society
Assateague Coastal Trust
Chesapeake Bay Foundation-Maryland
Gunpowder Riverkeeper
LeadGreen

Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
Neighbors of the Northwest Branch
Port Tobacco River Conservancy
River Management Society (RMS)
Rock Creek Conservancy
Sassafras River Association
Corita Waters
MASSACHUSETTS
Charles River Watershed Association
Connecticut River Conservancy
Groundwork Lawrence
Ipswitch River Watershed Association
Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance
Merrimack River Watershed Council
Emily Moothart
Mystic River Watershed Association
Neponset River Watershed Association
New England FLOW

MICHIGAN

Eileen Boekestein
Clinton River Watershed Council
Lori Eschenburg
Flint River Watershed Coalition
Friends of the Rouge
Friends of the St. Joe River
Genesee County Hispanic Latino
Collaborative, Inc.
Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Heart of the Lakes
Taylor Hollis
Huron River Watershed Council
Paul Isely
Kalamazoo River Cleanup Coalition
Kawkawlin River Watershed
Association

MIDWEST

Megan Kelly
LimnoTech
Lower Grand River Organization of
Watersheds
Kirsten Lyons
Macatawa Area Coordinating Council
Middle Grand River Organization of
Watersheds
Plaster Creek Stewards
Heather Rice
Rogue River Watershed Partners
Friends of the Lower Olentangy
Watershed (FLOW)
Licking County Soil & Water
Conservation District
Little Miami Conservancy, FKA
Little Miami

MINNESOTA

Cannon River Watershed Partnership
Hamline University
MISSOURI
Blue River Watershed Association
Lynne Hooper
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
Missouri River Relief
SRAP Water Rangers Program
Geoffrey Stillwell

MONTANA

Bitter Root Water Forum
Flathead Lakers
Madison River Foundation
Montana Watershed Coordination
Council

NEBRASKA

Judith Puncochar
NEW HAMPSHIRE
New Hampshire Rivers Council
Upper Merrimack River Local
Advisory Committee

NEW JERSEY

Hackensack Riverkeeper, Inc.
Hunterdon County Educational
Services Commission
William Leavens

Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership
Passaic River Coalition
Raritan Headwaters Association
NEW MEXICO
Amigos Bravos
Pueblo Of Sandia
Pueblo of Santa Ana
River Source
Upper Gila Watershed Alliance
NEW YORK
Bronx River Alliance
Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper
Grace Communications Foundation
Groundwork USA
Stephanie Kupferman
Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council
Rachel O'Connor
Onondaga Environmental Institute
Save The River

NORTH CAROLINA

Anna Alsobrook
American Whitewater
Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation
Clean Water for North Carolina
Dan River Basin Association
Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association
Haw River Assembly
Haywood Waterways Association
Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition
Land Trust for the Little Tennessee-
Mainspring Conservation Trust
New River Conservancy
North Carolina Conservation Network
Mary Beth Powell
RainWater Solutions
RiverLink, Inc.
Chuck Roes
Sound Rivers, Inc.
SouthWings
Yadkin Riverkeeper

NORTH DAKOTA

River Keepers
OHIO
Rachael Beeman
Captina Conservancy
Cuyahoga River Restoration
Friends of the Crooked River
Friends of the Lower Olentangy
Watershed (FLOW)
Licking County Soil & Water
Conservation District
Little Miami Conservancy, FKA
Little Miami

Miami Conservancy District
Northeast Ohio Regional
Sewer District
Northwest Neighborhood Alliance
Ohio Natural Areas &
Preserves Association
Ohio River Foundation
Ohio Wetlands Association
Partners for Clean Streams
Rivers Institute at the University
of Dayton

Rivers Unlimited
Rocky River Watershed Council
Upper Maumee Watershed Partnership

OREGON

Coalition for the Deschutes
Network Of Oregon
Watershed Councils
North Clackamas Urban
Watersheds Council
Denielle Perry
SOLVE (Stop Oregon Litter
and Vandalism)
Tualatin Riverkeepers
Upper Deschutes Watershed Council
PENNSYLVANIA
Environment Erie
Green Valleys Watershed Association

Kiskiminetas River
Watershed Association
Lackawanna River
Conservation Association
Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper
RHODE ISLAND
Woonasquatucket River
Watershed Council

SOUTH CAROLINA

Gills Creek Watershed Association
Save Our Saluda
Upstate Forever
SOUTH DAKOTA
Jennifer Benning
Jason Phillips

TENNESSEE

Cumberland River Compact
Girls Preparatory School-River
Fellows Program
Harpeth River Watershed Association
John McFadden
Barry Sulkin
Diana Threadgill
Greer Tidwell

TEXAS

Galveston Bay Foundation
Kevin Jeffery
Rio Grande International Study Center
San Antonio River Authority
VERMONT
Lake Champlain International
Missisquoi River Basin Association

