

Having trouble seeing everything, like pictures?

[View this email in your browser](#)



WARNER COLLEGE
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

June 2024



A Note from the CCC Director

During a [recent episode of the Mountain and Prairie Podcast](#), host Ed Roberson asks a question about working together on water, one of the most critical issues across the globe: *“How do you balance the time that it takes to build relationships . . . with the idea that time is of the essence?”* In recent months, I have found myself in multiple conversations—related to forests and wildfire, public/private land conflict, wolves—where some version of this question comes up: does collaborative conservation really work for the pressing issues we need to solve today?

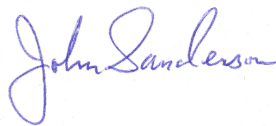
In the podcast, Celene Hawkins of The Nature Conservancy gives an answer that resonates with me: *“I think that might actually be an unhelpful mental*

model in how we think about this work . . . We've done all the easy stuff that we can do alone; it's time for us to do the other work." The other guest on the podcast, Izabella Ruffino, also with TNC and a descendant of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, shared several other valuable perspectives on relationships, including *"If we want to move forward, we need to realize that rushing relationships can also move us backwards."*

Celene and Izabella's insights are consistent with the work of Colorado State University professor Martín Carcasson, who asserts we are in an ["age of wicked problems"](#) that cannot be "solved" because tensions among economic, environmental, and social values and outcomes will always exist. Given this reality, Martin suggests that we need to develop *"mutual understanding and genuine interaction across perspectives, which then provides a base to support the constant adjustment, negotiation, and creativity required to tackle wicked problems."* He goes on to point out that this work requires *"extensive community capacity as well as a cultural shift."* I might add that it also requires time, money, patience, and a degree of faith in others, including people you may not agree with.

Among the many resources Celene and Izabella shared (you can find the full list in the podcast notes) is Robin Wall Kimmerer's lovely essay [The Serviceberry: An Economy of Abundance](#). In this essay, Kimmerer wonders about relationships and economics and the possibility of shifting from underlying assumptions of scarcity to assumptions of abundance. It seems to me that, given what we know about declining biodiversity, the rapidly changing climate, water concerns, or you name the challenge, assuming abundance also requires a kind of faith. Personally, as I am wondering about today's wicked problems in conservation and sustainability and about the role of collaborative conservation in addressing those problems, I am also trying to challenge my basic assumptions about how our social, political, and economic systems work, hoping we might find a path forward that might, as Kimmerer says, "benefit human people and more-than-human people at the same time."

Be well,



News from the CCC



2024 COLORADO FOREST COLLABORATIVES NETWORK **SUMMIT**

BECOME A SPONSOR!



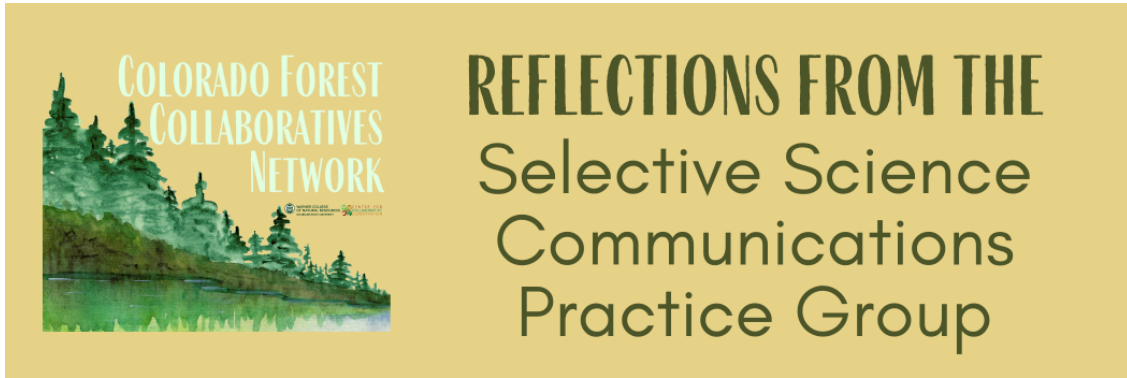
Includes:

- Complimentary **registration**
- **Your logo** on Summit promotional materials & products
- Table space to **display informational materials** about your organization
- **And more!** Check out Sponsor Giving Page for more information (QR code)

NEW! Sponsor the 2024 Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit!

