Dear Partners in the Outdoors Conference Attendees,

It is hard to believe four months have passed since we gathered in Breckenridge to forge new and stronger connections as we began our efforts to Shift from Planning to Action for Colorado. The powerful messages presented by keynote speakers Dr. Carolyn Finney, Mahting Putelis, and Stacy Bare demonstrated points of collaboration and success, but also challenged our community to do more. Outdoor recreation and conservation has space for everyone, and your work and commitment to provide opportunities and access to the outdoors for all Coloradans is incredibly important and powerful. We recognize and appreciate this work as an integral part of our collective future.

Over the course of three days, we worked together to make our Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) a living blueprint for a better Colorado. We found common ground on the plan’s priorities of sustainable access and opportunity; stewardship; land, water and wildlife conservation; and funding the future. As we move forward, our charge is considering what we all can do to help further the SCORP’s goals. Continued conversations will help us fortify priorities and make the associated goals become our reality.

Our intention in planning the conference is providing the most relevant and practical breakout sessions that reflect the changing trends in our field, as well as the evolving interests and needs of our attendees. Thank you to our session organizers - your passion and dedication helps ensure the conference is not only informative and effective, but also enjoyable. Furthermore, your leadership advances the shared priorities of the Partners in the Outdoors program.

Conference attendance has steadily increased and we view this growth as a shared achievement. For instance, our 2019 conference hosted 573 attendees, up from 509 the year before. However, our goal is not just to build attendance, but to focus on how we continue to expand and strengthen partnerships after the conference. One way we accomplish this connection is the Partners in the Outdoors Grant Program, available to all participants after the conference. Fortunately, our higher attendance numbers translates into higher revenues and a greater case for sponsorships. This year, we awarded $60,000 in grants to 13 partner organizations, a $20,000 increase from 2018. This funding would not be possible without our sponsors, so thank you to our sponsoring organizations - your support of partnerships in Colorado is invaluable.

What does the future look like? Please save the date for next year’s conference, April 27-29, 2020. We plan to move to a larger facility, so stay tuned for an announcement on the new conference location and theme. We again look to you to provide top-notch, actionable sessions that help ensure the Colorado we know and love today endures for future generations.

Sincerely,

Dan Zimmerer
Statewide Partnership Coordinator
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
dnr_cpwpartners@state.co.us
Objective I: Break Down Barriers - Better understand and address barriers to engaging people in outdoor recreation. Enhance efforts to engage Coloradans who currently lack or have limited opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation.

Objective II: Technology Connects More People to the Outdoors - Advance easily accessible information that enhances user experience and offers tools to outdoor recreation providers.

Objective III: Private and Public Lands Support Outdoor Recreation - Develop strategies across Colorado to build support for sustainable outdoor recreation access. Advance Colorado the Beautiful vision that every Coloradan will live within 10 minutes of a park, trail or vibrant green space.

Objective I: Advance Landscape-scale Conservation - Work across jurisdictional and land ownership boundaries to plan for wildlife and natural resource conservation along with the growing demand for recreation access. Collaborate to tackle pressing and emerging issues and to identify and safeguard important areas for conservation, working lands and recreation access across the state.

Objective II: Address Recreation Impacts Proactively manage visitors and maintain infrastructure to provide positive outdoor recreation experiences while limiting resource impacts. Utilize best practices when developing new trails or other outdoor infrastructure.

Objective I: Build an Outdoor Stewardship Ethic - Foster awareness and experiences that build an ethic of stewardship and responsibility to care for natural and cultural resources and outdoor recreation infrastructure.

Objective II: Enhance Stewardship Capacity - Increase capacity of outdoor recreation providers, stewardship organizations and agencies to engage volunteers, employ youth and young adults, and enhance other types of support for on-the-ground, action-oriented stewardship activities.

Objective I: Build Support for Conservation Funding - Raise political and public awareness for the value of Colorado’s outdoors to Coloradans’ quality of life, economic prosperity, heritage and public and environmental health so that more people contribute funds to support outdoor recreation and conservation.

Objective II: Diversify and Expand Funding Source(s) - Identify and pursue new funds available to organizations and management agencies that directly benefit outdoor recreation and conservation of natural resources.