VIRGINIA

Kylie Campbell
Elizabeth River Project
Friends of the Middle River
Friends of the North Fork of the
Shenandoah River
James River Association
National Wildlife Federation
James Puckett
Rivanna Conservation Alliance
Llyn Sharp
Shenandoah Valley Pure Water Forum
Cristina Siegel
Southeast Rural Community
Assistance Project
The Nature Conservancy
Water Environment Federation
WASHINGTON
Center for Environmental Law
and Policy
Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition
Martin Merz

Streamkeepers of Clallam County
Washington Water Trust
WEST VIRGINIA
Cacapon Institute
Friends of the Cheat
Piney Creek Watershed Association
West Virginia Rivers Coalition

WISCONSIN

Bad River Watershed Association
Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance
Friends of the Mukwonago River
Groundwork Milwaukee
Jefferson County Land & Water
Conservation Department
Lakeshore Natural Resource
Partnership
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Michael Page
River Alliance of Wisconsin
River Revitalization Foundation
Rock River Coalition
St. Croix River Association
Sweet Water: The Southeastern
Wisconsin Watersheds Trust
WYOMING
BEAR Project

SUPPORTER LIST

Our heartfelt thanks go to the following individuals, foundations, corporations, nonprofits, and government agencies for charitable contributions, grants, and awards to River Network during our 2017 fiscal year. Their support for River Network’s programs and projects makes everything we do possible.

FOUNDATIONS, GOVERNMENT, AND NONPROFITS

Anonymous
Alabama Rivers Alliance
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
Alliance for Water Efficiency
Amazon Smile Foundation
American Rivers
Bullitt Foundation
Charles Stuart Mott Foundation
Clear Choices Clean Water
Coca-Cola Foundation
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Earth Share of Oregon
East Coast Greenways Alliance
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Frey Foundation
Gates Family Foundation
Grand Valley Metropolitan Council
Groundwork USA
Gulf Restoration Network
Gunpowder Riverkeeper
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
Keith Campbell Foundation
Kresge Foundation
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
MARPAT Foundation
McKnight Foundation
National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
National Park Service (NPS)
Nature Conservancy–Colorado
North Carolina Conservation Network
Park Foundation
Pinchot Institute for Conservation

Pisces Foundation
Potomac Riverkeeper Network
River Management Society (RMS)
Sweetgrass Foundation
True North Foundation
Turner Foundation
United Way, California Capital Region
US Forest Service
Walton Family Foundation
Water Environment Federation
Wege Foundation
Wiancko Family Donor Advised Fund of the Community
Foundation of Jackson Hole
William Penn Foundation

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Bridgestone Retail Operations
Coca-Cola Company, Inc.
Founders Brewery
Klean Kanteen
McWane Foundation
Patagonia
Pradco Outdoor Brands
Storm Water Systems, Inc.
The Fellows Group
The Rain Barrel Depot
Your True Nature, Inc.

INDIVIDUALS (UNDER \$1,000)

Moid Alwy
Hilary and Seth Arens
Julie Ash
Katherine Baer
Margery Bare
Judith Bell and Richard Goodwin
James Blose and Sara Rubin
David and Nancy Borden
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Diana Toledo
Terry Turner
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Wendy Wilson
Maria Wise

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Victoria Yu
Robert Zimmerman

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Founders Brewery
Peggy Hill
Healing Our Waters–Great Lakes Coalition
Beth Stewart
Rebecca Wodder and James Van Erden

A LEGACY OF CRITICAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL RIVERS, NATIONALLY

“Think globally; act locally. That adage is what River Network is all about. River Network provides information and tools that help folks across the country with their local rivers. This assistance is critical to the future of our rivers, be they urban, rural, or suburban. That’s why I support River Network.”
–Suzi Wilkins Berl, Asheville, North Carolina



Suzi Wilkins Berl, legacy supporter.

We are grateful to Suzi and others who support the River Network community well into the future by making a planned gift to River Network. There are many ways to support our work and to leave a legacy of strong champions for our rivers and waters. Please contact us at 303-736-2724 or development@rivernetwork.org if you are interested in learning more or if you would like to share your own plans for leaving a legacy.



DONORS

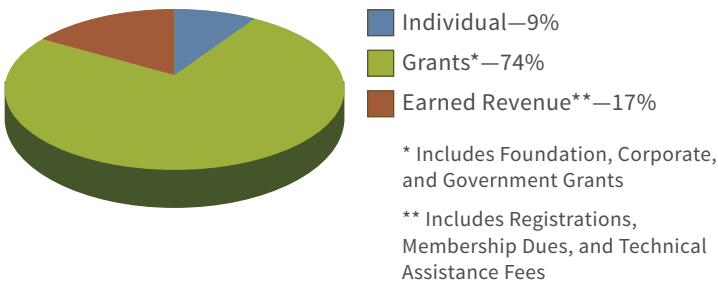
The Headwaters Society recognizes individuals and families who contribute \$1,000 or more annually to River Network. We thank the following Headwaters Society members for their generous support during our fiscal year 2017.

