



**“Open Space: Open to All”
September 18-20, 2017
Beaver Run Resort, Breckenridge
2017 Conference Speaker Bios**

Alycia Alexander, Permit Specialist, City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks. For the last 7 years, Alycia has been championing for OSMP and its mission in various capacities, from outreach and education to volunteer programs to LE Rangering to the last two years of working on OSMP’s permit program. Her background is in Wildlife Biology from CSU, with many years of conservation research, outdoor education and museum school programs across the west.

John Anderson, JW Anderson & Associates. John Wesley Anderson, MBA, is the author of *Ute Indian Prayer Trees of the Pikes Peak Region* published by the Old Colorado City Historical Society in 2015. John has conducted academic and field research since 2012 on the Culturally Modified Trees (CMTs) left behind by the indigenous people of present-day Colorado. John has made four research trips to the Southern Ute Reservation (CO), two to the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation (CO) and one to the Northern Ute Reservation, Utah. He has visited more than a dozen local, state and national museums, parks and libraries and conducted field research in 18-19 counties across Colorado - a majority of which were in the company of a Ute elder - to study, photograph and document hundreds of CMTs that have been discovered across the ancestral homeland of the Ute. Since 2012, John has given over 103 walks, talks, or book signings across Colorado, helping spread awareness about the need to preserve CMTs, which many people view as living Native American artifacts.

Rick Bachand, Environmental Program Manager, City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. Building on 20 years of passion for land conservation, Rick is an advocate for public land management and widely recognized for his efforts to restore the Poudre River in Fort Collins. Rick is a member of the Colorado Open Space Alliance steering committee and acts as a policy advisor to the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts.

Allison Bell, Families and Youth Coordinator, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado. Allison has been managing VOC’s Youth Programs since 2015, partnering with Land Managers across Colorado to plan 30+ volunteer projects for K-12 youth each year.

Jason Bertolacci, Project Manager, Statewide Stewardship Initiative. After 15 years in the tech industry, Jason followed his passion to the charitable sector. In his roles at the International Mountain Bicycling Association and Colorado Mountain Bike Association, and other collaborative efforts, he has advocated for public lands protection and sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities. Most recently Jason and co-founder Chris Burley launched the strategic communications and public policy firm *berbur, llc* to bring their experience to the issues and organizations they love.

Mary Ann Bonnell, Visitor Services Manager, Jefferson County Open Space. Mary Ann earned a degree in biology from the University of Colorado and has been joyously employed as a ranger or naturalist since. Starting with her work with sharks at the Catalina Island Marine Institute, Mary Ann has had a strong interest in human/predator interactions and continues that work with urban coyotes today. Always interested in visitor safety, Mary Ann has a passion for teaching others how to be aware and safe around wildlife and, more importantly, other humans.



Casey Bries, OSMP, Education & Outreach Coordinator. Casey joined City of Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks in March of 2016. She lived in Minnesota for ten years where she worked to connect underrepresented youth to public lands through outdoor recreation and education. She continues that work with OSMP by creating inclusive outdoor experiences for the LGBTQIA+ community.

Ken Brink, Jr., Larimer County Natural Resources. Ken is a graduate of Colorado State University. His work experience includes five years working as a Wilderness Ranger for the USFS and thirty years of service with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. He retired in 2015 as the Assistant Director for Parks. Ken is now the Visitor Services Manager for Larimer County Natural Resources. He has a passion for ranger programs and public service and recently presented to the Parks Law Enforcement Association in Miami Florida.

Rob Burdine, Superintendent, City of Lafayette Open Space. Born and raised in the hardnosed Steel Belt of Western Pennsylvania, Rob graduated from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, and has worked in the Open Space field throughout Colorado since 1999.

Bevin Carithers, Resource Protection Supervisor, Boulder County Parks and Open Space and Co-Founder of Mount Kenya Conservation Education Initiative. Bevin is the Resource Protection Supervisor for Boulder County Parks and Open Space. He has worked as a law enforcement ranger for more than 15 years. As a ranger, Bevin has developed a number of innovative programs to engage citizens of all ages in conservation. Most recently, Bevin worked with ranger staff to develop and implement the Citizen Ranger Corps, the Citizen Ranger Academy, a web-based junior ranger program, and the Left Hand Outdoor Challenge, a program specifically designed for Boulder County teens. Bevin serves on numerous conservation education boards and committees and founded the Mount Kenya Conservation Education Initiative which provides conservation education and park ranger training in Kenya. Bevin holds a degree in natural resource management from the University of Victoria, British Columbia and a Masters of Arts in Teaching conservation from Miami University in Ohio.