Help us shift from Planning to Action as we work to implement the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

For more information, including the full report, see coloradoscorp.org.

Interested in holding a pre-conference event, meeting or workshop?
Contact Dan Zimmerer at DNR_CPWPartners@state.co.us for more information. Many organizations utilize Pre-Conference time and space to host meetings or workshops and take advantage of the number of people that are attending the conference.

The following groups hosted Pre-Conference meetings this year:

- Children & Nature Network Natural Leaders Workshop
- Colorado Outdoor Partnership and Outdoor Recreation Office Advisory Council joint meeting
- Colorado Scenic Byways Program Meeting: Taking SCORP to action
- Friends of Colorado State Parks Rendezvous
- Hunting for Sustainability with Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Conference Kick Off

Forever Colorado Social
As the official opening event of the conference, attendees enjoyed local wild game, beef, and beverages, all in a relaxed setting. The Social is a perfect opportunity to network and foster new partnerships!

General Session

Conference kick-off SCORP Session
The Colorado Outdoor Partnership presented the priorities of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), led a collaborative workshop to advance the plan into action, and facilitated a next-step conversation. Participants connected with other organizations working on similar priorities and identified future opportunities to collaborate. The session wrapped-up by highlighting participant ideas on how to measure progress at the 2020 Partners in the Outdoors Conference.

Speakers from left to right: Jody Kennedy: Colorado Parks and Wildlife • Luis Benitez: VF Corporation • Dan Gates: Coloradans for Responsible Wildlife Management • Carlos Fernandez: The Nature Conservancy • Scott Segerstrom: Colorado Youth Corps • Allison Kincaid: Colorado Parks and Recreation Association
Carolyn Finney, PhD, storyteller, author and cultural geographer, spoke about her work on developing greater cultural competency within environmental organizations and institutions. Her talk addressed the legacy and contradictions of African-Americans in the outdoors. These contradictions inform the work that many of us are doing today concerning the restorative power of the landscape and any kind of environmental engagement for ALL people. Attendees were left with the following guiding questions: How do we reimagine the relationship between African Americans and the great outdoors within in the context of our complicated history? How do we support and promote greater representation of nature and people of color in our media and organizations? And how does privilege affect who gets to speak to environmental issues and determine policy and action?

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Carolyn Finney
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“I’m thinking about the issue of Justice - what it DEMANDS is total transformation. What a tremendous privilege and opportunity. And it is not without risk. And it’s not about being comfortable.”

~Dr. Carolyn Finney

In an effort to ensure our conference is representative of the perspectives of all Coloradans, Colorado Parks and Wildlife partnered with Great Outdoors Colorado and the Children and Nature Network’s Natural Leaders Program to bring a cohort of young professionals and students from diverse backgrounds to the conference. In addition, our Partnership Program and Careers and Workforce Development office provided scholarships to members of the Next 100 Coalition and other organizations working to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in Colorado.

Jeffrey VerSteeg, Acting Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, spoke about CPW’s efforts to advance outdoor recreation and conservation in Colorado, including our financial support of $30 million to 150 partner organizations.

Dan Gibbs, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, shared his vision for the department and Colorado’s outdoor future.

Chris Castallian, Executive Director, Great Outdoors Colorado, shared updates on grant projects being funded by GOCO.

CJ Goulding, Manager of Community Leadership Development, Children & Nature Network, spoke about the national network of leaders working to create equitable access to nature in their communities.

Len Necefer, Founder & CEO of Natives Outdoors, opened the conference with a powerful land acknowledgment, recognizing the native people who first lived on and cared for the land.

Chris Castallian, Executive Director, Great Outdoors Colorado, shared updates on grant projects being funded by GOCO.

Thank You US Forest Service! Keynote Sponsor

Tammy Whittington, Deputy Regional Forester, US Forest Service
As an adventurer, entrepreneur, photographer, mountain guide and educator, Mahting Putelis has spent his fair share of time outdoors. Mahting's talk focused on elevating the "conservation conversation." Mahting stated "Bikers are fishers, hunters are land stewards, runners are birders, and so on." Most people identify as more than just one recreation activity, so Mahting seeks to foster collaborative conversations across the varied sectors in the outdoors. To encourage dialogue, Mahting co-founded Hunt to Eat, a lifestyle apparel brand, where each item is designed as a conservation conversation starter.

