You care about Colorado's environmental legacy.

Do your legislators?

The scorecard highlights the priorities of the conservation community in the 2012 legislative session. You will find factual, nonpartisan information about how each member of the legislature voted on important issues that affect Colorado’s air, land, water and people. We invite you to examine the scores of your representative and your senator and to see how well their votes match up with your conservation values. We encourage you to call or write your legislators and let them know you follow their environmental scores. Phone number and email addresses of your elected officials can be found at coloradoconservationvoters.org.

Colorado Conservation Voters turns conservation values into Colorado priorities.

The Conservation Community worked to protect our Colorado way of life in 2012 by improving the economy and protecting public health and the environment.

In 2012 the economy and the environment both won.

As Colorado’s unemployment rate hovered around 8%, the conservation community went into the legislative session vowing to be part of the economic solution while protecting the environment. Numerous important pro-conservation/pro-economy bills passed.

- E-Waste: Will keep toxic chemicals out of our ground and water and create 2,500 jobs for Coloradans.
- Electronic Vehicles: Cut red tape to allow local businesses to install charging stations, making Colorado a place to grow the electric vehicle market.
- Colorado’s economy is inextricably linked to our environment, supporting tourism as our second largest industry and providing Colorado businesses with an educated work force that lives here for the quality of life. This year several bills were passed to protect our forest and our wildlife. (HB 1032, HB 1150)

Protecting public health.

There were numerous bills that would have rolled back Colorado’s protection of our air and water. The conservation community killed these anti-environment and anti-public health bills.

- Colorado’s renewable energy standard has helped the state become less dependent on dirty coal and instead transition to using wind and solar. Weakening the renewable energy standard would have made our air dirtier and been a step backwards in the effort to address climate change. (HB 1121, HB 1160, HB 1172, HB 1351).
- HB 1103 was a direct attack on air quality by exempting counties from ozone testing.
- HB 1161 threatened to undo a decade worth of work to protect Colorado’s water quality by delaying and weakening rules regarding nitrogen and phosphorus levels in our water.

2012 Overview

The Conservation Community worked to protect our Colorado way of life in 2012 by improving the economy and protecting public health and the environment.
Top Priorities

In 2012, two pro-active bills were top priorities for the conservation community. These bills are common sense solutions that are good for the environment and help our economy.

Senate Bill 133
Electronic Recycling Jobs Act
Sponsors: Senator Gail Schwartz and Representative Don Coram
House Vote: Passed 43-20
Senate Vote: Passed 28-6
Pro-Environment Vote: YES
Governor Hickenlooper Signed into Law on: 4/20/2012

SB 133 bans large screen electronics from landfills. Such a ban will protect our air and water by reducing the toxic metals contained in these electronics from entering the waste stream. Additionally, with the return of the electronics into the market, 2,500 new recycling jobs will be created.

House Bill 1258
Electric Vehicle Charging
Sponsors: Representative Brian DelGrosso and Senator Cheri Jahn
House Vote: Passed 60 - 3
Senate Vote: Passed 33 - 0
Pro-Environment Vote: YES
Governor Hickenlooper Signed into Law on: 5/3/2012

HB 1258 clarified that third-party charging stations for electric vehicles, such as your local coffee shop, shall not be regulated as an electric utility, and ensured that EV charging stations could use renewable energy generated on site. The bill will lead to an increased number of vehicle charging stations and supports the expansion of the electric vehicle market.

House Bill 1028
Low Income Energy Assistance
Sponsors: Representative Cheri Gerou and Senator Pat Steadman
House Vote: Passed 49-16
Senate Vote: Passed 24-10
Pro-Environment Vote: YES
Governor Hickenlooper Signed into Law on: 3/24/2012

HB 1028 extends funding for energy-related assistance for low-income households through energy bill payment assistance and energy efficiency improvements.

House Bill 1351
Protecting the Renewable Energy Standard Amendment
Sponsors: Senator Jeanne Nicholson
Senate Vote: Failed 8 – 27
Pro-Environment Vote: YES

Senator Jeanne Nicholson offered an amendment that required trash gasification projects to be greenhouse gas emissions-neutral and that air emissions be as clean as or cleaner than the emissions of natural gas plants.

