

Having trouble seeing everything, like pictures?

[View this email in your browser](#)



WARNER COLLEGE
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

October 2024



A Note from the CCC Director

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Aldo Leopold's [A Sand County Almanac](#). I was a newly minted college graduate when I first read the book and was inspired by the essay "The Land Ethic," which "enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals." I was also inspired by the essay "Round River," where Leopold defines conservation as "a state of harmony" between people and land. These ideas still resonate with me, and I view the CCC's work, in part, as moving our society toward a full embrace of these ideas.

In the new book [Forging a Sustainable Southwest: The Power of Collaborative Conservation](#), author Stephen Strom unpacks four case studies where diverse

people *did* embrace these ideas through landscape-scale efforts to simultaneously address ecological, economic, cultural, and community needs. In his book, Strom lets the people involved in the work tell the stories of what motivates them, their approaches, what worked, and where challenges remain.

Prompted by this 75th anniversary celebration of *A Sand County Almanac*, I have been reflecting on Leopold, what I inherited from him, and his legacy in conservation. Leopold was ahead of his time in many ways. His essays changed the way I think about the world and shifted my life's trajectory toward a gratifying career in conservation. Leopold inspired many others, too, including those who will be speaking at [a free event at CSU on October 30](#) to mark the *A Sand County Almanac's* anniversary.

Leopold was also a person of his time. His writings sometimes displayed elements of inequity and injustice in conservation. For example, in *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold is a staunch advocate for wilderness without acknowledging the people who have called these lands home for millennia. In [Land, Ethics, Justice, and Aldo Leopold](#), Curt Meine, a leading Leopold scholar and one of the speakers at the October 30 event, offers a thoughtful and nuanced response to this reality, showing that Leopold was a “real, limited, and fallible human being” at the same time that he was an “essential transitional figure within a still broader, ongoing movement, informed by an ever-evolving ethic of care.”

As the CCC team discussed this topic yesterday, we concluded that for us, too, some of the things that, today, we believe are right and good and important will be revealed later as problematic. Knowing that, how do we keep our eyes and ears open? How do we respond when we hear voices that conflict with our beliefs or actions? How do we continue our own learning about interdependencies, ethics, cultures and traditions, and ways of knowing and being so that we can respond and work together to address the many urgent demands of our time? Perhaps this is a matter of curiosity, self-awareness, and respect for others' opinions and belief systems, important personal characteristics to aspire to and timeless in importance.

Be well,



News from the CCC



CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE CONSERVATION

CCC FELLOWS PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Apply to join Cohort 15 by Nov 1st!

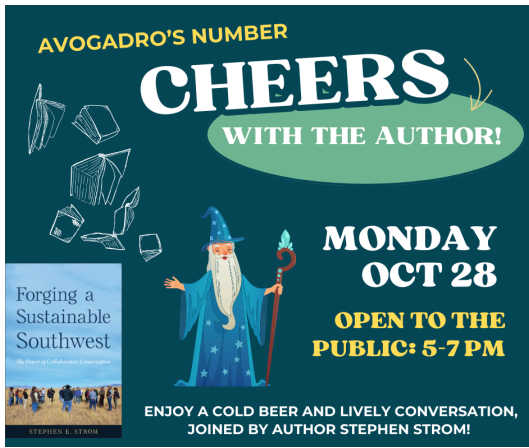
There's still time to be part of our Fellows program!

There's still time to apply to join our next cohort of Fellows! **Tempted but not sure what it means to be a Fellow? Check out [our website](#) to watch our latest videos of Fellows alumni, and reach out to [Allison Brody](#), our Associate Director of Learning, if you have any questions leading up to the Nov 1 deadline.**

AVOGADRO'S NUMBER

CHEERS

WITH THE AUTHOR!



**MONDAY
OCT 28**

**OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC: 5-7 PM**

ENJOY A COLD BEER AND LIVELY CONVERSATION,
JOINED BY AUTHOR STEPHEN STROM!

Forging a Sustainable Southwest

The Power of Collaborative Conservation



MEET THE AUTHOR

- Hear stories of successful collaborative conservation
- Meet author, Doctor Stephen Strom
- Enjoy light appetizers on us
- Innovate, connect, converse, eat, and have fun!

FREE EVENT
IN THE WCNR
ATRIUM!

**TUESDAY,
OCT 29
5:00 PM**

RSVP TODAY!