“Hunt To Eat reflects our ethos, it’s not a new ethos it simply wasn’t being represented well. Hunt To Eat encompasses challenge, community, adventure, ecology, stewardship and more: it says that we are connected to our food and the animal it came from.”

- Mahting Puetlis

As a veteran of the Iraq war, Stacy shared his compelling story on the healing powers of the outdoors and the related importance of balancing conservation and recreation. His theme was that “YOU MATTER, what you do each and every day matters. It sets and grows the most effective foundation for a healthy, connected, dynamic, thriving community.” He emphasized that “there are other inputs equally as important for the health of a community and a nation—education, medical systems, clean air and water, plentiful food, etc. but here’s the thing—quality parks and recreation, thriving communities of wildlife, hunter and fishing education programs, healthy ranching, farming, and foraging all play a huge part in supporting each of those needs. What’s more, no matter your religious or scientific understanding of the awe-inspiring world and universe around us—we should all be able to agree that it started outside!”

“There are few things in the life of a state and nation more important than its parks and open space and the associated programming to make sure ALL people, not only have access to, but feel welcome, and not just use, but engage with and steward the land just as they should let the land steward them... because sometimes there are places we shouldn’t go in order to make sure those places can heal for countless future generations.”

- Stacy Bare
Morning Fresh Dairy & noosa yoghurt are committed to supporting the conservation of Colorado’s outdoors. They were heavily involved with improving Watson Lake State Wildlife Area through 100 hours of volunteer work. In addition, they provided a large donation to the fish passage project to improve angler access, develop educational materials, and connect previously fragmented river habitat.

ERBM has worked in partnership with CPW, the Town of Meeker, the local Lions Club, White River Electric Association and other business to promote local events such as Family Ice Fishing Day, Summer Kids Fishing Day and other fishing clinics. ERBM has also been part of the Circle Park Fish Pond project that will be completed this fall and bring more fishing opportunities to the families in the Meeker area.

Chico Basin Ranch is a cattle ranch with over 190,000 acres across two ranches. Their land management programs are exemplary, and the conservation partnerships they have cultivated are truly a model for aspiring land managers. CPW is proud of the collaborative partnership with Chico Basin Ranch that has enhanced CPW’s ability to educate our public, as well as manage and conserve wildlife in Southeast Colorado.

The Disabled Veterans Cow Elk Hunt Team has introduced hunting to 44 Veterans since 2007, which not only supports CPW’s mission, but more importantly helps give back confidence to our Veterans. The team is made up of passionate professionals and volunteers, each of whom has strengths and attributes that are needed to ensure participants feel safe, confident, and supported while hunting.

The Conservancy works closely with CPW on projects such as habitat protection, trail restorations, expanding acres of preserved river and offering fishing opportunities. The Conservancy was also part of the Chaffee County Tax Initiative, which provided $1,000,000+ of funding for conservation.
Balancing Outdoor Recreation and Conservation: A Timely Conversation

This session discussed the impact of Colorado’s growing population and how it will affect both recreation and conservation. Trail development on a landscape level is needed, instead of a regional focus. Action is also needed to monitor recreation impact with real data instead of anecdotal information. Ideas discussed included updates to the State Trails Policy, developing a master plan for trail-based recreation, and tightening regulations on seasonal trail closures.

Session Coordinator: Suzanna O’Neill, Colorado Wildlife Federation

Changing the Conversation: How Diversifying the Field Can Save our Sporting Heritage

In order to save Colorado’s sporting heritage, this session identified several ways to engage populations who have previously not been heavily involved in the sport. Tips discussed included focusing on conversation over debate when speaking with non-hunters; asking people about the barriers preventing them from hunting or fishing (instead of assuming what those barriers may be); and visiting the population you are trying to connect with rather than asking them to come to you.

