



PRESENTS

THE 2022 ROUTT COUNTY WILDFIRE MITIGATION CONFERENCE

Planning for a resilient future

Saturday, April 30 | 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Colorado Mountain College – Allbright Auditorium
1275 Crawford Ave

At this year's Routt County Wilfire Mitigation Conference, attendees will create personal and home wildfire readiness plans. The goals is for attendees to walk away with an action plan for initial mitigation around their homes and a personal evacuation plan for the event of a wildfire.

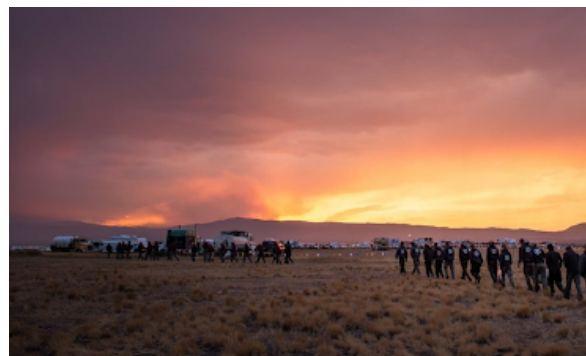
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SESSION 1: GROUNDING – LESSONS LEARNED & OUTLOOK FOR 2022 FIRE SEASON



CHECK-IN & REGISTRATION

8-8:30 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS & GROUNDING

8:30-8:40 a.m.

Todd Hagenbuch

CSU Extension

OUTLOOK FOR THE 2022 WILDFIRE SEASON

8:40-9 a.m.

Coleen Haskell

Rocky Mountain Interagency Coordination Center

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE LAST FIRE SEASON

9-9:30 a.m.

Brady Glauthier

Oak Creek Fire Protection District

David DeMorat

Routt County

Mike Swinsick

North Routt Fire Protection District

Sam Parsons

Colorado Division of Fire Protection & Control

Kevin Thompson

U.S. Forest Service

BREAK

9:30-9:45 a.m.

SESSION 2

WORKSHOP – INDIVIDUAL PREPAREDNESS

9:45-10:40 a.m.

Instructor leads workshop to develop an individual readiness plan

Pam Wilson

Coalitions & Collaboratives

BREAK

10:40-10:50 a.m.

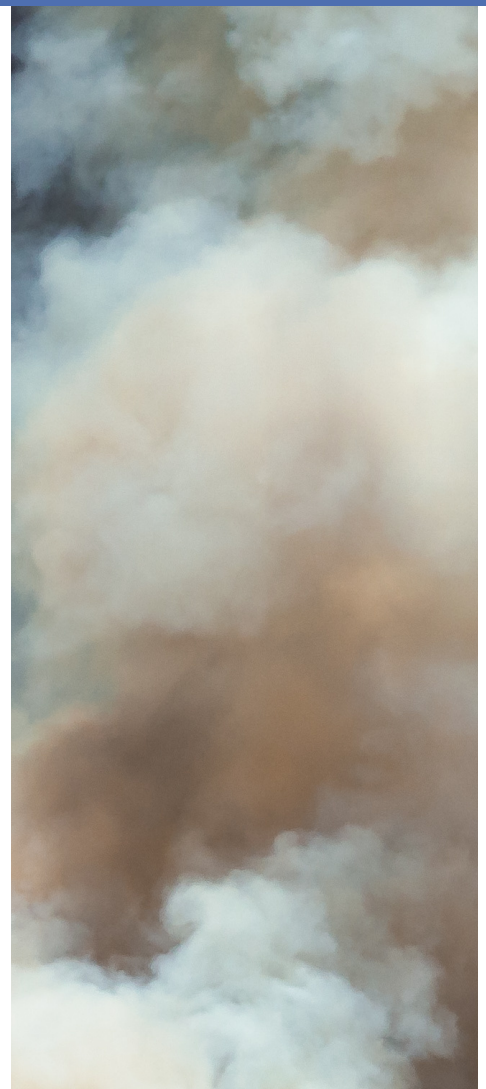
WORKSHOP – HOME PREPAREDNESS

10:50-11:45 a.m.

