



# Careers in Natural Resources: State of the Initiative



February 18, 2014



# Background: The Issue

- Environmental and Recreation based programs for youth struggle guiding alumni into Natural Resource Careers.
- Land management agencies need better qualified candidates and those from non-traditional backgrounds.



# Vision:

To work collaboratively to create more pathways to enable ALL young adults to be educated, prepared, and qualified to enter and maintain professional, sustainable natural resource careers.



# Collective Impact



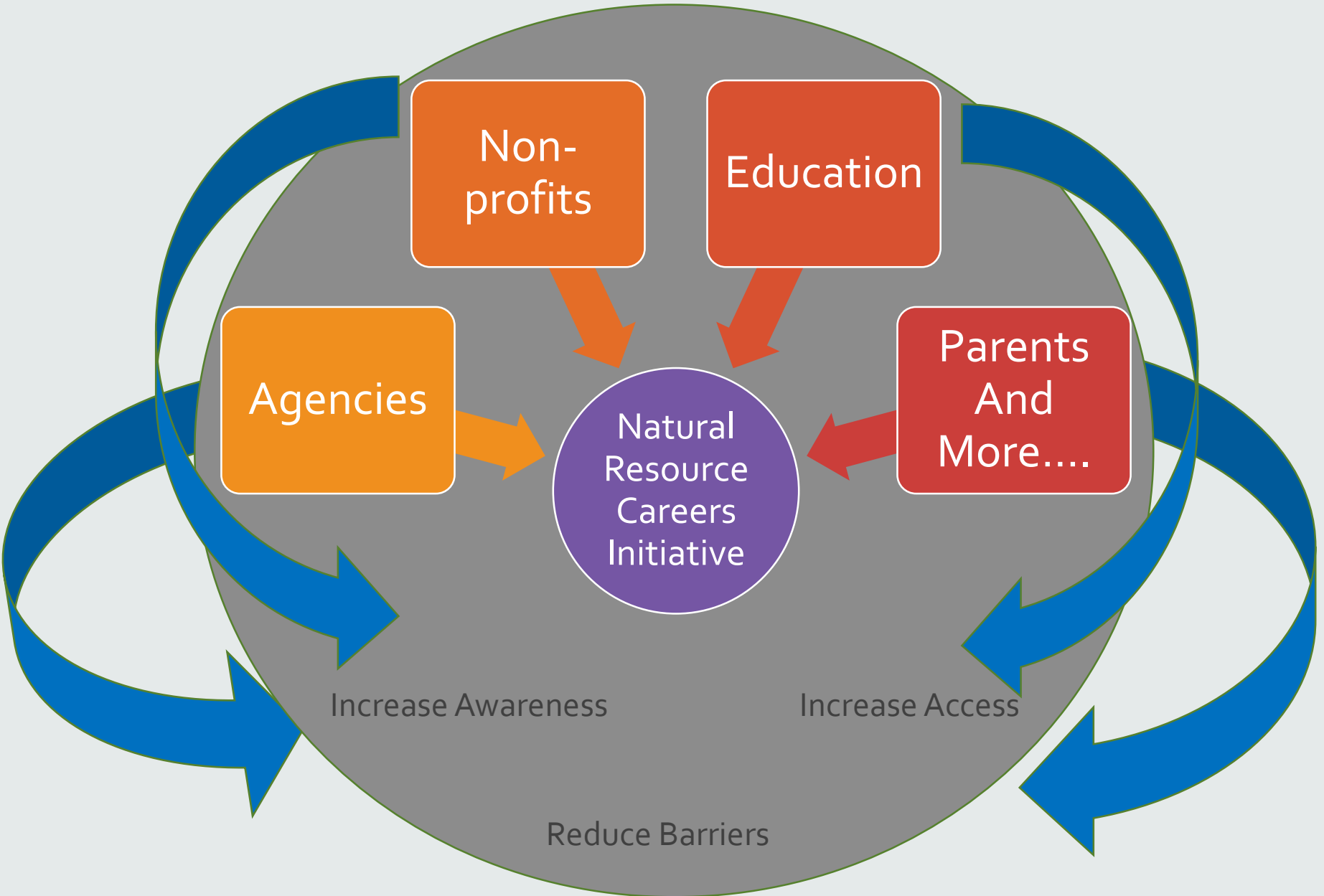
- Common Agenda

- Shared Measurement

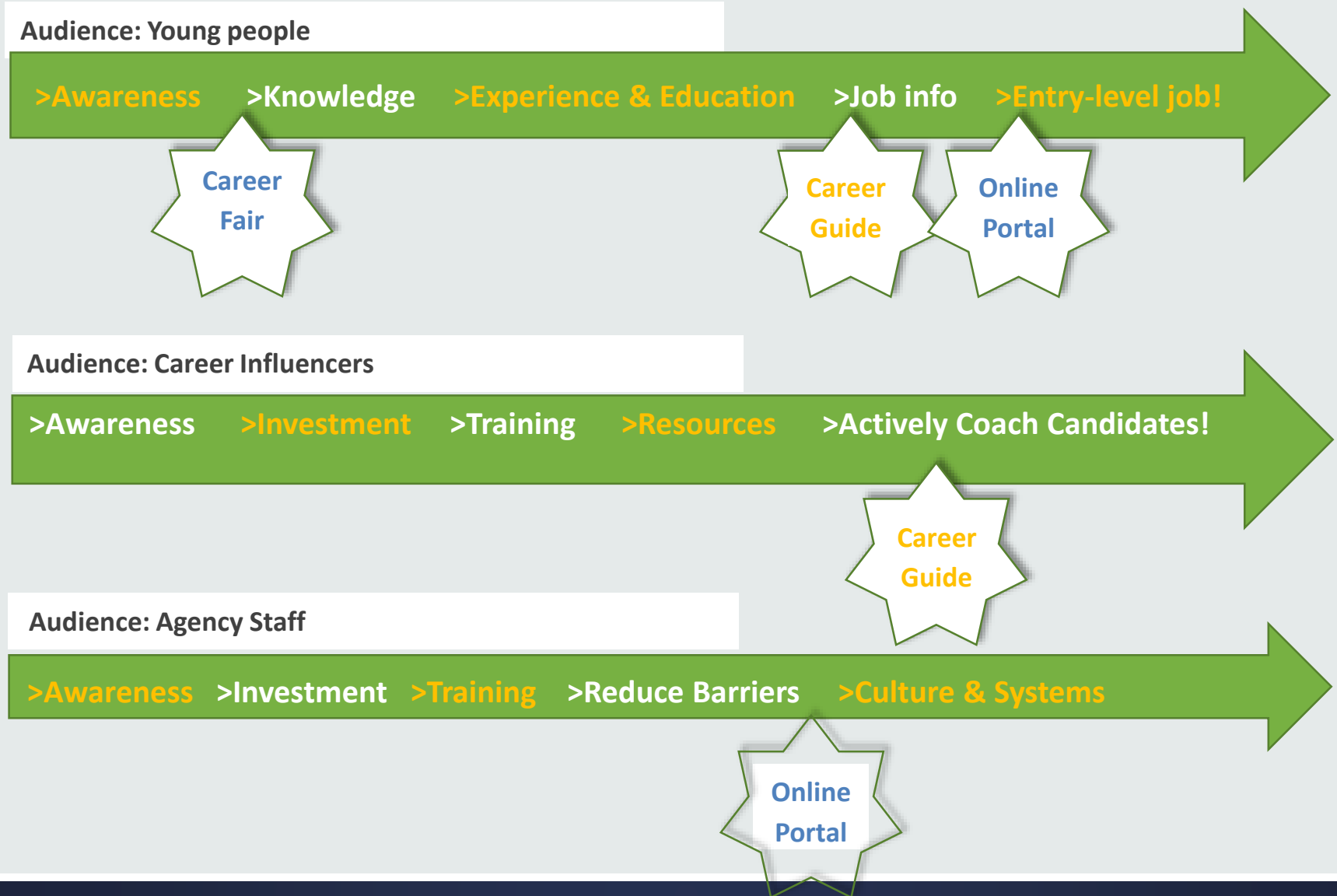
- Mutually Reinforcing Activities

- Continuous Communication

# Natural Resource Careers Initiative: 244 Individuals and 91 Organizations



# Careers in Natural Resources Initiative Spectrum



# Pathways to Natural Resource Careers

## Goals and [Supporting Actions](#):

1. Raise awareness of natural resource careers opportunities for youth and career influencers: [Career Fair](#)
2. Reduce barriers in applying for local, state and federal jobs: [Career Path Manual](#)
3. Increase access to information about natural resource careers and jobs available: [Online Portal](#)

# Initiative Milestones

- 2012: First Summit Held – defined the purpose of the Careers in Natural Resources Initiative
- May 2013: Organized a Natural Resources Career Fair at West Generation High School in Denver
- June 2013: Received a grant from the Walton Family Foundation
- August 2013: Third Summit

“Work collaboratively to create more pathways to enable ALL young adults to be educated, prepared, and qualified to enter and maintain professional, sustainable natural resources careers. Let’s empower them to be self-sufficient and capable public land stewards.”