Session Coordinator: Marcia Brownlee, Artemis

Connecting Transportation and Wildlife: Solutions for Ensuring the Safety of People and Wildlife on Colorado’s Roads

This session educated attendees on wildlife and transportation issues throughout Colorado and identified ways to get involved throughout the state. Ideas included measures that institutionalize wildlife considerations into transportation projects and building partnerships to protect wildlife movements across landscapes, all with the ultimate goal of reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions and maintaining wildlife populations.

Session Coordinator: Dean Riggs, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Conservation Easement: A New Method for Valuation

This round-table discussion focused on new methods for valuing conservation easements. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) is creating a Conservation Evaluation Review Tool (CERT), building a formula for alternative valuation using conservation values. CSU’s Ag and Resource Economics Department is developing the conversation also included updates on potential pilot projects with GOCO and other funding entities.

Session Coordinator: Erik Glenn, Colorado Cattleman’s Agricultural Land Trust
Help CPW Plan Your Next State Park
For the passage of the 2018 Hunting, Fishing and Parks for Future Generations Act, CPW identified 10 goals to reach by 2025, including pursuing Colorado’s next state park. The presenters shared draft, high-level criteria to evaluate a potential new parks or expand existing parks. Participants gave feedback regarding acquiring and developing new state parks through facilitated discussions.
Session Coordinator: Krista Heiner, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Higher Education Round-table: Career Pipelines, Equitable Opportunities and a Skilled Workforce
Speakers from Western State University, Colorado Mountain College and Colorado State University engaged stakeholders in a discussion regarding preparing the next generation of outdoor stewards. Topics covered included the pros and cons of working in the outdoor recreation/conservation fields, investing in masters programs, and recruiting under-represented groups into outdoor-related careers.
Session Coordinator: Dr. Rachel Polkrandt, Colorado Mountain College

Funding for Colorado’s Outdoor Future
Last year, CPW commissioned a study to explore potential funding mechanisms and reviewed findings with individuals and groups who recreate outdoors. The Colorado Outdoor Partnership (CO-OP) members and Meridian Institute led a dynamic discussion regarding ideas for ensuring long-term stable funding sources, such as the possibility of utilizing tax dollars or pursuing a new tax, raising awareness of the issue, engaging volunteers, and considering future administration of funds.
Session Coordinator: Robyn Paulekas, Meridian Institute

Keep Your On-Site Signage FRESH, Not FUNKY
This session provided an overview of the field’s historic undisciplined approach to visitor information signs. In the last 5 years, Jeffco has forged a new standard for visitor safety and natural resource protection communication. It’s critical to prioritize messages with what will actually influence visitors when designing new signs. Effective signage can help shape new norms and encourage sustainable visitor behaviors.
Session Coordinator: Alexis Sohlden, Jefferson County Open Space

Making Change from Change: How Community Fundraising Can Add Up
As people increasingly engage in outdoor activities, conservation and recreation budgets have not accommodated this demand. Participants discussed enlisting local businesses to participate in a “1% for Trails” donation initiative that turns user groups into regular contributors, engaging both locals and visitors. Community involvement can also help people feel ownership of nearby trails and open spaces, leading to more stewardship behaviors.
Session Coordinator: Ashlee Sack, Fremont Adventure Recreation

Making connections: The role of technology and outdoor recreation
This Integrating Research and Community Engagement presentation focused on understanding how technology might be used to enhance sustainable access and opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. An area growing in consideration is modernizing outdoor recreation to address changing demographics, notably digital natives, and making technology-based tools as usable as possible. The presentation included an overview of theory, teaching and learning practices, technology platforms, and implications for technology engagement in the outdoors.
Session Coordinator: Lincoln Davie, Metropolitan State University of Denver

Crowding, Congestion and Experiences: The Importance of Visitor Research in Recreation and Tourism Management
This session provided managers with examples of how visitor research is utilized in Colorado and across the Western U.S. to help solve management issues. Individuals considered how to start thinking about these issues, as well as how to continue monitoring management dilemmas into the future. Attendees also discussed identifying the process of data collection and how to interpret this data to move into action.
Session Coordinator: Jake Jorgensen, NRC Associates

