

---

POUDRE HERITAGE ALLIANCE

2019  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

*Cache la Poudre River*  
National Heritage Area

# BRINGING OUR RIVER LEGACY TO LIFE!

*Promote. Engage. Inspire*

As we look back retrospectively at 2019, we realize what a wonderful and fun year it was for the Poudre Heritage Alliance and the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area.

This annual report celebrates so many significant accomplishments - educational programming, fun events, leadership within the Heritage Area, volunteer power, critical funds raised, and more! Then, as we moved into 2020, everything changed for so many of us in ways completely unforeseen.

This leads us to further appreciate the uniqueness of that 2019 journey to promote, engage and inspire people with the Heritage Area.

With this report, celebrate with us the achievements of 2019 that demonstrated the Poudre Heritage Alliance commitment to bringing our river legacy to life!



*Kathleen Benedict, Executive Director*

## Our Mission

The Poudre Heritage Alliance serves the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area, providing current and future generations the opportunity to understand and celebrate the area by careful planning and facilitation of educational programs and related amenities in collaboration with residents, private sector and government entities.

## 2019 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**3,000+**  
STUDENTS  
SERVED

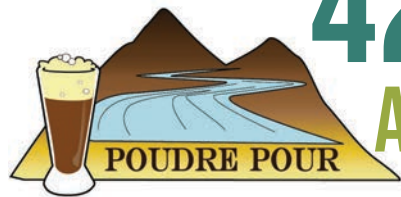


**36 FIELD TRIPS FUNDED**

**101 RIDERS**



**8 GUIDED TOURS**  
*Pedaling the Poudre™*



**420+**  
ATTENDEES

**\$32,900**



**IN PARTNER GRANTS COMPLETED**

**9 WATER LEGACY  
INTERVIEWS**



**16 PUB TALKS  
HOSTED**

## ENSURING A NEXT GENERATION OF RIVER STEWARDS

Nothing replaces the social and educational perspectives gained through firsthand experiences. Through the **Learning in Our Watershed** program, the Poudre Heritage Alliance provides grant funds to K-12 school teachers in Larimer and Weld County to hire buses and pay entry fees to bring students on field trips to the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area (CALA).

Our mission is simple – to help youth understand and value the Poudre River and their water heritage, ensuring a next generation of river stewards.

**"Thank you for paying for our trip to the water festival. All the third graders was having a great time."**

- Jaxson, 3rd Grader

Generously sponsored by:



## Partners:



## EXPLORE MORE ON TWO WHEELS

**Pedaling the Poudre™** biking adventures are original and engaging rides that explore the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area's (CALA) fascinating landmarks and landscapes. The Poudre Heritage Alliance offers a range of guided historical bike tours that are comfortable for cyclists of all experience levels in both Larimer and Weld Counties. The Poudre River is a great recreation corridor because of the bike path that follows the river for 30+ miles from the foothills to the confluence with the South Platte near Greeley.



**"I'm so appreciative of the Poudre Heritage Alliance for a wonderful, educational tour of the Poudre River—all on bicycles!"**

- Jeni Arndt, CO State Representative

## THE POUDE RIVER FLOWS THROUGH COLORADO'S HISTORY

The Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area (CALA) follows 45 miles of the lower “working Cache” through Fort Collins, Windsor, Greeley and beyond. Through the **Heritage Trails** program we are creating cohesive branding, storytelling and visitor wayfinding throughout the river corridor. Interpretive signs and viewing areas next to the river will enable visitors to understand more clearly the messages of history, the environment, or a nearly forgotten culture.

Our first Heritage Trail marker and gateway, located at the Poudre River Whitewater Park, was funded in 2019 and installed in June 2020. They both speak to the history and importance of the Coy Ditch headgate and diversion structure, which led to the first in-channel water right in Colorado.

