2014 Annual Report
Voice of the River

Connecting Communities, Protecting the River

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Wilmington, NY 12997
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contactus@ausableriver.org
www.ausableriver.org
Your River Association - Your Backyard

Formed by the community and focused on our watershed for 17 years, the Ausable River Association is the community’s voice for the river: your voice.

- We’re advocates for clean water, healthy river and stream habitats, for brook trout and the many other native species that depend on the river.
- AsRA programs provide resources to anglers, boaters, and other recreational users; we monitor the river and share data that help us understand changes and find solutions to problems.
- We share our knowledge freely with young and old, landowners, municipal employees, and technical experts, through workshops, events, and one-on-one.
- And we restore streams to their natural function, repair damage to banks that threaten homes and businesses, and retrofit and replace culverts to reduce road damage and ensure fish passage.

We work cooperatively with a wide array of organizational partners, often behind the scenes and far from the limelight and, like the river, we’re the force connecting the diverse players. We dream big, plan carefully, and then get good work done.

We hope you will join us this year. Take a look at our work in this Annual Report edition of Voice of the River. Then consider donating, becoming a member, or renewing your membership. Make a difference in your own back yard. For our river.

Larry Master
Chair - Board of Directors
Kelley Tucker
Executive Director

AsRA’s New Look

You may have noticed a refreshed logo on this edition of Voice of the River. The new logo is similar to our previous one but has bolder lines, brighter colors, a fish identifiable as a trout, and stands out on web pages and publications. We are excited to be able to share it with our supporters. When you join or renew your membership you will receive a sticker with the logo on it. You can learn more about membership in the enclosed letter from AsRA’s executive director.

Along with the new logo we are designing a new website. The new site will allow us to share and update information about the Ausable River, highlight our recent and ongoing work, and provide the public with a wealth of resources about the river.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Larry Master
Chair
Elizabeth Clarke
Vice-Chair
Christian Brammer
Treasurer
Rocco Giampaolo
Secretary
Evan Bottcher
Ray Curran
Robert Farkas
Susan Lacy
Neil Levine
Kathryn Reiss

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Kelley Tucker

SCIENCE & STEWARDSHIP DIRECTOR
Brendan Wiltsie

RIVER STEWARD
Nicole Pionteck
An exciting new addition to AsRA’s work is the establishment of a monitoring and research program. With Title 11 funds from the New York State Department of State, AsRA has been able to purchase a multi-parameter probe and temperature loggers, fund two long-term remote monitoring stations on the Chubb River, and regularly monitor several lakes in the watershed.

At the core of this work is a watershed wide bi-weekly monitoring program of the river and its tributaries. At each monitoring location temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, and pH are measured. These basic parameters will help inform and target future water quality monitoring, while also providing critical data on the health of the river and its ability to support aquatic life.

Water temperature is of particular concern. Warmer water stresses cold-water fish species and can’t dissolve as much oxygen. This summer we will be placing 13 temperature loggers in the river and several tributaries to assess the ability of these streams to support fish, particularly brook trout.

Chloride pollution from the application of road salt to area roads is one of the most significant threats to the water quality of the Ausable River. Our bi-weekly monitoring program allows us to monitor chloride concentrations in the river by modeling its relationship with conductivity. To develop a better understanding of how this pollutant is moving through our watershed we have partnered with the Adirondack Watershed Institute to place two long-term remote monitoring stations on the Chubb River. These stations will allow us to monitor the impact winter road maintenance practices in Lake Placid are having on the Chubb River. The Adirondack Watershed Institute will be processing water samples from these stations on a bi-weekly basis, which will also alert us to other pollutants such as phosphorus.

Finally, with financial assistance from the New York State Department of State, the Mirror Lake Watershed Association, and the Town of Wilmington, AsRA has enrolled Taylor Pond, Mirror Lake, and Lake Everest in the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program. Once a month, from May through October, we will take vertical profiles of temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, and pH, as well as measure transparency, and collect water samples to be processed at the Adirondack Watershed Institute.