# Career Fair

## What:

- Raise awareness and knowledge among youth about different careers in natural resources
- Highlight diversity of jobs and employees
- Aimed at 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders



# Career Fair: Progress

## Career Fair Committee Survey

### Achieve #s: Existing Career Fairs

- Denver Public Schools: 5 partner booths; 1,000+ student interactions
- Adams County Schools: 3 partner booths; ~800 student interactions
- Douglas County Schools: 4 partner booths; 1,000+ student interactions
- Student handout created



### Achieve Impact: Roving Career Fair

- In the works!
- Preliminary Plans: 5 days focused on experiential activities highlighting a range of natural resource careers

# Career Guide

## What:

- Step-by-step manual to help navigate state and federal job listings and the application process
- Aimed at entry level candidates



# Career Guide: Progress

## 1. Research:

- Surveyed college students
- Met with government HR staff
- Reviewed internet and book information
- Gathered resources from partners

## 2. Outlines

## 3. Draft document

- Two of the four chapters drafted

## 4. Final document

- Diagrams, tables and other visuals will be an important component
- Case studies

\* 5 committee meetings have guided the work



## Online Portal

# What:

- Springboard for natural resource, recreation, and outdoor stewardship job opportunities, career planning resources, and higher education opportunities in Colorado.
- Added onto the existing Get Outdoors Colorado website



# Online Portal: Progress

Overview and training to follow...

Questions?