

December 1st, 2005

CONTACT: Christopher Mann (720) 210-3237

To view the report card and press release on-line visit: [www.coloradoconservationvoters.org](http://www.coloradoconservationvoters.org)

**Governor Owens' Grades Range from 'A' to 'F' on Conservation**  
*Conservation Report Card Gives Gov. Owens 'D' Overall*

DENVER, CO — Colorado Conservation Voters (CCV) released its first annual Conservation Report Card on the Governor today. Overall, Governor Owens received a 'D', with grades ranging from 'A' on wildlife issues to 'F's on energy and protecting rural Colorado.

<b>Governor Owens Report Card</b>	
<b>Overall</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Water Conservation &amp; Healthy Rivers</b>	<b>B-</b>
<b>Public Lands</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Clean Air</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Wildlife</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Energy</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Open Space &amp; Smart Growth</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Protecting Rural Colorado</b>	<b>F</b>

The Report Card on Governor Owens' conservation record provides non-partisan information about the Governor's actions during and after the 2005 legislative session. It is based on his record of signing or vetoing bills and his actions and positions on bills during the 2005 legislative session. The 2005 legislature was the most productive in memory for conservation issues and presented Governor Owens with more bills than at any other time in his administration.

"Governor Owens had opportunities to address the energy crisis, protect Colorado's landscapes and rural communities, and ensure clean air, but he vetoed bi-partisan legislation in each case," said Christopher Mann, Executive Director of CCV. "Governor Owens supported some conservation measures, but the real story of 2005 was the common sense bi-partisan bills he blocked."

Governor Owens vetoed two energy bills backed by both parties, conservationists, and utility companies that would promote conservation and efficiency to help reduce consumers' energy costs. He also vetoed bills that would have required the state government to play by the same rules as everyone else to protect our water supplies, allowed counties to protect more open space, and protected rural areas from private tollways and sprawl. Finally, the Owens Administration broke their promise to the Legislature to re-write clean air protections to account for concerns about health and the effects on local communities.

"The passage of Referendum C shows what can be accomplished when Governor Owens works in partnership with others who care about the future of Colorado," said Christopher Mann, Executive Director of CCV. "In 2006, we look forward to similar successful partnerships to leave a legacy of cleaner, healthier and stronger communities."

The Report Card is a new companion to CCV's annual Legislative Scorecard which tracks the votes of legislators on conservation issues. The 2005 Scorecard was released two weeks ago and is available at [www.coloradoconservationvoters.org](http://www.coloradoconservationvoters.org). In 2005, a bi-partisan group of 33 Representatives and 17 Senators received scores of 90 or higher on the Scorecard.

--30--

*Colorado Conservation Voters is the non-partisan political voice in Colorado's conservation community. For more information, please visit the web at [www.coloradoconservationvoters.org](http://www.coloradoconservationvoters.org).*