

COLORADO PARKS & WILDLIFE

# Post-Conference Report

2020 PARTNERS IN THE OUTDOORS CONFERENCE



# Partners in the Outdoors

Dear Partners in the Outdoors Conference Attendees,

Things were a little different this year. We didn't get to share stories in the hallways, shake hands while networking, or spend three days together in Vail. Rather, many of us found ourselves working from home, staying six feet apart, and learning to use a variety of virtual platforms. However, the current situation presented new opportunities and allowed us to extend our reach beyond the physical walls of a conference venue.



The Partners in the Outdoors community met via Zoom over the course of eight weeks as we participated in webinars and listened to podcast and video messages from our own homes. We engaged in meaningful conversations in breakout rooms and chat boxes, and learned valuable lessons from our many partner-led session presentations. We also expanded our community to include new faces and new organizations reaching 1,265 individuals representing over 375 different organizations in Colorado and beyond!

Our [21 webinars](#) explored the conference theme and guiding question: How can we find common ground as we work to explore the complicated relationship between outdoor recreation and conservation in Colorado? The powerful messages presented by our keynote speakers [Dan Prenzl](#), [Rachel VandeVoort](#) and [Gabe Vasquez](#) demonstrated points of success in balancing conservation and recreation and making the outdoors accessible to all people, while challenging our community to do more.

While this year's conference was like never before, it reinforced that the collaboration between organizations and the relationships built are integral aspects of our shared work. The Partners in the Outdoors program would like to extend a big thank you to our many sponsors, presenters, planning committee members, and attendees for their support and efforts to make the virtual program a success! I'd also like to recognize our [Partner of the Year Award](#) recipients who are doing outstanding work to advance the priority areas identified in Colorado's [Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan](#).

So what does the future look like? We hope to be able to meet in-person, but will be planning accordingly with everyone's health and safety as our top priorities. Please save the date for next year's conference, April 19-21 in Vail, and stay tuned for further announcements on the 2021 conference. We will again look to you, our partners, to provide top-notch, actionable sessions that help ensure the Colorado we know and love today endures for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Zimmerer".

Dan Zimmerer  
Statewide Partnership Coordinator  
Colorado Parks and Wildlife



Dan Zimmerer

# Thank You Sponsors!

## Platinum



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## Gold



## Silver



## Contributing



# Colorado's SCORP

For more information, including the full report, see [coloradoscorp.org](http://coloradoscorp.org)

## Working Together to Advance the Priority Areas in our Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

**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: 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.

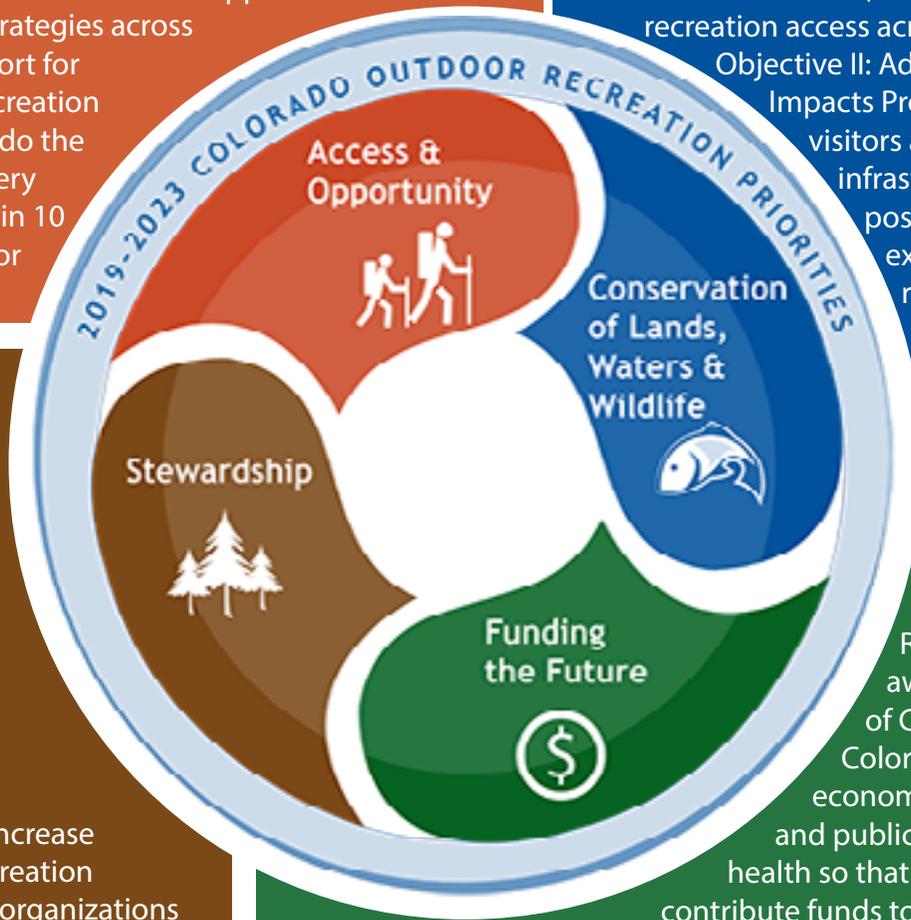
**Objective II: Enhance Stewardship Capacity** Increase capacity of outdoor recreation providers, stewardship organizations and agencies to engage volunteers, employ youth and young adults, and enhance other types of support for on-the-ground, action-oriented stewardship activities.

