



Conservation Update

December 19, 2008

State-Level Leadership Announcements

Great Outdoors Colorado Executive Director and Colorado Secretary of State

I am very pleased to forward two press releases about important conservation leadership positions. Great Outdoors Colorado has announced that **Lise Aangeenbrug**, a longtime member of the conservation community, as the sole finalist for the position of Executive Director. In addition, Governor Ritter has named state **Rep. Bernie Buescher**, a friend of land conservation and primary sponsor of HB1353, as Secretary of State.

NEWS RELEASE

Great Outdoors Colorado Board Provides Notice Regarding New Executive Director Choice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 18, 2008

DENVER - The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Board has chosen the Lottery-funded organization's current Acting Executive Director, Lise Aangeenbrug, as the sole finalist to permanently fill the position.

As called for under CRS 24-6-402(3.5), the GOCO Board is providing a 14-day comment period regarding its intention to hire Lise Aangeenbrug as its Executive Director.

"After reviewing Lise's qualifications, conducting an extensive interview, and checking references, the Board has concluded that she is eminently qualified to fill this position," said GOCO Board Chair Norma Anderson. "We are very fortunate to have such a qualified candidate already on staff."

Aangeenbrug was one of the first employees hired at GOCO in 1994 and served as its Deputy Director and Acting Executive Director until 2001. She returned to GOCO as its Deputy Director in November 2006 after being Director of Programs at the Colorado Conservation Trust, a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to advancing land conservation.

"Lise has a complete understanding of Article XXVII of the Colorado Constitution that governs GOCO," continued Anderson. "She was instrumental in creating the grant programs that GOCO offers and has worked closely with local governments, land trusts, Colorado State Parks and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. She has a thorough understanding of GOCO finances, has had management responsibilities for the GOCO staff and will make an excellent spokesperson for the organization."

Previously, Aangeenbrug served as Special Assistant to the

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[GOCO--Congratulations to Lise Aangeenbrug](#)

[Congratulations to Bernie Buescher](#)

Please remember CCLT at the holidays!



Did you know we moved?

Our new address is:
1245 E. Colfax
Suite 203
Denver, CO 80218

Director of the California Department of Fish and Game and Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of the Interior. She earned her Master's Degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and her B.A. from St. Lawrence University.

Comments on the Board's intentions must arrive at the GOCO office by 5:00 p.m. on January 2, 2009. They can be submitted to GOCO's Communications Director, Chris Leding, via e-mail at cleding@goco.org or faxed to 303-863-7517.

Great Outdoors Colorado is the result of a citizens' initiative passed by Colorado voters in 1992. GOCO receives approximately \$53 million annually from Lottery proceeds, and directs those funds to projects that protect and enhance Colorado's parks, wildlife, trails, rivers and open space.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Ritter Names Bernie Buescher of Grand Junction as Secretary of State

Friday, December 19, 2008

Gov. Bill Ritter announced today he has selected state Rep. Bernie Buescher of Grand Junction to serve as Colorado's next Secretary of State.

"Bernie Buescher is the perfect person to serve all of the people and all of the businesses of Colorado as the leader of this important statewide office," Gov. Ritter said. "He will bring a wealth of knowledge and a diversity of legal, legislative and public-service experience to the job. He has led private businesses and government agencies, and he has managed large workforces and multimillion-dollar budgets.

"In addition to his impressive list of accomplishments, Bernie also knows what it takes to govern well," Gov. Ritter said. "He works in a bi-partisan - even a non-partisan -- fashion. He listens to all sides to find common ground. And as a resident of Grand Junction, he will bring a statewide perspective to a statewide office."

Pending Senate confirmation, Buescher will replace Mike Coffman, who is stepping down midway through his four-year term after being elected to Congress in November. Deputy Secretary of State Bill Hobbs will serve as acting secretary in the interim.

"I am excited about the opportunity to give Colorado voters confidence that we have the highest-caliber, most transparent and most efficient elections possible," Buescher said. "I am equally excited about working with the business community to improve the ease and utility of the business filing side of the Secretary of State's Office.

"I look forward to working with county clerks, county commissioners, the Governor's Office and the legislature," Buescher added. "I appreciate the expressions of support from friends, colleagues and county clerks, and I am grateful to Gov. Ritter for his confidence in my ability to serve as Colorado's next Secretary of State."

About Bernie Buescher:

Family: Married to Mary Beth Buescher, four grown children.

Education: Graduated from Grand Junction High School in 1967, from the University of Notre Dame in 1971 with a B.B.A in business administration and accounting, and from the University of Colorado Law School in 1974 with a J.D.

Business: President of West Star Aviation Inc., 1987-1996, growing the company from 28 employees to more than 200 and from \$3.8 million in annual sales to \$34 million.

Government: Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, April 1997 to March 1998; interim manager of the Colorado State Fair, December 1996 to March 1997; and member of the Colorado Transportation Commission (1994-97) and Colorado Economic Development Council (1991-94).

Legislature: Two terms in the Colorado House of Representatives, January 2005 to January 2009, serving as chairman of the Joint Budget Committee and House Appropriations Committee.

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Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts | 1245 East Colfax, Suite 203 | Denver | CO | 80218