



# WESTERN RIVERS CONSERVANCY

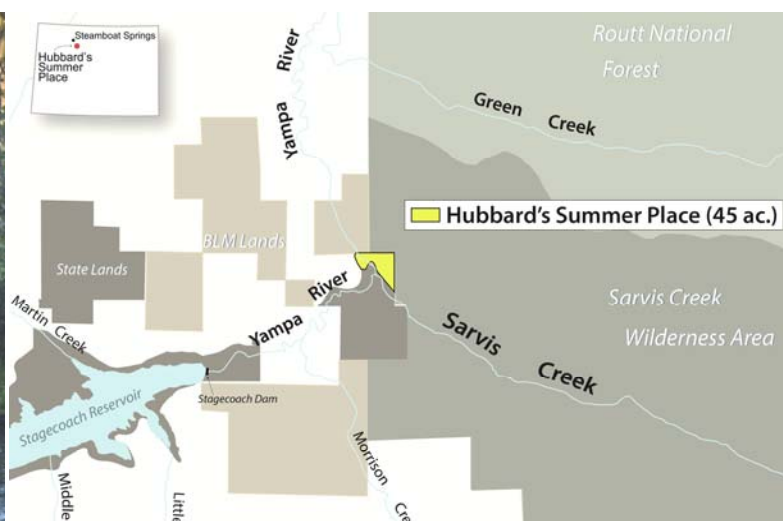
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Global Giving  
Project Report Photos  
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## ***Sarvis Creek, Colorado: Conserving trophy trout water and opening public access on the upper Yampa River***

Western Rivers Conservancy has protected an outstanding reach of the upper Yampa River and open access to some of the finest trophy trout water in Colorado. Our work at Sarvis Creek focused on the Hubbard's Summer Place, a stunning property located three miles below Stagecoach Reservoir and surrounded almost entirely by parks, wilderness and wildlife areas. Located only 13 miles from Steamboat Springs, this stretch of the Yampa is coveted by anglers for its behemoth rainbow and brown trout. WRC has now successfully conveyed this historic, 45-acre property at the confluence of the Yampa River and Sarvis Creek to the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service. The agencies will now manage the lands for the sake of fish and wildlife conservation and for low-impact public access.

*Russ Schmitzer Photo*



## ***Big Sheep Creek, Washington: Protecting large mammals, rare trout and a scenic trail in northeastern Washington.***

In December 2014, WRC completed its second land acquisition on Washington's Big Sheep Creek, placing 1,440 more acres surrounding this critical stream on the path toward conservation. Now that we own all 2,440 acres of the project area, known as the Bennett Meadows Tract, we can focus on transferring this incredible assemblage of riverland, meadowland, wetlands and conifer forest into the long-term care of a conservation steward. Our work at Big Sheep Creek will conserve over four miles of high-quality wetland and riparian habitat within the Big Sheep Creek drainage. It will improve habitat connectivity for imperiled Canada lynx and conserve prime habitat for over half the grizzly bear population in Washington. The project will also protect habitat for endangered bull trout and the increasingly rare reddsides rainbow trout. In addition to its importance for fish and wildlife, the land also includes a stretch of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, which runs through the southern sector of the property.

*Dave Jensen Photos*

