

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

2014 annual report



NWCCOG's Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments is to be responsive to our members' needs and interests by providing guidance and assistance in problem-solving, information sharing and partnership building, advocating members' interests and needs with local, state and federal entities, and providing quality services to our membership that are relevant, effective and efficient.

Message from the Executive Director

Each year as we prepare the annual report, I look back on the accomplishments our team has achieved in the previous year. I hope you'll be as proud as I am of the contributions we've made in our Region 12 and beyond. Once again, we've been able to partner with Region 11 on several initiatives. By providing many valuable programs and services in the extended area we are able to take advantage of the synergy of strength in numbers.

Our entire staff has worked tirelessly to achieve the established goals, and their results are impressive.

Here is a sample of some important achievements in 2014:

Our **Northwest Loan Fund** closed 7 loans, providing nearly \$500,000 in working capital for businesses in the region, helping to create 20 new jobs. Word has spread about this program and there is a consistent stream of new applications, underscoring the need for this program in our community.

NWCCOG became the first region in Colorado to hire a **Regional Broadband Coordinator** to begin implementation of the Regional Broadband Plan. The process for allowing the jurisdictions in our region to develop positive working relationships with local internet service providers is an important first step and has become a model for others in the state to emulate.

The **Regional Transportation Coordinating Council** launched the One Call/One Click center, Mountain Ride, and coordinated 988 Non-Emergency Medical Trips from August through December for individuals needing to travel around the region for appointments.

Our **Economic Development District** created an extensive resource center on their new website and hosted the NW Colorado Small Business Development Center. The EDD has become the "go to" educational resource for entrepreneurs and business owners through consulting and classes.

As I mentioned, this is just a sample of the remarkable work of the team at NWCCOG. I urge you to read the entire report - prepare to be amazed at their accomplishments.

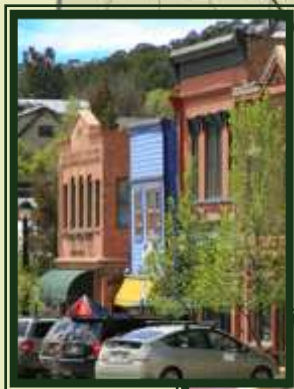
On behalf of the NWCCOG staff, I would like to thank all of our member jurisdictions for their insightful direction and continued support that encourages NWCCOG to be a leader in the state.

Liz Mullen
Executive Director
NWCCOG



the Region

State of Colorado



Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) is a voluntary association of county and municipal governments that believes in the benefits of working together on a regional basis. NWCCOG serves 27 member jurisdictions in a 5-county region. It is located in the northwest portion of Colorado just west of the Front Range, and includes the counties of Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin and Summit. NWCCOG is the region designated by the State of Colorado as State Planning and Management Region 12. It is in the heart of the Rocky Mountains and is characterized by its mountainous terrain and very high elevation. Most of the area is located among the high peaks of the Colorado Rockies. The region is bordered in the East by the Continental Divide, in the north by the State of Wyoming, to the west by Garfield County, and to the South by the Elk Mountain Range in Pitkin County.

The region is described by its rural character and tourism-oriented economy. A main section of the region has I-70, the State's main east-west transportation corridor, running through it. This enhances the proximity of the region to Denver/Front Range metropolitan communities. This proximity to a large metropolitan area has contributed greatly to the region's popularity as a mountain recreational area.

The region's economy has transformed over time from a combination of mining and agriculture in its early history (1800's) to recreational tourism today. The quality of life, the mix of local businesses, a skilled work force, a beautiful natural setting, and the international name recognition provided by world-class ski resorts are invaluable underpinnings unique to the region's economy.

Economic Development District

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Economic Development District (NWCCOG EDD) promotes and coordinates economic development efforts throughout the 5-county region. Our mission is to be a regional leader, working cooperatively with the private and public sectors to enhance the economic conditions, and improve the region's economic prosperity. The NWCCOG—EDD brings together the essential partners from all sectors to determine the most appropriate strategies to advance the prosperity of the region.

NWCCOG EDD is led by a board of directors comprised of representatives from local governmental jurisdictions, private sector, and other economic development stakeholders. As a federally-designated district, the NWCCOG EDD receives annual funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Partnership Formed With NW Colorado Small Business Development Center

The NWCCOG EDD serves as the host organization for the Northwest Colorado Small Business Development Center (NWCOSBDC). This partnership allows for close collaboration between the two entities, including expanding business consulting services and marketing the services offered by the NWCOSBDC (businesses served—173.) This partnership produced 2 very successful business conferences in 2014:

- Health & Wellness Industry Business Conference (72 attendees) – 8/14/14
- Women's Business Conference (314 attendees) – 10/10/14

Communication and Outreach

Both the NWCCOG EDD website (nwcoloradobusiness.org) and monthly e-resources bulletins have become an excellent asset to businesses, local governments, and economic development stakeholder throughout the region. These communication tools provide a clearinghouse of resources touching on all topics relevant to running successful businesses. This bulletin reaches the database of NWCCOG EDD businesses, and is shared by our partner organizations as well.