**Objective I: 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 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 benefits outdoor recreation and conservation of natural resources.



# Welcome Address

Listen to the [welcome address](#) from Dan Gibbs, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources.



*“How often can we combine the agriculture community, the recreation community, the conservation community, the wildlife advocates, the outfitters? All those different folks that come together to collaborate on big picture challenges in the state of Colorado. Stewardship of our natural resources is not just for one entity to take on alone. We all have to work together.*

*Thank you to all our partners for working together on this!”*

# Keynote Speakers



## **Keynote Speakers on Mountain & Prairie Podcast**

Thanks to our partnership with Mountain & Prairie, and host Ed Roberson, we are pleased to bring you podcast interviews with our Keynote Speakers. Recognized by the Aspen Institute, High Country News, and other notable organizations, the Mountain & Prairie Podcast features substantive, long-form interviews with innovators of the American West.

Podcast interviews featured [Dan Prenzlou](#), Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife; [Rachel VandeVoort](#), Director of Montana's Office of Outdoor Recreation; and [Gabe Vasquez](#), Founder of the Nuestra Tierra Conservation Project. Episodes can be found on Apple, Spotify, Google Play, and Stitcher by searching for Mountain & Prairie, or on [Mountain & Prairie's website](#).



## Keynote Speaker: Dan Prenzl

Dan Prenzl is the Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW). Dan started with the agency back in 1986 as a District Wildlife Manager and steadily worked his way through the ranks, assuming the role of Director in the spring of 2019. Born and raised in Colorado, Dan has had a lifelong love of recreating in the state's open spaces and wild places, and he has devoted his entire career toward protecting and managing them for the benefit of present and future generations.

Dan and host Ed Roberson spend the first half of the conversation discussing some of the specifics around CPW—the organization's history, the success of the Partners in the Outdoors Conference, CPW's important role in private land conservation, and CPW's role as a national leader in balancing conservation and recreation. During the second half of the conversation, they discuss Dan's personal backstory—why he decided to pursue public service as a career, his family's long history of service-minded work, and how he worked his way up to the role of Director. Dan also shares many valuable leadership lessons, including the importance of humility, empathy, and surrounding yourself with a strong team. [Listen to the podcast episode.](#)



*“Coloradans have a rich outdoor heritage that involves living life outside and coexisting with wildlife in their natural habitats. As our populations increase and more people are getting outdoors than ever before, we have to proactively think about our impacts on natural resources and state lands. These resources are the foundation of our strong economy and deserve our collaboration and investment.”*



## Keynote Speaker: Rachel VandeVoort

Rachel VandeVoort is the Director of the Montana Office of Outdoor Recreation, an office that advocates for the outdoor recreation industry and works to leverage its numerous benefits to the state. The office was created in 2016 by Montana's Governor who quickly tapped Rachel to be its first director. Since then, the office has experienced amazing growth in influence and effectiveness, and it has served as a shining example for other states. A native Montanan, Rachel grew up working for her family's river guiding business in and around Whitefish, MT and also spent time as a fishing guide. After graduating from the University of Montana, she worked in a wide variety of industries that are closely connected with land and recreation, including organic farming, skiing, and firearms manufacturing.

Rachel and host Ed Roberson discuss the history of Rachel's job, the staggering positive economic impacts of the outdoor industry, and ideas around funding conservation through recreation now and into the future. Rachel shares some thoughts on finding common ground among competing stakeholders, the importance of understanding history in the West, and the collaborative nature of the outdoor recreation industry.

[Listen to the podcast episode.](#)



*“Whether it’s the ski industry, guns, fly fishing, rafting, we’re all a part of the same thing and we all rely on the same thing to do what we’re doing...If we can elevate that conversation and really look at this from one community, that is where we can have an impact that affects all of us in a positive way.”*



## Keynote Speaker: Gabe Vasquez

Gabe Vasquez is the founder of the Nuestra Tierra Conservation Project and currently serves as a city councilor in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Gabe has devoted his entire career to advocacy and conservation, specifically for the people and places in the border region of New Mexico. He's worked for Senator Martin Heinrich, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, and recently drafted New Mexico's Outdoor Equity Fund legislation, which was the first of its kind in the nation. Growing up in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Gabe developed a childhood passion for the outdoors while fishing with his father and learning about hunting from his grandfather. Gabe has made it his mission to ensure that people of all socio-economic backgrounds and races can enjoy the outdoors, and hopefully, become advocates for protecting our country's wild places.