Instructor leads workshop to develop a home mitigation/readiness plan

John Twitchell

Colorado State Forest Service



SESSION 3

CO-EXISTING WITH WILDFIRE TAKES A COMMUNITY

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Tony Cheng

Colorado State University



SESSION 4

STORYBOARD AND CWPP INPUT: WHAT DOES OUR CITY AND COUNTY NEED TO DO TO MAKE YOU FEEL MORE PREPARED?

Ongoing

Routt County Wildfire Mitigation Council





About the Routt County Wildfire Mitigation Council

Routt County Wildfire Mitigation Council Mission Statement: The mission of the Routt County Wildfire Mitigation Council (RCWMC) is to create resilient fire-adapted communities to minimize potential impacts of wildfire. We do this through partnerships and coordination, education and outreach, and programs that assist with long-term risk reduction.

2022 Routt County Wildfire Mitigation Conference Steering Committee Members: Baili Foster, Todd Hagenbuch, Sarah Jones, Phil Lauinger, Carolina Manriquez, Ulrich Salzgeber, Nathan Stewart, Tim Sullivan, Julie Baxter, and Kevin Thompson

Learn more at routtwildfire.org

SPEAKERS

TODD HAGENBUCH

Todd Hagenbuch is the Ag/Natural Resources Agent and County Director of Colorado State University Extension in Routt County. The fourth generation of his family to ranch in Routt County, Todd understands first-hand the challenges surrounding ranching on the West Slope. Wildfire preparation and the need to think through those efforts hit home when the Green Creek Fire (2002) burned above his family's ranch and they were kept from grazing cattle on their forest permit due to the fire.



He began his career in Extension in 2012 and handles all manners of agricultural issues including land management, weed identification and control, horticulture, family succession facilitation, and more.



COLEEN HASKELL

Colorado is home for Coleen and after a hiatus of 25 years, she recently returned to join the staff at the Rocky Mountain Interagency Coordination Center in Lakewood. She spent the first 30 years of her life on the Front Range and was captivated by the field of weather following the Big Thompson Flood in 1976. As a young adult she served as a weather specialist in the Air National Guard for 11 years while she pursued her degree in meteorology and internships at the National Weather Service in Denver and Hastings, Nebraska where she also got her fair share of severe weather on the Plains.

From there she was called to the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho where she was an Incident Meteorologist (IMET) and fire weather program manager for the National Weather Service and then for Predictive Services. She raised her two children there and learned so much from teaching weather classes for firefighters and taking classes to learn more about fire behavior and smoke management. She also spent a few years at NIFC with the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) learning about research to operations and wildland fire policy. Her love for the mountains and fire science took her to Missoula, Montana's Northern Rockies GACC in 2018 where she delved into learning more about the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) with colleagues at the Missoula FireLab.

Coleen's return home to Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Area is timely in the sense that she is replacing her long-time friend and colleague Tim Matthewson who she attended high school with in Longmont. Their careers paralleled one another over the last 30 years and now she couldn't be more pleased to build on the Predictive Services program that he helped start and build.

She enjoys teaching, training, and sharing aspects of fire weather and fire danger with operations and strategic planners alike.

DAVID "MO" DEMORAT

Mo DeMorat graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 1987 and then spent the next nearly 24 years on active duty in the United States Marine Corps. Following his retirement in 2010, Mo began work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in Washington D.C. where he supported numerous presidentially declared disasters.

Mo started his current position as Routt County Emergency Operations Director in March of 2017 where he supervises the Routt County Communications Center and the Office of Emergency Management.



MIKE SWINSICK

Mike started as a volunteer firefighter in Michigan in 1980, moved to Colorado in early 1990, and moved to North Routt in 1993 after starting a family. He started volunteering again with NRFPD in 2005 and was promoted to Captain in 2009. Mike was then promoted/appointed District Chief in 2013 after retiring from working full-time at Routt Memorial/Yampa Valley Medical Center for 20 years as Fire & Life Safety Code Specialist/Plant Operations Director.

SAM PARSONS

Sam Parsons has over 20 years of experience in wildland fire, structural fire and forestry. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Colorado State University in Fort Collins. He is currently the Northwest District Chief for the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control and is based in Steamboat Springs. Prior to his current appointment he worked for the Fairmount Fire Protection District in Golden as an officer and Wildland Fire Operations Supervisor.

Parsons has extensive all-hazard incident management experience including responding to the 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the 2007 Greensburg Tornado, and the 2010 Haiti Earthquake. He is passionate about prescribed fire and its role in restoring western forest ecosystems, and mitigating large catastrophic fires. He has worked for the United States Peace Corps in Kenya, in the field of agroforestry, and traveled throughout Africa.