Health & Wellness Industry Sector Partnership Continues to Forge Ahead in 2014

- One focus that emerged in 2014 was on encouraging businesses in our region to adopt worksite wellness programs as a way to improve workforce productivity, reduce healthcare costs, and encourage more demand for services and products offered by businesses in the health and wellness industry in the region. The Health and Wellness sector partnership will focus its efforts on developing a regional comprehensive worksite wellness program in 2015.



EDD Core Team receives "Reality of Resilience" Award from Colorado Workforce Center

RACHEL LUNNEY
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Health & Wellness Business Conference

Key Communication Statistics

- Website hits: 1,313
- Number of resources bulletins sent out - 17
- Reach of EDD Resources bulletins:
 - NWCCOG EDD email list – 270 businesses; 250 economic development stakeholders
 - NWCOSBDC email list – 1,500
 - Partner lists – 10,000

Elevator Inspection Program



Under the leadership of Gene Morse, the Elevator Inspection Program (EIP) inspects and issues permits for commercial and residential conveyances (elevators, lifts, dumbwaiters, and escalators) to ensure safe conveyances throughout the region. The program has been in place since 1993.

In July 2008, NWCCOG entered into an Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment - Division of Oil and Public Safety as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) under the Elevator and Escalator Certification Act.

GENE MORSE

Director

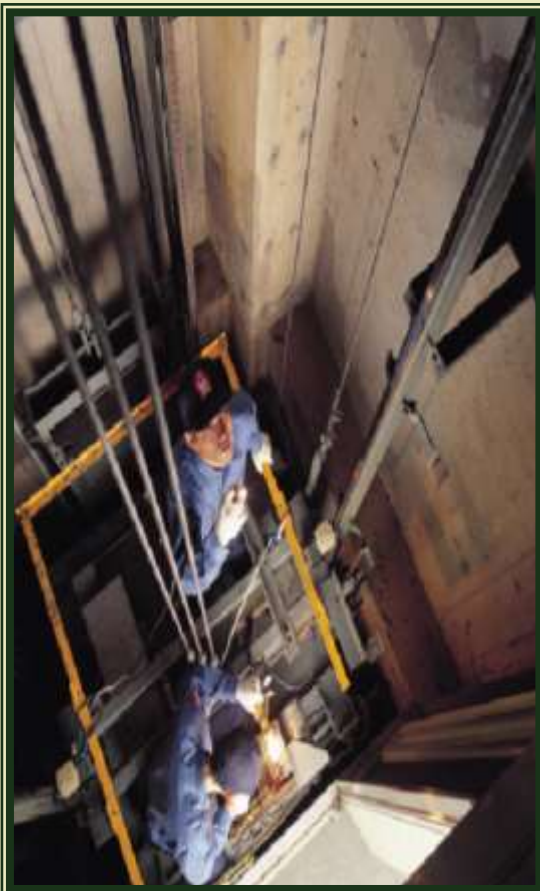
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NWCCOG member jurisdictions are invited to sign a Letter of Agreement with NWCCOG, agreeing to adopt the elevator codes for conveyances. NWCCOG's elevator inspectors work cooperatively with each jurisdiction's building department to implement the program in that jurisdiction. The EIP now serves Clear Creek, Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Lake, Moffat, Pitkin, Routt, and Summit counties, which includes most of the cities and towns within those counties.

Total Number of Elevators Inspected in 2014:

Eagle County	240
Town of Basalt	27
Town of Eagle	35
Town of Gypsum	13
Town of Minturn	1
Town of Red Cliff	2
Town of Vail	278
Grand County	5
Town of Fraser	9
Town of Granby	14
Town of Grand Lake	6
Town of Hot Sulphur Springs	3
Town of Kremmling	4
Town of Winter Park	51
Town of Walden	1
City of Aspen	228
Summit County	119
Town of Dillon	24
Town of Frisco	38
Town of Silverthorne	14
Town of Carbondale	23
City of Glenwood Springs	95
City of Steamboat Springs	158
Non-Members w/in Region 12	221
Jurisdictions Outside Region 12	114
TOTAL	1,723



Energy Management Program (Weatherization)

The Energy Management Program, also known as Weatherization, weatherizes low and moderate income homes to reduce fuel consumption and heating costs. Services include insulation, caulking, weatherstripping, and the installation of storm windows, and new energy-efficient furnaces and refrigerators. NWCCOG is a local administering agency under the Weatherization Assistance Program, and is under contract to the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) Weatherization Program. Weatherization has helped preserve affordable housing units in the region. By reducing a household's energy consumption and heating costs, these families have more income available to spend within their local communities. In addition to reducing energy consumption and heating costs, the weatherization process corrects any health and safety problems found, such as gas leaks and carbon monoxide problems. The Weatherization Program has a main office in Silverthorne and a field office in New Castle. In addition to weatherizing homes within the NWCCOG region, NWCCOG also weatherizes homes in Chaffee, Clear Creek, Garfield, Lake, Moffat, Park, Rio Blanco, and Routt Counties.