Envision Chaffee County: Recreation Balance Initiative
Envision Recreation in Balance is a unique, community-driven program balancing sustainable solutions to the urgent challenge of rapid expansion in outdoor recreation with watershed health and stakeholder needs in Chaffee County. This session shared how systems can also be replicated in communities statewide.
Session Coordinator: Dominique Naccarato, Greater Arkansas River Nature Association

Partnering with NFWF and NFF to Advance Community Goals
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and National Forest Foundation (NFF) shared information on their programs and the funding needs of nonprofit and community organizations across CO. We need to work together to identify and advance innovative and successful funding opportunities. There is no silver bullet; developing funding to take action will require creativity and persistence.
Session Coordinators: Emily Olsen, NFF and Chris West, NFWF

Envision Recreation in Balance
10 MILES OF TRAIL MAINTAINED
35 PAID OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL YOUTH AGES 14-18
621 FEET² OF CROPS PLANTED
105 ACRES IMPROVED
1,067 FEET OF NEW TRAIL CONSTRUCTED
YEOUTH IMPACT
2018

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What are Benefits of Multiple-Use Recreation Areas?
- Make new friends
- Try new activities
- Bring youth together
- Lower costs
- Increased participation in sharing, safety and management
- Serve as examples of excellence
- Better conserved natural environment

Partnering with CO-OP members and Meridian Institute led a dynamic discussion regarding ideas for ensuring long-term stable funding sources, such as the possibility of utilizing tax dollars or pursuing a new tax, raising awareness of the issue, engaging volunteers, and considering future administration of funds.
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FOOTAGE FROM CO-OP MEMBERS & MERIDIAN INSTITUTE
Partnering With Public Health to Enhance the Outdoors for Everyone
Many communities across Colorado experience inequity in outdoor opportunity. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment discussed how to use public data to inform Park access. This session encouraged groups to engage with state and local agencies to access public data and shared how to implement relevant information to support priority area #1 of the SCORP.

Session Coordinator: Cate Townley, Colorado Department of Public Health

What is Public Health?
- Promote healthy living through policies and programs.
- Promote physical and behavioral health with an emphasis on health equity.
- Develop community-specific solutions to address prevention priorities.

Play On, Colorado! The Colorado Lottery and GOCO’s one-of-a-kind Partnership Provides a Steady Stream of Funding for Colorado’s Outdoors
The Colorado Lottery has provided more than $3.2 billion to Colorado’s outdoor recreation, conservation, and wildlife. The primary beneficiary, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), has invested more than $1.2 billion of proceeds in 5,200 conservation and outdoor recreation projects across all 64 counties, helping shape Colorado’s outdoor future. This critical partnership demonstrates something uniquely Colorado and we are fortunate to receive these funds!

Session Coordinator: Colin Waters, Colorado Lottery

Program Success and Beyond: the Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program
The Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program (CWHP) Committee and CPW staff provided an overview of the program, including conservation successes and information on the 2019 Request for Proposals. CWHP provides funds for conserving wildlife habitat across Colorado and is an important tool for accomplishing CPW’s mission of perpetuating wildlife resources. Looking to the future, presenters discussed how to expand the greater reach of Habitat Stamp dollars to fund on-the-ground habitat conservation and other public access projects.

Session Coordinator: Amanda Nims, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Realizing The Potential of the Outdoor Recreation Community to Advance Through Citizen Science
The session’s main theme was that citizen science can be a powerful tool that the recreation community can use to advance conservation through citizen science. Presenters shared information on the power of citizen science, including a variety of case studies where citizen science is being used to provide opportunities for recreational users to inform conservation, build a network of informed users who are committed to addressing the impacts of recreation, and facilitate collaboration to ensure recreation access while conserving land, water and wildlife.

Session Coordinator: Megan Mueller, Rocky Mountain Wild

CMC MOBILE APP
- Geo-located Point Data
- Drop-down surveys
- Photos
- Easy for Staff & Trained Volunteers
- Custom User Permissions
- Dashboards & Reporting

Recreation Impact Monitoring: A Data Analytics Approach to Land Management
This session provided a overview of Colorado Mountain College’s Recreation Impact Monitoring System (RIMS) and mobile app, a program parks will have the opportunity to test this summer. Once RIMS is tested and ready to implement, it will provide more comprehensive visitor use monitoring. This system will help predict impacted areas and influence land management decisions, particularly as the demand for recreation continues to increase.

