

Rocky Mountain Field Institute

2020 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



RMFI
ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD INSTITUTE

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters of RMFI,

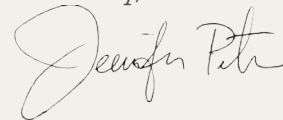
It goes without saying that 2020 was a year like no other. Yet, despite all of the challenges we, and the rest of the world, had to overcome, we, above all else, remained grateful. Grateful that we were still able to operate; grateful that we were able to employ nearly 30 people and do so safely; grateful that so many sought and relied on nature for mental, physical, and emotional well-being; and grateful that we accomplished incredibly impactful stewardship projects at a time when our public lands needed them most. We could not have accomplished all that we did without your generosity, support, and steadfast commitment to RMFI. We sincerely appreciate each and every one of you who collectively make the work that we do possible. Thank you.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, we were faced with tremendous uncertainty as to whether we'd even be able to have a field season. But, the more we spoke with our key land management partners, the more it became clear they needed our staff and our expertise out on the ground. We immediately set out to develop COVID-19 operating procedures and guidelines to keep our staff and community safe and then got to work. Slowly, we began introducing volunteer opportunities into our schedule and when it was all said and done, we ended up having the biggest and most impactful season to date.

Some important project highlights and accomplishments include finishing a new 9-mile trail network at the Pineries Open Space, completing our multi-year project to construct a new summit trail to the top of Kit Carson Peak and Challenger Point, completing our final year of stewardship work under a multi-year agreement with the City of Colorado Springs, making good progress on our multi-year project to construct a new 4-mile segment of the Devils Playground Trail to the top of Pikes Peak, and completing a wide variety of other trail and restoration projects at popular local parks and open spaces including North Cheyenne Cañon, Palmer Park, Garden of the Gods, Ute Valley Park, and Red Rock Canyon Open Space.

We invite you to read the following pages for an in-depth look at what kept us busy in 2020. In the midst of great challenge, we couldn't be more grateful for your support. We are sincerely hopeful that better days are ahead for all. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Peterson
RMFI Executive Director



Cover photo by Brian Lewis



OUR MISSION

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute conserves and protects public lands in Southern Colorado through volunteer-based trail and restoration projects, environmental education, and restoration research.

OUR VISION

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute envisions a world where our work fosters vibrant and healthy natural systems that are respected and cared for by the public.

OUR VALUES

Excellence in programs. We are committed to providing the highest standard of programming for our project partners, supporters, and participants.

Volunteerism. We will implement a restoration model that centers on community involvement as a means of connecting people to the outdoors, promoting a healthy lifestyle, and fostering an ethic of environmental responsibility and stewardship.

Outdoor recreation and education. We respect the natural environment and seek to provide the opportunity for youth and adults to enjoy our natural world. Through our educational efforts, we will seek to develop the next generation of environmental leaders and stewards.

Science-based solutions. We are committed to furthering the field of restoration through the study and application of science-based solutions.

Inclusiveness in partnerships. We encourage strong and diverse partnerships through broad stakeholder and public participation. Integrity in actions. We are committed to holding ourselves to the highest degree of responsibility and accountability.

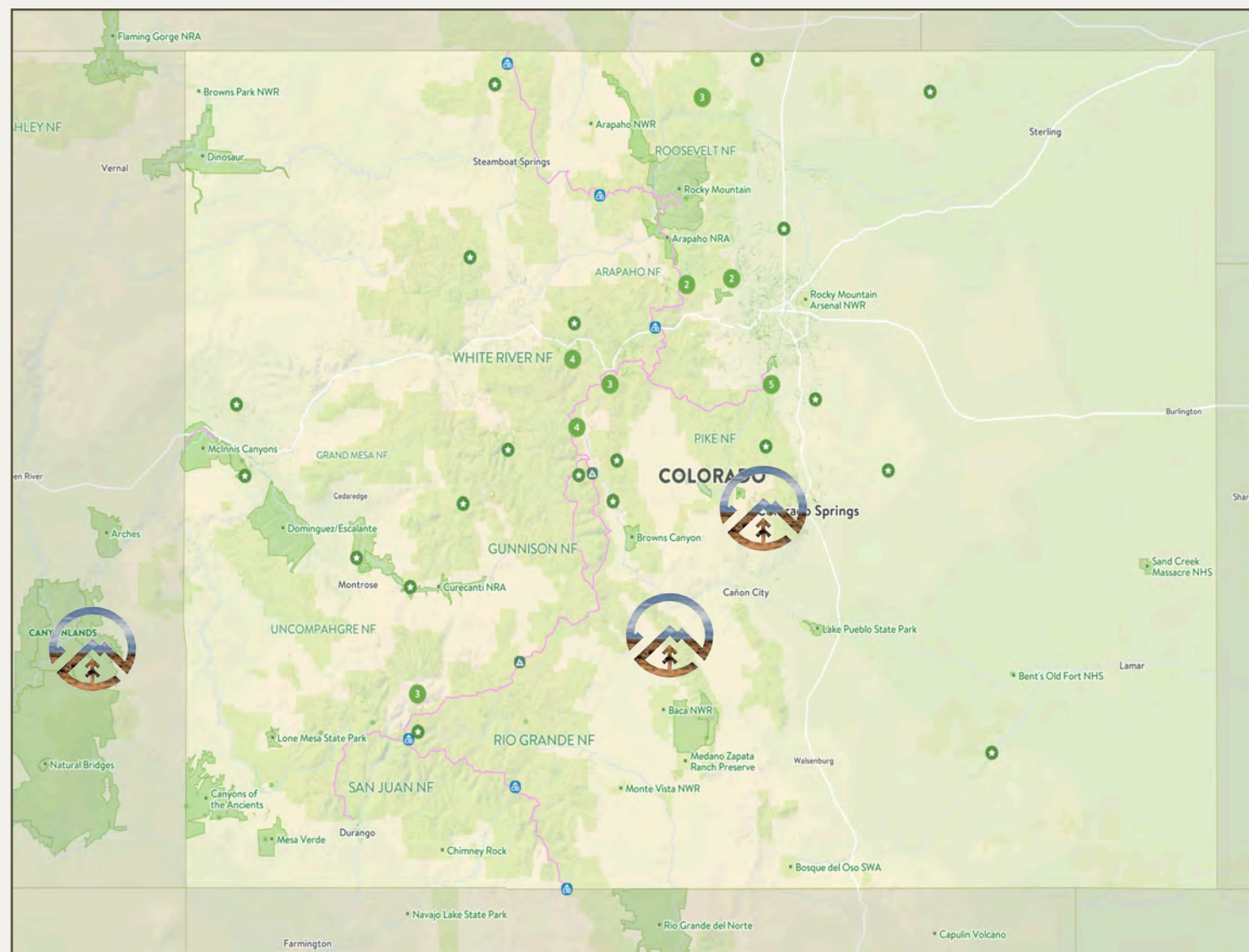
Courage. In furthering our mission, we will have the courage to undertake difficult and complex projects.

Generosity of others. We are committed to being responsible stewards of the time, money, and gifts entrusted to us.

2020 PROJECT LOCATIONS

For the past 39 years, RMFI has accomplished its mission by completing a wide variety of important trail and restoration projects in recreational areas throughout the Southern Rocky Mountains and Colorado Plateau. RMFI has received national, state, and local recognition for its stewardship work that is widely regarded as some of the finest work of its kind accomplished in the region.