Number
of Homes
Weatherized

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

A Year of Collaboration

While there are numerous examples of collaboration on the part of the Weatherization team, these three stand out:

Bidding by tradesmen for jobs being done by Weatherization had been an annual ritual, taking valuable time to prepare and evaluate the bids. In 2014, the Weatherization team offered to award **multi-year contracts** to the selected tradesman with an agreement to hold the 2014 price level into the coming year. This results in saved time and money, along with the realization by the contractor that they will have work in 2015. A true win/win for all parties.

GRID Alternatives, a nonprofit organization that brings the benefits of solar technology to communities that would not otherwise have access, wanted to find qualified candidates in our area for installation of Photo Voltaic systems on their homes. The Weatherization team worked with GRID Alternatives to identify these homes. The result was that many homes in our area, which had already benefited from the savings brought about by Weatherization efforts, were now able to actually generate solar energy production! Another win/win for all involved.

Riverview Apartments, a five building complex in Avon, is in need of the energy saving enhancements provided by the Weatherization team. With the efforts of the Riverview Management, Holy Cross Electric, the Colorado Energy Office, and the Weatherization team, a multi-year plan was developed to complete the project. Two buildings were completed in December 2014, two buildings will be completed in 2015, and the final building in 2016. This plan sets the stage for future multi-year projects when funds must be budgeted over several years. This kind of collaboration is a model for other teams throughout the state to use in solving budgeting challenges.

All in all, the Weatherization team had another banner year and is poised for a busy 2015.

Eagle County	24
Town of Basalt	1
Town of Gypsum	1
Grand County	3
Town of Granby	2
Town of Grand Lake	2
Town of Kremmling	3
Town of Winter Park	2
Jackson County	1
Town of Walden	2
Pitkin County	3
City of Aspen	4
Summit County	8
Town of Dillon	1
Town of Frisco	1
City of Carbondale	3
City of Glenwood Springs	1
City of Steamboat Springs	5
Jurisdictions Outside Region	111
TOTAL	178

STEVE GETZ

Director

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Northwest Loan Fund



The Northwest Loan Fund (NLF) offers business loans in the 9 Northwest counties of Colorado (Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit). The NLF loans money for expansion, acquisition, and start-up. Loans can be used for equipment, inventory, working capital, and other business uses.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Seven Businesses Benefit From NLF Loans

With funds from the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) the loan fund made 7 loans for a total of \$456,500. These businesses created 20 or more jobs.

Guidance and Education

Anita Cameron, Director of Business Lending, speaks with every caller to guide them on the best lending options for their project. She also created a workshop for business owners called "Insider Tips for a Bullet Proof Loan Application" to help applicants understand the process. She began conducting the workshop throughout the NLF Territory in 2014 and will continue as needed in 2015.

A Sample of NLF Clients

- Vail Brewing Company in Eagle County, received funding for start-up equipment and working capital.
- The LumberYard Snow and Skate in Breckenridge added to their unique European lines of boards and clothing.
- Doug Berg purchased a Farmers Insurance Agency, in Summit County, with the help of the NLF.
- Windy Gap Logging in Granby bought equipment and hired staff to start a new logging operation.
- Aircraft Technical Book Co., of Tabernash, used funds to expand into European Aviation (EASA) textbooks. This led to ATBCo. being chosen by SpaceTEC to develop curriculum and a certification for aviation and aerospace technicians.
- Other's borrowed for inventory, equipment or to purchase a business.

These companies create jobs and contribute to the tax revenue in their rural economies.



Windy Gap Harvester

ANITA CAMERON

Director of Business Lending

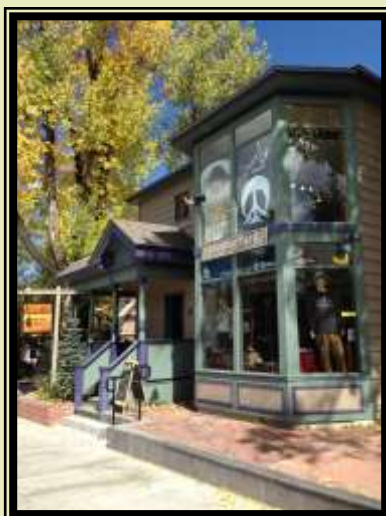
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NorthwestLoanFund.org



Vail Brewing Company
Silo



The LumberYard
Snow and Skate



Broadband

NWCCOG recognized that access to broadband services to connect to the Internet and other online services is vital to economic development and quality of life in the region. The Regional Strategic Plan for Broadband for a 8 county area, which consists of Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, and Summit counties, and the City of Glenwood Springs and Town of Carbondale was completed in 2013 and set the stage for the advancements in 2014. This project was funded by a grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs' Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Fund.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Forming the Team