### HERITAGE TRAIL ICONOGRAPHY



Water for  
Industry



Water for  
Agriculture



Water for  
Recreation



Water for  
History



Water for  
Nature



Water in  
Education



*Play It Safe Tip #1:  
Always wear a life vest!*



## PROMOTING SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE RECREATION

The Cache la Poudre River offers abundant opportunities for a broad spectrum of river users. The scenic river runs from wild to mild, attracting people from around the country. A day of recreation along the Poudre River is a quintessential Northern Colorado activity – especially during the hottest days of the summer.

The multi-pronged **Play It Safe on the Poudre** program raises awareness about approaches to recreating on the river in safe and sustainable ways. The program also calls attention to the history of in-river structures that represent hazards to recreation.



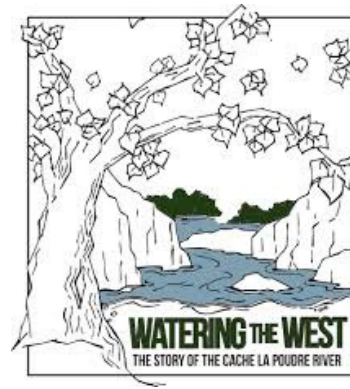
## SMALL & LARGE GRANT PROGRAM

Every year, the Poudre Heritage Alliance makes a portion of its federal funding available to its regional partners as grants, in support of projects, programs, and events that benefit the community and relate to the mission of the PHA.

We supported the following organizations/projects in 2019:



**Eaton House Construction & Planning Documentation**



**"Watering the West"  
Film Production**



**Watson Lake Fish Ladder  
& Interpretative Signage**



**Poudre River Water Quality  
Monitoring Project**

## HONORING GREAT SERVICE TO THE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Emeritus are selected from those individuals who have served the Poudre Heritage Alliance (PHA) and/or the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area with distinction and excellence and considered deserving of this role for outstanding service.

The PHA honored **Senator Wayne Allard** and **Dr. Richard Bond** at the 2nd Annual **Emeritus Dinner** on September 7th, 2019 for their outstanding service to the PHA and the National Heritage Area.



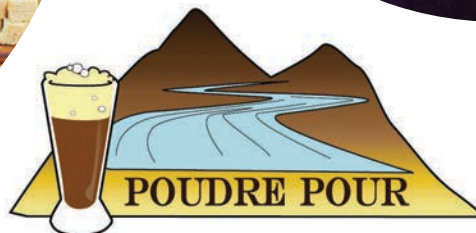
**"We can protect our truly special places by working together with communities of different needs and different interests to bring them together, and with community input we can find a way to protect and preserve the most precious places among us."**

- Senator Cory Gardner, Introduction to Senator Allard

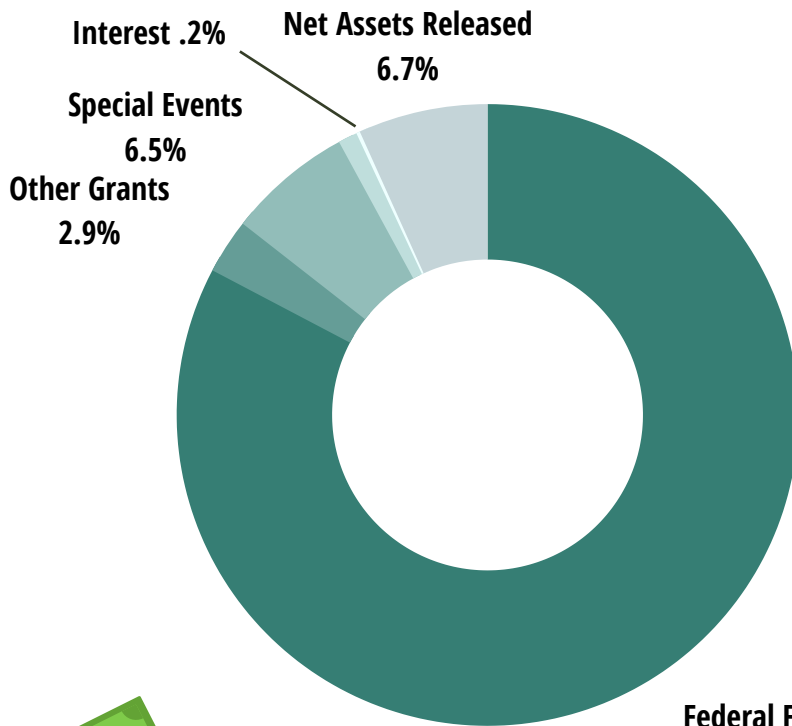
## AN EDUCATIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE POUDRE RIVER

**Poudre Pub Talks** are a series of free educational presentations, open to the public and hosted at breweries throughout the Heritage Area. Speakers cover a wide-range of topics, from "Water Rights 101" to "Ancient Bison Hunters of the Poudre River."