Your sponsorship will support [Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit](#) and the Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network. Sponsorships may go toward providing financial support for members of place-based forest collaboratives to attend the event; scholarships for students to attend Summit; putting on trainings and field trips; food and drink to fuel networking; and other event expenses! **Your donation will positively impact place-based forest collaboratives in Colorado** by connecting them to information, resources, and each other, and by telling their stories to make their value and needs understood.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and sponsor!



Reflections from the Selective Science Communications Practice Group

Between March and May 2024, the CFCN Selective Science Communications Practice Group convened monthly as a ‘safe space’ for collaborative communicators to **work through real challenges and opportunities together related to selective science issues** in social media, face-to-face conversations, and the news.

Check out this blog post summarizing key themes and lessons learned from our conversations, as well as some suggested resources [HERE](#).



Confluence Key Takeaways + Collaborative Conservation Tools & Resources

Confluence 2024 had a certain magic to it. To capture that magic in our collective memory, we created [Confluence 2024 Key Takeaways](#). In it, Aireona describes "The Magic of Confluence", we highlight our keynote speaker, Dr. Lorraine Eiler, and we share the testimonials of Confluence participants. The document also includes field trip reflections, thoughts from confluence speakers about Confluence 2024's compelling questions, and a **"one-stop-shop" for ["Collaborative Conservation Tools & Resources"](#)**.

You can find the Key Takeaways [HERE](#), and for a deeper dive into the content of Confluence 2024, read the [Confluence 2024 Report](#).

photo by Jessica Archibald

WCCN

All-Partners

WEBINAR SERIES

MAY 29
NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION'S
COLLABORATIVE CAPACITY PROGRAM FOR
FORESTS & COMMUNITIES

JUNE 12
TREES WATER PEOPLE'S
HONEST, TRANSPARENT CONVERSATIONS -
KEYS FOR EFFECTIVE TRIBAL COLLABORATION

SEPTEMBER 11
UPPER WILLAMETTE STEWARDSHIP NETWORK'S
A COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR TRIBAL
PARTNERSHIPS & DECOLONIZATION

DECEMBER 11
WCCN EMERGING LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE'S
TOOLKIT: WHAT WE'VE LEARNED ABOUT
MENTORSHIP

JOIN US!

REGISTER FOR THE ZOOM MEETING
ON THE CCC "CALENDAR" PAGE
<https://collaborativeconservation.org/events-calendar/>

WCCN All-Partners

On May 29th, the WCCN showcased The National Forest Foundation for our All-Partners Webinar (find the recording [HERE](#)). NFF is launching “Collaborative Capacity Program for Forests & Communities”, a NEW funding and technical assistance program supporting collaboration for forest stewardship, including co-stewardship with Tribal Nations. Learn more about the launch of the program on our blog [HERE](#). Jaimie Baxter, from the NFF, joined us to share more about this new program, if your collaborative work might be eligible for funding, and how to apply.

Last week's All-Partners featured James Calabaza from [Trees, Water, & People](#). James shared his experience and perspectives on, "Honest Transparent Conversations - Keys for Effective Tribal Collaboration".

We've got two more webinars planned this year, and each one will end with some time to network and check in with one another. You can register for these events by finding them on the CCC Calendar page [HERE](#). In the meantime, watch these two All-Partners webinars and more on our Youtube channel [HERE](#).

Watch WCCN All-Partners on Youtube



Fellows Retreat: A Trip to Remember

Last month, members of Cohort 14 came together in Fort Collins for their training retreat! The week was full of field trips, presentations, intense learning, and building valuable connections.

Read about Cohort 14's jam-packed [trip to remember](#) in our recent blog post [HERE](#).



Telling Funding Success Stories - Part 2

For Part 1 last month, communicators came together and shared information about their projects that had received grant funding, how they approached communicating project success, and collectively brainstormed effective ways to meet the communication aspects of their grants. You can read notes from this session here to [catch up here](#).

