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July 2022



## A Note from the CCC Director

While helping to plan this fall's [Confluence 2022](#), I've been thinking about collaboration on water in the American West. You may have heard last month that states using Colorado River water must reduce their use by up to 1.3 trillion gallons. Among the many challenges that come from overusing water, parts of the Dolores River in southwest Colorado have been nearly dry much of the past two years, hurting fish and farmers.

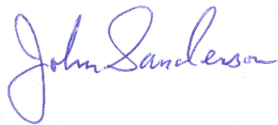
Despite these challenges, positive outcomes are emerging along the Colorado River from collaborations at several scales. Farmers and ranchers near the small town of Maybell, Colorado recently retrofitted an irrigation structure that increases boater safety and leaves more water in the river for endangered fish. This past spring, the Jicarilla Apache Nation leased water to New Mexico to bolster the tribe's economy and help endangered fish while representing a step forward for tribal involvement in Colorado River water management. At the

international scale, an agreement between Mexico and the U.S. has water again flowing to habitat restoration projects in the Colorado River Delta.

While planning for Confluence, I've been contrasting the Colorado River with the Klamath River, where, after two decades of effort, a resolution to conflict remains elusive. Regarding the Klamath, [Albertson \(2017\)](#) offers a useful analysis in which he concludes that "scientific knowledge alone is inadequate to address complex socioecological controversies." In contrast, [Koebele \(2015\)](#) explores a more hopeful example of collaborative water governance: Colorado's statewide water planning.

Whether you're interested in what works in collaborative conservation, working across cultures, or other aspects of finding a path forward for conservation and communities, consider coming to Montana's Paradise Valley this fall for the Western Collaborative Conservation Network's [Confluence 2022](#).

Be well,



John Sanderson

## News from the CCC

WESTERN COLLABORATIVE CONSERVATION NETWORK



**Scholarships & Early Bird Registration for  
WCCN Confluence 2022 Close Soon!**

Be sure to register for the WCCN's annual Confluence to join collaborative conservation professionals and enthusiasts during peer-to-peer workshops. This year's Confluence will focus on the following themes: **Collaboration and Regional Governance, Watersheds, and Cross-Cultural Collaboration.**

## SUMMARY AGENDA

### WHERE:

Chico Hot Springs Resort  
163 Chico Road  
Pray, Montana 59065

### WHEN:

Monday, September 19 to  
Wednesday, September 21, 2022



**Early Bird Registration (\$295) HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO July 31.**

**Regular Registration** is \$395 beginning August 1.

Registration will close on August 26th or when we have filled all slots; unfortunately no on-site registration will be offered.

### **Scholarships & Travel Stipends Available!**

Confluence 2022 will be most effective and impactful with a diverse community of participants. To make our event as accessible as possible, we have scholarships available. [Apply here!](#) Applications close July 22.

**REGISTER NOW**

## Interested in Helping Sponsor Confluence 2022?

We attempt to keep registration costs low in order to serve a diverse community as is required to perform constructive collaborative conservation. **Therefore, we appreciate financial contributions in order to provide:**

- Discounted registration for practitioners from community-based groups
- Scholarships targeting under-represented individuals
- Support to a member of the Apsáalooke (Crow) Tribe to guide tribal engagement and commemoration of the Yellowstone National Park 150th anniversary
- Support to a small set of key individuals in Montana to ensure Confluence 2022 attendees experience the full richness of collaborative conservation in the Paradise Valley
- Travel expenses and honoraria for experts to ensure high-quality programming around the history and future of collaborative conservation, water in the West, and cross-cultural collaboration
- Transportation for field trips in Paradise Valley to learn from collaborative conservation in action

**As a Confluence 2022 sponsor, you will be recognized** for your commitment to the West’s landscapes and communities and as a partner in collaboration. Your organization will be generously recognized before, during, and after the Confluence 2022 event.

[Learn more about Sponsorship](#)



CWS WILDLIFE CHRONICLES

## COLLABORATIVE CONSERVATION ACTION:

PARTICIPATORY METHODS  
AND TECHNIQUES TO  
ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS

7th July 2022

8:00 PM IST 8:30 AM MT 9:30 AM CT



Dr. John Sanderson



Dr. Teri Allendorf



Simran Prasad  
MODERATOR

[bit.ly/cwswebinar36](https://bit.ly/cwswebinar36)



## Collaborative Conservation featured on Wildlife Chronicles

Earlier this month **CCC Director John Sanderson** and **Dr. Teri Allendorf** of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute spoke about collaborative conservation with **CCC Fellow Simran Prasad** as part of the Centre for Wildlife Studies Wildlife Chronicles series. In this hour-long webinar we talked about basic elements of collaborative conservation seen across the globe and why it matters, community-based and other scales of collaborative conservation, the importance of paying attention to process and inclusiveness, participatory methods and techniques to engage stakeholders, challenges seen in collaborative conservation, and solutions that can make our initiatives more successful. You can find the [full recording here](#).

## Get to Know the CCC



### **Meet our Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network Intern: Holly Gordon**

Holly first moved to Colorado from Connecticut to attend the University of Denver, studying International Studies. After graduation, she spent two years teaching outdoor place-based environmental education at Teton Science Schools. Following TSS, she coordinated holistic support programs for students at the “I Have a Dream” Foundation of Boulder County. Her desire to return to natural resources led her to work for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in California, leading the volunteer programs. Most recently she was Community Science and Hiking Coordinator at Walking Mountains Science Center in Avon, CO. Excited to dive into collaborative conservation, Holly will be earning her M.S. in Conservation Leadership alongside her position as the Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network Intern.