Pub Talks lead up to the annual **Poudre Pour**, an educational celebration of the Cache la Poudre River and an important fundraiser for the PHA. The Poudre Pour showcases the unique craft beers of Northern Colorado and the importance of the Poudre River to regional economic vitality.



# POUDRE HERITAGE ALLIANCE 2019 FINANCIALS



**2019 REVENUE**  
**\$434,325**

Federal Funding  
82.7%

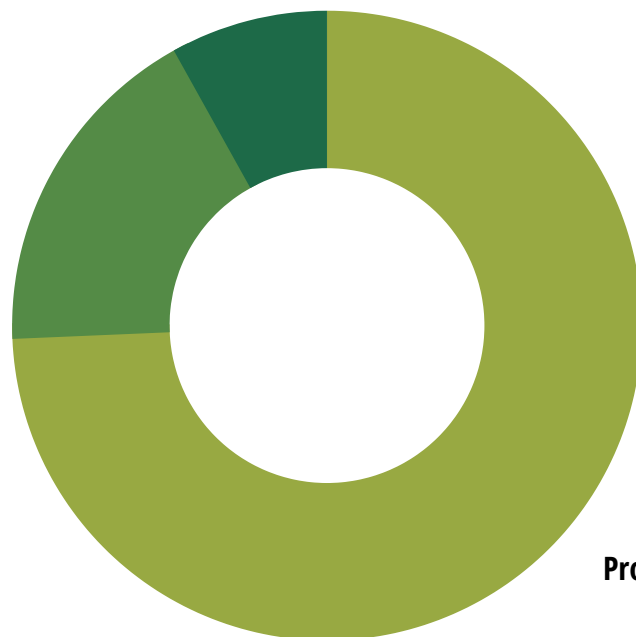


*\*For every \$1 of federal money contributed to communities in the Heritage Area, \$13.95 was contributed by public/private funding sources*

Management/General  
17.6%

Fundraising  
8.1%

**2019 EXPENSES**  
**\$381,819**



Program Services  
74.3%



## THANK YOU 2019 VOLUNTEERS!

Andy Auer  
GeorgeAnn Ball  
Bruce Biggi  
Jackson Bullard  
Brian Carroll  
Curt Cochran  
Cat Curtis  
Kenton Daubert  
Kelsey Devereaux  
Judy Firestien

Patrick Hartley  
Candice Hartley  
Robbie Jack  
Kazi Jestrubek  
Sharon Johnson  
Laine Landau  
Heather Main  
Bashar Matrix  
David McMillen  
Ambrette Oilkey  
Cathy Paschall