Please join us for Part 2: On June 27, participants from the May session will showcase their communication strategies, which may be at different stages.

These will reflect efforts to advance conservation storytelling around federally funded projects, while building connections amongst individuals working towards similar communication goals. **Come learn from these efforts and share your own experience too!**

[Register here](#)

Get to Know the CCC

Meet our CCC Spark Interns

The CCC is proud to be participating in the inaugural year of the [CSU Career Center's SPARK Internship Program](#)! The SPARK program is designed to increase retention rates for first-year, first-time students & eliminate equity gaps for first-generation, limited income, rural and / or racially minoritized students. **This summer, CCC is excited to host three undergraduate SPARK interns.**

Priscila Santos will be supporting event planning efforts, from vendor coordination to registration management to planning team facilitation and more, for the [2024 Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit](#).

Becca Ceisel and **Zoe Gagalis** will be working with CCC [Cohort 13 Fellow](#) Courtney Massey, of Ducks Unlimited, doing social science research to discover new approaches to engaging with new audiences and increase awareness and support for wetlands and waterfowl conservation efforts.



Meet Zoe Gagalis

Zoe is a summer intern with the CCC, and a senior at Colorado State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Ecosystem Science and Sustainability. She moved to Colorado in 2021, after growing up in southeast Michigan. Zoe is passionate about sustainability and conservation, and eager to participate in research that will help preserve Colorado's incredible wildlife. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, reading, cooking, and playing with her two kittens, Juniper and Basil. After graduation, Zoe hopes to pursue a career in corporate sustainability, where she will help organizations to develop more environmentally conscious operation strategies.



Meet Priscila Santos

Priscila is an international student from Monterrey, Mexico and currently in her senior year at Colorado State University. She's studying Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and is passionate about preserving our planet's beautiful environment. Priscila loves animals, reading, and traveling. Wherever she goes, Priscila strives to make a lasting impact and forge meaningful connections with people along the way.



Meet Becca Ceisel

Becca is joining the CCC as an intern with a focus on the Duck Unlimited Fellows project. During her first year at CSU, Becca has been driven to make lasting connections across many communities, such as The Wildlife Society (TWS) and MANNRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences). Currently, she is the JEDI (justice, equity, diversity and inclusion) chair for TWS in which she fosters a more welcoming environment in her field of study. Becca is an advocate for bringing diverse perspectives to the table and forming strong bonds with members of the community. While she enjoys nature walks, puzzles and dancing in her free time, Becca spends many hours promoting voter registration across underrepresented communities. As a rising sophomore, Becca will enthusiastically continue to pursue her degrees in Wildlife Biology and Spanish. Being an animal-lover, Becca strives to dive deeper into the field of animal behavior and travel abroad in the future. She is excited to keep absorbing information while fulfilling invigorating experiences in and outside of the classroom.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE



SUMMIT!

SEPT 4-6 IN DURANGO, CO

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ~ NETWORKING ~ LEARNING

We are seeking two **undergraduate students** from CSU Warner College of Natural Resources to join us at the **2024 Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit**, September 4-6, 2024 in Durango, CO.

Includes:

- **Complimentary registration**
- **All travel expenses** (including meals)
- **An assigned mentor** to support you at the event
- Advice on how to **maximize your networking and learning experience**

LEARN MORE & APPLY:



APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 31ST

Join us at Summit: CSU student scholarship opportunity

Join the CFCN at a free forestry conference this Fall! **We are seeking four undergraduate students** (two from CSU Warner College of Natural Resources and two from Fort Lewis College) to join us at the 2024 Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit, September 4-6, 2024 in Durango, CO. The purpose of this award is to support students' professional development & networking by: A) removing financial barriers to attending a multi-day conference; and B) teaching them the skills they need to effectively network & navigate the event. **Learn more and apply [HERE](#).**

Scholarly and Applied Impact

Here we review research to guide our practice. Please reach out with suggestions for what we should cover! CCC Fellows and staff are indicated by bold font.

