**SRCA Retreat October 15 & 16, 2019**

Chris Canaly, Roz McClellan, Mike Gorman, Kim Pope, Mark Pearson, Katie Pellicore,

John Sztukowski, Matt Sandler, Soren Jespersen, Jim Ramey, Kelsey? (tws), Ian Roche, Sarah McCarthy, Noe Orgaz, Nathan Goodman, Jared Bynum, Hailey Hawkins, Tom Sobal, Lexi Tuddenham, Mason, Matt Reed, Ben Katz, Steve Bonowski, Tracy Coppola, Lauren Berutich, Lisa Pool, Robyn Cascade, Alicia Zeringue, Beau Kiklis, Jeff Widen, Gabriel Otega, Julie Mach, John Murtaugh

**Lay of the land – State Sarah**

**2019**

* HB 1261 carbon reduction by 2050
* SB 181
* Mining bill
* HB 1314 create CO just transition office

**2020 keep confidential**

* proposition CC
* prop DD 96% would go to funding Colorado Water Plan

new ideas for State legislation:

Criteria for priority bills:

* environmental impact bang for buck
* timely, strategic campaign
* advancing democracy
* Equity in public lands work – decision makers POC around the table and POC on the land; Outdoor Equity Fund (passed in NM but not funded) Next 100 CO chapter of national organization led by POC and serve POC opportunities to get folks outdoor, momentum with NM and positive energy under Polis.
* Sustainable Recreation: overuse; conservation intrinsic values. Address lodging taxes that have been used for tourism promotion to shift toward wildlife management/sustainable recreation/trail maintenance ? who regulates lodging tax? Steamboat voted to shift lodging tax to trail construction. Many local planning processes do not go through NEPA so … Soren: Landscape wide recreation planning, vision document for county Need $ (not available through CPW) Tom: add education to use. Chaffee sales tax (approx million per year will go toward managing impacts of recreation) example “dispersed camping corral” $ NOT for new recreation opportunities. Lots to be worked out. Roz: regional recreation planning process underway and would be a mistake to create a new structure to recreation planning. example of existing: 285, Telluride, Steamboat. Steve: La Veta trails group. CMC will be at table for 285
* Habitat corridors/
* Bolster Just Transition Fund. Gov Polis and Blue-green Alliance. Discussion underway
* DNR toying with idea of Mtn Bike Tax ensuring that $ goes to maintenance and habitat not increase trails.
* Jim: renaming Mt Evans two pending proposal, potential renaming of Mt Evan’s wilderness – act of Congress. possible names = Mt Cheyenne, Mt Arapaho. Steve: reference change name of Kit Carson, keep original name and use as teachable moment.
* Sarah-NOTE: next legislative session is election year. Polis is hands-on governor with legislature vs Hick (hands-off)
* Jim start of Polis era: DNR, favorable Dan Gibbs but Dan is super busy so build relationships at lower levels. Broads engaging with CPW/DNR staff and commission. GMUG meeting with Doug Vilsack Oct 28

**Federal Lay of the land - Jim**

1. Current status

 opposition/proponents to conservation efforts: Senate 47/53 House 235/197

Positive

* undo tax ANWR stand alone bill in House
* Offshore drill ban
* CORE Act, Chaco and Grand Canyon vote on House floor week of Oct 28
* every CO delegate but Tim Buck voted for Natural Resources Act/LWCF