Session Coordinator: Julie Mach, Colorado Mountain Club

Save All The Pieces: A New Paradigm in Landscape Scale Conservation
This session shared information about the million-acre Roaring Fork Watershed and how it supports important biodiversity. Recommended methods of conservation for areas similar to the Roaring Fork included securing nonpartisan funding to keep data and research unbiased. Participants also discussed the importance of working for the land and not letting jurisdictional borders create real barriers. Process should not get in the way of outcomes; acknowledge why we should work together and invest in each others’ successes.

Session Coordinator: Tom Cardamone, Watershed Biodiversity Initiative

Reflecting Your Community Within Your Organization
Colorado’s population is growing and diversifying; therefore it is crucial organizations seek ways to include all members of their community. This session highlighted ways to involve groups in the outdoors who may historically have felt excluded. Consider identifying the population and demographics your organization would like to attract, as well as the barriers they might face. True inclusivity is making others feel included without having to assimilate.

Session Coordinator: Michelle Seubert, Colorado Parks and Wildlife & Shereen Fink, DEI Council of Brighton

Shaping Colorado’s Stewardship Future
Participants discussed current events and trends occurring in the field that will shape the future of stewardship of Colorado’s Public Lands. Stewardship is a focus for many organizations and has sparked a variety of new programs, such as the launch of Generation Wild, and Colorado Mountain College adding stewardship to its outdoor program curriculum. We can work together to promote stewardship and build lasting connections between people and nature that leads to a more powerful and sustainable stewardship ethic.

Session Coordinator: Anna Zawisza, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
So You Want To Be an Ally?: Allyship in Support of a More Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Space
The Next 100 Coalition hosted this session in response to feedback from many organizations who would like to become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive. They addressed challenges and opportunities and left participants with tangible next steps to move toward more equitable practices in their organizations. The Coalition both shared and modeled good allyship practices and invited participants to discuss their own ideas.
Session Coordinator: Kristina Opre, Environmental Learning for Kids and Next 100 Coalition

Social Marketing and Demarketing to Support Advocacy and Management Organizations
By applying the skills of de-marketing and social marketing, managers and organizations can promote conservation behavior change. Examples included how to engage audiences and communicate messages via signage or other outlets. Participants discussed case studies from the industry and focused on practical application rather than theory.
Session Coordinator: Dr. Scott Borden, Western Colorado University

Successful Collaborative Efforts In Outdoor Recreation and Sustainable Tourism
Representatives from different entities shared their experiences in developing collaborative partnership structures. Strategies include prioritizing projects and efforts, designing methods and sharing stewardship principles for sustainable tourism, and developing funding mechanisms. Success demands we work together; we must be willing to step out of silos, let go of historic conflicts, and find workable and collaborative solutions. We must understand each community has different pressures and challenges, as well as be flexible and adaptable in efforts and visions.
Session Coordinator: John Messner, Gunnison County

Take a Walk, Bike, or Boat on the Wild Side: How Wildlife Laws Affect Recreation Management
Permit processes are more efficient when people understand relevant legal requirements and work with land and wildlife managers on recreation proposals early in the process. Commit time and energy early in the process to identify potential impacts on wildlife, gather data, and develop ways to address issues. Be familiar with the legal obligations and constraints the permitting agencies work under to expedite an effective process.
Session Coordinator: Bob Randall, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell

You are a Natural Resources Career Influencer!
Career influencers provide opportunities, education, and training to support career development for youth, from early childhood to young adults. This session provided strategies for engaging all ages in the Natural Resources Career Field, such as including career conversations when teaching, offering job-shadowing opportunities, reducing barriers for entry level jobs, increasing access to information, and leading or attending environmental stewardship programs.
Session Coordinator: Katie Novin, Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education

Taking Care of Our Roots: The Culture of Indigenous and Community Stewardship
The Children and Nature Network hosted a diverse group of young leaders who shared their experiences and facilitated the session. As the first caretakers of this land, indigenous communities have beliefs and practices that could inspire a stronger, more inclusive SCORP.
Session Coordinator: CJ Goulding, Children & Nature Network