House Bill 1136
Electric Vehicle Charging Station Prohibition
Sponsors: Representative Robert Ramirez and Senator Ellen Roberts
House Vote: Passed 37-28
Senate Vote: Failed 2-3 in the Senate Committee on State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Pro-Environment Vote: NO

HB1136 would have prohibited electric vehicle charging stations from being located on publicly-owned property, creating a significant barrier to developing an alternative vehicle infrastructure in Colorado.

Energy Bills

House Bill 1351
Gasification of trash in the Renewable Energy Standard
Sponsors: Representative Jon Becker and Senator Lois Tochtrop
House Vote: Passed 35 - 29
Senate Vote: Senate leadership laid over the bill until after the conclusion of the legislative session.
Pro – Environment Vote: NO

HB 1351 was an attempt to undermine Colorado’s renewable energy standard by allowing energy generated from the gasification of trash to count for compliance, a process that is started by burning natural gas. This would have helped utilities avoid making investments in truly clean sources of energy.
from mines is important, and this amendment made it possible for incentives to be provided without using renewable energy tax credit.

Sponsor: Representative Matt Jones
House Vote: Failed 30 -33
Pro-Environment Vote: YES
Representative Matt Jones offered an amendment that would have qualified the capture of coal mine methane gas as an innovate energy solution instead of a renewable energy. This solution would have protected the development for wind and solar while also providing an important incentive for the capture of coal mine methane gas.

**House Bill 1172**

**Prohibit Environmental Planning**
Sponsors: Representative Spencer Swalm, Representative Kathleen Conti and Senator Ted Harvey
House Vote: Passed 35 - 30
Senate Vote: Failed 2-3 in the Senate Committee on State, Veterans and Military Affairs
Pro-Environment Vote: NO
HB1172 prevented state regulators from taking into account the federal regulatory risks associated with carbon dioxide pollution, as well as other environmental externalities, when evaluating utility plans for energy acquisition.

The conservation community worked to reestablish funding for the Governor’s Energy Office this legislative session. The result was House Bill 1315. The bill is a compromise but achieves our goals of establishing a consistent funding stream for the office, protecting the Clean Energy fund, and ensuring a continued focus on new energy economy efforts including energy efficiency, wind and solar. In addition, the energy office will be required to focus much of its efforts on energy efficiency when working on fossil fuels. HB 1315 passed the Senate unanimously and had only two no votes in the House.

**House Bill 1160**

**Coal Methane in the Renewable Energy Standard**
Sponsors: Representative Randy Baumgardner and Senator Gail Schwartz
House Vote: Passed 34 - 29
Senate Vote: Senate leadership laid over the bill until the conclusion of the legislative session.
Pro-Environment Vote: NO
HB1160 allowed coal mine methane gas to count for compliance with Colorado’s Renewable Energy Standard. While the capture of methane gas is critically important for combating climate change and reducing local air pollution around mines, the legislation created a false choice; we can reduce coal mine methane pollution and promote actual renewable energy. Proponents repeatedly rejected numerous amendments that would have better achieved both objectives.

**House Bill 1160 amendment**

Including the capture of coal mine methane gas as an innovative energy solution amendment. The capture of usable methane vented

**Public Health Bills**

**The following bills and amendments impact public health and our environment.**

**House Bill 1103**

**Clean Air Exemption**
Sponsors: Representative Glenn Vaad and Senator Lois Tochtrop
House Vote: Passed 35-29
Senate Vote: Failed 2-3 in Senate State Veterans and Military Affairs Committee
Pro-Environment Vote: NO
HB 1103 allows county commissioners to exclude all or part of their county from vehicle emissions testing if their county does not violate national ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide and ozone. Neither dirty air nor polluting cars stay in one county so it is essential to test all cars, regardless if they are registered in a county that meets clean air standards.

HB 1161 requires rules approved by the Water Quality Control Commission on phosphorus and nitrogen pollution to be reviewed by a separate scientific advisory committee before being approved. This bill would further delay important cleanup of our water by requiring another review of water pollution rules that have already been extensively studied.

**House Bill 1335**

**Inspectors Amendment**
Sponsors: Representative Su Ryden and Representative Nancy Todd
House Vote: Failed 31-34
Pro-Environment Vote: YES
Oil and gas is getting closer to communities and critical water supplies, and public health impacts are just beginning to be understood. Despite this, Representative Jery Sonnenberg offered an amendment to the state budget bill, HB 1335, to remove three inspectors from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for air and water quality on oil and gas operations. The House passed the Sonnenberg amendment. Representatives Su Ryden and Nancy Todd offered an amendment to strip Rep. Sonnenberg’s amendment and restore the three additional oil and gas inspectors. CDPHE is currently woefully understaffed with only four inspectors. This means that facilities like oil and gas condensate tanks that release ozone into the air are only inspected once every 27 years. The inspectors were restored to the budget by the Senate.