Our stewardship model centers on community engagement as a means of connecting people to the outdoors, providing sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities, and fostering an ethic of environmental responsibility and stewardship. From recreational trail work to watershed protection and forest mitigation, our work keeps Colorado's great outdoors great.



Map courtesy of COTREX



ALPINE

Kit Carson Peak/Challenger Point
Devils Playground Trail



MONTANE

Bear Creek Watershed
Cascade Creek
Goat Camp Creek
Guffey Gorge
Mueller State Park
Rainbow Gulch



FOOTHILLS

Barr Trail
Garden of the Gods Park
Palmer Park
North Cheyenne Cañon Park
Pineries Open Space
Red Rock Canyon Open Space
Shelf Road Recreation Area
Stratton Open Space
Ute Valley Park



DESERT

Indian Creek, Utah



Before and after photos showing construction of a new trail reroute in Red Rock Canyon Open Space.



Before and after photos showing progress on the new Devils Playground Trail to the top of Pikes Peak.



Before and after photos of construction of rock steps along the access trail to Guffey Gorge.



Before and after photos showing construction of a rock retaining wall along the new summit trail to Challenger Point and Kit Carson Peak.



Before and after photos of construction of a new trail reroute in Ute Valley Park.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT



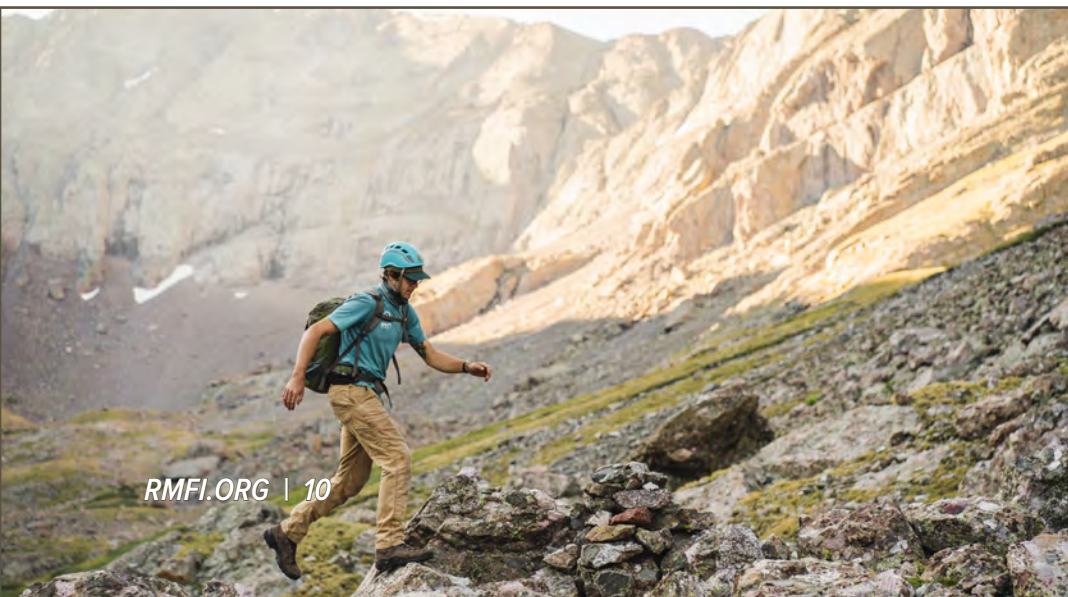
Kit Carson / Challenger Point Summit Trail Construction Project

Since 2014, RMFI has been working closely with the U.S. Forest Service, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, National Forest Foundation, Southwest Conservation Corps, and other key partners to reconstruct the summit trail to Kit Carson Peak and Challenger Point, two iconic 14,000 foot peaks in the heart of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Southern Colorado.

The project involved over 7 miles of highly technical, backcountry trail reconstruction to create a more sustainable and safe route to Willow Lake and beyond to the summits of Kit Carson and Challenger Point. With basecamp located 5 miles into the Wilderness from the trailhead in Crestone, RMFI relied on the regional U.S. Forest Service pack string as well as dozens of hardy volunteers to haul gear and supplies into Willow Lake Basin each summer.

Since the project's inception, RMFI has also been hosting our signature Earth Corps field studies program in Willow Lake Basin to give undergraduate students meaningful hands-on experience in technical trail and restoration work. Through academic lectures and group discussions, students are also challenged to think critically about issues impacting the health and sustainability of public lands and Wilderness areas in the face of increasing visitation and climate change.

In 2020, RMFI finished construction of the new summit trail as well as restoration of the old fall-line trail marking the successful completion of a very rewarding multi-year project.





PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Trails, Open Space and Parks (TOPS) Stewardship Services

In 2016, RMFI was awarded a 5-year stewardship contract from the City of Colorado Springs to complete a variety of trail and restoration projects in parks and open spaces acquired through the City's TOPS tax. TOPS is a one-tenth of one percent sales tax (0.10%) established by a vote of the people in 1997 in order to encourage, foster, and promote public-private partnerships in the preservation of open space lands, trails, and parks. Over the past 20 years, the Colorado Springs' TOPS program has preserved over 6,200 acres of open space in the Pikes Peak Region, built more than 32 parks, and constructed close to 50 miles of urban trails.

The stewardship contract supports 80 RMFI workdays each year with its own Stewardship Crew and community volunteers. Over the past 5 years, the contract has supported nearly 5 miles of new trail construction and improvement, 13 miles of social trail closure and restoration, the construction of over 1,000 erosion control and stabilization structures, utilization of over 6,000 native transplants in restoration efforts, and a combined total of nearly 30,000 on-the-ground staff and volunteer hours dedicated to stewardship activities.

Set to expire in 2025, a renewal and possible expansion of the TOPS tax is set for the ballot in April 2021. Without dedicated funding to support open space acquisition, stewardship activities, and other important functions, Colorado Springs' parks and open spaces will undoubtedly suffer. We are so appreciative of our partnership with Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services!



ON-THE-GROUND IMPACT



139 Tons of rock moved



174 Rock/timber steps built



4.9 Miles of social trail closed/restored



21 Total project sites

97 Youth conservation corps members

8 Community and school groups

1,061 Erosion control structures built/maintained



2020 TOTALS:

509
TOTAL WORKDAYS

182
TOTAL VOLUNTEERS

25,075
TOTAL WORK HOURS

\$44,261
VOLUNTEER VALUE

14 Miles of trail built/maintained



108
Pounds of native seed

999
Native transplants used in restoration

11,555
Trees felled for forest health

STAFF



Name: Jennifer Peterson
Title: Executive Director



Name: Joe Lavorini
Title: Program Director



Name: Carl Woody
Title: Program Director



Name: Alex Hladkyj
Title: Program Manager



Name: Jamie Goins
Title: Program Manager



Name: Molly Mazel
Title: Volunteer & Partnership Coordinator



Name: Elise Moeller
Title: Volunteer & Partnership Coordinator



Name: Bronwyn Woodward
Title: Business Manager



Name: Hunter Shuman
Title: Field Coordinator



Name: Jacob Twersky
Title: Field Coordinator



Name: Lindsay Williams
Title: Field Coordinator



Name: Mary Aland
Title: High Alpine Field Instructor



Name: Joe Gibson
Title: High Alpine Field Instructor



Name: Trina Lamarre
Title: High Alpine Field Instructor



Name: Rand Velasco
Title: High Alpine Field Instructor



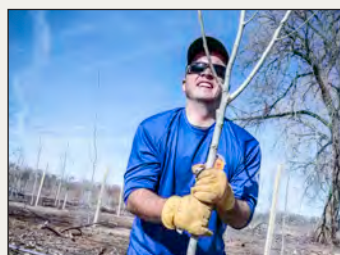
Name: Olympia Vida
Title: High Alpine Field Instructor