2. Defense

* Acting DOI **William Perry Pendley** 245 million acres :Judy NWF asked question about BLM move. Bennet pushing back; Gardner – not doing anything. SRCA could be doing more to push Gardner and highlight his (lack of) accountability Matt: Op ed staff at Post?
* **NEPA rollback**- sweeping and unprecedented. Could be the test case for broader rollback at CEQ (Council on Environmental Quality) Sarah: how many comments? ??? Matt: Gunnison District Ranger supports NEPA rollback due to understaffing and under funded. We should confer with our District Rangers. Chris: RG Forest Supervisor Dan Dallas says its been in the works since Obama. Lexi: friend who works in DC says NEPA gets in way of “getting stuff done” forest health, etc. Tom: USFS wants us to just trust them. They say: we are the experts. We can’t predict the future. Jim: seeing in GMUG few standards/guidelines, some of us not comfortable with that. (Steve: Dave Jenkins movement on UT monuments) Matt S. Keep submitting comments so we can take them to court if need be.
* **ESA**: Hailey, all on board with reintroduction of gray wolves in CO
* continuing resolution passed House Appropriation Bill. No legacy riders this year!!! (to exclude any species or use of funds.) House version increases $ in 4 categories. ESA works, but need more funding to implement the act. Senate Appropriation bill 1.5 billion increase for FWS and??? Encourage Senator Bennet push to adopt the house version. Worst thing to come in history of ESA 800,000 comments opposing proposed regulation. Final regs: Section 7 Consultation related to critical habitat. cumulative impacts will not be addressed; mitigation; economic analysis; removing climate change from critical habitat analysis; blanket 4D rule under previous rule newly listed “threatened” species will be treated like “endangered” – no longer under new rule such as wolverine, monarch butterfly. If a species is listed but doesn’t have critical habitat designated, it will not be protected. Lauren: PAW FIN Act HR 4348 bill opposes the ESA debaucle. Mark Udall and Neguse have sponsored. Rally Bennet
* UT **Roadless Rule** was not undermined, but roadless areas in Tongass still at risk. Lauren: have BB in AK may do Broadwalk.
* **e-bikes:** various agencies proposing to open non-motorized to ebikes. Tom: Does not even restrict to trails!! E-bikes could travel cross-country. Matt: mtn bike community self-reflective; use as bridge issue to reach out to mtn bike community. Lisa: where’s the opportunity Jim: heading to litigation Mark: BLM travel management EA. TWS has written robust letter refer to it. In San Juan forest will have to amend the TMP. Pro ebike advocating to add another category for TMP – ugh! Mark will send Alison Flint TWS comment letter Tracy: NPCA Dinosaur NP will allow ebikes; colleagues in UT tracking for NP. Piecemeal process that makes us uneasy. Steve: Jefferson County open space did extensive study and now allow ebikes on trails. Motorized user groups using ebikes as an inroad to allowing motor bikes trails. Spencer: Boulder County also did a study that Steamboat has been given. Framing and messaging: mtn bikers are divided. We are not going to win the science argument because we don’t have the data. However Dave if you classify mtn bike and ebikes together it will be more difficult to designate future mtn bike trails since more impacts if include ebikes. Tom: in planning process, mtn bikes do NOT want to be lumped with ebikes. Speed of impact/wildlife impact, social conflict between ebikers and mtn bikers. Having a motor removes fitness obstacle. Even Scott Jones says heavier bike, greater distance greater impact. Matt: thanks Tom for providing literature/resources!!

3. Pro-Active

* No funding for BLM move.
* Arctic NWR undo loophole
* Arctic Refuge Wilderness Bill
* LWCF permanent reauthorization – Senator Gardner, where is the $? companion bill in house. Bill could get a hearing, but unlikely. not getting full funding of $900 million
* DeGette methane bill has hearing lately
* ? reform
* Bonding reform

4. Access related bill -equity (like climate) permeates everything we do

Outdoors for All Act – dedicated source of funding for Legacy Fund to increase $ for cities and towns

Transit to trails – block grants for transit project to get folks to trails (bipartisan)

SOAR Act Simplify Outdoor Act to Recreation – improve process for outfitters like taking Boy Scouts. Steve: concern if that bill passes would grant commercial outfitters benefit over local groups. Soren: Paul Sanford. at TWS. Wide coalition working to improve SOAR. This bill would have no impact on expanding user days or reallocate

Tracy: Safer Tribal H3846 (Lujan) S2165 (Heinrick/Merkowski) increase penalties for theft, desecration. Lisa: who are groups leading this?? Nathan: herbs/medicinal plants or just human related objects??

Vet outreach in/to national parks. In recognition of effort, Accelerating Vets Recovery Act. need to educate public. identify opportunities to coordinate (create a study/task force) public lands with Vet groups. build support nationwide. Neguse, Tipton, Crow support, neither CO Senator. See Tracy’s recent email re: spoiled NPs

Break:

Mike Gorman: encourage Tipton and Gardner staffers to talk to Mesa College students (via Gabriel) and do a flyover!!

**CLIMATE CHANGE – Lauren**

Like DEI, climate change is woven into our work. Jane Fonda….

Broads – received grant for Climate Education and Stewardship (but no advocacy) hired staff.

Where does your work intersect with climate change and how do you want to dive deeper tomorrow? Why aren’t folks talking about it? Old – too complex New: too hard to talk about.

Matt R.: Do groups here have experience with climate change related stewardship projects. HCCA did sage grouse restoration. Logging is so impactful.

Nathan: private lands conservation/restoration. Draws in ranchers as allies.

Lisa: Oregon BB teaming with Oregon Wild Forest Defense is Climate Defense, planting trees.