Gabe and host Ed Roberson chatted about the formation of the Nuestra Tierra Conservation Project, and the history and mission of the organization. Gabe then discussed lessons learned from his time working with Senator Heinrich, and how a brief stint living and working in Washington DC solidified his love for the West. They discuss New Mexico's Outdoor Equity Fund, and how Gabe played a significant role in creating this historic and cutting-edge, public-private program. They talk in-depth about the importance of getting kids into the outdoors, and the idea of how people need to fall in love with the outdoors before they can advocate for it. [Listen to the podcast episode.](#)

*“Public lands aren't important until everyone gets to enjoy them.”*





Thank You Platinum and Audio/Visual Sponsors!



## Partners in the Outdoors is still on Attendify!

All webinars were recorded and are posted on [Attendify](#)! Check out the sessions you may have missed or would like to revisit.



1. Search "Attendify" in the App Store or Google Play Store
2. Create a login and search "Partners in the Outdoors 2020"
3. Find webinar recordings on the schedule tab



# Partner Awards

Colorado Parks and Wildlife recognizes organizations that are doing integral work to advance and balance conservation and recreation in Colorado. We present these awards to those who display outstanding efforts in support of Colorado's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), and Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW) Strategic Plan. This year we presented our Partner of the Year Awards via a virtual ceremony. Congratulations to this year's winners!

## Statewide Partner of the Year

### Children & Nature Network, Natural Leaders Initiative

The Children and Nature Network's (C&NN) Natural Leaders Initiative has been instrumental in CPW's ability to build the leadership capacity and engagement of young diverse leaders in Colorado. Through a multi-year partnership, C&NN has served as a strategic partner regarding youth engagement at our Partners in the Outdoors Conference. They have provided professional development and leadership to allow cohorts of youth to connect with professionals in the outdoor and natural resource management industry in meaningful ways.



### The nominees included:

- Big Thompson Watershed Coalition
- Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company
- Colorado Marine Dealers Association
- Colorado Springs Utilities
- Friends of Roxborough State Park
- Girl Scouts of Colorado
- Lake City Friends of the Bears
- Outdoor Buddies
- Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance
- Summit County Safe Passages



## Statewide Partner Collaboration of the Year

Great Outdoors Colorado, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, The City of Trinidad, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

As you cross into Colorado from New Mexico on I-25, one of the first things you see is Fishers Peak. This iconic mountain is located on a 30-square-mile property just outside the City of Trinidad and is the symbol of the community. Thanks to a unique partnership among Great Outdoors Colorado, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, the City of Trinidad and Colorado Parks and Wildlife, this property will become Colorado's next state park thus providing public access while protecting it for future generations.



The nominees included:

- Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, Black Canyon Audubon, Friends of Ridgway State Park
- Buckhorn Valley Metro District, Trout Unlimited, Eagle River Watershed Council
- Colorado Springs Utilities, City of Aurora, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Arkansas River Outfitters Association, American Whitewater, Colorado Whitewater, Colorado Parks and Wildlife



## Northwest Region Partner of the Year

### Summit County Safe Passages



Summit County Safe Passages is a diverse, community-based collaboration working toward a vision of balancing wildlife needs with a growing human population that lives, travels and recreates in Summit County. The team is working towards creating safe passage for both wildlife and people along our roadways by identifying key movement corridors for wildlife and prioritizing safety for motorists. The community support behind this partnership reflects a shared passion to conserve our wildlife and create safer highways for all.

The nominees included:

- Buckhorn Valley Metro District
- Glas Deffryn Ranch
- Steamboat Art Museum
- VanWinkle Ranch

## Northeast Region Partner of the Year

### Big Thompson Watershed Coalition



Since the floods of 2013 the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition has been not only an invaluable partner to CPW in stream restoration and riparian health but has been a true community leader bringing together essential stakeholders to care for and improve the natural resources of the watershed. These stakeholders include municipal water suppliers, agricultural producers, habitat advocates, and government agencies who have successfully worked together to plan and fund several river projects.

The nominees included:

- Chatfield Reservoir Mitigation Company
- Environmental Learning for Kids
- Friends of Roxborough State Park
- The Clinton Family Fund



## Southwest Region Partner of the Year

### Durango Wildlife Volunteers



This organized group of volunteers has continually partnered with CPW to educate over 250,000 visitors at CPW's Wildlife Museum in Durango about Colorado's wildlife and ecosystems. The Durango Wildlife Museum Volunteers provide a public service and outreach that would not be possible with staff time and resources, making it an essential natural resource education program for CPW. The volunteers provide exceptional customer service and have recorded over 14,000 volunteer hours, equivalent to 6.7 full time employees.