Name: Tom Zimmerman
Title: High Alpine Field Instructor



Name: Baker Casagrande
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Justin Chesak
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Jarrod Gaut
Title: Field Coordinator



Name: Dani Gronhovd
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Kelly Malone
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Marc Martinez
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Dallas Moses
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Samuel Prestigiacomio
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Savannah Robar
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Max Siragusa
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Ellen Wermuth
Title: Field Instructor



Name: Heather Wilson
Title: Field Instructor

INTERNS, FELLOWS & OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Rainy Adkins
Riley de Ryk
Jon Fisher
Brian Lewis

Lori Lilly
Jasmine Linder
Wesley Trimble
Madeleine Tucker

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Lee Derr, President
2. Jeff Mohrmann, Vice President
3. Jim Smith, Treasurer
4. Melissa McCormick, Secretary
5. Jason Alwine, Member
6. Chris Lieber, Member
7. Mike Smith, Member
8. Lily Weissgold, Member



RMFI Board of Directors. Front row (seated) from left to right: Mike Smith, Lee Derr. Back row (standing) from left to right: Melissa McCormick, Chris Lieber, Jeff Mohrmann, Jason Alwine, Lily Weissgold. Not pictured: Jim Smith.

RMFI FALL SHINDIG

RMFI's annual Fall ShinDIG went virtual in 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and inability to gather indoors in a large group. We were thankful to continue this annual tradition despite the challenges!

SHINDIG AWARD WINNERS:

Robert Weggel Funder of the Year: Lyda Hill Philanthropies
 Mark Hesse Stewardship Partner of the Year: National Forest Foundation
 Land Management Partner of the Year: Bureau of Land Management - Royal Gorge Field Office
 Volunteer Group of the Year: Friends of Cheyenne Cañon
 Volunteer of the Year: Dean Waits
 Mountain Chalet Crew Leader of the Year: Carol Beckman

NATURE! PHOTO CONTEST FINALISTS:

Restoration: Brian Lewis, Stephen Parnell
 Mountains: Justin Peterson
 Flora: James Van Hoy, Wendy Gedack
 Fauna: Vaughn Larsen
 Interaction: Amy Hodges, Renee Wall
 Youth: Axel Anderson, Elle Gray
 Staff Pick: Wendy Gedack
 Grand Prize Winner: Justin Peterson

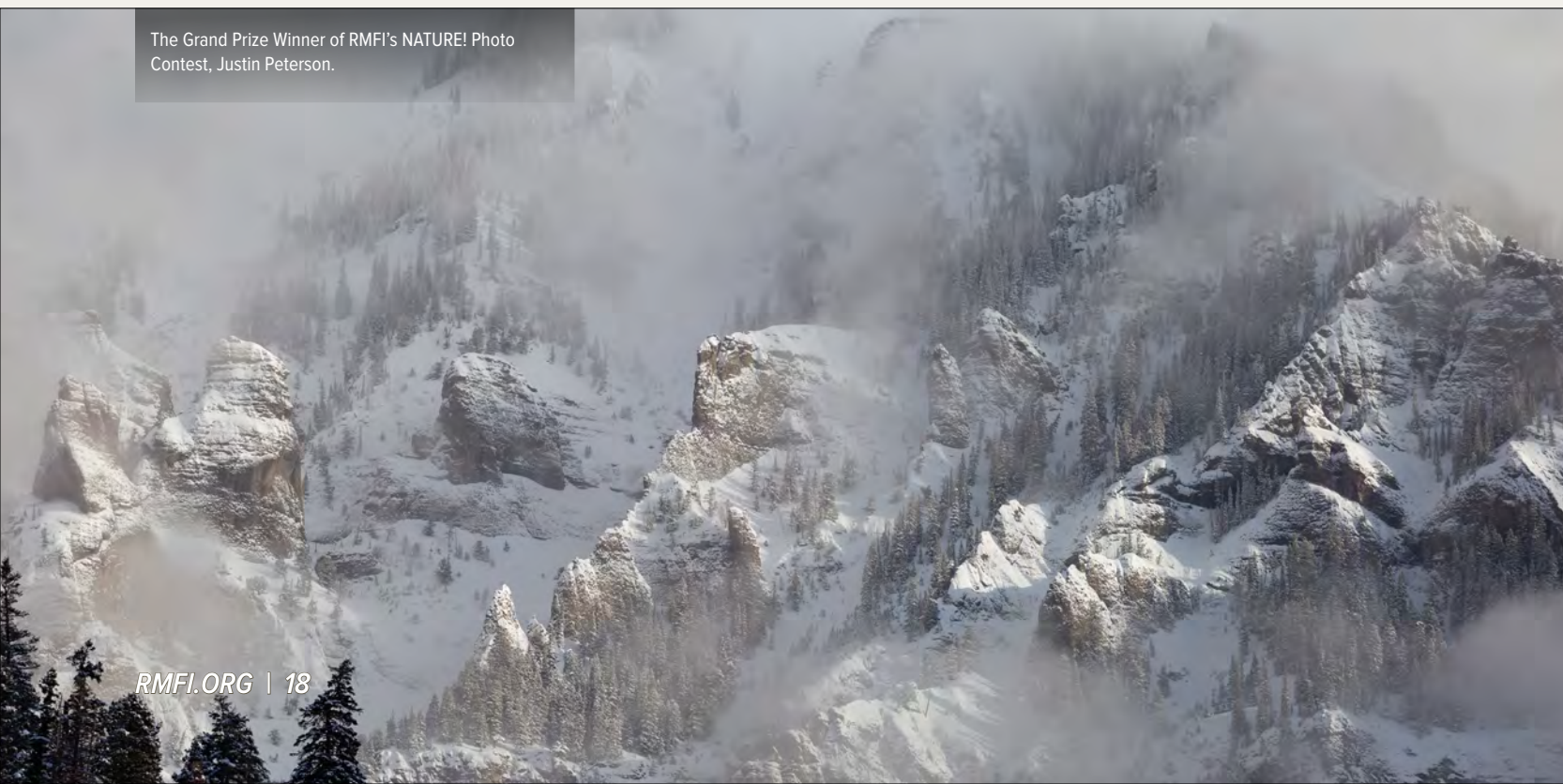


Wendy Gedack, Staff Pick, RMFI NATURE! Photo Contest.

PHOTO CONTEST SPONSORS:

Mountain Chalet
 Mike's Camera
 Indy Give!

The Grand Prize Winner of RMFI's NATURE! Photo Contest, Justin Peterson.



Finalist in the "Flora" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Vaughn Larsen.

ROCK STAR VOLUNTEERS

RMFI's volunteers are the lifeblood of the organization. Given the limited ability to engage community volunteers in 2020, we are recognizing those who volunteered with RMFI 2 or more times during the 2020 field season. Thank you, rock stars!