**House Bill 1335**

**Inspectors Amendment**
Sponsor: Senator Morgan Carroll
Senate Vote: Passed 18-13
Pro-Environment Vote: YES
With new oil and gas activities along the Front Range, Senator Morgan Carroll offered an amendment to the state budget bill, HB 1335, to add four Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC) inspectors. In 2011, the COGCC had fifteen inspectors to inspect 46,835 wells. Each inspector is responsible for over 3,000 wells. In 2011, 74% of the wells were not inspected and had little to no oversight. The amendment was stripped out of the budget in the conference between the two chambers.
Colorado’s forests and wildlife not only enhance every Coloradan’s quality of life but also contribute billions of dollars to the state’s economy every year.

**House Bill 1032:**

**Forest Restoration Programs**

Sponsors: Representative Millie Hamner and Senator Jeanne Nicholson

House Vote: Passed 57-6

Senate Vote: Passed 30-5

Pro-Environment Vote: **YES**

Signed into law by Governor Hickenlooper on: 03/16/2012

HB 1032 continues the Forest Restoration Program and its funding for five more years. This is the only state funding source for forest restoration and forest health programs.

**House Bill 1050:**

**Non-Game and Endangered Species Tax Check Off**

Sponsors: Representative Roger Wilson and Senator Jeanne Nicholson

House Vote: Passed 63-0

Senate Vote: Passed 27-6

Pro-Environment Vote: **YES**

Governor Hickenlooper signed into law on: 03/16/2012

HB 1050 continues the period for which state income tax return forms include a line where taxpayers can make a contribution to the nongame and endangered wildlife fund.

2012 again saw attempts to reduce Great Outdoor Colorado (GOCO) and lottery funding for open space. This funding makes projects like Phantom Canyon, state parks and local parks possible while also being an economic driver that brings in millions of dollars every year into the state. Ultimately, the bills attempting to reduce GOCO funding died in the first committee. The conservation community will continue to protect this vital funding stream.

**Governor’s Oil and Gas Task Force**

This spring, the Governor convened a task force on the role of local governments in regulating oil and gas development. Task force members included representatives of oil and gas companies, local governments and a representative from Colorado Conservation Voters. The task force recommendations included enhancing the role of Local Government Designees (local government liaisons to the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission) that will increase transparency and give the public access to more information. Additionally, the task force established a path for local governments to assist with much needed inspections, but not enforcement, of oil and gas operations.

2012 saw extensive debate on oil and gas development. Ultimately bills to expand and reduce local control of oil and gas development died as did numerous other bills. However, an important rule making and task force occurred outside of the legislative session.

**Fracking Disclosure Rule Making**

In December of 2011, Colorado implemented a strong fracking disclosure rule requiring most chemicals and concentrations used in hydraulic fracturing to be disclosed on a public website www.frackfocus.com. This basic right-to-know provision is a critical first step to ensuring that public health is protected from oil and gas development. However, much work remains to be done to fully protect our air, land, water, and communities from oil and gas drilling. Moving forward, disclosed chemicals need to be studied to understand their impacts on air, water and public health.
Did legislators vote the values of Coloradans?

2012 State of the Rockies Poll Results

Colorado voters across the political spectrum – from Tea Party supporters to those who identify with the Occupy Wall Street movement and voters in-between – view Colorado’s parks and public lands as essential to their state’s economy and want to see clean air, clean water, natural areas and wildlife funded and protected.

67% of Coloradans across partisan and ethnic lines identify as conservationists

On Jobs:
- 78% say that we can protect land and water and have a strong economy at the same time.
- 93% agree that “Our national parks, forests, monuments, and wildlife areas are an essential part of Colorado’s economy.”
- 44% Colorado voters say that environmental regulations have a positive impact, whereas only 29% say they have a negative impact.

On Energy:
- 64% say increasing the use of renewable energy will create jobs in Colorado.
- State voters are more apt to say they would encourage the use of solar power (55%) and wind power (46%) than other sources of energy.