The nominees included:

- Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
- Garvey Brothers Outfitters
- Lake City Friends of the Bears

## Southeast Region Partner of the Year

### Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance



Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance (PPORA) is a collaborative of businesses, non-profits, and government agencies who recognize the value of our region's incredible natural and recreational resources to our community, both as an economic driver and for our health and well-being. PPORA is led by a Board and Advisory Council consisting of outdoor industry and community leaders. Their goal is to shape the future of outdoor recreation in the Pikes Peak Region so that the region is known as THE place for outdoor recreation.

The nominees included:

- Chaffee County
- Colorado Springs Utilities
- Friends of Cheyenne Mountain State Park



# Thank You Gold Level Sponsors!



# Session Summaries

## Understanding Trail Users' Needs and Behaviors in a COVID-19 World

The world has shifted, and with it so have the needs and expectations of trail users when seeking information, and the needs of land managers in communicating information. Listen to this discussion about the results of recent surveys conducted by Leave No Trace surrounding changing trail user needs and behaviors, and how we can address these emerging needs using technology like COTREX's new Land Manager Dashboard and other best practices. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Alex Alma - Colorado Department of Natural Resources*

*Speakers: Ben Lawhon - Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, Joe O'Brien - Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Kristin Powell - City of Fort Collins Natural Areas*



## How Might We Plan Trails and Protect Wildlife?

How can recreation enthusiasts design trails that do not harm the well-being of wildlife? Colorado Parks and Wildlife is currently leading a task force of stakeholders from several agencies to review and rewrite the "Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind" document from the late 90s, and we need your help to ensure that we're including key best practices. Listen to this session to hear updates about the project and to contribute your voice. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Fletcher Jacobs - Colorado Parks and Wildlife*

*Speakers: Matt Gray - Rocky Mountain Innovation Lab, Kris Middendorf - Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Jack Placchi - Bureau of Land Management, Amy Schwarzbach - City of Durango*

## An Idea Worth Sharing, A Mission Worth Joining

If there ever was a time to be outdoors, it's now. Whether you're from a nonprofit, government entity, or business, learn how you can join in on an idea that's changing the future for an entire generation of Colorado kids. Generation Wild, an innovative movement launched by Great Outdoors Colorado to connect youth and families to the outdoors, shared inspiring new messaging to rally us together and lift us up during these times. Listen to this session to hear how Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado is driving the movement, inspiring the next generation of stewards, and helping Coloradans protect our treasured outdoor spaces. Leave with your own fresh messaging ideas and actionable ways to join the movement. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Rosemary Dempsey - Great Outdoors Colorado*

*Speakers: Jackie Miller - Great Outdoors Colorado, Mike Sukle - Sukle Advertising & Design, Anna Zawisza - Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado*



## Creating a Youth-Driven Process

Recruit and Create Youth Advisory Council

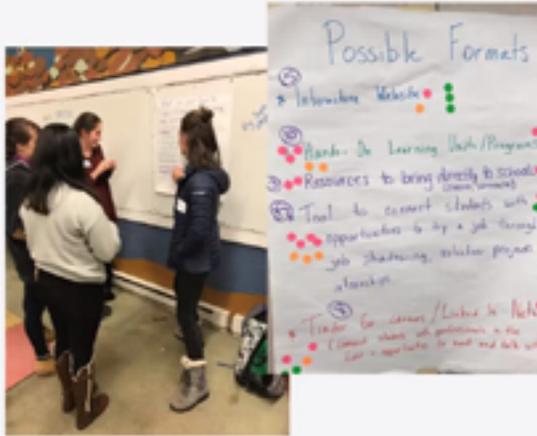
Brainstorm Ideas

Small Groups Explore three possibilities

Develop Presentations

Get Feedback

Design and Develop



## Creating Pathways to Natural Resource Careers: By Youth and For Youth

How can we build youth awareness of the variety of opportunities to build a career in Natural Resources? Ask young people! Learn from Youth Advisory Council members and partners on their work designing a new resource for high school students to explore natural resource careers. Learn more about the ideas generated and add your input and ideas for how natural resource employers, youth outdoor programs, and more can use this resource. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator:*

*Katie Navin - Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education*

*Speakers: Lisa Eadens - Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education, Scott Segerstrom - Colorado Youth Corps Association*

## Get Colorado Kids Outside: Policies for Youth Outdoor Engagement

Learn about and contribute to policy ideas that support the next generation of Coloradans' connection to the outdoors. We shared and discussed policy ideas that are in the works in Colorado, including those that support equitable access, encourage outdoor activities in and out of school, and strengthen environmental education. This session also shared ideas from the Youth Outdoor Policy Playbook and inspiring state policies ideas from other states. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Robyn Paulekas - Meridian Institute*

*Speakers: Noé Orgaz - Conservation Colorado, Tony Lewis - Donnell-Kay Foundation, Katie Navin - Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education*