STEPHEN E. STROM

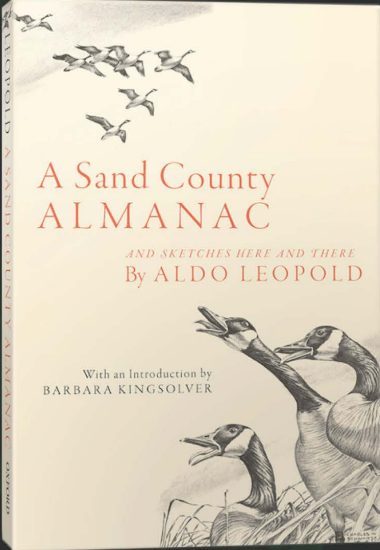
THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALDO LEOPOLD'S *A Sand County Almanac*

PEOPLE, LAND, AND ANIMALS: THE KEYS TO CONSERVATION THAT WORK

Wednesday, October 30
5-8 p.m.
Lory Student Center Theater
FREE to attend!

Speakers:

- CURT MEINE**
Aldo Leopold Foundation
- LESLI ALLISON**
Western Landowners Alliance
- ROBBIE LEVALLEY**
LeValley Ranches
- ERIK GLENN**
Partnership of Rangeland Trusts, Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- KEN SHOCKLEY**
Holmes Rolston Chair in Environmental Ethics & Philosophy, Colorado State University
- STEVE STROM**
Photographer & Author of "Forging a Sustainable Southwest"



WARNER COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

WESTERN LANDOWNERS ALLIANCE

LeValley Ranches

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE CONSERVATION

COLORADO CATTLEMEN'S AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST

THE ALDO LEOPOLD FOUNDATION

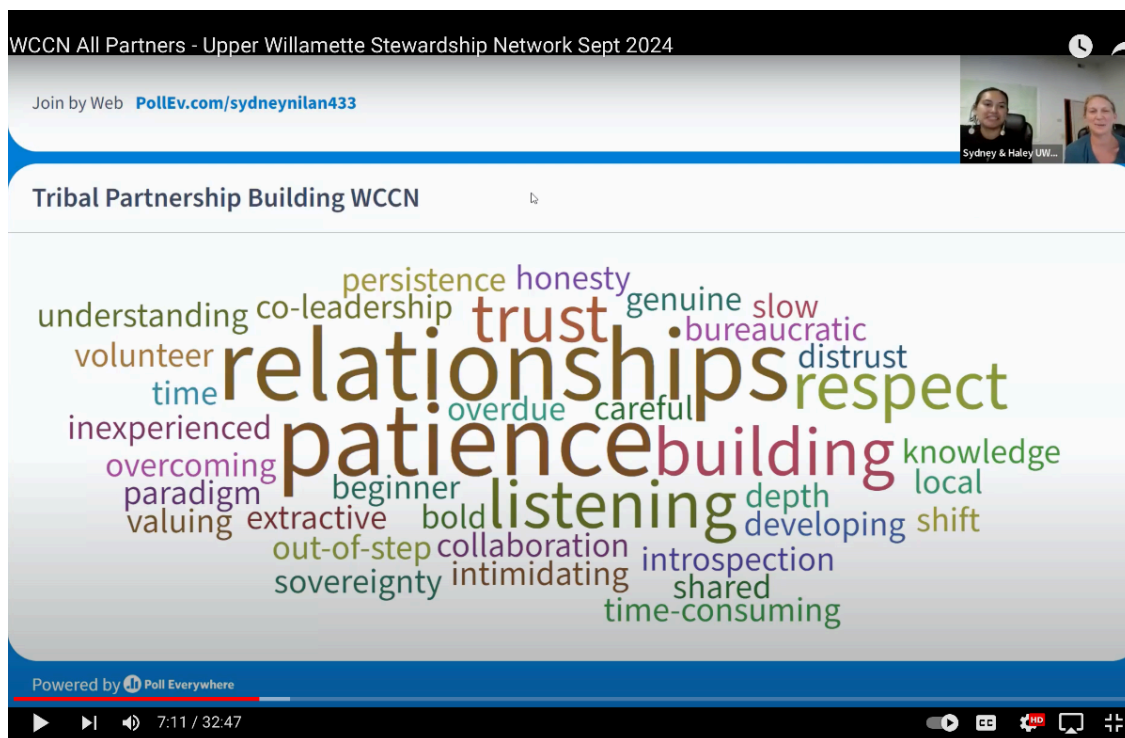
Come join us at these CCC Events in Fort Collins Next Week!