Matt S: SRCA used to have a Climate subcommittee. RMW Pika project –monitoring

Ben K: Coal mine methane, members on working group in Delta County. How to create projects around that?

Lexi: community group Carbon Neutrality Group. some want to plant trees. interested in Pika project.

John : revamping plan; climate resilient analysys. climate refugia – near riparian areas. USFS has temperature prediction

Mike: carbon offset. What are options? Lexi: carbon offset at Telluride airport

Chris: 4 corners science policy and public lands at Western State University = resource. Chris participated in panel. Maria Caffrey- climate scientist measuring sea level change working with NPS. Trump dismantled all climate change monitoring infrastructure so US now relies on other countries to provide data. Matt R: WSU also ramping up engineering oil and gas training.

Mark: what’s objective of this session. Is it what individuals can do (our members) or about big policy that SRCA can engage. ex climate change removed from RGNF plan.

Jim R: Climate curriculum, public lands education

Steve: <climateconservative.org> received grant funding, NV, working with conservative delegates

Robyn: grazing – Bighorn Sheep monitoring

Tom: how do we respond to minimizing of the critical reality

John: wildlife plan intersection

Tracy: transportation as relates to climate. RMNP in planning process working with gateway communities. Lauren: traffic AND dust in air.

Nathan: DEI tribal outreach, indigenous communities – in CO two recognized reservations, plus Uintah Utes 7 bands plus urbanized indigenous residents. How ca we reach out to tribal communities, bring indigenous groups into the conversation, how do we protect cultural landscapes. Are we addressing issues that matter to Indigenous communities. Only federal level regs, no state regs. Colorado a leader in recognizing cultural resources for example Fisher Tower if becomes a state park. Bringing gifts is really important.

Chris: went to Navajo nation to ask if forest plan was reflective of their needs/concerns. Window Rock – women who had become decision makers. “We used to think if we ignored an area, it would left alone. Now we know we need to protect them.”

Sarah: seeking consultations excellent, better to invite Indigenous folks to our meetings.

Steve: culturally-altered trees

Mark P: authentically engage with native folks re: issues that are in important to them Dine Care. Provide resources to forward their concerns. SJCA cannot participate within tribal politics. In NM, tribal leadership has been engaged in Chaco for example.

Southern Utes so long discriminated against that they are hesitant to engage now that they are financially self-sufficient. Ute Mtn Ute has challenges within their own community so less bandwidth to work outside.

Noe: heard conversations that oppression is so long and deep. first step through restorative justice process: 1) accept guilt 2) plan to move forward, Once acceptance of guilt, POC are very forgiving. Indigenous policies and laws that are happening now. We should listen and learn. White issues/environmental issues may not be the priorities.

Tom: agencies are not good at proactive management. tending toward more reactive management

Nathan: showing up better than email, phone. Talk to Nathan about approaching council members. 4 months to get a meeting. Respect sovereign nation. CO Commission of Indian Affairs (state agencies, tribes, focused on public health (not environment) Quarterly meeting in Dec. John Anderson ($250/hour) is NOT Ute expert regarding culturally significant trees. Need to consult Indigenous folks.

Steve: Native American Rights Federation/Foundation in Boulder – focused more on federal legislation

Kim: go to Ute Indian Museum. Look at Jimez principals for democratic organizing. Kim will send

Jared: what does DEI look like. I would suggest put in the work to find communities of color. Be there and listen, build relationships. Meet people where they are and listen to their issues. Environmental issues concern of our times, but some POC are looking at tomorrow – survival.

Lauren: let’s make time and space to continue discussion.

Noe: 4 components to the medicine wheel. First step = Self: how did you benefit from white privilege. Next: SRCA group.

**WILDERNESS**

**CORE Act:** 4 landscapes San Juan; Continental Divide; Thompson Divide Mineral Withdrawal; Curecanti NRA. Vote week of Oct 28 House committee “rules” decide if bill will go to the floor.

Tipton’s discussion draft of **REC Act** Includes SJ and Curecanti plus wilderness in Sangres/

Tracy: what might amendments look like?

Jim: HAATS program. amendment allow HAATS to operate. perhaps, withdrawal of all lands in 3rd Congressional District. Looks like REC Act might be introduced in Jan 2020.

Steve: Will Neguse include Sangres addition? Jim: maybe not since it’s a new parcel and the other 4 landscapes have been so well vetted for over a decade.

Mike: Is methane language in CORE. Jim: expand methane capture to Garfield and Pitkin in addition to Delta.

