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April 2022



A Note from the CCC Director

I spent last Friday in a stakeholder workshop on reducing conflict related to wolves. Our discussion returned often to the importance of collaboration for navigating conflict. Many academic papers have been written on what makes collaboration work (see, for example, [Feist et al., 2020](#)). Most workshop participants weren't academics, but they showed they understand collaboration. Here are a few themes about "how to collaborate" from the workshop that I found notable:

Use a trusted convener. The neutrality of the convening organization is important (several people mentioned CSU Extension as a good example of a neutral party), and the reputation of the individual is also key. Convening is only one of many aspects of collaboration where trust is essential. Recommended reading: [*The Speed of Trust: The One Thing That Changes Everything*](#).

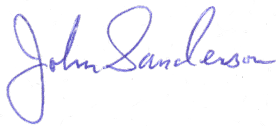
Language matters. Are you communicating to convince? Or communicating to understand? The latter builds trust and expands the solution set by revealing pathways you haven't yet seen. Language and associated intentions are key to another oft-repeated workshop saying, "meet them where they are at."

Recommended reading: [Working Across the Rural-Urban Divide](#).

Have the right people at the table. When a trust deficit exists—as with wolves—getting people to the table can be challenging. Working from existing relationships to build new relationships is essential. "Stakeholder analysis" – figuring out who should be at the table – is often done informally but is stronger when done systematically; find tools [here](#).

There is much more to say, but I'll end here: acknowledge and accept uncertainty. No one knows the future of wolves in Colorado, but many of us feel we can learn from mistakes made elsewhere and do better. Engaging with uncertainty takes courage, but as one wise workshop participant said, *"If people don't take steps, you can't dance."*

Be well,



John Sanderson

News from the CCC



Webinar Series on Grasslands Has Begun!

Last Wednesday, April 13 was the premiere of our 4-part webinar series on grasslands! We would like to start by thanking all of our partners who have collaborated to make this project possible and those of you who were in attendance for our first session.

If you missed this episode on the *Science of Grasslands*, you can find a recording of the webinar [here](#). And be sure to [register](#) for the next three episodes of the *Grasslands: Culture, Conservation, & Resiliency* series from noon to 1 p.m. April 20, April 27, and May 4.



Collaboratives and the Colorado Forest Health Council

At the next Colorado Forest Health Council (FHC), CCC's Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network Coordinator Katie McGrath will facilitate a

dialogue on strengthening the relationship between the FHC and the place-based forest collaboratives that are essential partners in Colorado's work on forest health and wildfire mitigation. The FHC is a "volunteer stakeholder body whose role is to provide collaborative forum to advise the Governor and the Colorado General Assembly on issues, opportunities, and threats to Colorado's forests".

The meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, April 26 1-4 p.m. MST. If you'd like to get involved in this month's discussion, click [here](#).

(Zoom meeting information is at the bottom of the FHC webpage.) If you would like regular updates from FHC, [sign up for their mailing list](#).



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Overview for Forest Collaboratives

May 25th, 2022
-
9-11am MST



Save the Date: Upcoming Webinar on Infrastructure Law and Forest Collaboratives

Mark 9 a.m. MST on May 25 in your calendars to join JW Associates, Southern Rockies Fire Science Network, Fire Adapted Colorado, Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, and the CCC for **a webinar on the Infrastructure Law and Forest Collaboratives: Overview and Program Potential**.

Register [here](#)!



June 27 - July 1 | Colorado State University, Fort Collins

CFN Conservation Finance Boot Camp Virtual Registration Still Open

This year's **Conservation Finance Network Conservation Finance Boot Camp** will take place in partnership with the Colorado State University Warner College of Natural Resources and the University of Wyoming Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources in Fort Collins, Colorado. In-person registration is closed, but [virtual registration](#) is still available.

CFN Boot Camp is **an intensive 5-day workshop (June 27-July 1)** providing crucial insight on innovative and effective funding strategies for mid-career conservation professionals. Find out more on the [CFN website](#).

Get to Know the CCC



Meet the CCC's New Associate Director of Learning: Allison Brody

Allison came to the CCC from Explora Science Center & Children's Museum of Albuquerque, where she led a staff committed to developing and delivering innovative science education programs, as well as a workforce development center. She has been a passionate informal science educator for more than 24 years, and has worked at the Public Lands Institute, Clark County Wetlands Park, Oklahoma City Zoo, and the Bronx Zoo/Wildlife Conservation Society. She holds a B.S. in Biology, an M.S. in Ecology, and a D.A. in Biological Education. Allison believes that empowered and engaged communities are the key to conserving nature and protecting the places we live and love.

"I am thrilled to be able to join a team that is doing such meaningful work. The ways in which the CCC supports and promotes collaborative conservation and authentic community engagement is really exciting to

me, and I'm really looking forward to this new chapter in my career!"

-Allison

Other News and Opportunities

Check out a [new commentary](#) titled "**After Failure, Reflection: Effective Conservation Requires Regular Assessments**" published on Mongabay, which supports the need for increased transparency of failure in conservation organizations.

University of Utah's Wallace Stegner Center Environmental Dispute Resolution Program is accepting applications for the 2022 [Collaboration Certificate Course](#). The 7-session virtual course is designed for mid to upper-level professionals working in environmental and public policy. [Applications due TODAY\(!\), Tuesday, April 19.](#)

The Network for Landscape Conservation is requesting grant proposals for the 2022 **Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund**— a grant that works to accelerate landscape conservation through collaboration and place-based, community-grounded partnerships. **Learn more and apply [here](#) by Friday, April 22.**

Aiken Audubon Society (AAS) is now accepting proposals for their [Foothills & Prairie Grant Program](#), which supports educational and science projects related to birds and their habitats. Maximum reward of \$1,500. **Grant proposal deadline is April 25.**

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) have collaborated to create the **Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnership Funding Program**. The grant funds new and existing coalitions to partner in statewide initiatives promoting outdoor recreation equity. Find out more [here](#). **May 11 is the application deadline.**

***Students – The Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District** is accepting applications for a [\\$5,000 scholarship](#) for university students currently working to complete water-related degree programs. [Applications due May 20.](#)

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:

Parks California is seeking a **Climate Fellow** to coordinate collaborative working groups to integrate climate planning in future strategic planning. [Application review begins April 22.](#)

Boise State University is seeking a 2-year **Postdoctoral Scholar** for the NSF-funded Indigenous-Led Ecological Restoration: Negotiating Colonial Structures Project. [Applications due April 25.](#)

Interested in joining a local non-profit to advance watershed conservation on the Colorado Front Range? **Big Thompson Watershed Coalition**, based in Loveland, CO, is hiring a **Forestry Project Manager** to oversee forest management and wildfire recovery projects. [Apply by April 26.](#)

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.



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