

Spring



2010

Photo: Pat Tierney

## A Year In Review For The: Yampa River Awareness Project

The last twelve months has been an active and exciting year for the grass roots nonprofit Yampa River Awareness Project (YRAP). The YRAP is a group of concerned citizens and river trip outfitters that has come together around the vision of protecting the free flowing nature of the Yampa River and its many unique and dependent natural resources for future generations, while allowing for appropriate regional water uses. The YRAP mission is to *document* the unique values of the free flowing Yampa River of Northwest Colorado, to *educate* the public and government agencies about these values and threats to them, and *inspire* citizens and government to take actions needed to protect it for future generations. See [www.yampariverawareness.org](http://www.yampariverawareness.org) for more information about us. In keeping with our mission we have undertaken the following key activities in the last year:

\* Helped setup a series of three stories about the Yampa and threats to it that were aired on National Public Radio, and featured YRAP chairman Patrick Tierney discussing the free flowing river and its unique characteristics and need to protect it. The first and third stories aired in the Colorado Front Range, while story #3 was published nationally on NPR. You can click on the following links to hear these.

- <http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/kunc/news.newsmain/article/0/0/1515886/Regional/Yampa.River.Center.of.Latest.Water.Battle>
- <http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/kunc/news.newsmain/article/0/0/1515889/Regional/Front.Range.Eyes.Yampa.River>
- [KUNC: Shell News a Short Lived Victory for Yampa Advocates](#)

\* YRAP is one of the organizations involved in Colorado Environmental Coalition's Water Taskforce. We were one of many contributors and signatures on a formal letter of opposition to the proposed Million Project on the Green River, sent to the Amy Corps of Engineers.

\* The Taskforce and YRAP have been supportive of the BLM efforts to designate the middle sections of the Yampa as an eligible stream for National Wild and Scenic River status.

\* Probably most important, YRAP Board member Kent Vertrees has been actively involved on the ground in Northwest Colorado attending dozens of meetings in the Yampa Basin, giving written and verbal input at hearings and developing partnerships with individuals and organizations that will support protection.



All these actions taken together have made a difference in educating the public about the unique values of the Yampa River, and threats to it, as well as protecting it for future generations. But to keep up our best efforts, we need your financial support. A donation to YRAP in any amount will be used wisely to help us achieve our mission of protecting the free flowing Yampa River. Your donation is also tax deductible. Our mail goals for the next year are to revise our professional educational video and have it shown in park visitor's centers and public television in the region, to continue our vigilance over and responses to proposals that threaten the free flowing nature of the river and to meet and work with organizations with an interest in protecting it.

**To make a donation simply write a check made out to: \_\_\_\_\_ . We work closely with the Colorado Environmental Coalition and they act as our fiscal agent, but funds only go to into our efforts on the Yampa. Then mail the check to: \_\_\_\_\_ .**

I hope you will join us, either in person or through generous financial support, to document, educate and inspire the public and government agencies to protect the free flowing nature of the Yampa River for this and future generations.

*Patrick Tierney*



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