Unexpected Partnerships and Innovative Initiatives- Engaging the Next Generation of Outdoor Leaders
Colorado Mountain Club and Colorado School of Mines partnered via The Wright Outdoor Industry Campus Innovation Challenge to address inspiring more diverse representation outdoor to both protect the environment and enhance outdoor user experience. Recognizing issues of overcrowding and systems that do not facilitate growth and sustainability, this non-traditional challenge brings together entrepreneurial problem-solvers from varied backgrounds to address pressing challenges within the outdoor recreation industry. Three areas of focus included, Conservation, Stewardship & Sustainability; Innovative Technologies & Materials; and Accessibility, Health & Wellness.
Session Coordinator: Chuck Sullivan, Something Independent

Want to start a Latino Family Outdoor Education Program?
This session focused on Cal-Wood Education Center’s successful Latino Family Camp Program. This program, begun in 2014, hosts 16 camps per year reaching over 800 family members. Cal-Wood invited others to start a program of their own and shared their best practices to ensure success.
Session Coordinator: Rafael Salgado, Cal-Wood Education Center

Whose Land is it Anyway: Underrepresented Stories from the State We All Love
This story-based session acknowledged listening to and respecting others’ stories, particularly those from the people who came before us. Attendees discussed how understanding the diversity of past and present experiences on the lands we share can help inform meaningful conservation and access for all.
Session Coordinator: Mallory Huggins, Keystone Policy Center and Next 100 Coalition
2019 Grant Recipients

- **Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust:** Each year, the Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust presents the Leopold Conservation Award to Private Land Owners who have performed outstanding work in land conservation. They will use funds to host a Ranch Field Day, utilizing the experience and knowledge from those who have practiced conservation for many years to inspire and extend information to land owners interested in furthering their conservation efforts.

- **Colorado Mountain Club:** The Colorado Mountain Club (CMC) has developed a Recreation Impact Monitoring System (RIMS) that collects and analyzes data on trail maintenance needs, dispersed campsite proliferation, and visitor use. CMC will use grant funds to train and deploy the RIMS to over 20 organizations for help testing the system.

- **Colorado Outdoor Health Collaborative:** The CO Outdoor Health Collaborative is working to advance statewide awareness, accessibility, and effectiveness of outdoor recreation health advocacy programs, such as ParkRx, NatureRX and RecRx. Grant funding will help improve health in nature by working across healthcare, insurance, recreation, and stewardship sectors, resulting in long-term professional and civic stewards of the great outdoors.

- **Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association (COPMOBA):** COPMOBA is working with the Bureau of Land Management to complete 7.5 miles of non-motorized trails in the Buzzard Gulch Trail System. This trail is designed for hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, and trail runners, and will include the relocation of the Spring Canyon Trailhead to alleviate traffic congestion near private homes and accommodate increased usage.

- **Crested Butte Land Trust:** Crested Butte Land Trust’s Slate River Working Group is addressing management issues between recreation, private property and natural resource protection entities, as the great blue heron colony on the Slate River is being impacted by the river's growing use. This grant will fund a study to observe and document the herons’ life history, breeding phenology, population demography, and responses to human activities.

- **Crested Butte Land Trust:** Crested Butte Land Trust is working to advance work for their Latino Family Camp program. Cal-Wood engages low-income Latino families to grow and diversify the community of Coloradans that support natural resource protection and stewardship. They will use grant funds to support an expansion of the program to help other organizations across the state implement a similar Latino Family Camp program of their own.

- **Climbers for Bat Conservation, Colorado State University, Colorado Natural Heritage Program:** Climbers for Bat Conservation (CBC) is a climber-led program to better understand and conserve bat populations through building a network of climbers, land managers and biologists. The CBC project supports continent-wide conservation goals by identifying natural roosting habitats, identify areas where conservation is most needed, and monitor bat populations for threats like white-nose syndrome.

- **Friends of Roxborough:** Roxborough State Park is the first park in Colorado to achieve the Leave No Trace GoldStandard recognition. Roxborough is a leader in teaching Leave No Trace principles and mitigating other impacts of recreation in the park, such as social trail use. This grant allows Roxborough to create a toolkit for other state parks wanting to implement Leave No Trace; for example, Castlewood Canyon State Park is working with Roxborough to implement and gain the Gold Standard recognition by the end of 2019.