## Mean(ingful) Tweets: Public Lands Edition

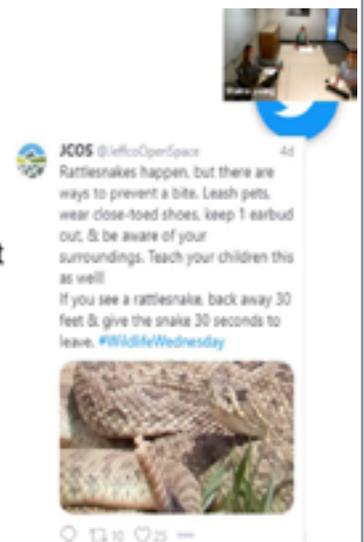
Rogue Open Space Parks, Fat Bear Week...Social Media has our attention! How can we translate our personal relationship with these channels into that of a land agency? With over 1M social media impressions annually, JeffCo Communications and Ranger Teams offered ideas about harnessing the power of social media for good. Share ideas for engaging a bigger, more diverse audience through lessons learned and enjoy some mean tweets along the way. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Shaina Young - Jefferson County Open Space*

*Speakers: Mary Ann Bonnell - Jefferson County Open Space, Shaun Howard -*

## Types of Posts

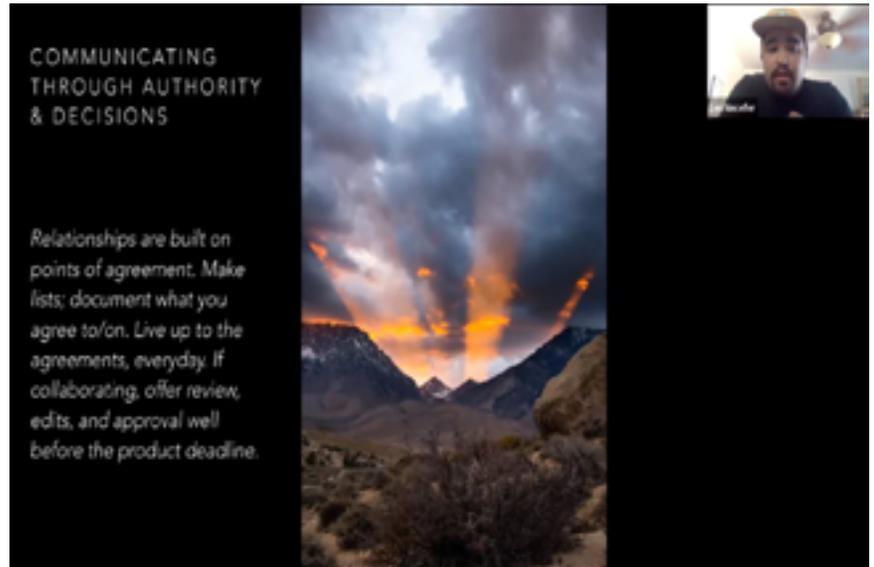
- Trail reports and conditions
- Closures, limited access
- Parking lot status with alternative park to visit
- Weather conditions
- Educational and informative
- Safety messages
- Wildlife messages/photos



## Working with Tribes: A Framework for Building Productive and Respectful Relationships

This session provided a deeper and nuanced understanding of best practices for working with tribes including the role of history, trust building, protocols for respect and community, and tribal sovereignty. Whether you represent a non-profit organization, a business, or a governmental agency, you will find this session valuable if you are looking at building working and productive relationships with tribes. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Len Necefer - Natives Outdoors*



## RIMS Mobile App: Year 1 Data and Analytics on Recreation & Impact Monitoring

The Colorado Mountain Club RIMS mobile app allows volunteers and land managers to collect data on trail infrastructure, camping impacts, and visitor use on public lands. With a year's worth of data and lessons learned, we shared compelling metrics as we continue to refine and customize our analytics and reporting capabilities. Check out the new features we are releasing in 2020 and find out how your organization can get involved. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Julie Mach - Colorado Mountain Club*

*Speakers: Norman Reitter - CANA Advisors and CANA Foundation*

## Envision Recreation in Balance: Community-Driven Solutions to Manage Recreation Growth in Balance with Healthy Forests, Waters and Wildlife

Envision Recreation in Balance is developing community solutions to manage recreation growth and sustain healthy forests; waters, wildlife and working lands; exceptional experiences; and a recreation-driven economy. Learn about transferable approaches: Envision engagement, the Common Ground county tax, a Recreation Impact Monitoring App, Recreation Atlas, Rapid Response projects, and a developing community recreation plan. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Cindy Williams - Envision Chaffee County and Chaffee County Common Ground Fund*

*Speakers: Ben Lara - United States Forest Service, Dominique Naccarato - Greater Arkansas River Nature Association*