The Regional Broadband Coordinator, Nate Walowitz was hired in April 2014, bringing extensive broadband background and expertise with which to begin implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan. Each county appointed a representative to serve on the Broadband Steering Committee

Team Results

- Open and direct dialogue with numerous broadband providers began with the intent to deliver more robust network connections and services to the entire region.
- A regional working session with diverse stakeholders was facilitated to find common ground for open communication in support of services for each of their local areas.
- Broadband network infrastructure projects to improve speed, capacity and pricing were developed in Rio Blanco, Moffat, and Routt Counties.
- A Carrier-Neutral Location (CNL) was launched in Routt County, providing a single point of aggregation for government, schools, and other traffic - thus allowing multiple service providers to compete for business, keeping costs lower in the area.
- The Town of Red Cliff and NWCCOG are working on plans and land acquisition to develop two communications sites. These sites will support provision of broadband services by a startup wireless Internet Service Provider (ISP) and public safety communications. The project will be completed by fall 2015.
- Concerted efforts among service providers and governmental agencies resulted in the activation of a fiber connection between Steamboat Springs and Craig, providing additional bandwidth and capabilities to western Routt County.
- Pitkin County released an RFP and selected a partner to help develop a county specific strategic plan to provide broadband to unserved and underserved areas throughout the entire Roaring Fork Valley.
- The Town of Kremmling approved construction of a new Verizon Wireless cell site expanding 4G cell phone coverage in many parts of town and cell service at the local schools.
- Rio Blanco County projects are being planned and developed.

These results have only been possible through the dedicated efforts of an entire team of Internet Services providers, government officials, local experts, and community members. Thanks to all who participated.



Redcliff



Hilton Gulch & Cow Creek School Routt Cty

NATHAN WALOWITZ

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NWCCOG

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Community Living Services Division

Alpine Area Agency on Aging



2014 Senior Award Recipients



Caregiver Conference



Caregiver Conference

JEAN HAMMES

Director

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In 2014,
2,594 consumers were
served and
33,043 units of services
were provided
through the
Older Americans Act and
State Funds
for Senior Services.

The AAAA is the designated regional planning and service agency for aging services in Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, and Summit Counties. Resources made available under the Older Americans Act and State funds are used to finance those activities necessary to achieve elements of a comprehensive and coordinated community-based system. Services are for persons over the age of 60, especially those with the greatest social or economic need, and their family caregivers. Services offered by the AAAA are intended to assist older Americans to live independently and with dignity, in their own communities, by removing barriers and providing continual care for more vulnerable older adults.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Region 12 ADRC Advisory Council Formed

In 2013 Region 12 received designation as an emerging ADRC (Aging and Disability Resources for Colorado). The establishment of the ADRC for Region 12 was part of the final expansion of ADRC statewide. During 2014, a network of partner stakeholders came together to create the Region 12 ADRC Advisory Council. This coordination and partnership includes the three Centers for Independent Living, Department of Rehabilitation, the regional Behavioral Health provider, three Community Center Boards, the Regional Care Collaborative Organization, 2-1-1, and more. The Advisory Council is providing input and guidance to determine how the ADRC and the stakeholders will work together to be mutually beneficial.

Older Americans and Senior Awards Ceremony

Every year since 1963, May has been a month to celebrate the vitality of older adults and their contributions to our communities. The Regional Advisory Council's 26th Annual Senior Awards Ceremony was held on May 21st and recognized the outstanding leadership and contributions in our region by seniors and friends of seniors. There were more than 80 members in attendance as these well-deserving citizens were honored.

Caregiver Conference

The 6th Annual Caregiver Conference was held at the Glenwood Springs High School on June 12th. Keynote speaker Sara Qualls, Ph.D., Professor and Director of Gerontology Center at UCCS, presented how family histories and dynamics alter family caregiving. Topics from the multiple break-out sessions ranged from Depression, Diabetes, Alzheimer's, Medicare & Medicaid, Assistive Technology, Incontinence Management, Communication & Memory Loss, and Chronic Disease Self-Management. Twenty-six vendors provided information and resources to the over 160 registered attendees. Breakfast by Haute Plate was provided to attendees, as well as free massages, Reiki, exercise activities, paraffin hand dips, and facials.

Community Living Services Division

Connect for Health Colorado Regional Assistance Hub

In July of 2013, NWCCOG was selected to be a Connect for Health Colorado Regional Assistance Hub. The Hub is a liaison between the Assistance Sites and Connect for Health Colorado. The Hub Coordinator assists with training Health Coverage Guides, with outreach efforts, and with consumer related issues. The role of the Hub Coordinator is to provide support for 19 Assistance Sites in 9 counties. The Hub also assists in the identification of overall system needs, issues, and helps develop strategies to improve efficiency and effectiveness of implementation at the statewide level.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

A Year of Education, Improvements, and Enrollment

The Northwest Colorado Region Hub, Assistance Sites, and Health Coverage guides worked tirelessly to inform, educate and enroll our communities in health insurance. Numerous opportunities for educational outreach were conducted throughout the region. The team also provided systems performance feedback and brought important policy issues to the forefront, bringing about improvements and clarification.