- **Groundwork Denver:** Groundwork Denver is a youth-serving organization that works in Denver's low-income areas to provide job training and leadership and other skills development. Groundwork Denver will use this grant to partner with Mile High Youth Corps to provide youth an outdoor service learning experience at Lincoln Hills. The participants will learn about outdoor sustainable food sources (e.g. hydroponics farming), natural resource management, water stewardship, and civic engagement.

- **JeffCo Open Space:** Jefferson County Human Services caseworkers created the JeffCo Outdoor Adventure Club to provide experiences in the outdoors for children from troubled homes, with the ultimate goal of inspiring lifelong positive relationships with nature, adult role models, and authority figures. The program has grown to provide fishing opportunities and gear; educational opportunities, such as Jeffco history and forest and water health; and an introduction to career opportunities. This grant will support volunteer caseworkers leading hikes and provide gear, such as backpacks, ponchos, lunches, journals and other equipment.

- **Lincoln Hills Cares:** Lincoln Hills Cares is one of the first vacation resorts west of the Mississippi that opened to African-Americans. Today, Lincoln Hills stays true to its roots and continues to provide opportunities for those who may face economic or social barriers. This grant allows Lincoln Hills Cares to provide educational and career development for high school students, college freshmen, and upper year college students.

- **Metro Denver Nature Alliance:** Metro Denver Nature Alliance (MDNA) is working with Southwest Denver Coalition to bring Safe Summer Kick-Off days. The region around Southwest Denver is under-served and under-invested in, leading to crime, lack of safe school routes, and insufficient parks and recreation infrastructure. Safe Summer Kick-Off Days will reach more than 5,000 members of the community and provide outreach materials, such as fishing poles, maps, and printed guides/fliers in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese, the third most common language in Southwest Denver.

- **The Trust for Public Land:** The Trust for Public Land is partnering with The Nature Conservancy to protect the 30 square mile property surrounding Fishers Peak in Trinidad. Before opening to the public, they need to complete ecological and economic benefits studies. Other considerations include engaging the local community in planning and political outreach. When open for recreation, the property will offer hiking, biking, fishing, camping, climbing, and snowshoeing.

- **Trips for Kids:** Is working to advance work for their Latino Family Camp program. Cal-Wood engages low-income Latino families to grow and diversify the community of Coloradans that support natural resource protection and stewardship. They will use grant funds to support an expansion of the program to help other organizations across the state implement a similar Latino Family Camp program of their own.

Through our Partners in the Outdoors efforts, we were able to give out $60,000 in grants this year to the following organizations. Since the inception of the conference we have given out over $180,000 in grants.
These principles help Shape How we Invest For Tomorrow (SHIFT). They are based on the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and represent an effort to further refine an outdoor ethic that promotes both recreational enjoyment and thoughtful conservation of Colorado's special places.

More detailed information can be found at: copartnership.org/colorado-outdoor-principles

We invite you to sign on to adopt the Colorado Outdoor Principles, which can be found on the CO-OP web page.
Almost all Coloradans recreate outdoors. The most popular activities are walking and hiking followed by picnicking, camping and fishing.

Findings are based on The 2017 Economic Contributions of Outdoor Recreation in Colorado report by Southwick Associates. The level of participation and activity days are based on a 2018 CPW study that surveyed 7,000 Coloradans. Learn more at coloradoscorp.org. Figures differ from the Outdoor Industry Association whose reporting focuses on backcountry outdoor recreation. These findings include contributions of all outdoor recreation, including local community activities such as walking on neighborhood trails, visiting a playground, and playing team sports.

Over the past 5 years, the economic contribution of outdoor recreation in Colorado nearly doubled. Jobs in this sector grew by 63%. Wages & salaries in this sector increased by 75%.
Our common ground

Colorado is home to 41 state parks, more than 310 state wildlife areas, 39,000 miles of trails and over 23 million acres of public lands to roam free. This land is your land, we’re all the caretakers.

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