



TRAILS COLORADO CAREER PROFILE

Coloradans and visitors love the state's beautiful landscapes, many of which include or are supported by the state's many rivers. These rivers not only support the area's wildlife but are also a water source for millions of people and businesses throughout the southwest U.S. Of the 8 river basins in Colorado, only half are considered to be fully functioning and in good condition¹. With a thriving economy, more people are moving to Colorado and putting increasing demands on the limited water resources, and the water quality will be more affected by changes associated with urbanization and agricultural practices².

Problem: You are part of a committee proposing to the state to support a program to improve the water management system of your local river basin and to help promote economic growth. However, many people are worried that the resource management industry won't create many suitable careers, and mitigations will only hurt the environment and ruin natural views. Your group must present an argument on why the state should take up your plan.

Your Job: Create a presentation to show how the jobs needed to maintain river health and water quality will bring a diversity of careers and jobs that will help the community thrive. The presentation can be a video or oral presentation with a slideshow or poster presentation.

¹ Colorado's Rivers: A Report Card https://conservationco.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Rivers_English2018.pdf

² Arkansas River Water-Quality Data <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/colorado-water-science-center/science/arkansas-river-water-quality-data>



+ Guidelines:

- > Describe at least THREE different careers
- > Use photos, text, and any other media
- > Each job description must address:
 - o What you need to study in school
 - o How much school you need to attain the profession
 - o What the main role of the position is
 - o How the job helps the community's river management

+ Careers Related to River Health:

Hazardous Waste Technician
Wastewater Treatment Operator
Drinking Water Treatment Operator
Water Distribution Operator
Laboratory Technician
Civil Engineer
Green Infrastructure Worker
Environmental Consultant
Water Resources Engineer
Hydrologist
Chemical Engineer

Environmental Technician
Policy Analyst
Geologist
Hydroelectric Plan Technician
Chemist
Stormwater Management
Conservation Engineer
Certified Erosion/Sediment Inspector
Soil Scientist
Fresh Water Ecologist
Filtration Scientist

+ Water Management Resources:

- > Colorado's Rivers: A Report Card: https://conservationco.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Rivers_English2018.pdf
- > Colorado Water Science Center: <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/colorado-water-science-center>
- > Colorado Division of Water Resources: <https://dwr.colorado.gov/>

+ Career Resources:

- > Water Footprint Calculator: <https://www.watercalculator.org/resource/jobs-in-water-protection/>
- > Work for Water: <https://www.workforwater.org/careers-in-water/>
- > Water Resource Jobs: <https://online.ecok.edu/program-resources/water-resource-jobs/>
- > Water Encyclopedia: <http://www.waterencyclopedia.com/Bi-Ca/index.html>
- > USDA Forest Service: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/careers/resources-management-careers>
- > Department of the Interior: <https://careers.doi.gov/occupational-series/natural-resources-management-and-biological-sciences>