In her book [Collaborating: Finding Common Ground for Multiparty Problems](#), Barbara Gray states that *“Collaboration is a process through which parties who see different aspects of a problem can constructively explore their differences, and search for solutions that go beyond what any one of them might have thought possible.”*

What does it take to “constructively explore” the diverse interests, opinions, and values of stakeholders? The answer, at least in part, lies within the practice of negotiation. This is one reason why I subscribe to Harvard Law School’s Program on Negotiation’s [Daily Blog](#), a free resource. In her recent blog post, [Six Guidelines for “Getting to Yes”](#) Katie Shonk reflected on the six negotiation skills that are the hallmark of mutual-gains negotiation.

The idea of “mutual gains” is pertinent as it is important for the collaborative conservation convener to make sure that each stakeholder has something to gain from being part of the effort. What is it that will bring them to the table (and whose table is it, anyway)? If a stakeholder can pursue an alternative that will be better for them than what they’ll get through the collaborative process, there is no reason for them to remain engaged; indeed, they might rather choose to actively undermine the process.

Mutual-gains negotiation prioritizes listening, trust-building, and “jointly exploring options to increase value” through the following skills: (1) Separate the people from the problem; (2) Focus on interests, not positions; (3) Learn to manage emotions; (4) Express appreciation; (5) Put a positive spin on your message; and (6) Escape the cycle of action and reaction. It is also important to utilize strategies that generate lots of possible options for different solutions, then use objective criteria to settle on the best option. Together, these strategies sound a lot like collaborative conservation!

- Allison Brody, PhD

Our Associate Director of Learning

Other News and Opportunities

Women in Conservation Leadership Survey | [Denver Zoological Foundation](#) and [Re:wild](#) are commissioning research to develop a comprehensive understanding of initiatives focused on strengthening the leadership capacity of women in conservation worldwide. As part of this effort, we are conducting a survey to capture the critical needs and preferences of female conservationists regarding leadership development. We invite you to contribute to this research effort by completing [THIS SURVEY](#). Thank you very much in advance for your time and input. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Consultant team leading this effort by email [HERE](#), and they will be more than happy to answer all your queries.

Celebrate Pollinator Week with Pheasants Forever | Did you know the native habitat that supports pollinators also supports pheasants and quail? Their chicks grow up on a diet consisting almost completely of soft-bodied insects and the diversity of plant species found in pollinator plantings provides important habitat for nesting, brood-rearing, and cover throughout the seasons. Be a Habitat Creator and create more habitat that supports our pollinators, pheasants, quail and other wildlife! For a limited time, a \$35 or \$75 donation made through this link includes a pollinator habitat planting kit with 6 native wildflowers, an 8"x10" pollinator habitat sign, an exclusive HABITAT CREATOR sticker, and an annual membership to Pheasants Forever. Click [HERE](#) to get your Pollinator Habitat Planting Kit.

It's #WatershedSummer with MWCC | Join the Montana Watershed Coordination Council ([MWCC](#)) on social media to celebrate the work of 38 organizations during [#WatershedSummer](#) from June 17th to September 17th. This is a time to show our support and appreciation for our community of watershed conservation professionals! Each of the 38 organizations will get their own day of recognition on MWCC's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages. Please show these hard-working groups your appreciation by sharing, liking, and commenting on their posts! Learn more about the initiative [HERE](#).

Updated USFS Wildfire Risk Map | The US Forest Service's wildfire risk mapping data was updated in May, and the updated numbers show that 115 million people are living with high wildfire risk. Wildfire Risk to Communities is a free, easy-to-use website with interactive maps, charts, and resources to help

communities understand, explore, and reduce wildfire risk. Explore the map yourself [HERE](#).

Jobs

Check out the CCC's [Job Board](#) for a list of jobs focused on natural resources and collaborative conservation!