Partnerships Strengthen Commitment

The Hub worked to build and strengthen partnerships within the communities we serve. Partners include insurance agents and brokers, medical service providers, schools, early childhood communities, chambers and trade associations, community organizations, and county and local governments. These enhanced relationships were instrumental in the success of the enrollments for 2014-15 as shown in the table at the right:

State Ranks Third in Nation

Colorado is now ranked 3rd in the country for most enrollments among states with their own state-run health insurance marketplaces behind California and New York through mid-January, 2015.



4 Ways to Get Marketplace Coverage



Enrollment numbers
in the region through
January, 2015

Eagle	1825
Garfield	1565
Grand	532
Jackson	43
Moffat	192
Pitkin	898
Rio Blanco	90
Routt	1437
Summit	1109
TOTAL	7691

TJ DUFRESNE

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Community Living Services Division

Regional Transportation Coordinating Council



The Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC) was formed as a result of Rural Resort Region's initiative - Seniors in Our Mountain Communities: Challenges and Opportunities. This project collected data on the growing senior population in our region and identified the gaps in services. One of the priority gaps was transportation, not just within a particular county, but in the public transportation options available to travel across county boundaries to access healthcare facilities and other services. In response, the RTCC was formed to be the local coordinating council for a 7-county rural area of northwest Colorado including Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, Routt, and Summit Counties.

The RTCC is working to improve transportation coordination and options for veterans, older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income adults. Efforts are focused on coordinating the existing public and private transit providers with other human services providers by promoting, enhancing, and facilitating seamless access to transportation services through a coordinated system that is easily available to individuals from anywhere in the region. Agencies the RTCC collaborated with to provide transportation included the Grand County Council on Aging, the Northwest Colorado Center for Independence and the Summit Seniors.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Mountain Ride Becomes a Reality

The Mountain Ride Transportation Resource the One Call/One Click Call Center, became a reality; with the testing phase from August through December. Transportation information can be obtained on the new website (www.mtnride.org) or by calling the toll free number 1-844-MTN-RIDE (1-844-636-7433). The website provides information on transportation resources in each of the 7 RTCC counties plus a link with the RouteMatch software for trip scheduling.

Non-Emergent Medical Transportation Medicaid Billing Project a BIG Hit

All trips that have been coordinated and booked to date are part of the regional Non-Emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT) Medicaid billing project. This project is a pilot demonstration coordinated with Colorado Healthcare Policy and Financing, Human Services Departments of participating counties within our region, and NWCCOG. Participating counties include Summit, Grand, Jackson, and Routt Counties. As of December, Eagle and Pitkin Counties have finalized their participation and a go-live date has been set for January 1, 2015.

Programs Receive Recognition

In September, the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA) awarded the RTCC the 2014 Open Category Award recognizing its support of the One Call/One Click Transportation Resource Center and the NEMT billing project.

SUSAN JUERGENSMEIER

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One-way NEMT Trips by County - Aug. thru Dec. 2014

Grand	653
Jackson	30
Routt	206
Summit	99
TOTAL	988

Northwest All Hazards Emergency Management Region

The Northwest All-Hazards Emergency Management Region (NWAHEMR) is a ten-county region located in the northwest corner of the state. It is comprised of Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Mesa, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt, and Summit counties. An Executive Board/Steering Committee, made up of each county's Emergency Manager as well as discipline representatives, meets on a regular basis to develop strategies to improve the emergency preparedness of the region through the use of homeland security grant funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. NWCCOG provides fiscal management and program coordination for the NWAHEMR.



A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

The final project for the 2012 State Homeland Security Grant (SHSG) included communications and IT equipment for the Vail Emergency Operations Center.

The 2013 SHSG projects included a mobile generator for the Town of Kremmling, fire shelters for the public works departments in the 10-county region, a regional Nuclear Weapon Accident Incident Exercise (NUWAIX) that took place on April 1 – 3, 2014 in Grand Junction, and air monitors for the six fire protection districts in Mesa County.

Unspent SHSG funds from the 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 grants were used to purchase a credentialing system for each of the ten counties that will align with the State's new credentialing system. The credentialing systems include computer equipment, software, and printers to provide identification cards for all first responders. The ID card can be scanned when they report to an event or incident and provide immediate information on the qualifications of the individual and track all personnel present.



First Responders gather at Mesa County Mudslide in May.

Photo credit Mesa County Sheriff's Office.

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Water Quality/Quantity Committee



The Water Quality and Quantity Committee (QQ) comprises municipalities, counties, water and sanitation districts, and conservancy districts in the headwaters region of Colorado located in Eagle, Grand, Gunnison, Park, Pitkin, and Summit counties. The Colorado River Conservation District is also a QQ member. The Board is made up of elected and appointed officials from member jurisdictions.

