

October 1st, 2017

Colorado Water Conservation Board
c/o Chris Sturm
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

Hello Chris:

Just over a year ago, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) granted our Colorado-based 501(c)(3) organization (Running Rivers) \$5,000 in funding to acquire and convert an enclosed utility trailer to act as our cutthroat-trout themed mobile race headquarters, and to help develop a third Colorado-based Flyathlon race for 2017. With this letter, I am pleased to report that we have accomplished both of these tasks.

In October 2016, with this generous grant provided by the CWCB, Running Rivers was able to acquire a used 6x12' enclosed utility trailer for \$2,000. We immediately went to work to customize this trailer as a cutthroat trout, Colorado's native salmonid species. We were able to get cutthroat artwork donated by Montana-based artist Derek DeYoung to act as the vinyl "skin" of our cutthroat trout trailer, Trout Force One. This vinyl skin was then printed in Montana by SDS Wraps and was installed by Denver-based contractor Inkmonstr at a total cost of \$2,000.

Trout Force One has had the impact intended, without a doubt. First off, this utility trailer has greatly simplified our logistics in holding races in remote locations by facilitating the consolidation of race equipment into a single location. Importantly, the trailer has also served as a native trout conservation conversation starter wherever we go, from race day to random gas stations. With such a distinct look (see attached photos), inquisitive race participants and strangers alike can't help but be curious about the trailer. And when they ask, I am more than happy to educate them about Colorado's cutthroat trout and the many challenges they face.

Our second task with the CWCB grant was to create a third Flyathlon race to expand the impact of our events. In June of 2017, we held the Miners Creek Flyathlon in Creede, CO, in conjunction with an established event, the Runoff Runoff. Several important lessons were learned through the Miner's Creek Flyathlon, and these lessons will be considered at Running Rivers' fall Board of Directors meeting as we contemplate the slate of Colorado Flyathlon races for 2018.



The primary measurable result identified in the Trout Force One CWCB grant proposal was the amount of money raised in our 2017 events. I am pleased to report that our three Colorado Flyathlon races in 2017 raised more than \$36,000 for projects benefiting Colorado's public lands, public waters, and native fish. Over the last 4 years, the Flyathlon has now raised more than \$100,000 for projects, an impact that we are very proud of as an all-volunteer not-for-profit. We plan to maximally leverage these funds through work with our key Conservation Partners (e.g. the Western Native Trout Initiative, Colorado Trout Unlimited, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado) to make a difference on-the-ground.

At Running Rivers, we are extremely passionate about our mission of advancing conservation through recreation, and we are extremely grateful to the CWCB for helping us to more efficiently achieve this mission. We hope to work with the CWCB moving forward to ensure that Colorado's lakes, rivers, and streams remain.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you think of any ways in which our organization can provide a benefit to the CWCB and the many great watersheds of Colorado.

Sincerely,

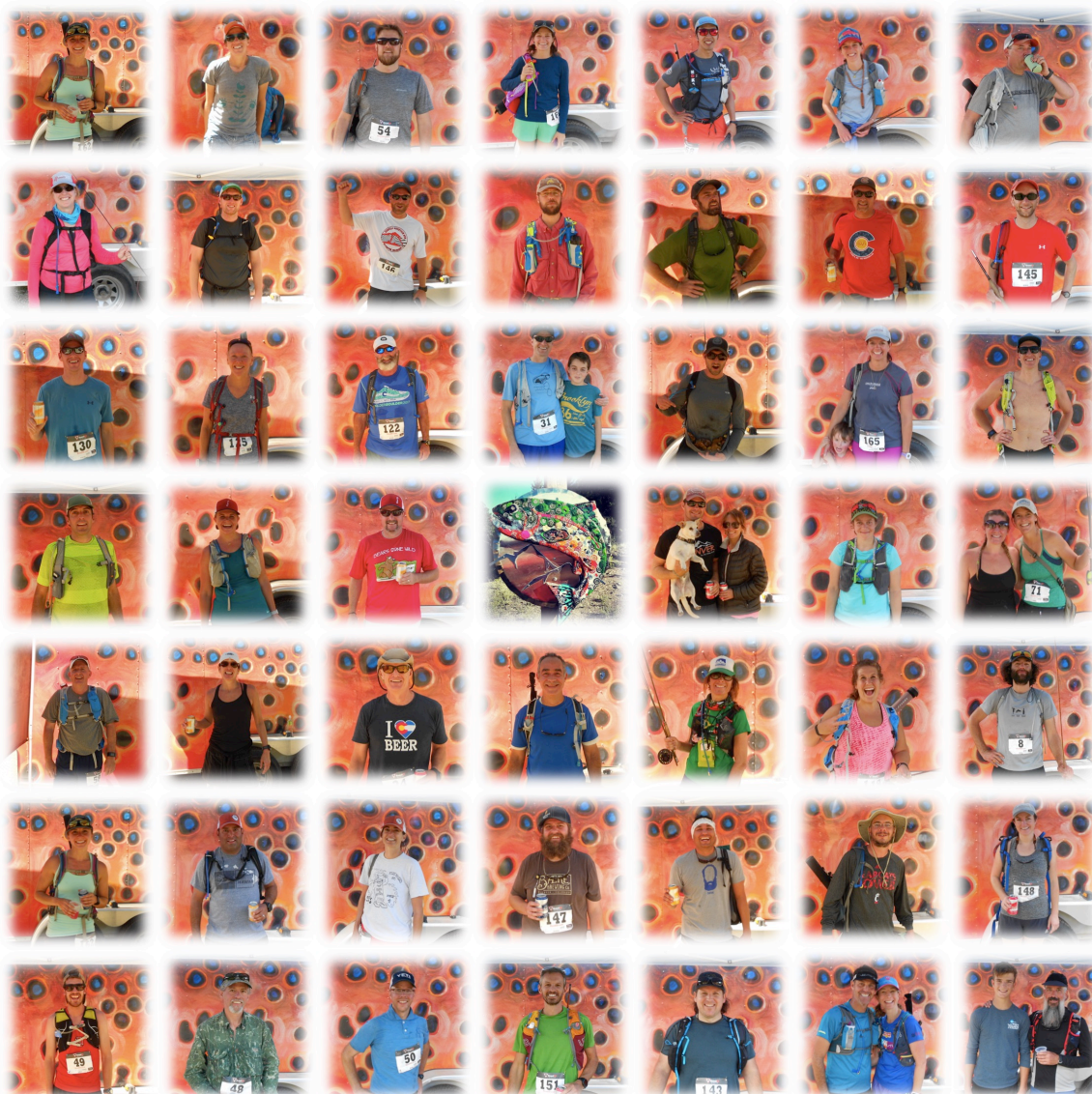


Dr. Andrew Todd
President





Trout Force One at the start line of the 2017 Middle Creek Flyathlon



The Many Faces of the 2017 Middle Creek Flyathlon



Trout Force One, in all her glory, at the start of the Miners Creek Flyathlon



Trout Force One at the start of the 2017 Lake Fork Flyathlon, held near Gunnison, CO