Todd Ambs and Beth Wentzel
Catherine and Paul Armington
Suzi and E. Ennalls Berl
Alan Black
Bill and Joanne Brandt
Lynn Broaddus and Marc Gorelick
Walker Brock
Dell and F. Dixon Brooke
Chris Brown and Mary Rollefson
Stuart and Joanna Brown
Britt and Judy Butler
Yvon and Malinda Chouinard
Susan Clark
Sally Davidson
Virginia De Lima
Mary Ann Dickinson
Muffy and Andy DiSabatino
Margo Farnsworth and Jim Pascoe
Fresh Sound Foundation
Valerie Friedman
Peggy Hill
Marc Hult
Tommy and Eva Latousek
Scott Low

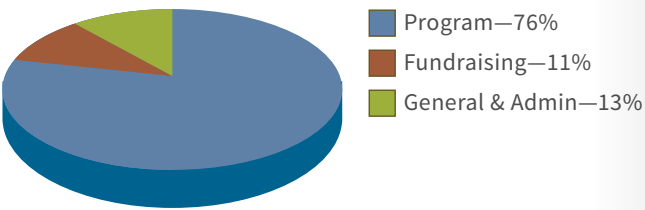
Mary McFadden and Dr. Lawrence Stifler
Katherine Moore
Jack Ohly
George Ohrstrom
Margaret Purves
Jon Radtke
Elizabeth Raisbeck and Zell Steever
James and Amy Ray
Dr. Robert and Joan Rechnitz
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Cary Ridder and David Alberswerth
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Thomas Silk and Kathleen Foote
Paul and Margaret Sloan
Bill Stetson and Jane Watson Stetson
Greer Tidwell
Dan Valens and Rex Holt
Marion Weber
Rebecca Wodder and James Van Erden

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SUPPORT & REVENUE



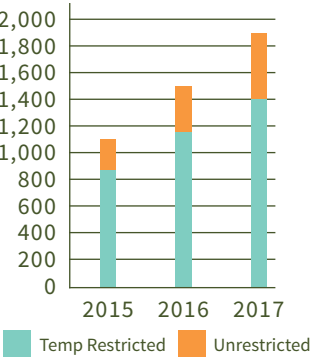
EXPENSES



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as of September 30, 2017
(\$ thousands)

	Unrestricted
ASSETS	
Cash	\$1,450
Grants & Pledges Receivable	485
Accounts Receivable	—
Other Assets	139
Total Assets	2,074
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	121
Accrued Payroll & Benefits	62
Total Liabilities	183
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	483
Temporarily Restricted	1,408
Total Net Assets	1,891
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,074



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017
(\$ thousands)

SUPPORT & REVENUE

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total FY '17
Foundation Corporation	\$148	\$1,286	\$1,433
Government	51	413	464
Individual	52	—	52
Other NGOs	207	42	249
Registrations	20	15	35
Technical Assistance Fees	118	—	118
Membership Dues	250	—	250
Other Revenue	59	—	59
Releases from Restrictions	19	—	19
	1,509	(1,509)	—

Total Support & Revenue	2,432	246	2,679
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EXPENSES

Science & Policy	579	—	579
Leadership Development	462	—	462
Community Engagement**	747	—	747

All Programs	1,788	—	1,788
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Fundraising	235	—	235
General & Admin	261	—	261

Total Expenses	2,284	—	2,284
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Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	148	246	395
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Net Assets, Beginning of Year	335	1,161	1,496
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Net Assets, End of Year	\$483	\$1,408	\$1,891
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** Includes River Rally, Membership, Communications, and other Community Engagement programs

Audited financials and form 990 will be available online and by request.

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*Current board members, STAG, and staff as of September 30, 2017

VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

We are deeply grateful to the following individuals who donated their time, expertise and services to make our work possible this year.

Suzi Wilkins Berl
Kendall Gilbert
Barb Horn
Nancy Kissane
John Kinch
Ellen Kohler
Bailey Lysne
Kala Megrdochian
Chauncey Moran
Mary Nagy
John Wathen
Bill Wikhuis

RIVER NETWORK

P.O. Box 21387

Boulder, CO 80308



Mission, Vision, and Focus

River Network empowers and unites people and communities to protect and restore rivers and other waters that sustain all life. We envision a future of clean and ample water for people and nature, where local caretakers are well-equipped, effective, and courageous champions for our rivers. Our three strategies for focused investment are strong champions, clean water, and ample water.

www.rivernetwork.org