We are going to be busy next week hosting two events, and co-hosting a third - **we hope you'll be able to join us for some great discussions** at one or all three if you're near the Fort Collins, Colorado area!

Monday Oct 28 | CCC Happy Hour and Cheers with Author Stephen Strom - Avogadro's Number from 5-7pm [More details here](#)

Tues Oct 29 | Meet the author Stephen Strom at an interactive event (with food) for students - WCNR Atrium 5-6:30pm [Come join us here](#)

Wednesday Oct 30 | Sand County Almanac 75th Celebration - Lory Student Center Come for a great discussion with guest speakers with books available for sale at the event. [Learn more here.](#)



WCCN's All-Partners recording

We had the exceptional opportunity to hear from [the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network](#), Haley Case–Scott and Sydney Nilan, about their work and the framework that they've been using for tribal partnerships and decolonization.

Aireona, our Associate Director of Practice, had this to say about the webinar:

*"I thought that this webinar was a great addition to the presentation that they did for Confluence 2024, earlier this year. **For me, what Haley and Sydney spoke about in this webinar really cemented my understanding of the framework that they use and how it has informed the innovative, collaborative structures that they have built.** And of course it's got me thinking about how I can do better in my own work.*

*I'm sure that everybody left the presentation with their own take home points, but one of the things that really resonated with me was hearing from Haley and Sydney about how to get started. **Their emphasis on learning and doing your homework have been things that I've heard elsewhere, but their explanation of how to do this and their example of the training program that they created helped me conceptualize what that might look like.** Their exploration of coming to this work with humility spoke deeply to me."*

You can watch [their webinar here!](#)

We have one last WCCN All-Partners meeting December 11! If you're reading this sentence, you can consider yourself a partner in collaborative conservation, and we would love for you to join us! **In December we'll be digging deep into mentorship best practices as the Emerging Leadership Working Group is developing a [Mentorship Toolkit](#) for conservationists.**

Register for WCCN's All-Partners Meeting Dec 11



Storyteller's Circle Updates!

Communicators in our field face a daunting task: telling a compelling story that will empower people to take action and "save the world". However, we're not alone! Our circle provides the perfect space to develop skills and learn from one another.

Check out the Storyteller's Circle recording from September!

[In last month's session](#), we heard from Kate Mannle, Director of Training for Rare's Center for Behavior and the Environment, as she shared **how to apply a behavior lens to conservation storytelling**.

Our final Storyteller's Circle of 2024 will be Oct 31st from 12:30-1:30pm, you can [register here](#) and join us as we meet Jordan Dresser, journalist, award-winning documentary filmmaker, and museum professional. As an enrolled member of the Northern Arapaho Tribe, Jordan is passionate about collecting, preserving and sharing stories about the Indigenous people of this land. He has played a key role in reparation and repatriation of tribal artifacts and ancestral remains. His ability to capture the emotions of the people in his work and bring people together has been recognized by many, including President Biden.

Jordan will present on building and maintaining relationships in a way that turns communications into sustained and durable action, not simply individual communication products.

Register for our Oct 31 Session with Jordon here!



A message from Dr. Aireona Raschke

This month, I am really excited to introduce you all to a new section of the CCC Newsletter, which I will be spearheading each month – Notes from the Field.

As the Associate Director of Practice at the Center, I am deeply immersed in the strategy and work of “Practice” which for my position includes our fee-for-service and on-the-ground projects, our research, and managing our networks (like the Western Collaborative Conservation Network).

While our networks shine brightly through their dedicated newsletters (and here!), I wanted to create a dedicated space to spotlight some of our work that you just might not hear about as often. So, the focus of my section of the newsletter will be short explorations of the CCC’s projects, on-the-ground engagement, research, and what we are learning along the way. Thus, each piece will include: (1) some fun details about what we are doing or have done, and (2) some lessons and/or tools that I’ve picked up through these experiences from the field.