## Goals & Facts: The Rec Report Card



## Hunting for Sustainability: Recruiting A New Generation of Conservation Minded Hunters

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA) discussed their Hunting for Sustainability Program and highlighted a recent weekend seminar that introduced 12 participants, ranging from CPW Commissioners and college students, to our hunting heritage. This session highlighted how BHA successfully engages diverse groups of people, spurring a new generation of conservation-minded hunters by emphasizing integral partnerships, volunteers, and sponsors. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Brien Webster - Backcountry Hunters & Anglers*

*Speakers: Taishya Adams - Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Leslie Kaminski - Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Eden Vardy - Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Gabby Zaldumbide - Wildlife Management Institute, Adam Gall - Timber to Table Guide Service, Andrew Taylor - Colorado Parks and Wildlife*



## Increase Your Organization's Impact through AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps provides people power to organizations that address community needs throughout Colorado. This session provided an overview of AmeriCorps and engaged participants in finding ways to get involved in national service. Hear from current AmeriCorps programs and learn about how AmeriCorps could support your community-based work. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Sarah Lyke - AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps*

*Speakers: Danny Fisher - Serve Colorado, Courtney Geib - Corporation for National and Community Service, Brandon Watkins - Colorado Youth Corps Association*

## What Has Private Land Conservation Done For You Lately? Success Stories of Land Trust Partnerships and Public Benefits

From holding conservation easements on public open space to assisting with land acquisitions to providing environmental education programs to increasing public access on private property, Colorado's land trust community is working hard to increase conservation efforts that benefit everyone. This panel discussion explored successful partnerships with land trusts across the state that have resulted in public and private land conservation meaning more public benefit. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Melissa Daruna - Keep It Colorado*

*Speakers: Libby Collins - Colorado West Land Trust, Noel Durant - Crested Butte Land Trust, Jessica Foulis - Eagle Valley Land Trust, Dave Erickson - Aspen Valley Land Trust*



## Best Practices for Partnering with Land Managers To Develop New Recreation Opportunities

Public land managers want to be responsive to proposals from local partners, user groups, and communities for new trails, facilities, and opportunities, but are also responsible for making sure projects adhere to laws, regulations, and policies. These include the National Environmental and Policy Act, Tribal Consultations, and Resource Management Plan decisions. They must also take into account long term maintenance plans, cultural resources requirements, timelines, impacts to grazing allotments, budget realities, and other mandated reviews for analysis. Learn best practices for partnering with land managers in this session.

[Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Jack Placchi - Bureau of Land Management*

*Speakers: Pete Baier - Mesa County, Bob Morris - Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Chris Pipkin - Bureau of Land Management, Scott Winans - Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association*

## The Need for a Trail Development Process:

1. Respond to demand
2. Educate trail enthusiasts
3. Ensure new trails:
  - Provide high-quality opportunities
  - Protect resources
  - Support planning objectives



## Diversifying Community Engagement in Conservation Through Film

This session explored the use of film in engaging diverse user groups and communities in conservation and climate change issues through a film screening and panel discussion. Two of Hispanic Access Foundation's recent films, *I Am Cheo* and *Leche Y Miel*, were played. In response to the films, a panel featuring experts discussed the Colorado Water Plan, wildfire, climate change, and Latino engagement in these issues, and was facilitated by Hispanic Access Foundation staff. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Jessica Godinez - Hispanic Access Foundation*

*Speakers: Shley Suarez-Burgos - Filmmaker, Noé Orgaz - Conservation Colorado, Fay Hartman - Colorado River Basin Program American Rivers*

## Access to Parks and the outdoors is Essential to Public Health



## What the Rx is going on in Colorado?!

Inspired by the Park Rx movement, colleagues from inter-disciplinary organizations asked the questions: What's going on in CO in regards to prescription for parks, recreation, outdoors, nature, trails, and open space programs? What would happen if we tried to convene as many people as we could working in this space? Hear the results of our first convening in November 2019. We don't promise all the answers, but listen to this session for a lively and interactive conversation. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Jo Burns - Colorado Public Health/Parks & Recreation Collaborative*

*Speakers: Patsy McEntee - National Park Service, Dana Coelho - Metro Denver Nature Alliance, Cate Townley - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment*

## Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships - Join the Conversation!

CPW, DNR, and members of the Colorado Outdoor Partnership (CO-OP) presented a concept for a new statewide initiative to support and encourage locally-driven collaborative solutions for ensuring that Colorado's lands and waters thrive, while providing opportunities for all Coloradans to enjoy the outdoors. To do this, partners are exploring the development of Outdoor Regional Partnerships around the state in a manner that supports existing coalitions. CPW is also considering how this initiative could support the development of a future statewide conservation and recreation plan (SCORP). [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Jody Kennedy - Colorado Parks and Wildlife*

*Speakers: Carlos Fernandez - The Nature Conservancy, Kevin Alexander - Western Colorado University, Becky Leinweber - Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance, Doug Vilsack - Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Ann Baker Easley - Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Dan Prenzlou - Colorado Parks and Wildlife*