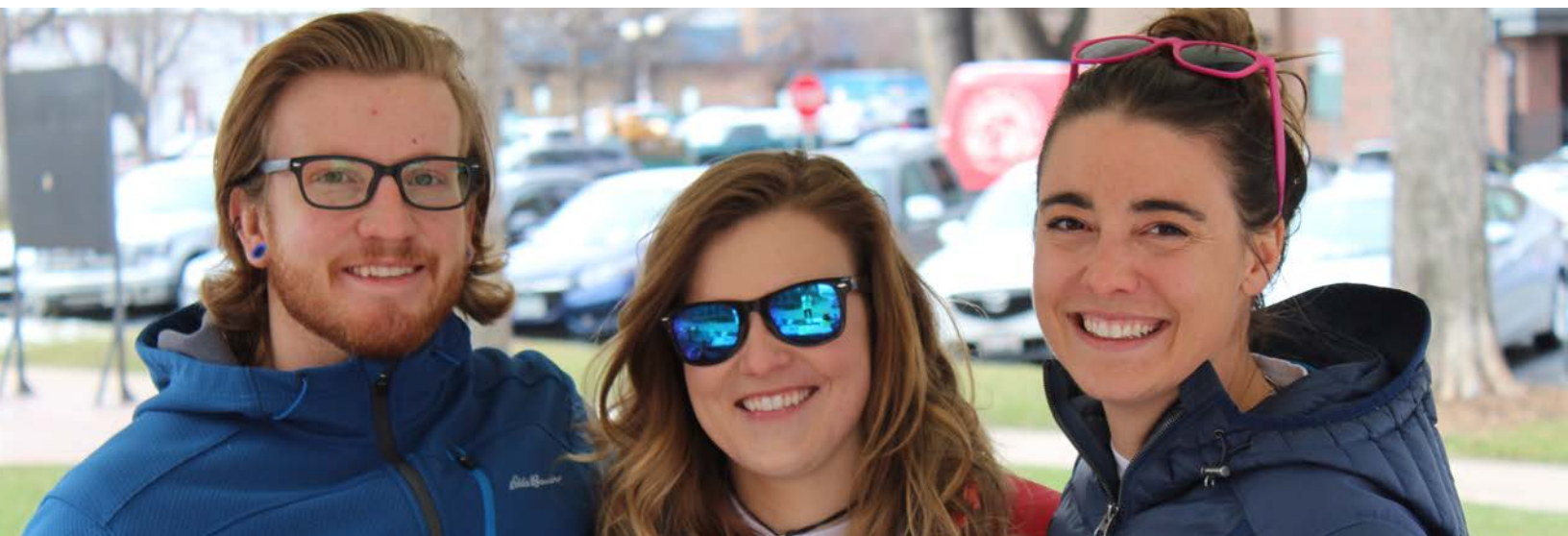
Marcia Patton-Mallory  
Randy Payne  
Dan Perry  
Monica Peterson  
Jennifer Petrzeka  
Mary Pineda  
Andy Pineda  
Abbie Plimpton  
Linda Reiter  
Katie Ross

Sarah Saxe  
Deborah Schulman  
Tom Selders  
Tom Trout  
Kelsey Uligian  
Bob Viscount  
Janae Walker  
Robert Ward  
Dave Wells  
Annie Wooten  
Jean Zuckweiler



**\$16,504**  
VALUE OF VOLUNTEER TIME

**589**   
VOLUNTEER HOURS



## STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Staff

**Kathleen Benedict**, Executive Director

**Megan Maiolo-Heath**, Communications Coordinator

**Jordan Williams**, Assistant Program Manager

**Andy Auer**, Volunteer Coordinator

**Vanessa Velegas Selwyn**, Intern



### Board of Directors

**Wade Willis**, Board Chair, Town of Windsor

**Bob Overbeck**, Vice Chair, Larimer County

**Karen Scopel**, Treasurer, City of Greeley

**Dan Biwer**, Secretary, City of Greeley

**Ryan Brennan**, Board Member, Poudre Learning Center

**Sharon Bywater-Reyes**, Ex-Officio, University of Northern Colorado

**Greg Dewey**, Board Member, Northern Water

**Billy Mihelich**, Board Member, Central Colorado Water Conservancy District

**Nick Haws**, Board Member, At-Large

**Meegan Flenniken**, Board Member, Larimer County

**Susan Gutowsky**, Board Member, City of Fort Collins

**Scott James**, Board Member, Weld County

**Cheri Yost**, Ex-Officio, Rocky Mountain National Park

**Jessica Salo**, Ex-Officio, University of Northern Colorado

**Chelsie Romulo**, Ex-Officio, University of Northern Colorado

**Phil Goldstein**, Board Member, Town of Timnath



*Cache la Poudre River*  
National Heritage Area



[poudreheritage.org](http://poudreheritage.org) • 3745 E Prospect Rd., Suite 205, Fort Collins, CO 80525 • 970-295-4851