QQ's purpose is to facilitate and augment the efforts of member jurisdictions to protect and enhance the region's water quality while encouraging its responsible use for the good of Colorado citizens and the environment.

QQ monitors water development activities and participates in legislative and administrative proceedings that affect water quality or quantity in the basin of origin.



QQ staff provides members with legislative monitoring, water quality information, litigation and rulemaking support, trans-mountain diversion oversight, and related technical assistance to further intergovernmental cooperation, and increase political clout with state and federal agencies.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Colorado Water Plan Development Continues

In 2013, the Governor announced that the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) was to begin work on the first-ever Colorado Water Plan in conjunction with many stakeholders throughout the State. The goal of the plan is to address the gap between future water supply and demand, and preserving Colorado's water values, including thriving recreation and tourism industries. NWCCOG members endorsed a set of Principles that guide QQ's involvement, and QQ continues work with our constituents to represent our interests in the development of the plan.

EPA Proposes New Rules Under the Clean Water Act

The US Environmental Protection Agency released a draft change in their agency rules under the Clean Water Act and requested stakeholder feedback. The draft rule would change the definition of "Waters of the United States," a key term for determining what bodies of water are subject to Clean Water Act protections. Many QQ members requested such a rulemaking in 2011 and 2012 due to a current lack of clarity as to what bodies of water fall under Clean Water Act jurisdiction. QQ provided detailed comments to the EPA that was both supportive of the rulemaking taking place but also cautious as to some problems in the draft rule as written.

QQ Leads on Water Sensitive Land Use Planning

QQ held a Land Use Planning and Water Planning workshop in 2014 with local planners and water providers from around the State. QQ members also engaged in a dialogue on this issue with the Metro Area County Commissioners that will continue into 2015. QQ continues to work on better integrating land use planning and water supply planning around the State. In part due to QQ's efforts, the Colorado Water Plan now includes a discussion of these issues in a Land Use section.

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Watershed Services

NWCCOG has been the designated regional water quality management agency for the region since 1976. In that capacity, NWCCOG's Watershed Services completes and implements a water quality management plan for the NWCCOG Region, in compliance with Section 208 of the Clean Water Act. The Watershed Service program also reviews development applications and local land use regulations to determine consistency and compliance with the 208 Plan.

A LOOK BACK ON 2014...

Water Quality Control Commission Rulemaking

Watershed Services participated in the Upper Colorado River Water Quality Standards and Classifications Rulemaking. The purpose of this rulemaking is to set standards for the protection of water quality and beneficial uses of water. In 2014 one outstanding issue was the appropriate standards for molybdenum for the protection of water supplies and agriculture. This issue was of particular interest in Grand and Summit County where Climax operates molybdenum mining facilities.

Grand Lake Water Clarity

Watershed Services is working in a facilitated stakeholder group to develop an attainable water clarity standard for Grand Lake. Other stakeholders include Grand County, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the Bureau of Reclamation. The issue is complex largely due to the operation of the Colorado Big Thompson project which pumps dirtier water from downstream sources into Grand Lake where it is released into the Adams Tunnel and diverted to the Big Thompson River near Estes Park. Grand Lake has Colorado's first and only water quality standard for the protection of water clarity in a lake, which is fitting as it is Colorado's largest natural lake and its location at the west entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park.

Review and Comments on Development Applications

Watershed Services continues to work with members to evaluate potential water quality implications of development applications, 1041 permit applications, wastewater treatment plant site applications, and other land use matters. In 2014 three projects were sent to NWCCOG for review and comment.

Colorado Water Plan

Watershed Services worked closely with QQ to review and comment on the draft portions of Colorado's first Water Plan that relate to the protection of water quality. A public draft of the Water Plan was released in December and is available for comment at www.coloradowaterplan.com.



Climax Mine—Tailing Pond



East Portal—Adams Tunnel



LANE WYATT

Director

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RETURN ON MEMBERS' INVESTMENT in Dues

In 2014, NWCCOG leveraged \$213,505 in member dues into total revenues of \$4.8 million for a variety of programs and services that benefitted the region. That is a 26% increase in total revenue over 2013 with only \$3000 more dues! NWCCOG members and the dues they pay make NWCCOG possible, and provide the infrastructure, staffing, and technical assistance to bring these vital programs to our region. Membership dues are a mere 4.7% of NWCCOG's total budget, but allow our region to be eligible to receive the federal funding (\$2.4 million) and state funding (\$883,000) to offer these regional programs and services, funding that individual jurisdictions are not eligible for on their own.

