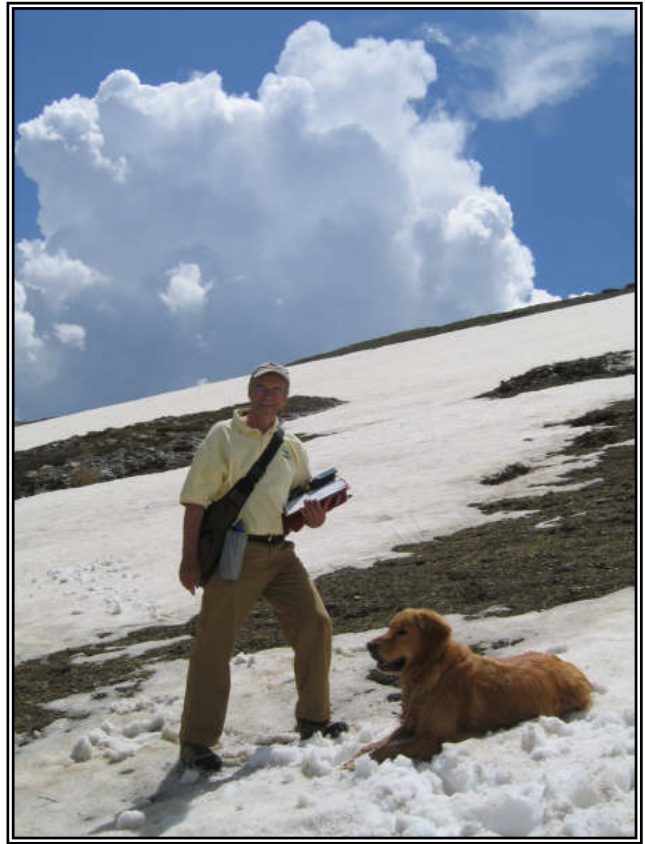


Missing Mo...

The end of 2008 sadly brought the retirement announcement of Mo Ewing, who served as Colorado Open Lands' Director of Land Stewardship for the past five years.

Mo brought a lifetime of experience to Colorado Open Lands that he applied to transforming the Stewardship Program. During Mo's tenure, the number of conservation easements held by Colorado Open Lands more than doubled, from less than 100 at the end of 2003 to more than 200 as we begin 2009.

To manage the exponential increase in information that accompanied the accumulation of easements, Mo advanced Colorado Open Lands to the electronic era, developing a complex database for easement management and converting monitoring procedures from paper, pencils, and 35mm photos to GPS-located digital photos and electronic maps.



His rapport with landowners, love for hiking and exploring, and fascination with plants made Mo the perfect person to lead the easement monitoring program. Between April and September, Mo was mostly likely to be found traversing Colorado, meeting with landowners and camping out of his truck with a camper top on the back.

Monday morning staff meetings were often enlivened by Mo's tales of monitoring adventures, whether it was a recent bear spotting, a rare plant sighting, or an excursion gone awry. His good humor and spirit of adventure will surely be missed.

Though Mo has departed Colorado Open Lands, he plans to continue his volunteer work with the Native Plant Society, researching and inventorying rare plant populations throughout Colorado. He also will undoubtedly spend plenty of time doting on his new granddaughter.

Thanks and congratulations - we will be looking for you, Waldo!