To give you a taste for what I have planned for the coming months, here are some topics in the works for this section:

- Exploring accessibility in conservation and what it means for collaborative efforts.
- The importance of planning for collaborative success – AKA making sure your collaborative meeting goes smoothly even if COVID-19 has you recuperating at home.
- Mentorship as a two-way (or multi-directional) street – Lessons and thoughts from the Emerging Leadership the mentorship project.
- Relationship building and multi-use outcomes through collaboration – A look at CCC’s work in North Sand Creek.

I can’t wait to share more with you all in the coming months about our “practice” work, and all of the complex and dynamic things that I’ve learned through our partners and my own experience with collaboration in practice.

Aireona Bonnie Raschke, Ph.D.
Associate Director of Practice

Get to Know the CCC





Reflections from a CCC Intern: Priscila Santos Urteaga

The CFCN has had the privilege of hosting Priscila Santos-Urteaga as our Summit Planning Intern for the past few months. She was selected for this internship through a competitive pool of applicants for Colorado State University's SPARK program. Among her many tasks this summer, Priscila handled many of the behind-the-scenes logistical coordination of Summit, attended a Colorado Forest Health Council meeting, and networked with folks from place-based collaboratives all across Colorado.

You can read Priscila's final project [here](#). And read her reflections [here](#).

We wish her all the best as she wraps up her classes and graduates in December with her degree in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. Thanks for all your hard work, Priscila!

I cannot thank Priscila enough for everything she did in support of this year's Forest Collaboratives Summit, and for the CFCN and CCC more broadly! She brought a high standard of work to everything she did, helped me keep my head screwed on straight during event planning 'crunch time,' and completed each task with her signature humor and empathy. I am sad to see her go, but excited to see what she does next!

- Katie McGrath Novak

Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network Coordinator

My internship at the CCC was genuinely the most valuable and lovely experience of my college years. I feel so lucky to have collaborated with the most compassionate, authentic, and passionate individuals who have shown me what every work environment should be like."

- Priscila Santos Urteaga

Student Intern



Meet our Communications Assistant Willoree Ford

Willoree Ford is a current freshman here at Colorado State University, studying for a major in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. She is a new face on the communications team who is incredibly excited to reach out and expand the CCC's impact!

Her passion for the environment extends to her position as the Communications Assistant, and she believes that access to environmental education and conservation opportunities should be available to anyone who wishes to further the global conservation movement.

Willoree was born and raised in Longmont, Colorado, and found her passion for conserving the outdoors through years of hiking, gardening, and enjoying outdoor spaces near her home. When she graduates from college, Willoree hopes to travel the world and gain an understanding of global conservation efforts. Eventually, she wants to work for a company that expands renewable energy worldwide, continuing to advocate for green policy in her community.

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.**

Gonzalez, M.N., T. N Heid, and R. Niemiec. 2024. Characterizing social conflict over wolf reintroduction in Colorado: A theoretical model of intergroup conflict. *People and Nature*: V. 6, pp. 2001-2013. [Link](#)

Ayambire, R.A. et al. 2024. Challenges in assessing the effects of environmental governance systems on conservation outcomes. *Conservation Biology*; c14392. [Link](#)

When it comes to bridging research and practice, several of our Fellow alumni are stepping up to identify gaps in what we know, try out different ideas, and propose actions for practitioners and researchers.

When conflict is driven by differences in values and identity, an approach that solely relies on mediation or negotiation strategies might fall short, especially when there are underlying trust issues. **Mirielle Gonzalez** (Cohort 10) recently coauthored an [article](#) exploring the use of reconciliation processes to repair

relations, rebuild trust, and effectively manage conflict situations. Many reconciliation theories have roots in the “conflict and peace-building literature,” which outline approaches that help a facilitator reframe how conflict is perceived, as well as shift ideas people hold about the motivations, values, and actions of people on the other side of the conflict. The authors interviewed stakeholders to understand the social-psychological drivers of conflict around wolf reintroduction in Colorado. They were then able to adapt different reconciliation approaches and propose a variety of interventions to target these drivers and address the foundations of the conflict. You can read the plain language summary of the article [here](#).

Matt Luizza (Cohort 9) and his coauthors wanted to explore the connection between how natural resources are governed in any given jurisdiction and the conservation outcomes within that jurisdiction, hypothesizing that we should be able to determine which type of governance structures will result in better conservation outcomes.

