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WARNER COLLEGE
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

August 2023



A Note from the CCC Director

Collaborative conservation grew out of conflict. And conflict continues, over elephants in Africa, water in South America, forests and wildfire in the North American West, and much more. I am inclined to think we should lean into these conflicts, because conflict-rich challenges are where collaboration is needed most.

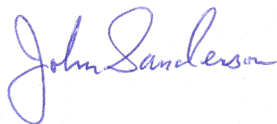
Most people I know—including myself—would rather avoid conflict. Unfortunately, conflict is both unavoidable and necessary. The good news is that with conscious effort, we can learn to embrace and manage conflict in a productive way. Although I can't begin to cover the literature on managing conflict in conservation with this short note, I can point you to papers and

articles on our [how-to page](#), and I can share a few resources I find myself going back to regularly:

- [Getting to Yes](#) by Fisher, Ury, and Patton never mentions “conservation,” but I consider it a must-read guide to achieving better outcomes for more stakeholders. I especially like Ury’s practice of “going to the balcony” where you suspend your reaction to tension and buy yourself time to think.
- The [University Network for Collaborative Governance Guide to Collaborative Competencies](#) by Emerson and Smutko presents an excellent summary of competencies—including conflict management—needed by leaders in cooperative problem solving, consensus building, and constructive conflict.
- [Conservation’s Blind Spot](#) by Madden and McQuinn. In this paper, the authors describe how the conflicts we see are often based in less visible, more complex social conflicts, and they discuss how we can be intentional about addressing those deeper sources of conflict.

Although not directly about conflict, I recently enjoyed [Solving Modern-Day Challenges with Ancient Tribal Wisdom](#), a Mountain & Prairie podcast featuring Lorelei Cloud, the first Native American to sit on the Colorado Water Conservation Board. I especially like one of her guiding principles for leadership that applies in conflict-rich environments: “don’t take it personally.”

Be well,



John Sanderson

News from the CCC



Fellows Cohort 12 End-of-Project Presentations

We are excited to celebrate the work of Cohort 12! Join us for a special end-of-project presentation, where members of Cohort 12 will reflect on project highlights, learnings, and more!

Cohort 12 is made up of ten fellows pursuing five collaborative conservation projects with communities across the globe, including:

- in New Mexico, USA, restoring watershed health to the Rio Grande River corridor while protecting and enriching Pueblo culture,
- in Tanzania, conducting an Indigenous community assessment of problematic plants through citizen science,
- in Colombia, facilitating participatory actions to implement juridically declared GMO-Free Territories that protect local livelihoods and biodiversity,
- in India, incorporating dynamic community-based solutions to address human–elephant conflict, and
- in Guatemala, researching the role of Indigenous community-led land stewardship in shaping mammal conservation.

This presentation will take place on **August 23 from 10-11am on CSU Campus in the Conifer Room** (room 402 in Warner College of Natural Resources). **Join us online [HERE](#)**. If you have questions about the presentation, email us [HERE](#).

To learn more about the Fellows Program, click [HERE](#).



CFCN Updates

August 24th Branching Out- This Branching Out peer-learning session, "Panning for Nuggets of Science Gold: Reframing Forestry and Wildfire Management Communication", will focus on science communication and how nuggets of truth from academic research are increasingly being stretched into misleading forestry and wildfire narratives. The conversation will aim to illuminate some of the most common locally relevant selective science narratives, provide tips for how forest collaborative partners can clarify communication of their own science application, and invite feedback on collaborative partners' experience engaging in your own science communication.

Click [HERE](#) to read our full list of speakers and stories, and to register.

Best Wishes Holly! Our wonderful intern, Holly, completed her internship with the Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network at the end of July. We wish her the best of luck as she completes her Master of Conservation Leadership at Colorado State University, and in all her future endeavors!

Sponsor the 2023 Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit! The annual Colorado Forest Collaboratives Summit, hosted by the Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network, will gather collaborative leaders and partners from across the state to connect, share stories, and generate innovative ideas together. Your sponsorship will support the Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network fund and 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.

To become a sponsor, click [HERE](#).