KEVIN THOMPSON

Kevin was born in southeast Montana. He went to college at Dickinson State University in North Dakota, and graduated with a B.A in Biology. His fire career started in southeast Montana in 2000. In 2005, Kevin took a job with the Craig Hotshots. As a member of Craig Hotshots, he fought fire in almost all of the western states. In 2007, Thompson had the opportunity to fight fire in Australia for 30 days. He became the Fuels Specialist for the BLM in Kremmling, CO in 2012. From 2013-15, Kevin was a Division trainee and Division Supervisor on Region 2 Incident Management Teams; Team Black and Team Red. In 2016, he took the Medicine Bow-Routt National.

Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland, South Zone Fire Management Officer position in Yampa, CO. That position oversees 27 staff in the South Zone fire program.

Thompson has been a part of Beaver Creek, Big Red, Silver Creek, Ryan, Mullen, East Troublesome, Middle Fork, Muddy Slide, and Morgan Creek fire management, as well as numerous smaller fires in the local area.

Project wise, he has worked on Steamboat Front, Little Snake North prescribed fire, Morrison Creek Fuel break, and pile burning projects locally.

PAM WILSON

Pam brings a unique blend of federal and nonprofit experience to her role as a consultant with Coalitions & Collaboratives, a national nonprofit based in Colorado, that works with wildfire practitioners across the U.S. During her 23 years with the U.S. Forest Service, Pam became a Type 1 Public Information Officer and worked wildfire and hurricane assignments across the U.S. It was this PIO work – working with communities and educating residents – that inspired Pam to launch her second career in wildfire mitigation.



In 2008, Pam began working for FireWise of Southwest Colorado (now Wildfire Adapted Partnership), where she served as Executive Director for nine years. During her tenure, FireWise, which served a five-county region, added FireWise Coordinators in three counties; participated in numerous collaborative partnerships; oversaw the completion of more than 20 subdivision-level Community Wildfire Protection Plans; helped 15 communities attain Firewise Communities USA recognition, and instituted several incentive programs to assist residents in their mitigation efforts.

In addition to her work with COCO, Pam serves as a Team Leader for the Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT), working with communities to share best practices and bolster their capacity for moving mitigation efforts forward. She is also a co-founder and current Board member of Fire Adapted Colorado (FACO), a state-wide network that brings practitioners together to share and learn from one another and collectively lead the way in creating a more fire adapted culture across the state.



JOHN TWITCHELL

John Twitchell is a Society of American Forester Certified Forester and SAF Fellow. He has worked in both state and private forestry in New Hampshire, Alaska, and Colorado. He has been a forester with the Colorado State Forest Service since 1998. He managed the Colorado State Forest until 2005 and has supervised the Steamboat Springs Field Office since that time. John assists in the management of state, private lands and federal lands throughout Northwest Colorado in his current position as a Supervisory Forester.

John has had the opportunity to fight fire across the west as a wildland firefighter for the CSFS for over twenty-five years of his career. He also worked through the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic over a similar period of time. These experiences have shaped his views as a proponent of managing forests across ownership boundaries to achieve social and environmental objectives at a meaningful scale. He has worked extensively with the Good Neighbor Authority and other collaborative mechanisms to help achieve these objectives.

DR. TONY CHENG

Tony Cheng is a professor in the Forest & Rangeland Stewardship department with an Extension/Research/Teaching appointment split and director of the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) and Principal for the Southern Rockies Fire Science Network (SRFSN) at Colorado State University. His research focuses on the conditions, structures, and strategies for cooperative, collaboration actions to restore, sustain, and enhance the resilience of forests and forest-reliant communities.



Through his Extension appointment, Tony oversees CFRI's and SRFSN's work to translate science into actionable knowledge to address forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation goals in the Interior Western United States.

Born and raised in Pullman, Washington in the heart of the Palouse region near the Idaho border, Tony received his undergraduate degree in Political Science at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, a MS in Forestry at the University of Minnesota, and a PhD in Forestry at Oregon State University. Between his MS and PhD (1993-94), Tony was a Research Fellow at American Forests in the Forest Policy Center. Tony has been at Colorado State University since 2000 and the director of CFRI since 2008.