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## CCC News for November 2021

### A Note from the CCC Director

November is Native American Heritage Month. If you are at CSU, it's not too late to participate in some of this month's [events](#).

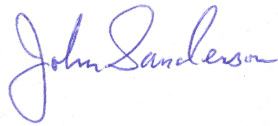
I again find myself reflecting on a workshop convened by the CCC two years ago: [Unsettling collaborative conservation through a decolonizing lens: engagement and collaboration with indigenous peoples and communities](#). Prior to the workshop I had been aware of the "genocide of cataclysmic proportions" (Dina Gilio-Whitaker, *As Long as Grass Grows*) perpetrated on Indigenous peoples of North America. The workshop helped me broaden my awareness to include how mainstream conservation has done harm to Native Americans, including through institutions I have long revered such as national parks and formal "wilderness." (see Mark David Spence, *Dispossessing the Wilderness: Indian Removal and the Making of the National Parks*.)

There is a growing body of resources that help people like me, with my training and history in mainstream conservation, understand how to help undo past harms and build new relationships with each other and with the land. Personally, I start with a commitment to listen and learn.

If you haven't yet read Robin Wall Kimmerer's beautiful book *Braiding Sweetgrass*, please do. Dr. Kimmerer elegantly illustrates a powerful way to "celebrate the gifts of the earth." I also recommend [Weaving the Strands](#)

[Together](#), a report that presents four case studies that explore how principles of equity and inclusion can operate within and improve landscape conservation initiatives. You'll find yourself entertained and inspired by the [Montana Watershed Coordination Council](#)'s recent conversation with Termaine Edmo and Gerald Wagner of the [Blackfeet Environmental Office](#) about Blackfeet relationships with Ksik Stakii (Beaver) and the [Ksik Stakii project](#). If you have other resources you would recommend, please [email me](#).

Be well,



John Sanderson

## News from the CCC



## We're Hiring! Three Positions Available with the CCC

The CCC is currently accepting applications for three open positions:

We are looking for an **Associate Director of Practice (ADoP)** who will lead the CCC's work supporting individuals and organizations to amplify their impact in applied collaborative conservation. The ADoP manages CCC's portfolio of engagements with conservation practitioners, including coordinating events and activities of regional and statewide networks, facilitating meetings, overseeing CCC's fee-for-service projects, and drawing upon the expertise of faculty and staff at CSU and other institutions to support the CCC's mission. For full consideration, apply by December 5. Find the full Associate Director of Practice position description [here](#).

We're also hiring an **Associate Director of Training and Education (ADoTE)** who will lead the CCC's development and delivery of knowledge, skills, and tools needed for collaborative conservation. To this end, the ADoTE creates and maintains a curriculum, resources, and training materials, and coordinates CCC-affiliated educators to deliver this learning to internal and external audiences through multiple formats. For full consideration, apply by December 5. Find the full Associate Director of Training and Education position description [here](#).

Finally, we're seeking a Colorado State University student **Communications Intern** to work with CCC staff and WCCN Awareness and Engagement Working Group members to promote the Center for Collaborative Conservation, the Western Collaborative Conservation Network, and the resources both organizations generate through website, newsletters, and social media. For full consideration, apply by December 5. Students can apply on [Handshake](#).

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## Recapping a Constructive Workshop on Conservation Philanthropy Best Practices

“Funding” is a perennial topic in conservation, including for place-based collaboratives. To gain insight into opportunities and challenges related to funding, **the CCC and the Western Collaborative Conservation Network hosted funders and practitioners on November 1 and 2 for an open, honest dialogue on “best practices” for conservation philanthropy.** By the end of the workshop, we had settled on eight best practices, including collaboration, investing in capacity, and telling our story. We are now preparing an article for publication in a special issue of Conservation Science and Practice that we plan to distribute widely. We look forward to engaging more of you on this important topic. A description of the workshop and the special issue is [here](#).

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## Collaboratives Behind-the-Scenes with Partnerscapes

Last month, we shared the first installment in the Western Collaborative Conservation Network's **"Collaboratives Behind-the-Scenes"** profile series. **Be sure to take a look at the second profile, featuring Partnerscapes' Executive Director Steve Jester.** This series features Q&As with different conservation organizations to provide a view into what it takes to run a collaborative organization, from challenges faced in building partnerships to tips for budding organizations. You can find the profile on the [CCC blog](#).

**Get to Know the CCC**



## **Meet our CCC Fellows: Blake Osborn**

Blake Osborn serves as a research scientist for the Colorado Water Center, a water research and outreach group at Colorado State University. He manages water resource projects that help local water users and water managers make better management decisions to meet multiple beneficial objectives for our scarce water resources. Most of his research and outreach activities center on post-wildfire hydrologic stabilization, helping farmers and ranchers make efficient uses of water, improving water equity and diversity, and creating coalitions to improve water quality. Blake has a BS in Natural Resources Management from Colorado State University and a MS in Hydrology and Watershed Management from the University of Wyoming.

