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NATIONAL CONFERENCE ANCHORS EQUITY TO THE FUTURE OF AMERICA'S WATERS

February 9, 2022 [Boulder, Colorado] – River Rally 2022 will take place at The Capital Hilton in Washington, DC, from June 4-7, 2022. Now in its 24th year, River Rally is the premier national conference for grassroots water advocates and river conservation professionals.

Hosted annually by River Network, River Rally provides an inspiring and energy-infused touchpoint for nonprofit groups from across the US and beyond, as well as for agency and foundation representatives, industry innovators, philanthropists, academics, students, and community leaders. We bring thought leaders and practitioners together to accelerate progress towards an equitable and sustainable water future.

After two years of virtual gatherings, River Rally 2022 returns to an in-person event, taking place along the banks of the Potomac River in our nation's capital to mark the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act, one of the most comprehensive environmental statutes in the United States, and what we can do together to build an equitable and inclusive water future. The River Rally 2022 program will feature engaging speakers and interactive workshops that celebrate wins, illuminate today's most urgent challenges, center equity across all topics, and bring new voices forward.

"River Rally will not only mark where we've been, but where we must head if we are to deliver clean water, protection from floods, and healthy rivers to communities from coast to coast. River Rally is one of the few conferences that intentionally challenges leaders to craft solutions that are inclusive, equitable, and leave no one behind, through both inspiring remarks and practical knowledge," according to Nicole Silk, President and CEO of River Network. *"50 years after the passage of the Clean Water Act, we are once again embarking on significant investments to repair and improve our water systems and other infrastructure from coast to coast. We must come together as a community to make sure all voices are at the table, that these investments support vibrant communities and rural landscapes with rivers running through them, and hold ourselves accountable to a higher standard, too."* Silk shared, *"This conference is about hope as well as action."*

Because healthy rivers and clean water are crucial to everyone—in all communities—the conference addresses issues at the intersection of water and equity, diversity, and inclusion, including a plenary panel on decolonizing philanthropy and another on how we achieve equity, climate readiness, and healthy rivers through infrastructure investments.

River Rally will include an opening reception (Saturday night), a celebration of award recipients who have gone above and beyond for the waters of our country (Monday night), and other novel social events along with over 70 learning opportunities delivered in a variety of formats including field trips, peer exchanges, and workshops.

Immediately following River Rally, River Network is partnering with American Rivers and Waterkeeper Alliance to organize *Action Day for Clean Water and Rivers* on June 7-8, 2022. This is a powerful opportunity for participants to join with fellow advocates to meet with members of Congress and ask them to support policies that will ensure clean water and healthy rivers for all communities.

Learn more about the conference program at www.riverrally.org.

About River Network

River Network is the foremost nonprofit connecting water-focused organizations, agencies, businesses, and communities for greater local impact and healthier rivers across the U.S.