On Regulation:
- 63% of Centennial state voters are more likely to view environmental laws more as “important safeguards to protect private property owners, public health and taxpayers from toxic pollution and costly clean-ups” than to view them as “burdensome regulations that tie up industry in red tape, hurt them too much financially, and cost jobs” (29%).
- Only 34% agree that “One of the best ways to create jobs is to cut back environmental regulations that are weighing down Colorado’s businesses.”
- 71% support the EPA “continuing to implement the Clean Air Act by updating the standards for air quality, including for smog, dust, and emissions from power plants, factories and cars,” with a majority (54%) strongly in support.

On Prioritizing Conservation:
- Two-thirds of Colorado voters want to reduce America’s need for coal, oil and gas by expanding use of clean, renewable energy – which they see as a local job creator.


<table>
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<th>Sub-group</th>
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<td>White/Anglo</td>
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<td>Hunter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angler</td>
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86% say that “Even with state budget problems, we should still find money to protect and maintain Colorado’s land, water and wildlife.”

82% say the same about state parks.

Conservation Champion

As Democratic Caucus Whip, Representative Dickey Lee Hullinghorst worked tirelessly to ensure her colleagues were as strategic and effective as possible during the day-to-day battles on environmental issues in the state House.

Rising Stars

We are pleased to recognize several legislators who were passionate and effective advocates for the environment and Coloradans this session. They are some of the leading lights of the future of conservation at the capitol.

Representatives Dave Young, Pete Lee, and Millie Hamner represent diverse areas of the state and all spoke eloquently on environmental issues and repeatedly exhibited courageous leadership on behalf of Colorado’s environment.

Senators Angela Giron from Pueblo and Jeanne Nicholson from Gilpin county were key allies in the senate. Senator Giron worked diligently to ensure that every Coloradan has access to clean water and Senator Nicholson fought hard to protect the Renewable Energy Standard.

Notable Leaders

Senate Leadership

Senator President Brandon Shaffer, Majority Leader John Morse, and Caucus Chair Morgan Carroll were stalwart champions for the environment this session. In their leadership roles they helped to defeat numerous anti-environmental attacks including attempts to undo Colorado’s Renewable Energy Standard and loosen oversight of oil and gas drilling. They were courageous leaders and Colorado is better off for their work this last session.

Leaving a Legacy

Senator Bob Bacon and Representative Judy Solano are two conservation champions leaving the legislature due to term limits.

Senator Bacon has served 14 years in the Colorado legislature and has a lifetime score of 99%. Senator Bacon has been a champion on countless environmental issues including making sure that we are not leaving a toxic legacy from irresponsible mining for our children to confront.

Representative Judy Solano has served eight years in the House with a 98% lifetime score. Representative Solano has been a leader on renewable energy; from bringing net metering to Colorado to working to increase the renewable energy standard and much more.

Both Senator Bacon and Representative Solano will be missed in the legislature but their legacy will live on in Colorado’s natural places.

Breaking the partisan Divide

Two Republicans helped break the partisan divide to sponsor the priority bills for the conservation community.

Representative Don Coram proudly used his mining background to sponsor the electronic waste recycling bill.

Representative Brian DelGrosso used his business perspective to help cut red tape to make it easier for local businesses to provide electric vehicle charging stations by sponsoring the electric vehicle bill.
## 2012 House Votes

**Key**
- **Pro-Environment Vote**
- **Anti-Environment Vote**
- **Excused**
- Not Scored because Joint Budget Committee Member
- Not appointed yet

**Bold 100% score in 2012**

### 2012 Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Number of Years in Colorado Legislature</th>
<th>Electric Vehicles Act</th>
<th>Low Income Energy Assistance</th>
<th>Burning off trash in the Renewable Energy Standard</th>
<th>Coal Methane in the RES Amendment</th>
<th>Prohibit Environmental Planning</th>
<th>Restoring Oil and Gas Inspectors Amendment</th>
<th>Clean Air Exemption</th>
<th>Non-Gene and Endangered Species Tax Check-Off</th>
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### Number of Years in Colorado Legislature