These programs will help inform and prioritize our work on the Ausable, while also providing valuable information about the river to residents, government leaders, and scientists.
Riverlands Restoration: Before
It might look pretty, but there is a 10' high raw bank under AsRA’s Executive Director Kelley Tucker. At moderate flow, the river is flat and glassy, clogged with sediment, with no evident riffles and limited fish habitat.

Palmer Brook Culvert Retrofit
AsRA retrofitted two stream crossings on Palmer Brook. The undersized culverts had created deep scour pools and up to 3 foot water drops at their outlets – exacerbating flooding and cutting off passage for fish. Working with the Town of Black Brook, The Nature Conservancy, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, a series of natural step pools were constructed to reestablish the connection between the stream and the culvert. The end result: happy fish, less erosion, and less maintenance for the town.

West Branch Riparian Planting
After a stream restoration project ends, AsRA does not walk away. We help establish a flourishing riparian buffer. Lush buffers of native river trees and plants, hardy enough to handle floods, ice, and wind are essential to a healthy river corridor. They stabilize banks with dense root systems, absorb an amazing amount of water, are essential habitat for wildlife, and provide cooling shade. Ausable River waters are warming. Riparian buffers as deep as the river is wide can help counteract this trend.

Riverlands Restoration: Before
It might look pretty, but there is a 10’ high raw bank under AsRA’s Executive Director Kelley Tucker. At moderate flow, the river is flat and glassy, clogged with sediment, with no evident riffles and limited fish habitat.
**Recovering Culverts**
AsRA is working side by side with Ausable River towns to replace undersized culverts like the one above. In 2014, we began initial geomorphic surveys of priority culverts so replacements will be appropriately sized to ensure public safety and fish passage.

**Surveying Streams**
Our ability to provide survey expertise was made possible by the generous donations of many individuals who helped us raise funds through Adirondack Gives to purchase a laser level and receiver, stadia rod, cross-section stakes, survey tapes, and more.

**River Steward Funding**
We did it! AsRA secured 18 months of funding to make our River Steward position year-round thus renewing our commitment to invasive species spread prevention, outreach on and off the river, clean water stewardship, and pollution prevention.

**Riverlands Restoration: After**
We restored over 600 linear feet of streambank, narrowing the stream, adding streambed roughness, restoring the banks, halting erosion. Notice the complex bank full of hiding places for fish, insects, birds, and other wildlife.
Thank You to our Generous Donors

Individual Donors & Family Foundations

Headwaters Council ($1000+)
David Brunner and Rhonda Butler
Laura and Robert Devinney
Johnson Family
Master Family Fund 2
Meg Parker and Matt McNamara
Anne and Ken Stuzin
Jeff and Kathy Wiegand
Anonymous

$500 to $999
Bruce Berra
Christian Brummer and Jane Haugh
Ray Curran and Kathy Daggett
Robert Farkas and Anne Scavo
Jim Herman and Dave Mason
Robert Jeffery
Neil Levine
Judson and Kathleen Smith

$250 to $499
Nan Boardman and Steve Amstutz
Liz and Michael Clarke
Richard Feldman
William and Christine Gremp
Leila and William Hamill
Jerome and Marcie Hunsaker
William Janeway
Robert Jeffrey
Joan and Miles Kulukundis
Susan Lacy and Jim Bernard
Ben Lacy
John Lafferty
Ellen Metcalf
Kara Page and Dirk Bryant