Chris Castilian, Director, GOCO. A native of Colorado, Castilian has a lengthy history of both private and public service, including serving as deputy chief of staff for Gov. Bill Owens, as well as director of the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners. Most recently, Castilian was director of strategy and engagement for Anadarko Petroleum Corp., where he led government affairs, social investment, employee engagement, and stakeholder outreach for the Rockies region. He also served as a commissioner for Colorado Parks and Wildlife and is on several other boards of nonprofit organizations throughout the Denver metro area.

Alexandrea Castino, Land Agent, Larimer County Open Lands. Alex Castino navigates complex open space acquisition projects as a land agent for Larimer County Open Lands. She recently closed the first perpetual agricultural-to-municipal water sharing agreement in Colorado and holds a Juris Doctor and Masters in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School.

Jesse Clark, LEED® AP, PLA, Principal, Landscape Architect. Mr. Clark is the managing partner and founder of Stream Design, a licensed Landscape Architect in the State of Colorado, and a LEED Accredited Professional with more than eighteen years of professional experience in design, site planning, project management, construction documentation, and construction implementation. His work includes parks and open space design, trail planning and design, natural area restoration, storm



water management, stream channel reclamation, environmental mitigation, and athletic facility and field design.

David Deitemeyer, Park Planner II, City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. A native to Colorado Springs, David has a passion for spending time in the mountains and exploring the trails in the Pikes Peak region. He has been with the City of Colorado Springs for five years leading a variety of parks, trails and open space projects balancing recreation use while preserving the natural resources. David holds an undergraduate degree in Geography and Environmental Studies and a Masters in Watershed Science.

Rosemary Dempsey, Director of Communications, GOCO. Rosemary joined GOCO in 2016 after a decade of working at advertising and marketing agencies in the Boulder/Denver area. She received her master's degree in mass communication research from the University of Colorado at Boulder's Journalism School and her bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College. She lives near the Flatirons in Boulder with her husband and two children, who all regularly venture out for hiking and camping excursions. Rosemary aims to share stories of GOCO's inspiring work so that even more Coloradans can experience our state's great outdoors.

Topher Downham, OSMP, Education & Outreach Coordinator. An avid outdoorsman, Topher Downham found solace and healing on City of Boulder hiking trails after becoming a quadriplegic. For the past 20 years, he has both been helping people with disabilities reconnect with nature and advocating for opportunities for all.

Jim Drew, Volunteer and Site Coordinator, Boulder County Parks and Open Space. Jim has been with Boulder County for thirteen years and works with volunteers to provide educational programs and events at the Agricultural Heritage Center. He has a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology & Sociology and a Professional Certificate in Museology (Museums).

Ann Baker Easley, Executive Director, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado. Over the past 25 years, Baker Easley has led numerous environmental, volunteer, and youth-development oriented nonprofit organizations, with a focus on strengthening their programs and helping them grow to new levels. During that time, she founded or helped start 7 different youth and civilian service corps programs, both in Colorado and nationally.

Juanita Echeverri, OSMP, Interpretive Naturalist. Colombian born Juanita has had the opportunity to live in many different places. She finds home and solace in nature in any new place she calls home. She has been connecting people with the outdoors since she can remember. She has been working with the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department for the past 9 years.

Brad Eckert, Denver Mountain Parks Planner. Brad is responsible for short and long range planning for Denver's Parks and Recreation Department. His outdoor recreation and natural resource background combined with a focus on land use planning, has led him to complete numerous capital projects to improve the Mountain Parks System.



Michele Frishman, GOCO Open Space Program Manager. Michele joined GOCO in 2015 after spending 10 years as a Denver Water attorney, where she focused on transactional matters. At GOCO, she manages the Protect Initiative and the open space and conservation excellence grant programs.

Josh Garcia, Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Josh Garcia is the Planning Manager with Colorado Parks & Wildlife, an agency focused on the conservation of Colorado's wildlife and providing outdoor recreation opportunities. He leads statewide planning initiatives such as the CPW Strategic Plan and the upcoming Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, as well state park management plans. Prior to joining CPW, Josh worked in endangered species conservation and natural resource and recreation planning.

Mark Gershman, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Mark is the Planning Services Supervisor at the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department where he has worked for about 27 years. He has also worked with Colorado State Parks and The Nature Conservancy. Originally from Elizabeth NJ, Mark likes Colorado and open space—a lot.