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### Not appointed yet

- Acree, Cindy (R)
- Bailey, David (R)
- Balmer, David (R)
- Barker, Mark (R)
- Baumbardner, Randy (R)
- Becker, Jon (R)
- Beezley, Don (R)
- Bradford, Laura (R)
- Brown, J. Paul (R)
- Caso, Edward (D)
- Cullin, Kathleen (R)
- Coram, Don (R)
- Court, Lois (D)
- DelGrosso, Brian (R)
- Duran, Cristanta (D)
- Ferrandino, Mark (D)
- Fields, Rhonda (D)
- Fischer, Randy (D)
- Gardner, Bob (R)
- Gerou, Cheri (R)
- Hamner, Millie (D)
- Holbert, Chris (R)
- Hullinghorst, Dickey Lee (D)
- Jones, Matt (D)
- Josh, Janak (R)
- Kagan, Daniel (D)
- Kelatos, John (D)
- Kert, Andy (D)
- Kert, James (R)
- Labuda, Jeanne (D)
- Lee, Pete (D)
- Levy, Claire (D)
- Liston, Larry (R)
- Masa, Sitka (R)
- McCraw, Ellen (D)
- McGee, Stephen (D)
- McElhany, Jerry (R)
- Mckinley, Wes (D)
- Mclnulty, Frank (R)
- Mikkola, Joe (D)
- Murray, Carol (D)
- Neal, Larry (R)
- Nelson, Patti (D)
- Nennig, Erling (R)
- Nolan, Nancy (D)
- Nowell, Chuck (D)
- Pace, SoL (D)
- Penniston, Cheryln (D)
- Pikula, Kevin (R)
- Ramdez, Robert (R)
- Ryden, Su (D)
- Schafer, Sue (D)
- Scott, Roy (R)
- Singer, Jonathan (D)
- Solano, Judy (D)
- Sorenberg, Jerry (R)
- Soper, John (D)
- Stephens, Amy (R)
- Summers, Ken (R)
- Swalm, Spencer (R)
- Swerdley, Keith (R)
- Szabo, Libby (R)
- Todd, Nancy (D)
- Tyler, Max (D)
- Vasol, Glenn (R)
- Vigil, Edward (D)
- Walker, Mark (R)
- Williams, Angela (D)
- Wilson, Roger (D)
- Young, Dave (D)
### 2012 Senate Votes

**Key**

- **Pro-Environment Vote**
- **Anti-Environment Vote**
- **E Excused**
- **~ Not Scored because Joint Budget Committee Member**
- **Not appointed yet**

**Bold 100% score in 2012**

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<th>Legislator</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>2012 Score</th>
<th><strong>Lifetime Score</strong></th>
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<th><strong>SB 133 Electronic Waste Recycling Jobs Act</strong></th>
<th><strong>SB 138 Electric Vehicles Act</strong></th>
<th><strong>SB 1050 Tick andTock: the Renewable Energy Standard Amendment</strong></th>
<th><strong>SB 1360 Reinstating Oil and Gas Inspection Programs</strong></th>
<th><strong>SB 1335 Non-GMO and Biodiesel Spec. Line-Check-Off</strong></th>
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<td>Lundberg, Kevin (R)</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>30%</td>
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<td>Newell, Linda (D)</td>
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<td>86</td>
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<td>22%</td>
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<td>71</td>
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<td>26%</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>E</td>
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  Backlund & Associates

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  Lucky Corridor, LLC

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  Environmental Defense Fund

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  Colorado Environmental Coalition

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  Kaplan Kirsch Rockwell

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  E.ON climate & Renewables North America

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  Sterling Homebuilders

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  Alliance for Sustainable Colorado

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  Aspen Skiing Company

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  Colorado Association for Recycling

- **Gary Wockner**
  Clean Water Action

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  Online and Field Organizer

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  Deputy Director

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- **Pete Maysmith**
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  Audubon Colorado and Colorado Trout Unlimited

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  Colorado Mountain Club

- **Carrie Curtis**
  Colorado Environmental Coalition

- **Nichole Goodman**
  Alliance for Sustainable Colorado

- **Marjorie Griek**
  Colorado Association for Recycling

- **Dan Grossman**
  Environmental Defense Fund

- **Josh Joshwick**
  San Juan’s Citizen’s Alliance

- **Pam Kiley**
  Environmental Defense Fund and Western Resource Advocates

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  Colorado Conservation Voters

- **Randy Moorman**
  Colorado Environmental Coalition

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  Rocky Mountain Wild

- **Joshua Ruchhaupt**
  Sierra Club

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  Western Resource Advocates

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  Western Colorado Congress

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  Clean Water Action

* Organizations listed for identification purpose only
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coloradoconservationvoters.org

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