## Meet our CCC Fellows: Dr. Anna Lavoie

Dr. Lavoie is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. Her work broadly focuses on human-environment relationships with a feminist, decolonial lens, and how practices of environmental governance impacts small-scale fisheries and agricultural livelihoods. Dr. Lavoie's work has highlighted the overlooked knowledge and roles of Native women in small-scale fisheries in Alaska and Brazil to inform and advance equity in fisheries policy. Her work inherently involves advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) in natural resource stewardship, in research, and teaching. She has 15 years of interdisciplinary experience focusing on conservation and natural resource management. Prior to joining CSU in 2019, she served at NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Fisheries Science Center. Dr. Lavoie received her Ph.D. in Geography from Texas A&M University, and M.S. and B.S. in Biology from UMASS Boston.

### Scholarly and Applied Impact

**Current and past CCC Fellows and staff publish impactful research on collaboration and conservation. Here is the latest. CCC Fellows and staff are indicated by bold font.**

Tumenjargal, S., Fassnacht, S.R., Venable, N.B.H., Kingston, A.P., **Fernández-Giménez, M.E.** et al. 2020. Variability and change of climate extremes from

indigenous herder knowledge and at meteorological stations across central Mongolia. *Frontiers of Earth Science* 14, 286-297. <https://doi-org.ezproxy2.library.colostate.edu/10.1007/s11707-019-0812-6>

Having first participated as part of Cohort 2, **Dr. Maria Fernández-Giménez** has been part of the CCC from almost the beginning. She has also supported several subsequent Fellows through the years, creating and studying collaborative conservation opportunities in Mongolia and beyond. In this paper, the authors gathered information from local herders throughout central Mongolia, who provided detailed quantitative and qualitative descriptions of weather and climate conditions. This type of information can add to the indicators and other data commonly used by climate scientists. By linking indigenous knowledge with scientific knowledge, we can create a “more holistic analysis of climate change in different regions of the world.”

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Prensky, LM, Augustine, D.J., Demer, J.D., **Wilmer, H.**, Lipke, M. N., Fernández-Giménez, M.E. et al. 2021. Collaborative Adaptive Rangeland Management, Multipaddock Rotational Grazing, and the Story of the Regrazed Grass Plant. *Rangeland Ecology & Management*. Volume 78, pp 127-141. ([link](#))

**Hailey Wilmer** participated as a Fellow while working on her Ph.D. during Cohort 8. In this paper, the authors build on the Collaborative Adaptive Rangeland Experiment treatments first published by Hailey in 2018. The authors used a collaborative adaptive management framework to engage stakeholders directly involved with grazing, using collaborative tools such as structured discussions to gather information and understanding from these on-the-ground stakeholders. In so doing, the authors learned what the stakeholders expected to happen as a result of the experimental treatments and were able to test this stakeholder-driven hypothesis.

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One way in which the Fellows program can maximize conservation impact is by supporting projects that build on collaborative work done in previous cohorts. This happened in Cohort 4, in which **David Knight's** project built on previous work conducted in the Philippines by **Arren Allegretti** (Cohort 1); in turn, **Rina Hauptfeld's** project (Cohort 8) shared some of the same collaborations. We are working to incorporate a similar model for sustained collaborative engagement for upcoming cohorts.

David attributes the CCC Fellowship with both contributing to his “personal growth” as well as “on-the-ground outcomes.” Findings from his Fellowship resulted in [this article](#) "with Arren and Dr. Jerry Vaske, focusing on the effects of "formal" versus "informal" conservation communication on conservation support.” The authors discovered that across the board, fishers were more supportive of conservation efforts if they received some form of direct communication from government. This is one of many publications produced by CCC Fellows and showcased on the [CCC website](#). David reports that he has shared the lessons learned from this article and his overall CCC experience “while teaching nature-based tourism in the U.S. and China since 2015 for CSU.”

## Other News and Opportunities

**Incredible leadership can start with one visionary leader. We at the CCC thank Colorado's [Mighty Arrow Family Foundation](#), founded by Kim Jordan (co-founder of New Belgium Brewery), for their **commitment to invest its full value to battle the climate crisis by 2040**. Read the full story in an [article by The Colorado Sun](#).**

Check out this **PECS Collaborative Working Group Webinar with Bridget McGlynn and Julia Baird on July 25** to discuss a collaborative approach to study and effect change in river basin governance in the St. John River Basin in New Brunswick, Canada. [Register here](#).

[Partnerscapes'](#) **2022 Private Lands Partners Day** will take place from Tuesday, October 4 to October 6 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. **Find out more and register [here](#)!**

**Community collaboration in field research:** Local communities play a key role in supporting data collection by field researchers, especially non-native researchers collecting field data in unfamiliar landscapes. Field assistants usually belong to local communities and bring with them invaluable knowledge about the flora and fauna of their land, yet the scientific community largely undervalues their contributions. **Read "Notes from Meghalaya" [here](#)** as one

scientist documents the various ways in which the expertise of local collaborators benefited his research.

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## 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:

**Klamath Bird Observatory** has multiple positions open including **Biologist, Field Technician, Research Biologist, and Ecologist & Partnerships Coordinator**. *Application deadlines vary.* Check out all of these positions on the [KBO Careers Page](#).

**The Madison Conservation District** in Montana is seeking a **Conservation Programs Manager** responsible for managing and coordinating natural resource projects and programs. [Position open until filled](#).

**Puget Sound Partnership** also has a bunch of open positions open in Washington including [Salmon Monitoring Data Steward](#), [Chief Financial Officer](#), and [Salmon Policy Advisor](#). **Applications due soon!**

*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](#).*

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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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