How have you successfully & meaningfully engaged your board and/or stakeholders in the process of creating or updating your organization's governance documents? ~Katie

Atti and Katie need your help!

Atti, our peach-faced lovebird, needs your help answering this question:

"How have you successfully engaged your board and/or stakeholders in the process of creating or updating your organization's governance documents?"

Let Atti know what you think and share your experiences [HERE](#) or email your response [here](#). **Your responses not only help Katie, who asked the question, but provide guidance and insights to all of our network!**

WCCN

All-Partners

Exploring Needs for Skill-Building in the Field

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

We're spotlighting the River Network this quarter: a national organization that works to grow and strengthen a transformational national network of water, justice, and river advocates.

This presentation will introduce River Network's national programs and priorities as well as the organization's Colorado River Basin-focused priority outcomes and strategies. Presenters will share their work in supporting community-based organizations (CBOs) and stream management planning with an overview of River Network's Colorado Stream Management Plan Peer Learning Network. The Yampa River Collaborative will be introduced as a model of the Colorado River Basin's work and partnership with CBOs.

BREAKOUT ROOMS

We will be having breakout rooms to explore the biggest needs for skill building and places for the field to seek positive change - we are looking for community feedback on both of these subjects!

NETWORKING

We will end the meeting with time for networking.

JOIN US

September 6 @ 1:00 PM

REGISTER FOR THE ZOOM MEETING ON THE CCC "CALENDAR" PAGE

<https://collaborativeconservation.org/events-calendar/>



All-Partners

Please join us and the Western Collaborative Conservation Network for our quarterly All-Partners Meeting! This quarter, we will be spotlighting River Network.

[River Network](#) is a national organization that works to grow and strengthen a transformational national network of water, justice, and river advocates. This presentation will introduce River Network's national programs and priorities as well as the organization's Colorado River Basin-focused priority outcomes and strategies. **Presenters will share their work in supporting community-based organizations (CBOs)** and stream management planning with an overview of River Network's Colorado Stream Management Plan Peer Learning Network. The Yampa River Collaborative will be introduced as a model of the Colorado River Basin's work and partnership with CBOs.

After the partner spotlight, we will be having **breakout rooms to explore the biggest needs for skill building** and places for the field to seek positive

change - we are looking for community feedback on both of these subjects. We will end the meeting with **time for networking**.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend- click [HERE](#) to register!



Confluence Save the Date

Save the date for Confluence 2024- taking place April 2nd through 4th in beautiful Tuscon, Arizona.

Confluence is the Western Collaborative Conservation Network's premier community-building and learning event, open to practitioners, researchers, community members, and students working in the collaborative conservation field.

- Meet new collaborative conservation professionals and reconnect with old friends.
- Join peer-to-peer learning sessions and other capacity building opportunities.

Please let us know if you are interested in coming!

To be added to the interested list and to receive Confluence details in the coming months, click [HERE](#).

If you are interested in assisting with the planning of Confluence, reach out to us [HERE](#).



July 27, 2023

Julia Debes
Working Lands for Wildlife

will discuss best practices and lessons learned for engaging your team or partnership in sharing your story and communication strategies

Storyteller's Circle

Julia Debes, the Director of Agricultural Communications for [Working Lands for Wildlife](#) joined our July session to talk about engaging your team or organization in communications. Julia shared some tips and tricks about Working Lands for Wildlife's **communications strategy, which results in a collaborative approach to sharing messages** about exotic annual grass invasion, land use conversion, woodland expansion, and riparian/wet-meadow degradation.

Click [HERE](#) to read our **blog post** about the event, and to find the presentation slides, event recording, and resources from Julia's presentation.