Sarah: Ouray listening session didn’t give us much hope. After CORE Act passes the House, give our attention to Gardner in the Senate. Don’t wait our energy on Tipton. Celebrate our win in the House and then focus on Senate. Bennet and Neguse office say hold Gardner accountable. Biz support, stakeholders, traditionally conservative voices.

Chris: Senator Bennet potential after the CORE Act vote to introduce separate legislation for Sangres (largely Saugache County; little of Alamosa County)

Jeff/Jim or add to GPLI (450,000 acres total/100,000 acres wilderness) crafting language now or soon.

Mark: will Hinsdale County Commissioners Democrat appointment attend Turret Ridge field trip? Jeff: No.

**CO Wilderness Act**

DeGette. First proposed in 1999. BLM was mucking with WSAs and BLM lands we wanted protected. So asked CO delegation to propose legislation to limit BLM shenanigans. DeGette introduced every two years. Got hearing in 116th house for first time in 20 years. Hopeful committee mark up in autumn 2019. In 2000s NW BLM lands were removed due to an internal BLM management process. Current includes: 33 areas 740ish thousand acres. National interest lands so doesn’t matter if all the counties support. Doing more vetting now – climbing community, mtn bike, etc and likely will drop some areas due to existing use – climbing, oil and gas. Only overlap with McKenna Peak, and a section within the TD proposed as wilderness and parcel near Curecanti.

**MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Chris: **Rio Grande Forest** Plan Revision: first management plan crafted under new 2012 Forest Plan. Focused on major landscapes for wilderness and special interest area (later revealed USFS hates SIA!) Collected lots of baseline data. Recommended 380,000 acres for designation. ROD recommends Sangres as wilderness but no designations in the South San Juan and likely the best wildlife habitat/corridors in San Juan Mtns!! October 1, 2019 = 120 page objection submitted. FS wants to analyze on site specific basis, not in the forest plan. Major objections: timber suitability, winter snowmobile use, big game habitat, rangeland/livestock not addressed; never address sustainable road analysis; lynx linkage habitat – Wolf Creek development within lynx habitat and no protection from recreation impacts; species of concern; best available science, threatened/endangered species – totally avoided listing “desired future conditions;” W & S Rivers, CO/NM corridor Spruce Hole/Osier area not protected; doesn’t address climate change.

Robyn: did local USFS staffers support this final draft.

Chris & Tom: the greatest allies have retired due to frustration, those remaining will likely voice their protest to the final plan.

Matt: **GMUG** Chad Stewart in conversation with Matt said RG plan is too prescriptive!!! Timber issue. Possible that GPLI not reflected in GMUG plan due to timber. Planning team: new wilderness would be a BIG DEAL. Agency wants flexibility (adaptive management) sets precedent that agency has maximum control. Chad expects GPLI could/should be its own alternative.

Mark: will timber industry influence GPLI Matt: yes. Big timber mill in Montrose with few hundred employees. Ponderosa from as far as La Plata county; Taylor Park lease driven by Montrose mill. Matt has written op ed re: beetle kill. Visit HCCA site for Matt’s OpEd. Bill Baker former USFS timber beetle surviving, climate change surviving most resilient trees research paper

Tom: Pike San Isabel TMP doing the absolute minimum. Not paying attention to comprehensive management. Tom has talking points. Converting many roads to motorized trails so don’t have to pay attention to road density and can apply for OHV funds. UGH!!

Steve: CPW reviewing for Good Management status.

**Wednesday**

**Muddy Points:**

Robyn: what about outdoor equipment tax; not just mtn bike fee (note it’s not a tax, but a registration fee if you want to ride on public lands.) Steve: untenable- study he performed with others years ago; Roz: CPW Meridian Report Wildlife Habitat Stamp that anyone can buy optional.

Lauren: SW Colorado Outdoor Recreation ??? in Durango area to promote recreation. Coming to a town near you.

Lisa: State outdoor recreation alliances model after Grand Junction. Who knows about?

Beau: alliances popping up in communities as well as statewide; right now rec and conservation mostly butting heads

Roz: are the county planning processes including DNR.

Beau: Office of Outdoor Rec sits in Office of Development so though interact with DNR, they operate under different goals. Nathan Vaya talking with Dan Gibbs.

Lexi: master planning in San Miguel. SMA has complex place at the table with history of opposing extraction. DNR is involved. Outside presenters, rec advocates think their trails are find.