Steve Gibson, Red Mountain District Open Space Manager, Larimer County. Steve began his career in the US Navy where he did two tours in the Persian Gulf. He graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in Natural Resource Management. While in school he worked as a wildland firefighter, martial arts instructor, and campus police officer. After graduation he worked as a seasonal park ranger for Lory State Park and Larimer County Open Lands. After a short stint in Montana as a game warden, Steve became a full time ranger with Larimer County Department of Natural Resources, where he works with special events both in the field and during the approval process from research to recreation.

Therese Glowacki, Natural Resource Division Manager, Boulder County Parks & Open Space. Therese has a degree in Biology and an MS in Forest Management. She came to BCPOS after an extensive career the Peace Corps. She manages a staff of over 40 employees working in forestry, wildlife, plant ecology, weed control, resource protection, education and outreach. Her latest projects have involved habitat restoration, bioenergy and renewable resource management.

José G. González, Founder and Executive Director, Latino Outdoors. José is an experienced educator as a K-12 public education teacher, environmental education advisor, outdoor education instructor and coordinator, and university adjunct faculty. His commentary on diversity and environmental outreach has been featured by High Country News, Outside, Earth Island Journal, and Latino USA, and he has been engaged in collaborations with the White House Council on Environmental Quality, U.S. Department of Interior, and the National Park Service. He also represents Latino Outdoors in several coalitions including the Latino Conservation Alliance and the Next 100 Coalition. He has been recognized with several honors, including the National Wildlife Federation, Grist Magazine, and The Murie Center. He received his B.A at the University of California, Davis, and his M.S at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources & Environment. You can reach José at jose@theavarnagroup.com.

Kevin Grady, Heil Valley Ranch Caretaker, Boulder County Parks & Open Space. Kevin has been living and working at Heil Valley Ranch as its Caretaker for over 15 years, and has been a Park Ranger for 11 years. Heil Valley Ranch is the largest county owned open space park, at over 5,000 acres. Kevin's primary roles include visitor and recreation management, education and outreach, raptor research, and habitat restoration.



Janette Heung, Deputy Director, Colorado Outdoor Recreation Industry Office (ORec). Janette works to support economic development within the industry, develop a dynamic workforce, advance conservation and stewardship, and promote health and wellness in the sector. Janette was born in the US, but grew up in the concrete jungles of Hong Kong. She experienced her first winters in New England during college, and eventually followed the call of winter to Alaska, the Alps, and the Andes. When she discovered Colorado and its outdoor recreation community, she immediately relocated here and adventured extensively. Janette's love for the outdoors directly feeds into her zeal for protecting it- when she's not exploring outside, she is working on a range of environmental policy, public health and business challenges. She has worked as a consultant for a variety of clients specializing in strategic planning and program management with a focus on conservation and health. Janette is also a co-founder of Unleashed, a winter climbing community event that features storytelling by community champions with the proceeds supporting outdoor education non-profits. She is a community ambassador for multiple outdoor companies. She holds a B.S. double major in physics and biomedical engineering from Tufts University and a M.S. in Environmental Health from Harvard University.

Tom Hoby, Director, Jefferson County Open Space. Tom has spent his 35-year career leading outstanding and forward-thinking parks, recreation and open space organizations. He joined the Jefferson County in March 2010 after spending nearly 18 years as the Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space for the Highlands Ranch Metro District. He has also served as Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Essex, Vermont and the City of Lafayette, Colorado, as Associate Executive Director for Special Olympics Colorado and as an Outdoor Recreation Planner for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Tom has a B.S. in Park Administration from Colorado State University. He has been a part of numerous regional and statewide committees including the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), Colorado Front Range Trail, High Line Canal Future Management Study and Partners and the Chatfield Basin Conservation Network. He is a past president of the Colorado Parks & Recreation Association and received the National Recreation and Park Association and Colorado Parks & Recreation Association Fellow Award.

Christine Hartman, Natural Resources Specialist, Jefferson County Open Space.

Sylvia Hickenlooper, Soil Conservationist, USDA, Natural Resource Conservation District, Longmont, Colorado. With a background in Rangeland Ecology, Sylvia has worked for the past 15 years as a Soil Conservationist helping local landowners improve their property. Sylvia addresses natural resources concerns through conservation planning, embracing soil health practices and providing education and assessment to landowners.

Amanda Hill, GOCO Open Space Program Coordinator. Prior to joining GOCO in 2013, Amanda worked at Palmer Land Trust and as a Colorado Conservation Trust Future Leaders Fellow. In addition to due diligence work, Amanda manages the transaction costs grant program.