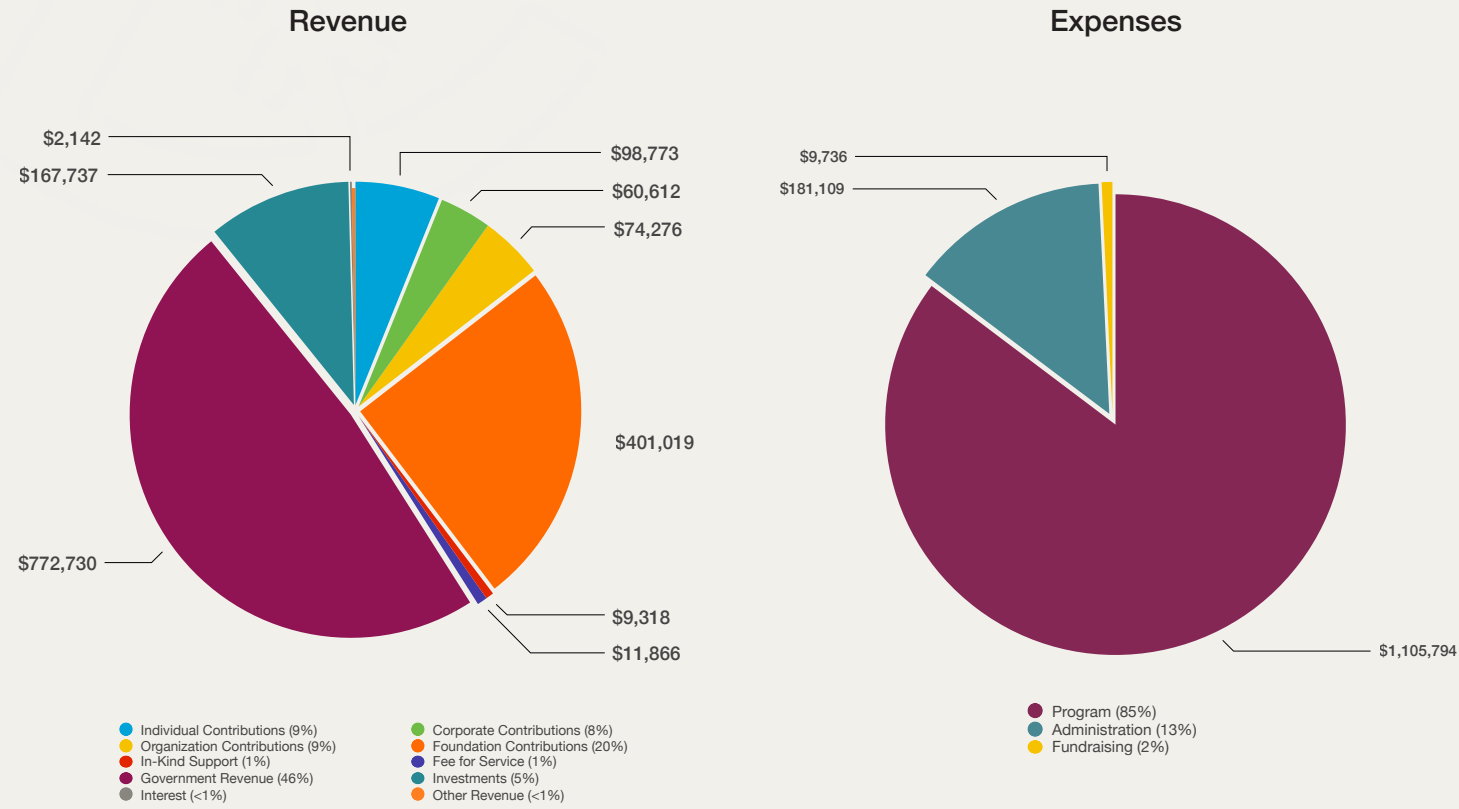
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Carol Beckman | 17. Joel Marx |
| 2. Walter Berger | 18. Kyndl Mueller |
| 3. Matthew Chezem | 19. Bri O'Donnell |
| 4. Daniel Downs | 20. William Schrad |
| 5. Denise Downs | 21. Mike Scott |
| 6. Jeff Erhard | 22. Dan Stabler |
| 7. Jon Fisher | 23. Jeff Steele |
| 8. Rebecca Green | 24. Jennifer Sullivan |
| 9. Clint Hager | 25. Stephen Toledo |
| 10. Bri Herder | 26. David Trautmann |
| 11. Phylcia Kecskes | 27. Dean Waits |
| 12. Brian Lewis | 28. Barry White |
| 13. Lori Lilly | 29. Bryce Wilberding |
| 14. Isaiah Litzell | 30. Laura Wilkins |
| 15. Robert Lucey | 31. Kelsey Yoder |
| 16. Rebecca MacNamee | |

Volunteers gear up for a day of work at RMFI's Devils Playground project location on Pikes Peak. Photo courtesy of Riley de Ryk.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

RMFI continued to grow financial assets and resources in 2020 despite the challenges faced with the COVID-19 pandemic. Donors and partners were able to follow through on their funding commitments allowing RMFI to continue stewardship projects in the face of the public health crisis.



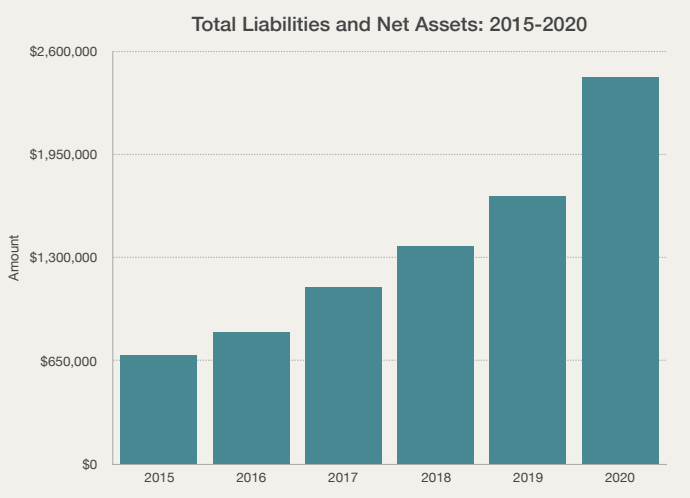
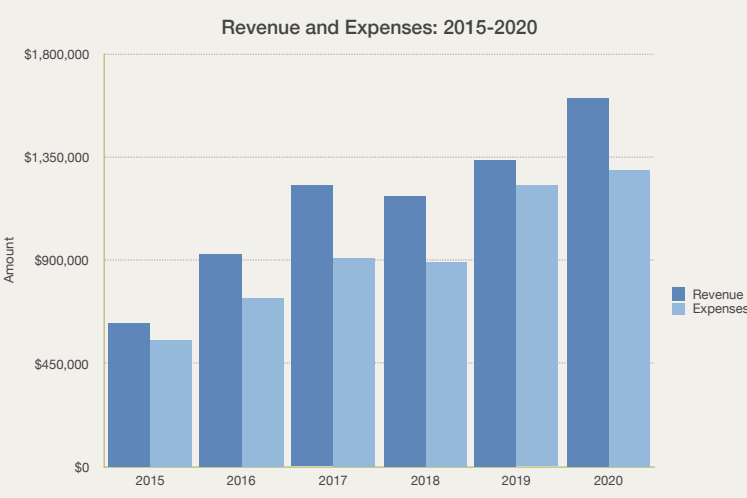
THE ROBERT J. WEGGEL FUND

Robert “Bob” Weggel has long been an avid hiker and backpacker, having trekked two hundred miles to gaze enraptured by Mt. Everest and its vicinity and summited Mt. Whitney and all but nine of Colorado’s 14ers—the first in 1970, the most recent at age 73. He’s also an avid conservationist and trail builder, specializing in rock steps, stepping stones and soil-retention walls. RMFI’s Volunteer Vacation program hosted him in 2006 at South Colony Lakes and subsequently at Lake Como, Kit Carson, and Cheyenne Mountain. In gratitude, in March of 2017 he established RMFI’s first Endowment Fund to help support its conservation and stewardship work.



