

Three Ways Colorado Open Lands uses B3 (formerly Water Sage) for conservation

COLORADO OPEN LANDS

Colorado Open Lands is one of Colorado's largest non-profit land conservation organizations. Their mission is "to preserve the significant open lands and natural heritage of Colorado through private and public partnerships, innovative land conservation techniques and strategic leadership." Colorado Open Lands has been a B3 client for multiple years and uses the platform on both the stewardship and conservation teams.

B3 AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

The stewardship team conducts annual site visits to monitor and ensure water is being used in accordance with conservation easements. B3 has become a helpful "double check" for these physical site visits to ensure water continues to be used and protected in furtherance of the conservation goals on the property.

RESULT

The land stewardship team can more quickly and efficiently research the basics and spend more time achieving their conservation goals.

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B3 is useful for looking up ownership on a parcel of land. It's important for us to make sure we are up to date with who the owner is and stay in contact with them. Instead of searching through multiple county records, I can quickly find the information I'm looking for in one place. What used to take me up to 1 hour to research can now be accomplished in 10-15 minutes.

Owners can divide a single parcel covered by an easement. There can also be one easement and multiple parcels. With B3's area search, we can quickly do a search on parcels, identify an easement split, save the project and have that information available to us whenever we need to reference it.

- Andrew Bushnell, Stewardship Fellow

B3 AND CONSERVATION DUE DILIGENCE

The conservation team evaluates and acquires new conservation easements. The team uses B3 to locate proposed project sites via the land parcels search and quickly understand the relevant water rights.

RESULT

The conservation team has increased their productivity by 75% on the due diligence phase of their projects.

B3 is our primary means of water rights due diligence. The platform gives us an overall picture of what water rights have historically been used on properties. It allows us to determine what water is there and its reliability.

Before B3, water rights due diligence could take us hours. With B3, we can do initial due diligence research in 15 minutes and move on to our analysis. It's increased our productivity significantly!

- Sarah Parmar. Director of Conservation

FUTURE USES OF B3

The stewardship and conservation teams both plan to continue and increase their B3 use in the future. The teams are working to further incorporate B3 into their workflow for future strategic projects.

RESULT

B3 has become an integral part of Colorado Open Lands workflow.

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We have recently formally incorporated B3 into our conservation project due diligence workflow, because it has been so effective.

The ongoing communication and customer support are really great – we recently received an alert for a new feature that helped us in a bind.

- Sarah Parmar, Director of Conservation

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