2013 End-of-Year Overview

Outreach, Education and Volunteer Programs

February 11, 2014
2013 Facts and Figures

Volunteer Program

Education Program
Volunteer Program 2013
WHAT WE DID...

- 8 Adopt A Trail Projects
- 15 Group Service Projects
- 4 Special Events
- 26 Campground Hosts
- 3 Resource Mtg Monitoring Projects
- And 14,802 hours total from individuals and groups in 2013
- 220 Registered Volunteers (WIP)

*2013 hours are still coming in*
TRAINING

- VRA
  - VRA screening, interviewing, and selection
  - Ranger staff able to focus on field responsibilities and making volunteers happy
  - New 5 year long MOU with City of Fort Collins
  - Continuing Education Classes Offered

- Park Ranger/Boat Ranger Assistants
  - Continuous Recruitment and Training
    - Leads at each location for training
    - More hands on training
    - Senior Tax Workers not enough for coverage
HORSETOOTH BEFORE...

2013 GROUPS

- In-Situ
- Overland Mountain Bike Club
- Team B.O.B
- Poudre Learning Academy
- LCHA
- C.A.T.S.
- Centennial Bass Club
- HP Staff
- Girl Scouts
- NC3
- Trailcology
- ASU
- Loveland Jr. ROTC
- Front Range Forestry
Horsetooth After...
LAND STEWARDSHIP AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- Monitoring
  - Prairie Dog Colonies
  - Columbines in Hermit Park
  - Rattlesnakes at Devils Backbone
  - Raptors?

- Team Projects
  - 3 Bells Russian Olive Removal
  - River Bluffs Weeds and Restorations
  - Lions Open Space Buckthorn Removal
  - Fire Scar Restoration at Hermit Park
PARKS AND OPEN LANDS PROJECTS

- 23 Projects with over 200 volunteers
2013 Education Program Facts and Figures
EDUCATION PLANNING AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

- School field trip brochure for teachers
- In progress:
  - Foothills Plant and Flower Guide
  - Junior Ranger Guide
  - Horsetooth Mountain Open Space Curriculum
Volunteer and Education Trainings

- VRA, PA and CGH trainings
- Naturalist training
  - 2 new active volunteer naturalists
- 4 continuing education opportunities for volunteers
  - Train The Trainer-CPR/First Aid
**Programming and Outreach**

- Total outreach impact for Education Program
  - 191 events for 6372 members of the public
- Decrease in number of programs, but increase (21%) in participants/program
2013 Number of Programs and Participants by Category

Number of Programs by Category

- Guided Hikes: 33%
- School Field Trips: 19%
- Campground Programs: 29%
- Special Requests (not school): 10%
- Hermit Park Treasure Hunt/GO Day: 13%
- Volunteer Training/Events: 1%
- Public Tours: 7%

Number of Participants by Category

- Guided Hikes: 40%
- School Field Trips: 10%
- Campground Programs: 13%
- Special Requests (not school): 21%
- Hermit Park Treasure Hunt/GO Day: 13%
- Volunteer Training/Events: 3%
- Public Tours: 0%
GUIDED HIKES

- 62 guided hikes reaching 644 members of the public
- 33% decrease in number of programs
- 24% increase in participants per program
**School Field Trips**

- 19 field trips reaching 811 students

### School Field Trip Participants

- 2012: 796 participants
- 2013: 811 participants
Campground Programs

- 56 campground programs for 2527 members of the public
- Steady number of programs; 25% increase in program participation
**Special Requests**

- 37 special request programs reaching 1356 members of the public
- 12% decrease in number of programs, 30% decrease in attendance
  - Less participation at Fort Collins Children’s Water Festival (~100 people)
  - No outdoor skills day or Rocky Mountain National Park Bioblitz (~500 people)
## Number of Programs by Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Guided Hikes</th>
<th>CG Programs</th>
<th>School Field Trips</th>
<th>Special Requests</th>
<th>Other**</th>
<th>Grand Totals</th>
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<td>Outside of System</td>
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<td>Open Lands*</td>
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<td>LCNR Admin Offices/Courthouse Offices</td>
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<td>Blue Mtn District</td>
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<td><strong>Hermit Park</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>62</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>37</td>
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*Includes Conservation Easements

**Hermit Park Treasure Hunt/GO Day, Volunteer Trainings/Events
LONG TERM TRENDS

Total Number of Programs

Average Participants per Program

Total Participants
2013 Highs and Lows
2014 Initiatives
## Volunteer Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highs</th>
<th>Lows</th>
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<tr>
<td>Communication with field staff and volunteers</td>
<td>Campground Host turnover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developing the Project Team</td>
<td>Senior Tax Worker Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hands On Trainings</td>
<td>PRA Training/2 Different needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Office Support</td>
<td>Volunteers entering hours</td>
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<td>Park Assistant Program</td>
<td>Time needed to become familiar with programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleaning up the database</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web based recruitment</td>
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Volunteer Program Initiatives for 2014...

- Increase capacity program wide
- Continued support to field staff that manage volunteers
- Supplemental insurance for volunteers
- Expansion of recruitment efforts
- Increased communication on staff needs
- Weekly updates to designated staff
- Creative use of volunteers
- Internship recruitment and placement
- Photo database management
**Education Program**

### Highs
- Increase in participants per program
- Collaboration
  - Junior Ranger Guide
  - Foothills Plant Guide
  - Nature Notes Club

### Lows
- Communication
- Relevant educational opportunities
EDUCATION PROGRAM INITIATIVES FOR 2014

- New Volunteer Naturalist training format
- New roles for Volunteer Naturalists
- Technology interactions
- Foothills Plant Guide implementation
- Junior Ranger Guide implementation
- Better communication with field staff