Bob earned a B.S. degree in physics from MIT, followed by graduate work at Harvard. For thirty-six years he designed magnets for the National Magnet Laboratory at MIT; 1980s editions of The Guinness Book of World Records cite him as co-designer of a magnet that generated the most intense continuous magnetic field in the world. He now is contributing to expeditiously bringing to our energy-hungry world abundant, economical, environmentally-benign electric power from thermonuclear fusion.

The Robert J. Weggel Fund for the Rocky Mountain Field Institute will help ensure the organization’s long-term financial viability and sustainability. If you’d like to learn more about the Fund and how you can contribute to it, please contact RMFI’s Executive Director, Jennifer Peterson, at 719-471-7736, ext. 1# or jennifer@rmfi.org.



GRANTORS, CONTRIBUTORS & SPONSORS

We've made every effort to ensure all of our donors are acknowledged in this report. Please let us know if we've made an error. We appreciate your support and understanding.

GOVERNMENT

Bureau of Land Management
City of Colorado Springs
City of Manitou Springs
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Colorado Parks & Wildlife
El Paso County Parks
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Government - Paycheck Protection Program

Board
National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance
Pikes Peak Alpine School
Pikes Peak Farm to School
Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance
Pikes Peak United Way
Pikes Peak Workforce Center
RMFI Board of Directors
Texas Tech University
The Access Fund
The Trail Show
Wilson Conservation Trust

Joseph Henry Edmondson Foundation
Louise Arnold Maddux Foundation
Lyda Hill Philanthropies
Moniker Foundation
National Christian Foundation
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Forest Foundation
Pikes Peak Community Foundation
T. Rowe Price Foundation, Inc.
Theobald Family Foundation

ORGANIZATIONS

American Hiking Society
Benevity
Broadmoor Garden Club
Colorado Fourteeners Initiative
Colorado Springs Sports Corporation
Colorado Watershed Assembly
Community Shares of Colorado
El Paso County Trust for County Parks
Friends of Cheyenne Cañon
Friends of Garden of the Gods
Great Outdoors Colorado
Indy Give!
KRCC
Manitou Springs Garden Club
Manitou Springs Housing Advisory

FOUNDATIONS

AmazonSmile Foundation
American Express Foundation
Bloom Foundation
CCS Charitable Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Colorado Springs Health Foundation
Community First Foundation
El Pomar Foundation
EM & FE Everett Charitable Trust
Gates Family Foundation
George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation
Hans Joerg Wyss Foundation

BUSINESSES

Academy Riding Stables
Air Sciences Inc.
Black Diamond
BLDG Active
Bristol Brewing Company
Buffalo Lodge Bicycle Resort
Caliber Creatives
Camp USA
Colorado Hardy Plants
ConocoPhillips
Conover Realty and Investment
Criterium Bicycles
Crossroads Animal Hospital
Design Rangers
Diamond Campground

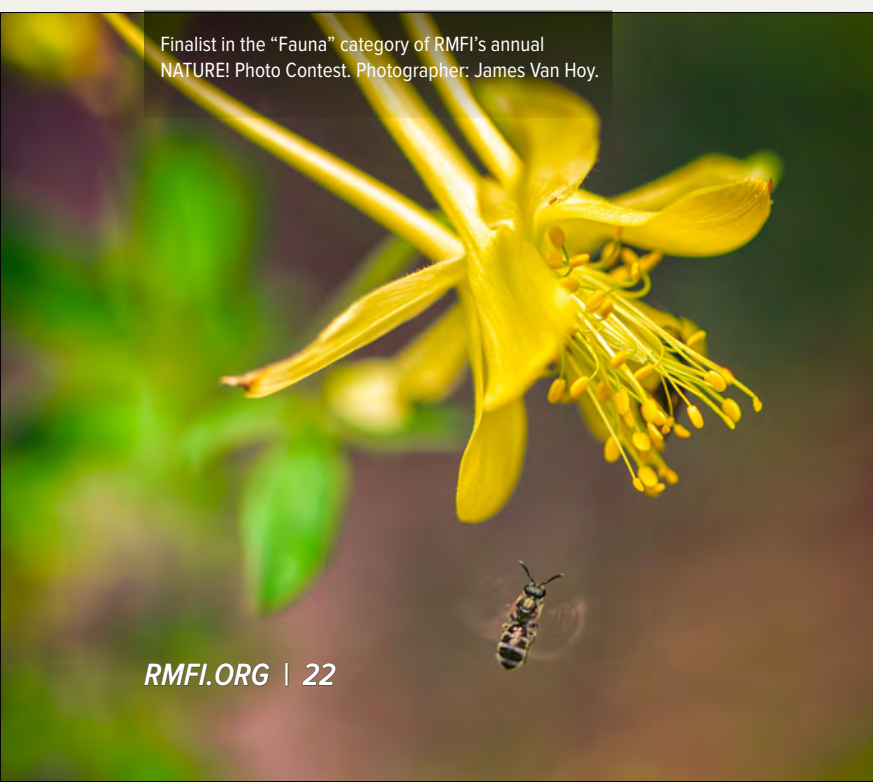


Finalist in the "Youth" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Axel Anderson.

Dunagan Childs
Emmett J King LLC
Fantafaces
Front Range Barbeque
Gripstone Climbing Gym
Heuser & Heuser
InnerSocial Marketing
King Soopers
Kirkpatrick Bank
MotorHead Engineering
Mountain Chalet
Mountain Equipment Recyclers
Mountain Mudworks
N.E.S. Inc.
New Belgium Brewing Company
Nor'wood Limited
Old Town Bike Shop
Patagonia
Paypal Giving Fund
Pikes Peak Marathon, Inc.
Pizzeria Rustica
Pocket Pals Trail Maps
REI
Redcliffe Restorations LLC
Rob Hoff Imagery
RVM Enterprises
SōLMTN Studios
Static Climbing
USAA
Whole Foods
Wild Country
Yorkshire Veterinary Hospital

Hannah Adams
Ruth Adele
Carol & Zach Albert
Melinda Alvarez
Jason Alwine
Jan Anderson
Janelle & Michael Anderson
Dylan Anderson
Danielle Ardan
John Armstrong
Margie Arnold
David Baca
Margaret Bacon
Amanda Baida
Kim Bair
Karel Hernandez Bandrich
Renee Barall
Tim Barstad
Jim Beckenhaupt
Brian & Jill Becker
Donna Becker
Carol Beckman
Jennifer Bell
Elise Bergsten
Melanie Bernal
Penny Bever
Ross Bielak
Jeff Bieri
Olivier Blasi
Tim & Cate Boddington
Bob Bodor
Larry Bogue
Kent Borges
Don & Marilyn Bosenbecker
Paul Bowman
Aaron Boyles
Jill Bradley

Martina & Chris Breeden
Steven Bremner
Curtis Brink
Mike & Tanja Britton
Dale & Howard Brooks
Ty Brown
Keith Brown
Kristin Brown
Hilary Bryant
Teri Buchanan
John Bushner
Alison Butler
Gary & Krista Butterworth
Diane Cahalan
R.J. Campbell
Jennifer Cancellier
Wayne Cantwell
Ashley Castaldo
Ryan Chelstowski
Kevin & Meredith Childs
Samir Chopra
Jacob Christensen
Tamara Christian
Michael & Julie Christopher
Joy Cipoletti
Rachel Clapp
Matthew Clark
Vickie Cline
Elliot Cohn
Barbara Colvin
Christine Conboy
Jon Concheff
Louise Conner
Paul & Sally Conover
Barry & Pat Cooper
Barbara Corwin
Teresa Cotten



Finalist in the "Fauna" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: James Van Hoy.