Eric Holzman, Park Ranger, Jefferson County Open Space.

Shaun Howard, Ranger Lead and Coordinator of Volunteer Park Patrollers, JeffCo Open Space. As a Park Ranger Lead at Jefferson County Open Space for the last 12 years, Shaun heads up the Volunteer Patroller Team that encourages peer-to-peer interactions and promotes positive, proactive stewardship behavior with park visitors. By developing relationships with Animal Control, local rescue groups, and



park visitors Shaun seeks to bridge the gap between dog owners and the health and welfare of both the dog and the park.

Dr. James Jefferson, Southern Ute Indian Tribe Elder, Southern Ute Reservation. Dr. Jefferson is a well-respected Southern Ute Tribal Elder who received his Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Utah. He has four years' experience working at the Smithsonian in Washington, DC, and is co-author of *The Southern Utes, A Tribal History*, published by the Southern Ute Tribe of Ignacio, Colorado in 1973.

Brad Jensen, Draper City Parks and Trails Project Manager. Brad has been a project manager with Draper City for over 20 years. His responsibilities include the management of parks and trails development, from master planning through design to final construction. Brad served as the city's project manager on the recent award winning Open Space Master Plan.

Will Keeley, Senior Wildlife Ecologist, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Will obtained a BS in Biology from CU-Boulder and a MS in Raptor Biology from Boise State University where he studied Ferruginous Hawk ecology in New Mexico. Will coordinates the raptor program at OSMP; other areas of interest include the ecology of songbirds, amphibians, and bats.

Jody Kennedy, Public Involvement Planning Specialist, Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Jody engages people who live and recreate in Colorado in order to inform policy, planning and management decisions that impact Colorado's parks, wildlife and outdoor recreation resources. Previously, Jody worked as the Washington State Policy Manager for the nonprofit organization, Surfrider Foundation, where she led projects to conserve the Washington coast for both human enjoyment and ecosystem health. With over 15 years' experience, Jody has worked in several places across the western U.S., including Alaska and Oregon, advancing strategies to conserve public lands and other natural resources. Jody has a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Washington's Daniel J Evans School of Public Policy & Governance.

Eric Krause, Park Ranger, Jefferson County Open Space.

Anne Kuechenmeister, Michael Baker. Anne Kuechenmeister is a community planner at Michael Baker International who specializes in public engagement and risk communication. She supports FEMA in their community education and risk communication program. In these efforts she focuses on supporting communities with hazard mitigation and understanding technical hazard data and FEMA programs.

Jason Lederer, Senior Resource Specialist, Summit County Open Space and Trails. Jason is certified in Erosion in Sediment Control and is a LEED Accredited Professional with over fifteen years of experience in a variety of environmental design and planning projects throughout the United States. At Summit County, Jason plays a leading role managing large scale environmental and recreational planning efforts, often in collaboration with diverse local, state, federal, and private organizations.

Colin Leslie, Human Dimensions Program, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Prior to coming to OSMP in 2015, Conlin spent several years with the NPS and the USGS working on visitor management projects. His areas of interest include data management, using GIS to understand and spatially represent visitor characteristics and dynamics, applied social science, and quantifying the visitor experience. He has degrees in Geography and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources.



Dr. Amy Lethbridge, Executive Director, Community Nature Connection. Amy Lethbridge grew up running wild through the creeks and forests of Northern California. A 1988 encounter with schoolchildren in Southern California who had never seen the ocean opened her eyes to the deficit of nature that many urban children experience and her life's passion was found. Amy has worked for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for 27 years and is a Deputy Executive Officer of that regional park agency. She serves as a pro bono Executive Director of Community Nature Connection as she did previously with the Mountains Education Program (MEP). Amy has a B.A. in Liberal Studies, a Masters in Organizational Management and a PhD in Leadership and Change. She is the Past-President of the National Association of Interpretation and is a Certified Interpretive Guide, Manager, and Trainer. She has trained tour guides and park/natural area managers in outdoor education and heritage interpretation in nine countries. Her very favorite thing is when she is sharing an outdoor activity with a young person and they tell her, "I saw this once on TV."

Brian Lorch, Director, Summit County Open Space and Trails.