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## **Congratulations to Our CCC Interns: Katie Dorman and Rosie Costain**

Congratulations to our interns, Katie Dorman and Rosie Costain, for completing their capstone presentations as they wrap up their masters degrees with CSU's Conservation Leadership program! These capstone projects provided an opportunity to gain practical experience in community-based conservation.

Katie and fellow student Jonah Seng partnered with the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition to work with the Storm Mountain community in Larimer County, Colorado. Through this partnership, they supported planning efforts focused on community-based wildfire mitigation. Katie and Jonah interviewed wildfire professionals and held community meetings that focused on understanding the values, concerns, and needs of the Storm Mountain community and what steps they can take toward creating a healthier and more resilient forest.

Rosie, alongside fellow student Molly Vornholt, traveled to Bulgaria to study wildlife conservation in an international context while partnering with the nonprofit Green Balkans. They supported and expanded Green Balkans' efforts of bird conservation by documenting components of Bulgaria's saker falcon reintroduction project and by creating profiles of birds housed at Green Balkans' education center. Beyond these deliverables, much of their project focused on examining the social-ecological systems at play in the Balkans, a region rich in potential for future conservation.

The deliverables of both projects, including recordings of the presentations, will be available on the [CLTL capstone page](#).

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## Scholarly and Applied Impact

**Current and past CCC Fellows and staff publish impactful research on collaboration and conservation. Here is the latest.**

**CCC Fellow Matt Collins compiled a [stakeholder assessment](#)** done in response to recent interest from landowners throughout the Rocky Mountain Front, the Montana Governor's office, and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in forming a collaborative to collectively address shared challenges to the landscape. In case you missed it in a past newsletter, Matt also produced "[Collaboration for Reducing Livestock-Carnivore Conflict](#)" as part of a set of four policy briefs from our Fellows on Policy and Practice for Wolf Reintroduction in Colorado.

**CCC Fellow Juarez Michelotti recently presented at the Center for Protected Area Management conference** on tourism and protected areas, specifically on his work and that of his institution on accessibility and inclusion in urban protected areas. The conference had over 400 attendees from around the world. You can watch Juarez's presentation [here](#).

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## Other News and Opportunities

We believe collaborative, community-based conservation is generally a recommended approach for conserving nature and supporting communities, but how do we know? **The [Canadian Centre for Evidence-Based Conservation](#) and US Fish and Wildlife Service Division of International Conservation (DIC) are seeking grey literature on the effectiveness of community-based conservation** for meeting conservation and human well-being outcomes in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. This goal of this collaborative effort is to produce a systematic map that will help inform DIC programs and the wider community of practice. See this [flyer](#) or reach out to [Jessica Taylor](#) by December 10 for more details or to provide sources.

**The US Forest Service is requesting proposals for the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program.** Local governments, qualified nonprofits, and Tribes can request up to \$600,000 for land acquisition costs associated with establishing community forests. Proposals are due by January 10, 2022. Find the full Request for Applications [here](#).

**The Recreation Economy for Rural Communities is accepting applications for a new round of funding.** This assistance program helps communities identify strategies to grow their outdoor recreation economies. Apply by November 22. Find more information [here](#).

**The Network for Landscape Conservation's webinar series continues** on November 30 with an overview of legal protections for large landscapes. Register [here](#).

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## Jobs

**The Colorado Water Center** is in need of a **Director**. The Director provides leadership and oversight of the Center's portfolio of research, education, engagement, and service activities. Apply by November 18. Find the full posting [here](#).

**The Salazar Center** is looking for two Colorado State University students to fill roles as a **Communications Intern** and as a **Graduate Research Associate**, both great positions for students studying and interested in conservation, natural resources, environmental studies sustainability, and public policy. Apply to these positions through [Handshake](#) by November 19. Contact [Catie Boehmer](#) with questions.

Colorado State University's **Climate Adaptation Partnership** is in need of a **Research Associate** to lead interdisciplinary team publications on climate adaptation and apply to funding opportunities for future research projects and institutional development. Apply [here](#) by November 19.

**RiversEdge West** is looking for a **Program Coordinator** to support restoration efforts throughout the western US. This position has several priorities, including furthering the Tamarisk Beetle Monitoring Program. This position is based in

Grand Junction, Colorado. Apply by November 15. Find the full description [here](#).

**The Blackfoot Challenge** in Ovando, Montana is seeking a **Development and Operations Coordinator** to support the organization's financial health. Apply by November 24. Find more information [here](#).

*If you have a job openings that are aligned with our work on collaborative conservation and you want us to share them, email a link to the job description to [conserve@colostate.edu](mailto:conserve@colostate.edu).*

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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.



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