Finalist in the "Interaction" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Amy Hodges.

Prudence & John Crawmer
 Meredith Cullar
 Jessie Curran
 Deena Czech
 Chris Da Silva
 Denise Dawson
 Christopher Daugherty
 Susan Davies
 Jim Davies
 Erin Davis
 Timothy Davis
 Patty Deeds-Starr
 Paul DeJong
 Jan & John Demmon
 John & Sayla Dennington
 Carolyn Derr
 Lee Derr
 Marian DiMarco
 Sharie & Logan Dodge
 Clarissa Dominguez
 Jennifer Dorff
 William & Cynthia Doty
 Steve & Janie Driska
 L Ducett
 Riley Dunn
 Cynthia Dunn
 Kathy Eans
 Jenine Ebersohl
 Jan Erickson
 Joseph Esseichick
 Sarah Estrella
 Madi Eurich
 Jim Evans
 Alyce Fabian
 Bob Falcone
 Norman & Denise Farrar
 Barbara Faulkenberry
 Justine Fedde
 Ben & Karol Finch

Stephen Fleet
 Denise Flory
 Stephen Flynn
 Daniel Forster
 Julie Foster
 Mark Foster
 Dani & Evan Francis
 Richard Franklin
 Nancy Fraser
 Susan Frazee
 Sarah Fruehling
 Clifford Gardner
 Philip Garnett
 Susan Garsoe
 Susan Gartung
 Summer Gathercole
 Wendy Gedack
 Connie Gibbons
 Torie Giffin
 Pam Giordano
 Tracy Gluck
 Elfego Gomez
 Ivan Gomez
 Kyla Gonzales
 Kyle Gonzales
 Wiebe & Teri Gortmaker
 Suzanne Graham
 Elle Gray
 Sean Gray
 Kim Greer
 Lawton Grinter
 Catherine Grossman
 Kyle Gruenhagen
 Sarah Guhl
 David Guhl
 Jean Gumpfer
 Susan Guynn
 Melissa Hafter
 Judith Hagge

Corrina & Scott Hamann
 Carol Hammond
 Matt Hane
 Mary Harbick
 John Harner
 Michelle Hart
 John Hartung
 Corrine & Thomas Hauter
 David Havlick
 John Hawk
 Edwin Henderson
 Aaron Henson
 Carolyn Henson
 Felicia Hermosillo
 Michael Hersh
 Linda Hertz
 Nancy Herzog
 Sarah Hettenbach
 Janet Hildebrant
 Stefani Hille
 Stephanie Hille
 Mark Hinchman
 Alex Hladkyj
 James Hlavaty
 Amy Hodges
 Robert Hoff
 Scott Hollister
 Brenda Holmes-Stanciu
 Dorothy Horton
 Breanna Hotop
 Marion Hourdequin
 Matt Hubbell
 Tom & Carole Huber
 Mandy Hughes
 Jesse Hull
 Austin Hume
 Ron Ilgen
 Patty & Steve Jerman
 Kevin Johnk

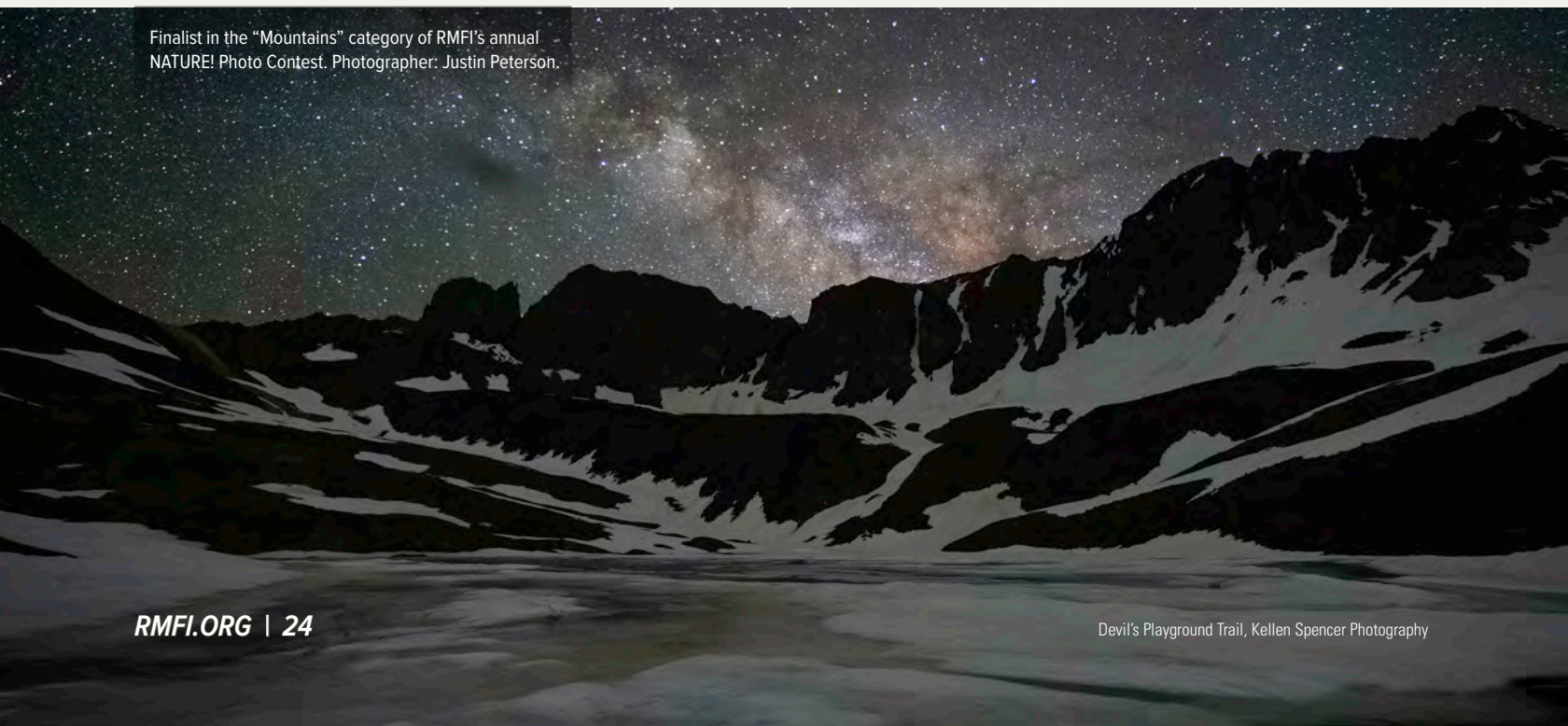


Finalist in the "Youth" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Elle Gray.