Greg Mazu, Founder, Chief Encouragement Officer, and President, Singletrack Trails, Inc. With 14 years of experience, Greg's specialties include on-site trail layout design, meeting with local user groups and providing the main equipment and labor supervision for trail construction. He is familiar with working on hybrid style contracts that include partnerships of trail contractors, volunteers and the local government entity. A mountain biker at heart, Greg has spent the majority of his trail building career working on shared-use, non-motorized trail systems. Greg has successfully created trail destinations throughout the country that create an enjoyable user experience for casual riders out for an easy Sunday ride to advanced riders looking for challenging terrain with technical trail features like jumps and drops. He will bring a philosophy to create fun, sustainable trails that prevent user conflicts to any Singletrack Trails project.

Mary McCormac, Northeast Region Education Coordinator, Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Mary has worked for Colorado Parks and Wildlife for 15 years. Currently the Statewide Public Programs Coordinator, Mary provides programs and training for educators and community members interested in wildlife- and outdoor-related topics. She also supports volunteers, partners, and staff in providing quality interpretive programs and nature-related opportunities that help connect people to wildlife and the outdoors. Previous to this position, Mary was the Northeast Region Education and Volunteer Coordinators, as well as Visitor Services Manager, at Eldorado Canyon State Park. Mary earned her bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida and her Master's degree in Teaching/Conservation Education from Miami University of Ohio. Mary's passion is providing opportunities that help foster future stewards of Colorado's amazing natural resources.

Neil McNutt, JeffCo Open Space: Park Ranger. Neil is the Resident Ranger of Reynolds Park for Jefferson County Open Space. Prior to joining Jeffco Open Space in 2015, Neil promoted river safety and stewardship while working as a river ranger throughout Colorado and Utah. While pursuing his degree in environmental management, Neil developed public engagement strategies to help inform the recreation planning process for the Arkansas River.

Michael Menefee, Conservation Scientist, Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Michael has a passion for photography, and he has expertise in report writing, geographic information systems, spatial analysis,



information technology, graphic design, desktop publishing, project administration, public outreach, and communications.

Jason Meyer, Project Manager, Community Services Department, El Paso County. With 9 years of master planning, design and project management experience, Jason's past work includes completing park and trail master plans, grant applications, and numerous trail projects. More recently his efforts have been focused on completing recovery projects related to the Black Forest Fire, and the 2013 and 2015 floods. He especially enjoys engaging stakeholders, mobilizing volunteers, and bringing a holistic approach to master planning and design.

Mara Mintzer, Growing Up Boulder Director, Community Engagement Research and Design Center (CEDaR) Center, University of Colorado Boulder. Mara Mintzer is a founder of Growing Up Boulder (GUB), Boulder's child- and youth-friendly city initiative, based out of the University of Colorado Boulder. As Director of GUB, Mara helps integrate children and youth voices into Boulder's city planning. She presents and writes internationally on the topic of engaging young people in planning. Prior to GUB, Mara was Director of Belle Haven Community School in California, where she oversaw child and family support services families on a low-income school campus. She has designed and implemented a wide variety of programs for underrepresented children, families and neighborhoods in New York and California. Mara received her B.A. in Psychology from Brown University and her M.A. in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University.

Anne Miller, Senior Planner, Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Anne Miller, AICP, has over 20 years of community development experience in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. She has worked with communities in Colorado and across the nation to develop long-range plans to promote healthy, livable communities. Anne has a background in parks and open space planning and has worked with the Chicago Park District as well as GreenPlay, a Colorado-based consultant firm. Anne is currently a Senior Planner with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs and has supported Colorado communities impacted by 2012-13 floods and fires on long range recovery and resiliency planning efforts. Anne has a Master's of Urban Planning and Policy degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is active in the American Planning Association and is on the Executive Committee of the APA Sustainable Communities Division.

Jackie Miller, Director of Youth Initiatives, Great Outdoors Colorado. Jackie has worked to implement GOCO's mission for a decade. Through various roles, Jackie implemented GOCO's park and trail development programs and designed special initiatives such as the School Yard Initiative. Most recently, Jackie led GOCO's 2015 statewide strategic planning effort which resulted in a plan that presents opportunities for GOCO and its partners to find new ways of collaborating that produce better outcomes for Colorado's people, places, and wildlife. In 2015, Jackie also launched the Inspire Initiative, an innovative grant program aimed at getting more kids outside from the backyard to the backcountry. Jackie received her bachelor's from Saint Michael's College and is a 2016 fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Executive Education.