To register for the final two sessions of 2023, click [HERE!](#)

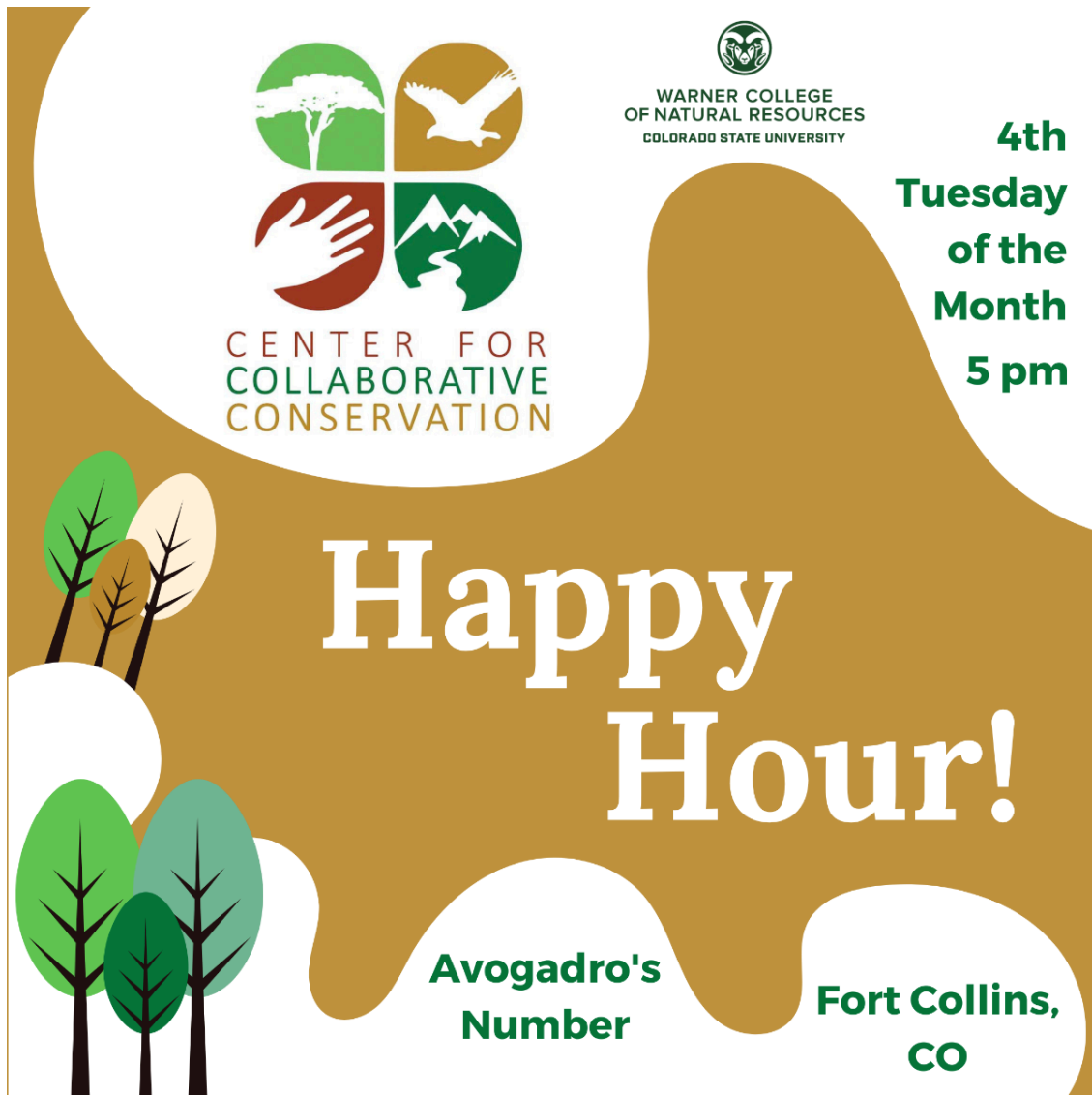
Get to Know the CCC



Meet our CCC Fellows: Pije Galamoyo

A mature hard-working team player trained in the art of Customer Service. Pije is currently working as a treasurer at Tshangana Conservation Trust in Maitengwe where they work in general maintenance projects, developing visitor attractions, and wildlife observation with an understanding of geographical information systems.

Learn more about Cohort 13's projects [here](#).



Join Us for Happy Hour!

Come get to know the people behind the CCC at our monthly happy hour! We meet the fourth Tuesday of every month at 5pm to hang out, have a drink, and build collaborative relationships. **Everyone is welcome**, and we want to especially invite our Partners and our friends and students at Colorado State University.