## No Occupation without Representation: Creating an Inclusive Workforce

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and the National Park Service (NPS) are striving to better represent the public that they serve by diversifying their workforce. During this presentation, Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK) and NPS highlighted the Urban Ranger program and how it is addressing the challenges associated with the task of recruiting and retaining a workforce that best represents the communities that we serve. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Taylor Ruffin - Environmental Learning for Kids*

*Speaker: Nizhooni Hurd - Environmental Learning for Kids*



## GOCO 2020 Strategic Plan

GOCO is pleased to present its 2020 Strategic Plan to the Partners in the Outdoors audience. This plan will guide strategy for the next five years and beyond and will serve as a compass for GOCO to authentically engage communities and partners throughout Colorado. Learn about the strategy as well as plans for a Community Resiliency Program that GOCO partners can turn to given COVID-19 impacts. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Emily Orbanek - Great Outdoors Colorado*

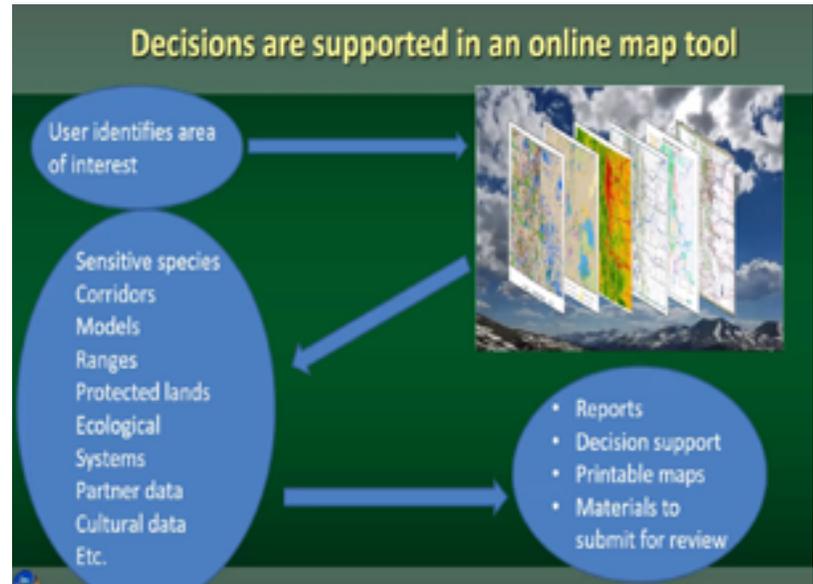
*Speakers: Chris Castilian - Great Outdoors Colorado, Jackie Miller - Great Outdoors Colorado*

## CODEX- a New Tool for Conservation and Planning in Colorado

With CPW and many other partners, the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) is launching an interactive mapping website called the Colorado Conservation Data Explorer (CODEX). The CODEX provides easy access to natural resources data, supporting decisions on projects including conservation easements, development, and trail planning, leading to better decisions that incorporate impacts on natural resources. Users can make maps and create project-specific reports. Listen to this session to learn more about CODEX. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: David Anderson - Colorado Natural Heritage Program*

*Speakers: Michael Menefee - Colorado Natural Heritage Program, Erik Glenn - Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, Matt Schulz - Colorado Parks and Wildlife*



## Conflict to Collaboration: Lessons from Climbers & Tribes from the Bears Ears National Monument

Tribes and climbers have historically been two stakeholder groups who have come into conflict over the management of federal public lands, resulting in lawsuits, impacts on cultural sites, and closures of climbing areas. However, the lead up to the designation of the former Bears Ears National Monument led tribes and climbers to bridge divides to work toward common cause. This session explored how these differences were bridged and provided lessons for Colorado. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: Aaron Mike - Access Fund*