Tom Moe, Program Coordinator/Co-Founder, Mount Kenya Conservation Education Initiative. Tom Moe grew up in Indiana and received his BS in Civil Engineering from Purdue University. Upon graduating he moved to Colorado and began working as a Structural Engineer. After a 33 year career in Engineering he is now pursuing other interests including volunteer work in Kenya. His interest in Kenya began in 2000



when he first went there to go on safaris. Subsequent trips to Kenya have focused on bringing volunteers over to work on projects such as building classrooms, painting schools, building water tanks, planting trees, building a women's resource center and this year's project, educating high schoolers about conservation and environmental issues. Tom was recently appointed to the Mapleton Public Schools Board of Education serving students in north Denver, Thornton, Northglenn, and Welby.

Anne Murphy, Open Space & Trails Manager, Town of Breckenridge. Anne is a veteran of the land trust community, having staffed and served on boards of land trusts throughout the country for the past 19 years, and is a current commissioner with the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. She holds a BA in Biology, BM in Piano Performance, and graduate certificates in GIS and Nonprofit Management.

Martin Ogle, Education and Outreach Coordinator for City of Lafayette Open Space (contractor), Entrepreneurial Earth LLC. Martin Ogle received B.S. and M.S. degrees in wildlife Biology from Colorado State Univ. (1982) and Virginia Tech (1984). He was Chief Naturalist for the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, 1985 - 2012. In 2010, Martin was awarded the Washington Academy of Sciences' *Krupshaw Award for Non-Traditional Teaching* for outstanding teaching in informal and non-academic settings. In 2012 Martin received the Arlington (VA) *Green Patriot Award* for outstanding work in sustainability. Martin moved to Louisville, CO with family and started his own education and consulting business, Entrepreneurial Earth, LLC. Martin was born and raised in South Korea.

Larissa O'Neil, Breckenridge Heritage Alliance – Larissa is the Executive Director of the BHA, founded in December 2006 to promote and protect Breckenridge's unique heritage.

Mark Beardsley, EcoMetrics – Mark's experience is grounded in a diverse educational and practical background. He holds B.S. degrees in chemistry and biology, an M.S. in ecology, and supplemental studies in environmental philosophy, along with more than 20 years hands-on field experience as a stream, riparian and wetlands scientist.

Tony Overlock, Town of Breckenridge Open Space. Tony has worked for the Town since 2004 and assumed the role of Open Space and Trails Specialist in 2015. He supervises the Town's seasonal trail crew and implements year-round open space operations, including trails, forest health, noxious weeds and other projects. Tony holds an undergraduate degree from Plymouth State College.

Ericka Pilcher, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, Recreation and Cultural Stewardship Supervisor. Ericka Pilcher joined Open Space and Mountain Parks as the Recreation and Cultural Stewardship Supervisor in May 2017. Ericka has a M.S. in Parks and Protected Areas Management and a B.S. in Conservation Biology. Before joining OSMP, Ericka worked for the National Park Service on efforts related to social science research, soundscape protection, peregrine falcon research, visitor use management and recreation, and park planning. She lives in Golden, CO with her husband Adam and they enjoy spending free time on the trails with their dog Capri.

Deborah Price, Education Liaison, Boulder County Parks and Open Space. Deborah has been with Boulder County for three years, and focuses on programs that reach out to students of all ages and families, and creative program outreach. She has a B.A. in Communication Arts and a B.S. in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism.



Mike Quartuch, Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Mike Quartuch is the Human Dimensions Specialist with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. As a research social scientist, Mike draws upon qualitative and quantitative research methods to broadly examine human-environment interactions. Mike specializes in natural resource management; human dimensions of wildlife; and environmental attitudes, norms, and behaviors.

John Queen, Resident Ranger at White Ranch Park, JeffCO Open Space. He earned his bachelor's degree in History from Texas A&M University. John cut his teeth as a SCA in Big Bend National Park then a seasonal ranger for Boulder County Parks & Open Space. He's passionate about providing a safe and unpressured hunting opportunity on Jeffco Open Space lands.

Halice Ruppi, Youth Programs Coordinator, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Halice Ruppi is an experiential educator committed to promoting vibrant learning communities that model respect, dialogue and discovery. In her work as a leadership mentor and youth corps director she is inspired by the empowerment that teams build through consensus process. Halice is excited to support partnerships that elevate youth voice in community leadership. Halice facilitates service learning experiences primarily for teens and young adults in her work for OSMP.

Kristi Schaad, Earth Science Instructor, Legacy High School, Broomfield, CO

Dr. Andrew Seidl, Colorado State University. Andy has been a CSU Professor of Environmental, Natural Resource and Development Economics for 20 yrs. His work focuses on natural resource-based economic development in Colorado and internationally. His recent research and outreach efforts include the economics of: agricultural land preservation and land use planning, World Heritage, national park and cruise tourism, biodiversity finance, and forest landscape restoration. He often works with private land trusts, county commissioners and federal agencies in Colorado. Internationally, he has recently worked with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Development Program, focusing on sustainable development, green economy, biodiversity finance, and environmental mainstreaming issues.