$100 to $249
Susan and C Douglas Angevine
Laura Armstrong
Mary Ashmead
Mary Barrie and Ted Stork
Anna Battigelli and Paul Johnston
Mary Bell and Bill Joplin
Linda B. and G. Robert Cooley
Gary Derr and Lynn Bondurant
Charles and Lisa Eaton
Eva Eaton
Dominic and Melissa Eisinger
Yvonne Farmer
Nelson and Mary Gelfman
Rocco and Mandy Giampaolo
Tony and Bunny Goodwin
John and Patti Hopkinson
Christopher and Audrey Hyson
Ronald W. Jacobsen
Warren and Lorraine Kries
Ruth Kuhfahl
Sam Lacy
Peter Landau and Hilari Connington
Donald and Melissa Lang
Susan Lourie and Eric Mosher
James and JoAnn McKenna
Rhoda and Paul Morrisroe
Michael Murray
Jeanne Nichols
Sylvia Norton and Joseph McCranels
Nancy and William Paternotte
Robert and Karen Peters
Carol Pinney
Warren and Pat Radcliffe
Arthur and Susan Ryan and Eileen Connolly
John Sargent
Bill and Betsy Serjak
Barbara Smith
Normand and Judy Smith
Pete Suttmeier
Pam and Fairman Thompson
James and Parmalee Tolkan
Nancy Touhey
Deb Trombley
Kelley Tucker and Stephen Longmire
Eva Turel and John Longmire
Jeanne Warner
In honor of Lawrence Wojcik
Carol Pinney

Up to $99
Kate Asselin
Meg Balassone and John Mills
Suzanne Bohning
Tom and Alice Boutte
John and Kathleen Braico
Doris Brann
Craig Brashear and Rebecca Kelly
Penelope Clute
Peter Davis and Nancy Both
Jennifer Deming
Anita and John Deming
Susan Doolittle
Randy and Margaret Douglas
Tim and Kay Driscoll
Lorraine Duvall
Stephen Farrelly
Rachel Finn
Barry Fitz-James
Caroline Foster
J.G. Fritzinger, Jr.
Sharon Fuerst
Larry Gibbons
Louise Gregg
Lauren Gundlach
Rob Hastings
John Haverlick and Debra Whitson
Arthur F. Hopper
Trudy Horridge
David and Barbara Hunt
Donna and Wayne Ignatuk
Michael and Nancy Ingerson
Marion Jeffers
David and Lynn Johnson
Georgia Jones
Charles Kilbourne
Paula Kurasch and Terry Blank
Gilles and Shawn Lamarche
Richard Lamb
Philip Lobo
Roland and Pam Machold
Ral and Elissa Mazza
Vinni and Barbara McClelland
Marilyn McDonald
James McSparron
Joseph Moore
Connie Morrison
Joe and Karen Murphy
Marcy Neville
Stanley Orlowski
Franklin and Martha Owen
John Peipon
Seymour Preston, Jr.
In honor of Sarah Prince
Gregory and Catherine Roth
Peter Prime
Sarah Prince
Vic and Vickie Putman
Bobbi and Scott Renderer
C.P. and Louise Robinson
Seth and Trudy Rosenblum
Don Rubadeau
John Ryan
Emily and Nat Selleck
Martha Spear
John and Susan Spissinger
Bill Stokes and Karen Rappaport
Ginnie Styles
Emily Tyner
William and Katherine Wellman
Kathleen Wiley and Jeff Leavitt
Shawn Wilte
Chris Woods
Cecil and Gilda Wray

Foundations
Cloudsplitter Foundation
Patagonia World Trout Grants Council
The Evergreen Foundation, Inc.
William & Gayle Chorske Foundation

Business Donors
20 Main
Alpine Country Inn & Suites
Ausable Chasm
Ausable Inn Keene Valley
Barkeater Trails Alliance
Dartbrook Rustic Goods
Devins Garage & Deli
Essex County Adirondack Garden Club
Eye Peek
Feek Pharmacy
Golden Arrow Resort
Gordon Pratt Agency
Haselton Lumber
High Falls Gorge
High Peaks Cyclery & Sports
Hornbeck Boats
Hungry Trout Fly Shop
Hungry Trout Resort
Hurricane Mountain Chapter/ADK
Inspired Performance Coaching
Ironman Foundation
Lake Placid/Whiteface Mtn. KOA
McDonough’s Valley Hardware
Merrill L. Thomas Real Estate
Richert Environmental Associates, LLC.
Rivermede Farms
Tahawus Center
Team USA Fly Fishing
The Birch Store
The Fallen Arch
The Little Supermarket
The Mountaineer
Trout Unlimited
Whiteface Mountain Regional Visitors Bureau
Wildwood on the Lake