Here are just a few postings shared through our board:

Executive Director at Wildlands Restoration Volunteers | Wildlands Restoration Volunteers seeks an experienced individual who is passionate about WRV's mission: "Building diverse communities that care for the land". The Executive Director leads WRV's continuing efforts to build a vibrant, diverse, and inclusive community of staff and volunteers who are committed to healing the land. The ED is responsible for leading a staff of 15, providing oversight to the programs and operations of WRV. Areas of responsibility include strategic planning; donor, partner, and community relationships; senior staff leadership; financial oversight; operations oversight; and coordination with the Board of Directors. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Nevada Conservation Corps Trail Support Specialist with the Great Basin Institute | The Nevada Conservation Corps (NCC) program at the Great Basin Institute (GBI) is in search of a Trails Support Specialist for Lassen National Forest, tasked with guiding and overseeing trail survey and maintenance operations. This individual will work in tandem with the NCC Trails and Restoration Coordinator, playing a crucial role in the management and execution of field activities. The specialist's responsibilities extend to consolidating project data for strategic planning and reporting, ensuring seamless communication with forest management for ongoing and future conservation efforts. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Executive Director at Water Education Colorado (CSU Spur) | Water Education Colorado (WEco) seeks a skilled and enthusiastic Executive Director to join our collaborative team. Since 2002, WEco has been working statewide to ensure Coloradans are knowledgeable about key water issues and equipped to make decisions that guide our state to a sustainable water future. The Executive Director is responsible for strategic direction and overall leadership of the organization. They will serve as the public face of the organization and work

to collaboratively advance WEco's mission. The Executive Director will guide all programs and lead all fundraising activities. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Pueblo Community Engagement Manager for the Palmer Land

Conservancy | We are a team of conservation professionals who work alongside individuals and communities to catalyze community health and resiliency. At Palmer Land Conservancy, we believe that people make the work of conservation happen and we are committed to organizational excellence. Working at the intersection of water, agriculture, and community, Palmer's new Community Engagement Manager will have the opportunity to contribute to meaningful conservation work in Pueblo and southeastern Colorado. The goal of the CEM position is to increase Palmer's community involvement in Pueblo, including communities that traditionally lack representation in the conservation and outdoor recreation spaces. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Grazing Lands Coordinator at the Central Colorado Conservancy | Central

Colorado Conservancy (Conservancy) is an accredited land trust and community-based conservation organization based in Salida, CO. The Grazing Lands Coordinator will lead the Conservancy's efforts working with partners to regionally pilot a new model of natural resource management, conservation and market-derived financing that values landscape functionality for both agriculture commodity production and a full suite of ecosystem services, including Green House Gas (GHG) benefits. The position will work with livestock producers throughout Central Colorado (Chaffee, Fremont, Gunnison, Lake, Park, and Saguache counties), as well as with the broader Western Grazing Network team. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Two Water Positions with the National Wildlife Federation | The mission of

NWF is to unite all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in our rapidly changing world. We advance this mission through programming focused on conserving wildlife, restoring habitats and waterways, expanding outdoor opportunities, connecting children with nature, advancing environmental justice, and addressing the causes and consequences of climate change. To support our mission, we are seeking a Western Water Specialist/Senior Specialist to join our Western Water Program. This position will help to advance all aspects of the Western Water Program, including policy analysis and advocacy; program implementation; coordinating or performing communication activities; and facilitating, cultivating, and maintaining partnerships, while collaborating across NWF regions and programs to achieve greater benefits for water in the West. [Learn more and apply to the Western Water Senior Specialist position.](#) We are also seeking a Riparian Connectivity Senior Specialist to join our Western

Water Program based in the Upper Rio Grande Basin of Colorado or New Mexico. The primary focus of the Riparian Connectivity Senior Specialist will be to oversee the Western Water Program’s Riparian Conservation and Restoration work in the Upper Rio Grande Basin. This work will focus on supporting local partners, agencies, and other stakeholders to advance riparian conservation and restoration, while providing leadership to address priorities identified through the ‘Ribbons of Life Initiative’ and the resulting Upper Rio Grande Riparian Action Plan. [Learn more and apply to the Riparian Connectivity Senior Specialist position.](#)

If you have job openings that are aligned with our work on collaborative conservation and you want us to share them, submit them to our [job board](#).

If you think a colleague would find value in reading CCC news, please forward this email to them and invite them to subscribe to our email list using the form at the bottom of the [CCC home page](#).

If you feel moved to support our work supporting conservation, please consider [supporting the CCC with a donation](#).

Questions? Ideas? Opportunities? Please email the CCC Director [John Sanderson](#).

Be well.



Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).