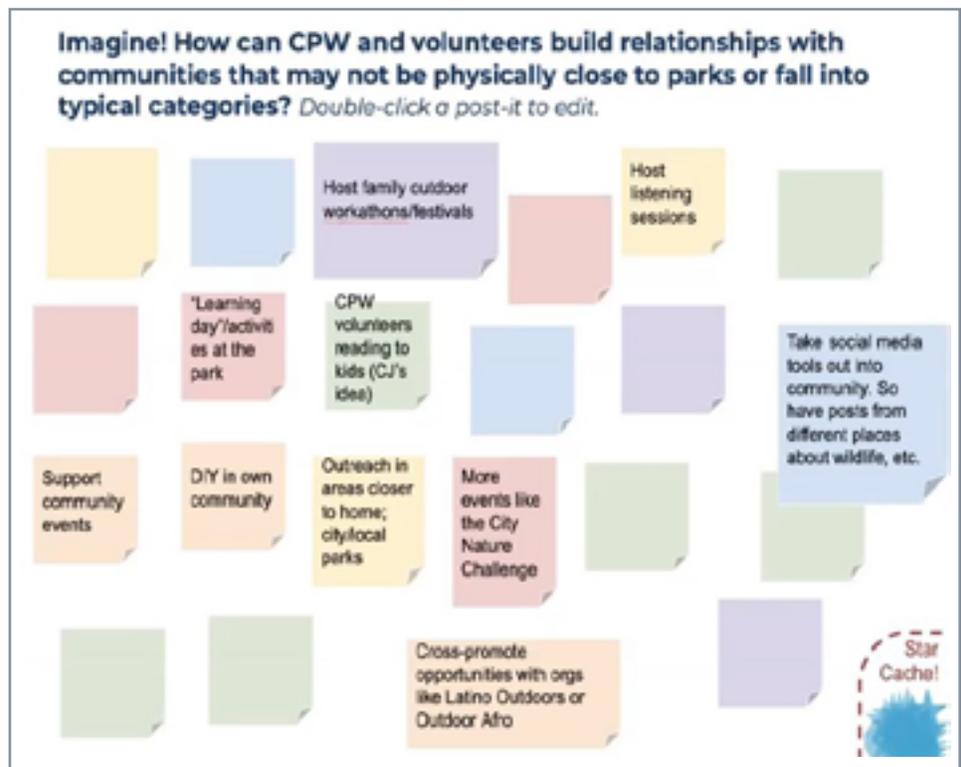
*Speakers: Len Necefer - Natives Outdoors, Erik Murdock - Access Fund*

## No More Volunteering as Tribute

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) engages an impressive 6,000 volunteers annually to support conservation. We also have an opportunity to more closely reflect on the diversity of Colorado and national communities, and better understand cultural perspectives of the concept of "volunteering." In this session, attendees actively created a holistic narrative of service, community, and the outdoors while being involved in research that CPW will use to inform future volunteering practices. [Watch the recorded webinar.](#)

*Session Coordinator: CJ Goulding - Children & Nature Network*

*Speaker: Becky Mares - Colorado Parks and Wildlife*





# Thank You Silver and Contributing Sponsors!



# Planning Committee

Interested in becoming part of this team next year? Email Dan Zimmerer at [daniel.zimmerer@state.co.us](mailto:daniel.zimmerer@state.co.us)

- Aaron Mike  
Natives Outdoors
- Ashley Perillo  
Colorado Parks and Recreation Association
- Beau Kiklis  
Conservation Colorado
- CJ Goulding  
Children and Nature Network
- David Leinweber  
Angler's Covey
- Dean Titterington  
Pheasants Forever
- Erika Meyer  
Great Outdoors Colorado
- Jack Placchi  
Bureau of Land Management
- Jayne Thompson  
Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust
- Jessica Godinez  
Hispanic Access Foundation
- Katie Navin  
Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education
- Krista Muddle  
National Park Service
- Lenore Bates  
Colorado Scenic & Historic Byways, CDOT
- Mary Ann Bonnell  
Jefferson County Open Space
- Matt Gray  
Rocky Mountain Innovation Lab
- Meredith Burke  
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US Forest Service
- Samantha Albert  
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Thank you for your time, effort, and dedication to our Partners in the Outdoors effort.



Conservation Colorado



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# Colorado Outdoor Partnership



Join the Colorado Outdoor Partnership and adopt Colorado's Outdoor Principles.

These principles 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.

We invite your organization to [sign on](#) to adopt the Colorado Outdoor Principles.

More detailed information can be found on the Colorado Outdoor Partnership's (CO-OP) [web page](#).

## Colorado's Outdoor Principles

1. **Public Lands** - Outdoor recreation and conservation require that a diversity of lands and waters be publicly owned, available for public access, and cared for properly.
2. **Private Lands** - Within Colorado's diversity of land and waters, private land plays a critical role in preserving the ecological integrity of a functional landscape that is necessary for robust and meaningful outdoor recreational experiences.
3. **Working Together** - Both recreation and conservation are needed to sustain Colorado's quality of life. Both are beneficial to local economic well-being, for personal health, and for sustaining Colorado's natural resources.
4. **Minimize Impact** - All recreation has impact. Coloradans have an obligation to minimize these impacts across the places they recreate and the larger landscape through ethical outdoor behavior.
5. **Management and Education** - Proactive management solutions, combined with public education, are necessary to care for land, water and wildlife, and to provide the protections needed to maintain quality recreation opportunities.
6. **Science-based Decisions** - Physical, biological and social science must inform the management of outdoor recreation.
7. **Stable Funding** - Stable, long-term, and diverse funding sources are essential to protect the environment and support outdoor recreation.





This isn't just an acorn. It's sustenance for all woodland critters—a far more appropriate meal than your keto-friendly trail mix. Feeding wildlife puts us all at risk. When animals become tame, they migrate closer to towns, bringing natural predators along with them. So by tossing that deer a nibble of your protein bar, you may be inviting a mountain lion to your next neighborhood potluck. Whether you're glamping, camping or hiking, keep your snacks to yourself.

**Conservation starts small.**



**LIVE LIFE  
OUTSIDE**