Municipal Donations
Town of Jay

In-Kind Contributions
Asgaard Farm
Bruce Berra
Fledging Crow
Hungry Trout Fly Shop
Hungry Trout Resort
Lake Everest Diner & Pizzeria
LeapOff Cycles
Loremans
Patagonia
Pepsi
Rebecca Bidelspach
River’s Edge Emporium & Market
Sugar House Creamery
Valley Grocery
### Activities

#### Support and Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$44,860</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$6,610</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts</td>
<td>$51,606</td>
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<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>$28,789</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$132,065</strong></td>
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#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>$26,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications &amp; Fundraising</td>
<td>$6,068</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office &amp; Technology</td>
<td>$13,092</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
<td>$2,758</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>$3,596</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Expense</td>
<td>$385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$128,214</strong></td>
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### Financial Position

#### As of December 31, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Savings</td>
<td>$48,936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-Paid Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$48,535</strong></td>
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</table>

A copy of the latest annual report for the Ausable River Association, Inc. may be obtained, upon request, from the organization or from the New York State Attorney General’s Charities Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

### Restricted Grants

AsRA currently manages two Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Grants (LWRP) through the New York State Department of State. These grants reimburse AsRA program and personnel costs under the terms of each grant contract and must be matched 1:1 with non-federal funds.

**2010 LWRP thru Town of North Elba**
- Total Grant: $39,250
- Funds Remaining: $7,875

**2012 LWRP thru Essex County**
- Total Grant: $217,950
- Funds Remaining: $168,538

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Sunrise over the Ausable Watershed

Brendan Wiltse
Raffle Tickets On Sale

Grand Prize: Hornbeck Canoe
Valued at over $1,700
Includes the Hornbeck Perfect Fit Program

Runner-Up: Half-Day Guided Fly Fishing Trip for Two
Valued at $350
Experience fly fishing on the spectacular Ausable River in the Adirondack Mountains, guided by the owner of the Hungry Trout Fly Shop, Evan Bottcher. All gear included.

1 Ticket for $5, 3 Tickets for $10, 7 Tickets for $20

Artwork designed by Blue Line Design

RIDE FOR THE RIVER
AN EVENT TO BENEFIT THE AUSABLE RIVER ASSOCIATION
SUNDAY, AUGUST 2ND
HUNGRY TROUT RESORT
WWW.RIDEFORTHERIVER.ORG
Friends,

The Ausable River connects our communities and, much like the mountains and valleys it helped to create over millennia, defines the places you live, work, play in, and love.

Give back to the river and to your community.

Support the local organization that protects, monitors, and restores the river in partnership with our river communities – the Ausable River Association.

Becoming a member is easy. Just fill out the enclosed envelope or visit our website.

New annual membership categories – all members receive Voice of the River, an AsRA logo sticker, and an invitation to our annual Friendraiser event, hosted this year by High Falls Gorge.

- **Member** - $35 – *basic membership helps provide the general support that ensures our day-to-day operations.*
- **Contributing Member** - $100 – *membership at this level keeps AsRA’s science, stewardship, and survey programs on the river to collect and share information.*
- **Sustaining Member** - $350 – *sustaining members help us restore significant river reaches, replace culverts, maintain reliable monitoring equipment, and give us the flexibility to respond to changing circumstances and urgent needs.*

And we are excited to announce the **Headwaters Council**...

*Individuals or households with annual contributions of $1,000 or greater safeguard the continuity of our programs. In return, they receive annual opportunities to tour and explore the watershed and visit favorite sites with AsRA staff, board members, and expert advisors.*

**Headwaters Council members ensure a future for AsRA.**

AsRA relies on the support of people who care about the river, love its natural beauty, its clean waters, the wildlife and lush plant life it supports, and the vibrant communities that call it home. Please renew your membership, visit our offices, and share your copy of Voice of the River with a friend. Join us as we protect our river and our communities.

Kelley Tucker, Executive Director