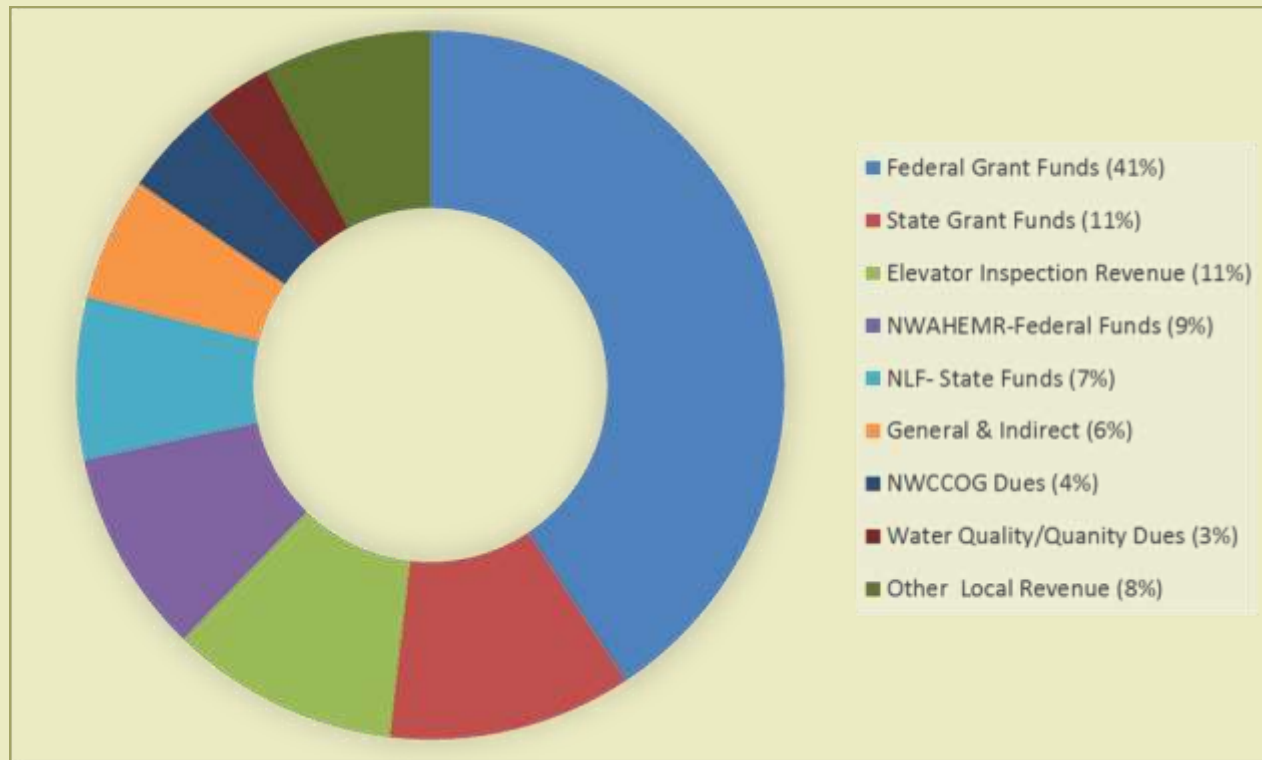
Federal & State Funds;
Other Revenue
\$4,763,698