Zoe Shark, City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department Community Relations Manager. Zoe is a Colorado native who has dedicated her life to the environment and playing in the outdoors. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Ecology from Prescott College and a Master's Degree from Colorado State University in Environmental Education. Zoe has worked as an interpretive ranger, wilderness leader, kindergarten teacher, college admissions counselor, naturalist, and education director with the federal government, non-profits, and universities. Zoe has worked with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department for 16 years both as an Education and Outreach Coordinator and in her current role as Community Relations Manager and supervisor of the Education and Volunteer Program.

Heidi Sherk, Director of External Affairs, The Nature Conservancy. Heidi has worked with The Nature Conservancy for 22 years. As Director of External Affairs, she is responsible for overseeing the Colorado Program's engagement in state and federal policy issues, public funding and work with government agencies and other partner organizations. Heidi has served in several other leadership roles with the Conservancy, including Director of Conservation Programs, and Director of Conservation Initiatives. Before joining the Conservancy, Heidi was a Program Officer at World Wildlife Fund where she worked to promote wetlands conservation strategies across the country. She also served as staff for a



Congressional Committee focused on fish and wildlife conservation. Heidi began her career in natural resources as a VISTA volunteer at an energy conservation project in Oregon. Heidi has a B.A. from Bowdoin College and a Masters in Natural Resource Management Planning and Policy from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and the Environment.

Justin Spring, Colorado Director for Land Protection, Trust for Public Land. Justin manages TPL's Colorado land protection team and is responsible for identifying, negotiating, funding and closing real estate transactions. These transactions include fee simple land acquisitions, conservation easements, land exchanges, and related tax benefits. Since 2002, he has facilitated the protection of over \$50 million of property across Colorado ranging from small urban parks, to working farms and ranches, and high country mining claims. Justin serves on the Board of the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts, the Colorado State Forest Service Stewardship Committee, and is a mentor for the Public Interest Fellowship Program at Colorado College. He was formerly a member of the Conservation Advisory Board for Colorado Mountain Club, past Vice President of the South Metro Land Conservancy and is a graduate of the Colorado College. In his spare time, he enjoys camping with his family, coaching soccer, running, and biking.

Ben Stanley, District Park Ranger, Jefferson County Open Space. He earned a degree in History from the University of Colorado after attending Fort Lewis College in Durango. Ben has a strong passion for hunting and fishing and advocating for the conservation benefits these activities provide.

Maria Stelacio, park ranger with Jefferson County Open Space for over five years. She earned her bachelor's degree in biology (conservation) from Arcadia University. Maria has a great love of the outdoors and wants everyone to feel safe and comfortable while enjoying nature.

Linda Strand, Former Manager of the Open Space and Natural Resources Division for the City of Aurora, Linda serves on the Arapahoe County Open Space and Trails Advisory Board and the Colorado Open Space Alliance Steering Committee. She trains volunteer project managers and is a mixed media artist.

Zach Taylor, Park Manager, Staunton State Park. Including his 10 years as a park ranger, Zach has over 32 years of experience with Colorado State Parks. Zach has a passion for providing the best opportunities for outdoor recreation. Knowing Staunton was only a year and half old when we took over as the Manager; Zach came into the position with the philosophy that anything was possible. In keeping with the wishes of Francis Staunton and the concept of Natural resource management and good stewardship, Zach's goals are to provide a top notch recreational experience while still focusing on conservation and Natural Resource protection.

Josh Tenneson, Grants and Acquisitions Manager, Arapahoe County Open Spaces. Josh is a Colorado native and two-time University of Colorado graduate with B.A. in Political Science and a Juris Doctorate. Josh obtained a Colorado Conservation Trust Fellowship in 2007, worked for four years as the Programs Director of the Palmer Land Trust (2007-2011), and then acted as the Open Space Program Manager at Great Outdoors Colorado (2011-2015). He served on the Conservation Easement Oversight Commission for two years and currently sits on the Colorado Open Space Alliance Steering Committee and Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts Board. Josh is excited to work on conservation and recreation issues, and he has participated in over 125 private conservation and public open space transactions to date. You can find Josh roaming Colorado's least traveled trails with his wife, daughter, and two pups.



