2021 Colorado Water Trust “Celebrating Rivers” Photo Contest Rules

2021 Theme: How Rivers Connect Us

Contest Overview. The Colorado Water Trust (“Water Trust”) announces the sixth annual “Celebrating Rivers” photo contest in honor of our 20th anniversary! This special anniversary edition of our photo contest is centered around the theme of “How Rivers Connect Us,” and asks you as a participant to submit photos and captions that demonstrate a community connected by a river. One of our values as an organization is that it takes a community to restore a river. We want to showcase, in this year’s photo contest, how our rivers bring us together. For example, we are looking for photos of rivers where groups of people are enjoying a picnic beside a river, and/or recreating on or in a river, and/or playing with their kids or dogs on a river, and/or farming near the river, and/or cleaning up a river, etc.

Another key part of this submission, different from past years, is that we’d like the photos to come with a story. The more compelling the story, the more connected to the photo the judges will feel. The story should be no more than 5 sentences (or 600 characters) and it should describe the scene, explain the groups of people that have come together, and showcase what it felt like to be there in the moment.

Photo Submission Details.

- Photos must fit within the theme for this year’s contest and must be of rivers, streams, canals, and/or ditches in Colorado.
- Photos must be taken by the Entrant, with no copyright.
  - Photos which have been previously published or submitted in other photo contests (including past Water Trust contests) are not eligible for this contest.
- A photo submission may be made by a professional, pro-amateur, or amateur photographer (“Entrant”).
- Photos may be color or black and white, must be between 1-10MB in size, and may only have basic edits used to enhance images and refine photo quality.
- Each photo must be accompanied by a caption or story explaining how the photo connects to a community.
- Entries are limited to five photos per Entrant, but prizes are limited to one per Entrant.
Submitted photographs may be used by Colorado Water Trust for media and printed materials.

**Required Information.**
- Entrant’s name, mailing address, email address, and phone number.
- A caption including the name of the river, stream, canal, or ditch in Colorado that is featured in the photo with a description of the location (city, if applicable, and/or county) of the picture and how it connects to your community.
- The date the picture was taken.

Any photos submitted without this information will be disqualified.

**How to Enter.** Submit photos electronically between June 18th, 2021 and August 27th, 2021 to comms@coloradowatertrust.org with “Photo Contest Entry” written in the subject line. You will receive a brief reply notifying you that your entry has been received and accepted into the contest if it meets the contest requirements. You will also be notified if your photo is disqualified from consideration. If you have any questions regarding this contest, please contact Emma Fredricks (efredricks@coloradowatertrust.org).

**Judging Process.** Up to 5 finalist photographs will be selected by a panel of judges, which will include professional photographers who are not participating in the contest. The panel may also consult with Water Trust staff and board members regarding submissions. In order to choose the winning photos, there will be a voting contest held publicly on Facebook and Instagram from August 30th through September 10th. The photo with the most “likes” will be the winner, with the runner ups receiving the second and third amount of “likes.”

**Prizes.** The grand prize and runner-up winners will each receive a free ticket for the Water Trust’s annual fundraiser, RiverBank, held at the Denver Botanic Garden in September 2021. Various other prizes (TBD) will be awarded to winners and runner ups.

**Notification of Winners & Display of Photographs.** Winners will be notified via follow-up email no later than September 13th, 2021. Photos from winners and finalists may appear on the Water Trust website (www.coloradowatertrust.org), social media pages, and in various print materials.
**General Agreement.** By submitting a photo in this contest, Entrant agrees to the contest rules and the reuse of Entrant’s photo without compensation. Entrant also agrees to have Entrant’s name and submitted photo released through the Water Trust website or social media pages, or in press releases associated with upcoming events related to the contest.

Photos submitted in this contest can be reprinted and reused perpetually without royalty in digital and print publications, with appropriate photo credit given.

**Liability Limitations & Release.** By submitting a photo for this contest, Entrant agrees to hold the Water Trust harmless from any and all disputes, claims, and actions related to or arising from this contest or to the prizes awarded, including but not limited to copyright violations, property infringement violations, or violations of any terms of service of social media pages, including but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. If a submitted photo depicts people, the entrant must provide the Water Trust with all persons signatures on a promotion release that authorizes persons image to be published and reproduced.

**Examples:**

My name is Tony LaGreca and I work for Colorado Water Trust. In 2019, I went on a three day river trip on the Colorado River through Ruby and Horsethief Canyons with the Water Trust staff. I was relatively new to the group. After three days on the river, depending on each other for food, fun, and safety, I knew why I was so lucky to be a part of this team. Not only do we do incredibly important work for rivers and communities across the state, but we’re an awesome group of people eager to work hard, collaborate, innovate, and have fun along the way.
When you walk along the Yampa River in downtown Steamboat Springs, you understand the concept of how a river connects us. You see grandparents showing their grandkids the beauty and coolness of the water. You see people exclaiming with joy as they tube roughly down the roaring river. You see joggers and cyclists taking in the beauty and joy around them. And once in a while, you see folks from different groups of people lock eyes and smile as they enjoy the summer days by their local river, connected for a moment.