

Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area

Supported and Managed by the
Poudre Heritage Alliance

What is a national heritage area?

- A designation, by Congress, that recognizes nationally significant resources and their role in defining a portion of the American cultural landscape.
- Heritage areas are based on partnerships
- National Park Service provides technical, planning and limited financial assistance
- 49 NHA's designated by Congress since 1984

Poudre River NHA

The evolution of the Poudre River, as one of the foremost examples of a working river in the Western U.S., is a key component of the Poudre River's historical interpretation and its designation as a National Heritage Area.

- Story to tell: Native Americans, French trappers, settlers, irrigation development, water rights conflict (law), water exchanges, flow measurement, water quality, recreation flows, ecosystem health, transition to urban society.

PHA Partnerships – Organizations Currently Represented on Board

- City of Ft. Collins
- City of Greeley
- Town of Windsor
- Town of Timnath
- Weld County
- Larimer County
- Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
- Central Colorado Water Conservancy District
- Friends of the Poudre
- Poudre Learning Center
- Rocky Mountain National Park *
- US Forest Service *

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- *Ex-officio

PHA 'Projects'

- Draft Management Plan in NPS review (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?documentID=54856>)
- Wayside exhibits
- Heritage Area signs along highways
- Interpretative brochures and video
- Guidebook
- Website design (<http://www.poudreheritage.org/>)
- Partnership with visitor centers, archives, libraries, museums, and universities
- Sponsored Poudre-related Native American and irrigation histories (http://www.poudreheritage.org/sites/default/files/resourceFiles/poudreethnohistory_full1.pdf and <http://www.cwi.colostate.edu/publications/SR/15.pdf>, respectively)

PHA Staff (very recently acquired!)

- Kathleen Benedict, Executive Director, Poudre Heritage Alliance
- Lori Ozzelo, Development Officer, Poudre Heritage Alliance
- Laurie White, Administrative Assistant, Poudre Heritage Alliance

Headquarters

- Poudre Heritage Alliance
8313 West F Street
Greeley , CO 80631
Phone: 970-352-1267
- Located in the Poudre Learning Center building along the Poudre River Trail

Where to next?

- New staff in place as of last month
- Completion of Management Plan review by NPS is expected soon.
- With a number of goals achieved (staff and management plan, in particular), PHA is organizing a work session Wednesday (December 11th) to establish priority goals to now be pursued.

Examples of Future Goals to be Considered (RCW)

- Seek sustainable funding for operations
- Enhance tourism via promotion of the Poudre River NHA
- Collaborate with 100th anniversary of RMNP in 2015
- Organize Poudre River historical information for easy public access and use
- Enhance water history education and outreach in Poudre River Valley
- Enhance grant program operations
- Initiate signage strategy among partners to 'brand' the Poudre River NHA along its 45 miles
- Establish program to create volunteer NHA water history guides/speakers