



**WESTERN RESOURCE
ADVOCATES**



Successes in 2008

DEFENDING PUBLIC LANDS

- **Protected 145,000 acres of national forest.** WRA used its legal strength to halt oil and gas leases on 145,000 acres of southwestern Colorado's Rio Grande National Forest – home to abundant native fish and wildlife.



The black-footed ferret's habitat in Colorado is essential to its survival.

- **Saved habitat for North America's most endangered mammal.** WRA protected 63,000 acres of endangered black-footed ferret habitat in northwestern Colorado from oil and gas development.



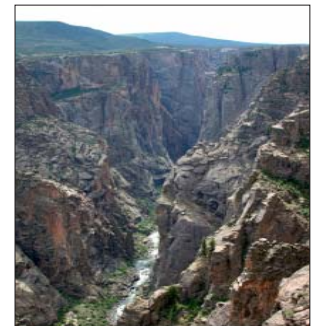
WRA defended 145,000 acres of valuable wildlife habitat from questionable oil and gas leasing.

PROTECTING THE WEST'S RIVERS

- **Negotiated to preserve the Gunnison River.** WRA led negotiations for an agreement that ends a 30-year battle over water rights and protects the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park for future generations.

PROMOTING WATER CONSERVATION

- **Preserved Utah's Bear River.** WRA and the Utah Rivers Council convinced the City of Ogden to promote conservation to reduce the need to dam the Bear River.
- **Helped secure passage of sustainable development legislation.** WRA helped draft a Colorado bill requiring developers to build sustainably. Developers must prove they have an adequate water supply to meet a new development's water demands *before* construction.



Delicate ecosystems of the Gunnison River will be protected by more natural water flows.



WRA's research shows how Arizona can meet growing electric needs without new coal plants.

CHAMPIONING RENEWABLE ENERGY

- **Reduced greenhouse gas emissions.** WRA helped Xcel Energy develop a precedent-setting plan to retire two coal plants and promote renewable energy and efficiency programs.
- **Created a clean electric energy strategy for Arizona.** WRA's research proved that Arizona's growing electric needs, spurred by increasing population, can be met through clean energy sources and efficiency.
- **Fought for legal limits on carbon emissions by coal plants.** WRA was the first organization to make the case to a state supreme court that CO2 emission limits for coal plants are required by the Clean Air Act. Our case was presented to the Utah Supreme Court and is pending.
- **Advocated for clean energy in Nevada.** WRA helped convince Nevada's leaders to consider using renewable energy instead of new coal plants to meet growing energy demand.

Find out what's coming up in 2009! >>



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Upcoming in 2009

FIGHTING AGAINST RAMPANT DRILLING

- **Defend Colorado's Roan Plateau.** WRA and Earthjustice have filed suit on behalf of a broad coalition to defend 55,000 acres of prime wildlife habitat from oil and gas leasing. In 2009, WRA will litigate to ensure that the Roan's extraordinary wildlife and landscape are preserved.
- **Prevent oil shale and tar sands development.** WRA will continue to lead 23 conservation groups in objecting to the federal government's attempt to fast-track commercial oil shale and tar sands leasing – which is occurring even before technologies are proven or environmental impacts are addressed.



A ban on surface drilling lasting until June 2009 makes this a critical time for WRA to ensure protection for the Roan Plateau.



The endangered sage grouse's habitat is being threatened by irresponsible development.

PROTECTING PUBLIC LANDS

- **Advocate for quiet recreation.** To protect quiet recreational opportunities and habitat in 14 national forests, WRA supports limits on off-road vehicle use by dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles.
- **Defend the sage grouse's nesting lands.** WRA will work to ensure that oil and gas development does not push this magnificent bird further towards extinction.

SAFEGUARDING WATER RESOURCES

- **Oppose a molybdenum mine proposed in the pristine headwaters of Colorado's Gunnison Basin.** With partners, WRA will seek to prevent potentially devastating impacts of molybdenum mining on local wetlands, river flows, and the larger watershed.
- **Safeguard Utah's Great Salt Lake.** WRA will protect Great Salt Lake from lax water quality standards, mining and diking proposals, untreated discharge, and oil and gas development.



WRA is working to protect Great Salt Lake and the 10 million birds that depend on this habitat.

PROMOTING CLEAN ENERGY



WRA will work to link clean energy that uses little water to power grids.

- **Create a clean energy plan for Nevada.** WRA will develop a plan to meet growing energy demand by relying on efficiency and Nevada's abundant renewable energy resources.
- **Promote clean energy sources that use water sustainably.** WRA will advocate for use of energy sources, such as wind and solar, that can meet electricity demand without consuming excessive amounts of water.
- **Smart placement of new power lines.** WRA is encouraging proper siting of new power lines to avoid important wildlife habitat, national parks, and wilderness areas. We also emphasize the importance of linking renewable energy sources to power lines.

Join Western Resource Advocates to protect the West in 2009!