Paul Thomas, RLA, Principal, Landscape Architect. Mr. Thomas is a licensed Landscape Architect in the State of Colorado with more than twenty-five years of professional experience. His client services include feasibility studies, master plans, construction documents, construction observation, habitat mitigation, and environmental permitting. He has extensive experience throughout the Rocky Mountain Region on projects including parks and open space development, natural area restoration, trail systems planning and design, campus and master planning, site planning, and water resource related design and planning.

Kelly Uhing, City Naturalist, Denver Parks/Natural Resources

Vicki Vargas-Madrid, Wildlife Program Administrator/Ecologist, Denver Parks and Recreation. Vicki joined Denver Parks and Recreation two years ago upon her retirement from 33 years as a District Wildlife Manager for Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Throughout her career as a DWM, Vicki held the Denver district and the Westminster/Thornton/Arvada district where she dealt with a plethora of urban wildlife issues.

Deonne VanderWoude, Human Dimensions Program, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Starting out as a seasonal visitor use technician position in 2004, Deonne eventually helped create and manage a formal social science program. Her areas of interest include study design, social science theory, applied social science, social psychology and quantification of the human system in public lands. She has degrees in Environmental Anthropology and Environmental Studies.

Deryn Wagner, Senior Planner, City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Deryn Wagner joined Open Space and Mountain Parks in 2015 and soon seized an opportunity to work with young people to support a trail planning project. Coming with a background in design and planning at the National Park Service and elsewhere, she's designed playgrounds with youth and family input, developed a sustainable comprehensive plan with help from elementary school students, and worked on plans for national parks around the country. Now leading a system plan for OSMP, she's looking for all kinds of ways to inspire, empower and celebrate young voices in charting the future of city open space.

Dan Williams, Senior Projects and Trainings Manager Volunteers, Outdoor Colorado. Dan has a decade of experience in the fields of sustainable trail construction and maintenance and volunteer based trails and ecological restoration projects. He joined VOC in 2013 and has since worked in all of the organization's major programmatic areas, including volunteer projects, youth programs and volunteer training and leadership development.

Ross Williams, Park Planner, El Paso County Parks. Originally a Nebraska native, Ross grew up on the Western Slope of Colorado and in a variety of Colorado mountain towns. He surrounded himself with many facets of outdoor recreation, including hiking, snowboarding, and mountain biking, and adopted a conservationist approach in regards to human interaction with the natural environment. He received his BA in Geography and Environmental Studies from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs in 1999, with an emphasis on physical geography, geomorphology, climate, and geographic information systems (GIS). After serving as a GIS Specialist for El Paso County for over a decade, Ross brought his



GIS, outdoor recreation, and environmental experience to El Paso County Parks in 2015 to become the new Park Planner, where he plays an integral role in planning and developing master plans for parks, trails, and open spaces.

Heather Young, Education Program Coordinator, Larimer County Department of Natural Resources. Heather was the project manager for the Larimer County Inspire Initiative through Great Outdoors Colorado and helped facilitate planning in Fort Collins and Loveland. With a background in environmental communication, Heather works to connect the citizens of Larimer County to the parks and open spaces they support by coordinating programming, community outreach events, interpretive signs and more.

Shaina Young, Communications Specialist at Jeffco Open Space. With a background in Journalism and Digital Media, Shaina enjoys the challenge of developing messages and programs that reach people at the right time and place for greatest impact. As a dog mom of three rescue pups, Shaina understands first-hand the delicate balance between personal dog responsibility and the complexities facing land managers.

Chris Yuan-Farrell, GOCO Open Space Program Coordinator. Chris's decade in conservation includes working as a landscape ecologist with The Nature Conservancy and as a Doris Duke Conservation Fellow and Colorado Open Lands Conservation Fellow. He manages GOCO's habitat restoration grant program in addition to conducting due diligence work.

Dan Zimmerer, Statewide Partnership Coordinator, Colorado Parks & Wildlife. Dan serves as the Statewide Partnership Coordinator for Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW). In his current role, he coordinates CPW's annual Partners in the Outdoors Conference, a key platform for organizations across the spectrum of the outdoor industry to gather, collaborate and discuss how to advance and balance outdoor recreation and conservation. Dan has a Bachelor's degree in natural resources from the Ohio State University and has worked in the field of natural resources for over 15 years. He has served in various roles including as a Park Ranger, Interpretive Naturalist, Outdoor Education Coordinator and Education Manager. He is also a Certified Interpretive Guide and Trainer through the National Association for Interpretation.