Robert Johnson
 Ellen Johnson-Fay
 Catarina Jongeward
 Ian & Carrie Kalmanowitz
 Stephanie Kane
 Dan Kay
 Dan Kay
 Tom Keating
 David Kennedy
 Michael Kenny
 Emily Kim
 Michael Kimlicko
 Emmett King
 Vicky Kipp
 Linda Kittiel
 Lisa & Jim Klages
 Heather Klein Olson
 Beth Knox Gomez
 Cara Koch
 William Koerner
 Katheryn Kolesar
 Tim Kranz
 Deborah LaBarre
 Vaughn Larsen
 Tilah Larson
 Ashley Larson
 Andrew Latrell
 Joseph Leach
 George Lee
 Michael Lenselink
 Kevin Lesniewski
 Richard & Rita Lewis
 Brian & Pamela Lewis
 Chris & Vicki Lieber
 Lori & Jon Lilly
 Gordon Limb
 Robert Linscheer

Kevin Lloyd
 James Lockhart
 Carol Logan
 Carol Lubell
 Robert & Joanne Lucey
 Andy & Colleen Lyon
 Steve & Wendy Mack
 Valerie & T.J. Maltese
 Priscilla & William Marbaker
 Shannon Markley
 Jan Martin
 Douglas Martin
 Joel Marx
 Edward Maynard
 Darcy Mazel
 Michael Mazzola
 Meredith McCann
 Melissa McCormick
 Debbie McCulliss
 Briana McDavid
 Justin McDonald
 Linnea McDonald
 Loretta McElhiney
 Kevin McFadden
 Joe McGlinchy
 Carol McGowan
 Matthew & Libby McKinley
 Hazel Mead
 Paula Megorden
 Richard & Katharine Meinig
 Sonja Meintsma
 Teresa Melnikow
 Rachel Merling
 Lee Meyer
 Grant Miller
 Ana Miller-ter Kuile
 Melissa Mincic

Jay Minton
 Steve Mischel
 Richard & Cris Mock
 Elise Moeller
 Jeff Mohrmann
 Nancy Moore
 Marcello Morrison
 Shane & Ellie Morrison
 Marcy Morrison
 Kathleen Morrow
 Pete Morton
 Byron Morton
 Thomas Mourar
 Thomas Mowle
 Douglas Moyes
 Deborah Muehleisen
 Jean Muller
 Tim Murphy
 Karl Nelson
 Shane Nelson
 Liz Nichol
 Debra Nichols
 Lori Nicholson
 Curtis Nimz
 Beth Norton
 Rivas Norwing
 Darcy Nosler
 Patrick Nowotny
 Cathryn O'Donnell
 Janet Oliver
 Kelsey Olsen
 Kelsey Olson
 Heather Olser
 Jan & Dan Ostrom
 Lynne & John Otto
 Karen Palus
 Matthew Parker



Finalist in the "Mountains" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Justin Peterson.

Devil's Playground Trail, Kellen Spencer Photography

Stephen Parnell
 William & Gail Patterson
 Susan Peach
 Lance Pearce
 Lauren Penner
 Carlos & Gretchen Perez
 Patrick Perry
 Bill & Dorothy Peterson
 Justin & Suzanne Peterson
 Jennifer Peterson
 Arthur Porter
 Mike Procell
 Jan Prowell
 Brandon Quick Bear
 Sarah Raban
 Julie Raber
 Anita & John Rasper
 Tyler Ray
 Patrick Raymond Nowotny
 Karen Reinking
 Emily Reynolds
 Rachel Rhame
 Bill Rhame
 Rachel Ribich
 Micah Rice
 Judith Rice-Jones
 Michael & Theresa Rigney
 Norwing Rivas
 Pete & Mary Rodas
 Kyle Rodman
 Jonathan Rose
 Aaron Rosenthal
 Missy Ross
 Don Rossi
 Tim Royston
 Chris Ruskey
 William Ruskin
 Tammy Russell
 Andrea Rynne

Deborah Sagen
 Barbara Sailer
 Hank Scarangella
 Jennifer & Chris Schell
 Lisa Schott
 Allison Schuch
 Dale & Cindy Schuman
 Reshana Schwartz
 Wil Scott
 Carol Scott
 Wilbur Scott
 Judy Sellers
 Ann & Jim Shikles
 Colin & Sara Shisler
 Valerie Shuman
 Rebecca Sickbert
 Sarah Simon
 Nicki & Kelly Skinner
 Kristin Skoog
 Jean Smith
 Mike Smith
 Terrence Smith
 Kim Snowden
 Kim Snowdon
 Marc Snyder
 Will Snyder
 Lynn Sommers
 Cynthia Sommers
 Gary Sondermann
 Julie Sprinkle
 Joe & Mimi Spruiell
 Dick Standaert
 Stephen Stankevich
 Rebecca Stanley
 John & Carol Stansfield
 Dan Starr
 Macenzi Steck
 Renee Steeve
 Rick Stein

Rostyslava Stoecker
 Linda Strand
 Christina Sturzinger
 Jennifer Sullivan
 Ariel Sun
 Jennifer Sundman
 Stephanie Surch
 Julie Sussman
 Cory & Andrea Sutela
 Matthew Tarquino
 Leland Tatum
 Angela Tekamp
 Michael Teter
 Chuck & Rebecca Theobald
 Mark Thieme
 Jon Thomas
 Jeremy & Marcie Thompson
 Dave Thomson
 Gregory Thornton
 William Tift
 Coreen & Shanti Toll
 Varanrat Torok
 Amy Triandiflou
 Wesley Trimble
 Carl Trimble
 Sarah Troemel
 Timothy & Cynthia Trowbridge
 Justin Trudeau
 James & Marjorie Van Hoy
 Barb Van Hoy
 Madeline VanDenHoek
 Stan VanderWerf
 John Vasilakis
 Dorothy Vischer
 Robert Wagstaff
 Dean & Kathy Waits
 Melissa Walker
 Renee Wall
 Jack Wallick



Finalist in the "Fauna" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Vaughn Larsen.

Brad Walsh
 Michael & Lorraine Watry
 David Watson
 Jane & Brian Weber
 Robert Weggel
 John Weiss
 Lily Weissgold
 Sandra Wells
 Jessie West
 Tim Whalen
 Montoya Whiteman
 Aaron Wilcox
 Carol Wilcox
 Lindsay Williams
 Nancy Wilson
 Cathryn Wilson Odonnell

Geri Woessner
 Martin Wolf
 Tim Wolken
 Steve & Laurie Zyons Wood
 Daniel & Nancy Woods
 Bronwyn Woodward
 Carl Woody
 Fred Woody
 Harry Wrede
 Julia Wright
 Timothy Yeomans
 Chris & Kim Yuan-Farrell
 Steven Zarembo

VOLUNTEER GROUPS
 Apple
 Academy Riding Stables
 COSILoveYou
 First Presbyterian Church
 Friends of Cheyenne Cañon
 Peak Education
 Scheels
 T. Rowe Price

THANK YOU!



RMFI TURNS 40 IN 2021!