The authors tested governance typologies based on where decision-making authority rests (e.g., public governance, public-private models, public-community governance, and others). What the authors found was that research papers that report on conservation outcomes don't often include the associated type of governance structure; in fact, there is often a complex mish-mash of different governance structures across large landscape conservation areas. The authors recommend that future research include this information using agreed-upon definitions and language, “enhancing understanding of the role of governance in conservation projects and improving conservation outcomes.”

- Allison Brody, PhD

Our Associate Director of Learning

Other News and Opportunities

Tomorrow Oct 24 Watch Forestfire Film 7-9pm • [James C. Kennedy \(DU\)](#)
[Mountain Campus](#)

Co-hosted by the Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed, Larimer Conservation District, Larimer County Office of Emergency Management and the Northern Colorado Fireshed Collaborative.

In August of 2020, the Cameron Peak Fire was racing uncontrollably towards communities in northern Colorado. As it reached the footprint of a past U.S. Forest Service prescribed burn and the Drala Mountain Center (formerly Shambhala Mountain Center), the many years of collaboratively planned and implemented forest resilience treatments paid off in a big way. The prescribed burn, combined with forest restoration treatments at Drala, gave firefighters a foothold to halt a portion of the fire and avert disaster for the communities downslope.

This 16-minute film tells the story of what happened there through the accounts of a U.S. Forest Service fire specialist, a Larimer Conservation District forester, and the Drala land manager. Together, they urge us to see fire and forest management as natural and essential parts of the landscape. By shifting the way we perceive fire and actively preparing forests to receive it, we can create hope for living with wildfires.

After the screening, enjoy a panel discussion with local experts, Q&A opportunities, and a short presentation about the Red Feather Lakes Area Wildfire Defense Project. Learn more about the Fireforest long-term multimedia project at: www.fireforestphoto.com.

The Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program is accepting Workforce Development Grant applications until next Friday, November 1. We have \$4 million in funding to support wildfire mitigation work and training. Please review our Request for Applications on [our website](#) to learn more about the 4 types of awards we grant. Applicants should submit a completed application combined into a single pdf file to coswap@state.co.us with "COSWAP-Application-Your Project Name" in the subject line. Grants will be awarded before the end of this year with project deadlines by December 31, 2025.

Help us develop the forestry and wildfire mitigation workforce while also completing strategic fuels reduction projects.

One of our WCCN Partners, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Reno, have been working on an exciting video series that we would like to share with you.

[It's Out Here!](#) features threatened and endangered species in Northern Nevada and the Eastern Sierra, many of which live in only one place on

earth. The Reno Fish and Wildlife Office works alongside our partners to conserve rare species to ensure these unique natural resources are around for future generations. We are so grateful for the support of our partners, who often lead on-the-ground conservation efforts to improve habitat, conduct research and implement conservation efforts.

On the first episode of *It's Out Here!* we join Lara Enders as she surveys for Carson wandering skipper, a rare butterfly with only three populations in Nevada and California. We ask her about the species, learn about challenges to recovery, a project to restore habitat, and we get to hear from Lara about why working with butterflies is special to her.

[It's Out Here! - Carson wandering skipper](#)

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:

Spicer Chair in Collaborative Practice at the University of Wyoming | We are looking for an advanced scholar/practitioner who can lead an innovative curriculum and collaborative efforts at the state and regional level, you can [read more here](#).

Research Scientist, Ruckelshaus Institute at the University of Wyoming | We are also hiring a research scientist position to support the Ruckelshaus Institute in a number of projects, [please share](#) with recent graduates or early career folks who would like to gain a wide range of applied experience and conduct research in a dynamic environment.

Northeast Region Coordinator, Forest Stewards Guild | Forest Stewards guild is hiring a full-time Northeast Region Coordinator to join our team at the [Forest Stewards Guild](#). This is a fully remote position for applicants living in the Northeast (ME, VT, NY, NJ, MA, RI, CT, NH, PA). Applicants living in ME or VT are preferred.

The Southwest Oregon Preserves and Forest Project Manager | The

Southwest Oregon Preserves and Forest Projects Manager collaborates with a wide range of local, state, federal, Tribal, and NGO partners to support, plan, implement, and monitor stewardship and forest restoration activities in service of TNC and partner strategic priorities (40% of position). This position will also lead relationship and project management at the Table Rocks Preserve, a site with immense potential for co-stewardship with area Tribes and Indigenous communities. You can [apply online here](#).

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,
The CCC Team



Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