NWCCOG
Member Dues
\$213,505

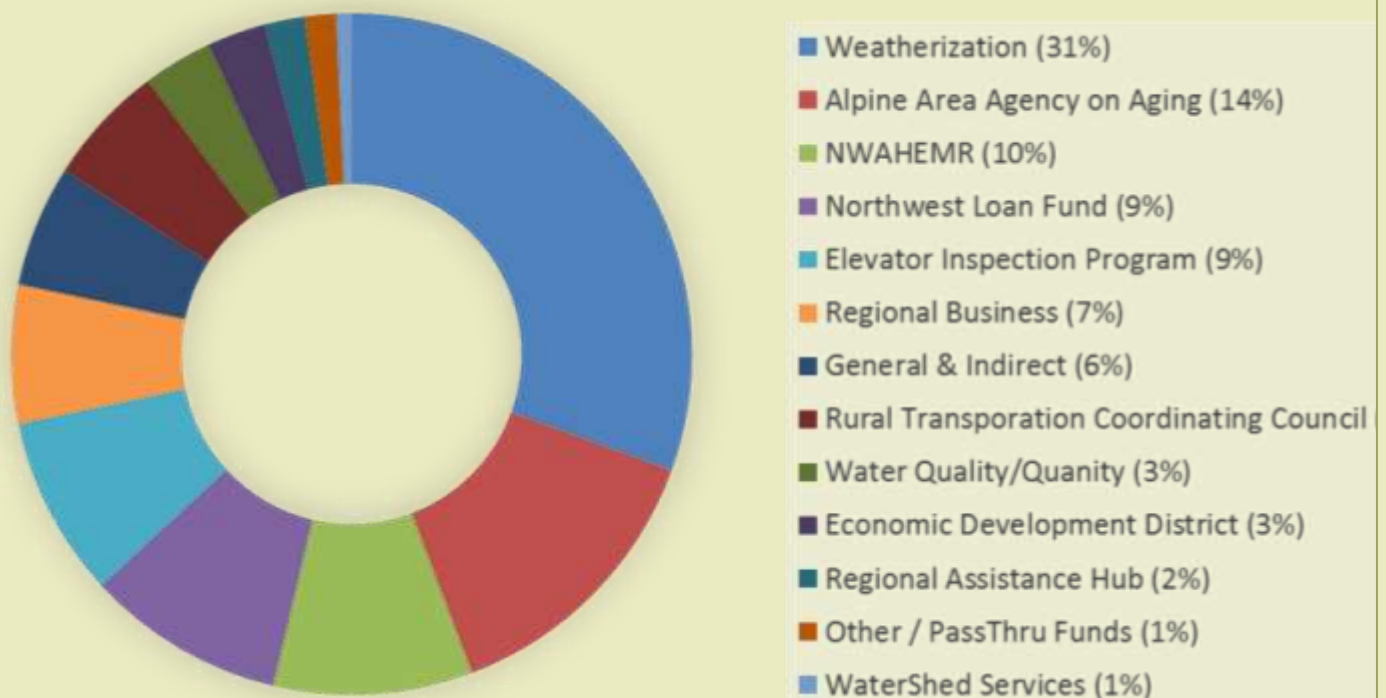
- ◆ U.S. Department of Energy
- ◆ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Older Americans Act Funds; LEAP Funds)
- ◆ U.S. Federal Transit Administration
- ◆ U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- ◆ Colorado Energy Office (Severance Tax Funds)
- ◆ Colorado Department of Transportation
- ◆ Colorado General Fund (State Funds for Senior Services)
- ◆ Colorado Department of Local Affairs
- ◆ Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
- ◆ Xcel Energy, Atmos Energy, SourceGas, Colorado Natural Gas, Holy Cross Electric

2014 Financials

Total Revenues by Funding Source:
\$4,763,698



Total Expenditures by Program:
\$4,698,908



2014 Council

NWCCOG would like to thank all those who served on the 2014 Council for making all of these accomplishments possible.

Eagle County

Keith Montag, County Manager

Grand County

James Newberry, Commissioner

Jackson County

Lanny Weddle, Commissioner

Pitkin County

Rob Ittner, Commissioner

Summit County

Karn Stiegelmeier, Commissioner

Aspen

Steve Barwick, Town Manager

Basalt

Mike Scanlon, Town Manager

Carbondale

John Hoffmann, Trustee

Dillon

Ben Raitano, Councilmember

Eagle

Jon Stavney, Town Manager

Fraser

Jeff Durbin, Town Manager

Frisco

Bill Efting, Town Manager

Glenwood Springs

Dave Sturges, Councilmember

Granby

Jynnifer Pierro, Mayor

Grand Lake

Kathy Lewis, Trustee

Gypsum

Jeff Shroll, Town Manager

Hot Sulphur Springs

Robert McVay, Mayor

Kremmling

Tom Clark, Mayor

Minturn

William Powell, Interim Town Manager

Montezuma

John Carney, Trustee

Red Cliff

Jake Spears, Councilmember

Silverthorne

Stuart Richardson, Councilmember

Snowmass Village

Jason Haber, Councilmember

Steamboat Springs

Walter Magill, Councilmember

Vail

Patty McKenny, Town Clerk

Walden

Suze Kanack, Town Clerk

Winter Park

Drew Nelson, Town Manager



Staff & Contractors

Steve Allen
Elevator Inspector

Neal Ashforth
Weatherization Installer

Mike Bugielski
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Anita Cameron
Director, Northwest Loan Fund

Tyler Cose
Weatherization Installer

TJ Dufresne
Coordinator, NW Regional Assistance Hub

Erin Fisher
Program Specialist, Alpine Agency on Aging

Jodi Flory
GIS Contractor

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Alissa Hack
Administrative Assistant

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Mark Hox
Weatherization Installer

Victoria Jarvis
Co-Director, Water Quality/Quantity Committee

Doug Jones
Weatherization Field Supervisor

Susan Juergensmeier
Mobility Manager, RTCC

Michael Kurth
Fiscal Officer

Judi LaPoint
Marketing

Rachel Lunney
Director, Economic Development District

Gene Morse
Director, Elevator Inspection

Liz Mullen
Executive Director

Sean O'Connell
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Laurie Patterson
Mobility Assistant, RTCC

Sherry Rogstad
Weatherization Program Assistant

Aaron Simmons
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Bill Simonds
Elevator Inspector

Nate Speerstra
Weatherization Auditor/Inspector

Charles Steele
Weatherization Installer

Nate Walowitz
Regional Broadband Coordinator

Angie Welsh
Fiscal Assistant

Cora Winters
Elevator Inspection Program Administrative Assistant

Lane Wyatt
Co-Director, Water Quality/Quantity Committee



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