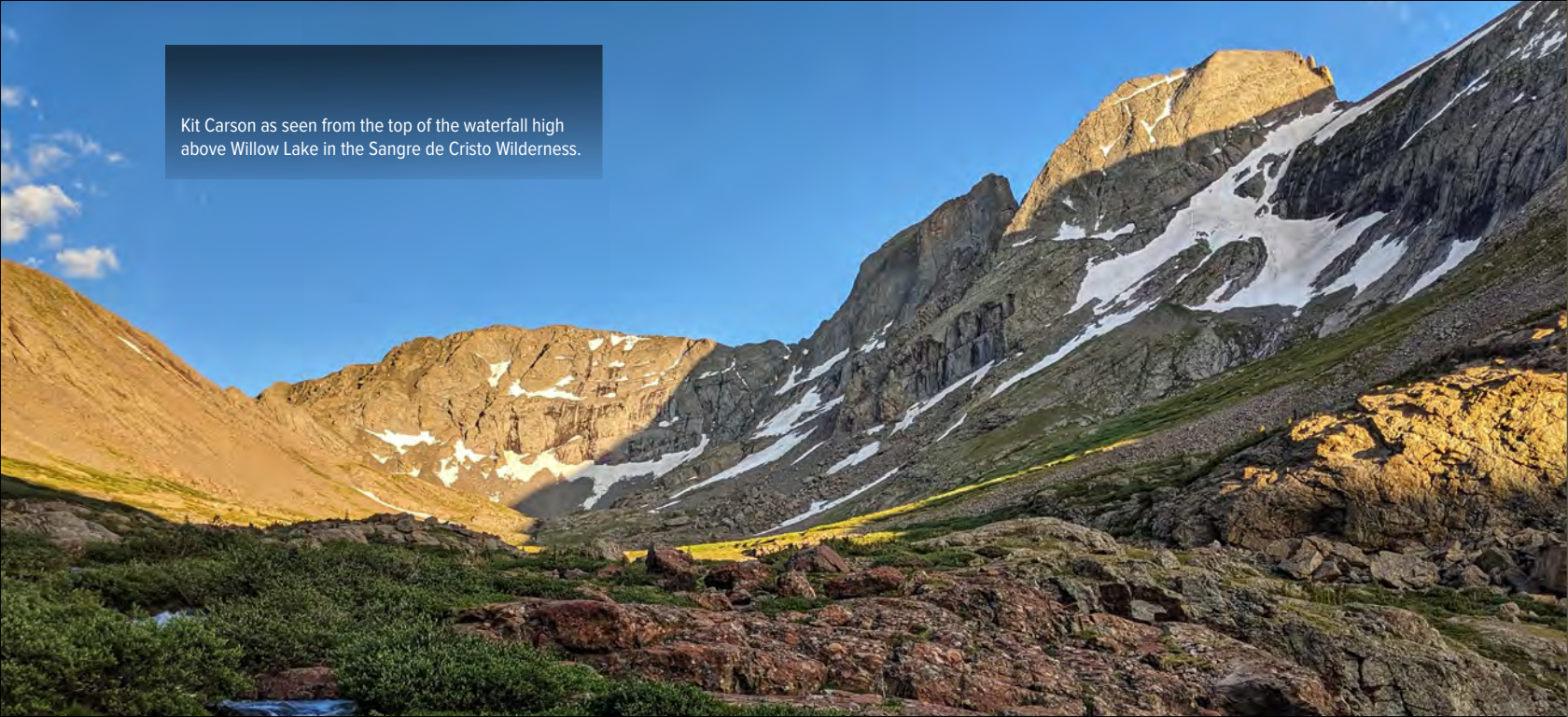
RMFI will be celebrating an important milestone in 2021 - we turn 40 years old! We couldn't have achieved this amazing milestone without your generous support over the years - thank you!

We will be teaming up with the Design Rangers on a fun campaign and engagement strategy - stay tuned for some exciting events and other ways you can join us in celebrating our past, present, and future!

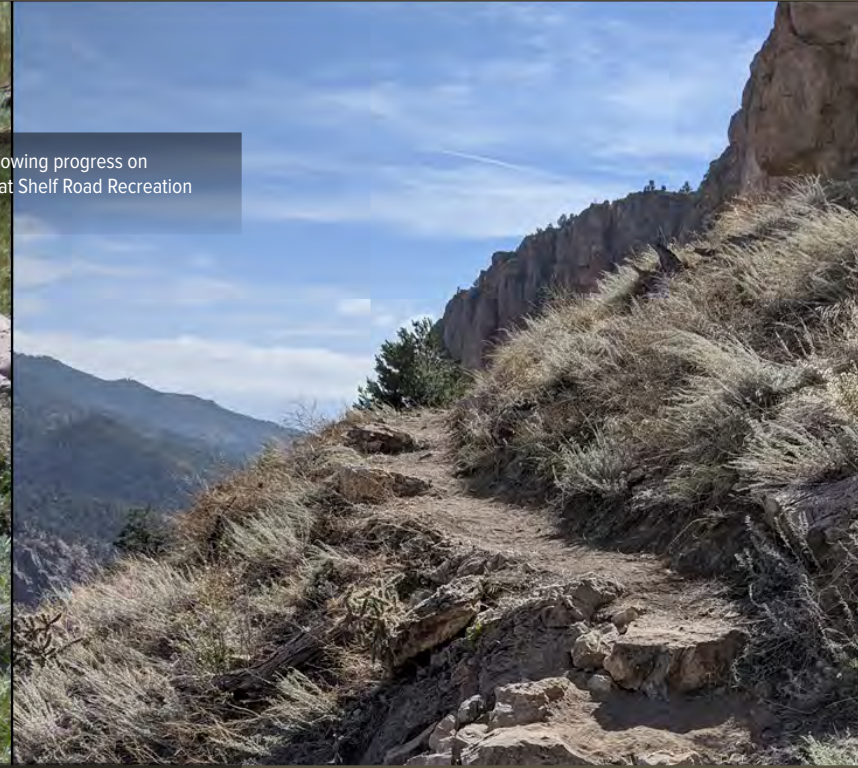


Finalist in the "Interaction" category of RMFI's annual NATURE! Photo Contest. Photographer: Renee Wall.

Kit Carson as seen from the top of the waterfall high above Willow Lake in the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness.



Before and after photos showing progress on construction of rock steps at Shelf Road Recreation Area.



MIKE SMITH RETIRES FROM BOARD

After serving nearly 11 years as a member of RMFI's Board of Directors, Mike Smith, will retire from the Board at the end of 2020. Mike began his career as a trail crew foreman before switching to timber management where he stayed for a couple decades. Mike first met RMFI's founder, Mark Hesse, when he was serving as a Wilderness Manager and it was there where his relationship with RMFI began. Mike ended his career as a Forest Planner, working on long-range land and resource allocations for the Pike and San Isabel National Forests. During this time on the RMFI Board, Mike provided a critical perspective from the eyes of a land manager and was instrumental in helping implement RMFI's Earth Corps field studies course. His insights and historical knowledge of RMFI will be sorely missed. Thank you, Mike, for your many years of dedication and service to RMFI!



Before and after photos of construction rock steps and drains in Stratton Open Space.



Mike Smith. Photos courtesy of Riley de Ryk.



Before and after photos of construction of a new trail reroute in Ute Valley Park.





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