It takes place this month on **Tuesday, August 22nd at 5:00 pm** at Avogadro's Number in Fort Collins, CO.

We hope to see you there!

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.

Examples of guides to help practitioners develop a collaborative governance framework can be easily found (for example, [Building a Collaborative Governance Framework: a Five Step Process](#)). In general, the steps include (1) Identifying and articulating the purpose of the collaborative; (2) evaluating different governance structures and choosing the appropriate framework for the context; (3) creating supporting documents and other processes; and (4) adopting reflective practice so that the framework can be adapted as conditions change.

While these “How To” guides are often extraordinarily helpful, in what ways are they informed by research? And what are researchers doing to study the effectiveness of different collaborative governance structures? **CCC Associate Director of Practice Aireona Raschke** recently co-authored an [article](#) that notes that “there is not widespread scholarly agreement on the key ingredients” that might make up effective collaborative governance structures. For one, researchers haven’t used a standardized approach to addressing the question; as well, the authors found that “there is no single set of agreed-upon core factors ... that transcend” the myriad ways and contexts in which collaborative conservation can happen.

The authors therefore did a systematic literature review to identify and evaluate potential key elements. The resultant list includes 22 factors that the authors propose contribute to effective governance structures; this list is summarized [here](#). Do you agree with the list? What factors have you found to be most significant? What are some key considerations for your unique context?

Other News and Opportunities

Call for presentations | Coalitions & Collaboratives will be accepting presentation proposals for their After the Flames Conference on “*strategies, tools, and collaborative approaches that contribute to effective post-fire recovery. Share your expertise and insights on enhancing pre-fire planning, addressing policy challenges, integrating science, and showcasing practical*

implementation strategies aimed at building resilient communities.”

Click [HERE](#) to learn more & submit your proposal by December 15th.

Colorado Forest Health Council: Summary of 7/27 Quarterly | On Thursday, July 27th at their quarterly meeting, the Colorado Forest Health Council approved recommendations to elevate to the Wildfire Matters Review Committee, and Gates Family Foundation’s Whitney Johnson gave an introduction to the all-new Colorado Mass Timber Coalition, which will officially be launched in September. Click [HERE](#) to read our blog post summary of the meeting. The summary includes a video link, relevant timestamps, discussion notes, and a link to the approved legislative recommendations.

From Burn To Bloom: The Art + Science of Wildfire Recovery | From Burn to Bloom will be a fun and interactive community event with playful art and science activities, hopeful community reflection, and all-ages education. Get inspired by the ways nature repairs after fire and reflect on building more resilient landscapes—and mindsets—in the face of an ever-changing climate. Register for this August 19th event [HERE](#).

Udall Foundation Trainings | The Udall Foundation is offering trainings in Environmental Conflict Resolution this Fall, using a "learning by doing" training approach. Participating in these trainings can work towards a Certificate in Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution (ECCR). Learn more and sign up [HERE](#). Offered virtually and in-person in D.C.

Regenerate Conference | Each year, the Quivira Coalition, Holistic Management International, and the American Grassfed Association collaborate to convene ranchers, farmers, conservationists, land managers, scientists, and thought leaders to share knowledge, build community, and create a culture of resilience and regeneration. Join us this year, November 1-3 in Santa Fe, NM, to explore regenerative agriculture at every scale — from microbial soil communities, to social relationships and markets, to our changing climate, and everything in between. Learn more and register [HERE](#). This conference can be attended in-person or virtually.

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:

Business Manager at Playa Lakes Joint Venture [PLJV](#) is looking for a [Business Manager](#), based in the Denver/Boulder area, to support the essential administrative functions of its business.

Grant Writer and Strategist at the Puget Sound Partnership the Washington State Governor's office is looking for a [Grant Writer and Strategist](#) for its Puget Sound Partnership- the position will provide the state, tribes, and local partners with technical assistance and the capacity regarding grants.

Climate Action Corpsmember at Mile High Youth Corps [Mile High Youth Corps](#) is hiring for multiple positions, including for a [Climate Action Corpsmember](#) at the Energy & Water Conservation program ([E&W](#)).

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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