**Governance:**

* Co-chairs serve for one year. Jim Ramey will join Kim Pope as co-chairs for 2020
* Current Steering committee =
1. Chris Canaly
2. Caitlin C Defenders
3. Juli Slivka
4. Lauren Berutich
5. Kim Pope
6. Lexi Tuddenham
7. Jim Ramey
8. Julie Mach
9. Matt S. RMW

potential new steering committee : Matt Reed!!!

Mark:Funding for SRCA? EFA. Landscape Collaborative. Lexi and Jim: Alison G. moved on it, but we were not recipients. Tracy: funding for these meetings or program funding? Mark: program for example funded GIS person and Eric Clark Rec Specialist, one year Roadless Area initiative. Idea: increase each organization’s capacity that fostered a collective project/campaign. Any obvious gaps in capacity or cumulative project (ex. recreation impacts?) Action item: two subcommittees 1) climate change 2) SRCA funding . Lisa: money begets money and a collective grant could support underfunded organization especially those serving/directed by POC.

Request: Distribute SRCA members & SRCA steering committee

Roz: topics for Winter Retreat: invite DNR/CPW to address status of state’s wildlife

Dates for Winter Retreat: align with CoCO legislative session.

**OIL & GAS/CLIMATE**

Sarah:**opportunities for engagement and consistent messaging**

opportunities:

Sarah:**March 2020 lease sale**. Scoping ended Oct 15; overlap with sage grouse and wildlife corridor in North Park; Snake River, Kremmling. Expect next few lease sales to be robust given end of administration. Statewide CO conservation coalition meets when needed by phone and National coalition lead by Western

Matt: raise issues with lease sales when inconsistent with RMPs.

Lisa: nearly all BLM land in North Park has been leased.

Tracy: elk/ungulate migration is an argument, but CPW mapping is less than optimal.

Kelsy: RMW has compiled CPW data for lease sales and secretarial order units but do not cover North Park. CO state action plan has language that includes good talking points re: wildlife corridors/habitat

Tom: we know the corridors but what are the action items to protect them.

Sarah: want public to thank DNR for past deferral and ask to do same for March 2020 lease sale.

Mark: Is there federal direction coming to USFS like BLM to lease as much as possible.

Alexis & Sarah & Kelsy: doesn’t seem a national trend.

Matt: separating GMUG planning from oil and gas leasing.

Sarah: **SB 181**. Reform COGCC for long time. Alters mission of COGCc to prioritize health and safety; allow local governments to set standard higher than SB 181 set; regulate emissions AQCC. Rule making 6 month plan 1) Oct-Feb Mission change stakeholder meetings possible remote call in with larger rule making Feb 26/27.

Robyn:Could we plan SRCA retreat around that time. 2) Cumulative Impact rulemaking culminating end of March. Rally turnout and comments to influence rulemaking. Dec 10 and 11 Durango/Rifle Dec ? Denver rulemaking lowering emissions stakeholder meetings.

Mark: Does COGCC has juristiction over state and private lands; not federal lands

Beau: regulating at state level is great but what about NM cross border and federal lands.

Mark: NM just kicked off a process to address emissions. SJCA is at the table. 3 statewide meeting over summer 2019

Steve: methane capture

Mike: is Navajo Nation working toward? Mark doesn’t know but Southern Ute active in setting standards that mirror state rules

Sarah: SB 236 require Tri-state

Katie: holding two rule-making sessions. 1) Oct 15 hearing 2) satellite hearing in November Katie will share dates.

Mark: Tri-state trying to circumvent state rules by applying to FERC for oversight

Sarah commits to sharing info as arises

Matt S. Use FOIA to obtain info re: impacts. Matt happy to help file FOIA request.

**Kim messaging and organizing re: oil and gas**

Lauren: making public lands part of the solution to climate change

Beau: Business Alliance: use outdoor recreation as lead into climate messaging; intersection of issues – water, climate, equity.

Kim: Sierra. Beyond Coal, Climate work at this time separate from public lands work. Need to build the nexus.

Matt: nexus between logging and climate change. Dogwood Alliance (Ashville, NC) = resource. Weave climate change issue as reason to not log beetle kill. Community Conservation Proposal offers large landscape protection as resilience to climate change

Nathan: Water as relates to climate – recreation, agriculture and municipalities are affected.

Alexis: communicate large landscape protection as aspect of ecosystem resiliency/climate change. Next Generation leaders ambassadors to speak to community and as guides for how WW messages.

Lexi: working on drought and/or air pollution as in road to climate.

Lauren: orca and Atlantic Right whale impact

Kelsey: even locally = mule deer

Steve: Logging of boreal forest in Canada for single use paper products – TP, paper towel. 60% of New Zealand’s emissions = agriculture.

Matt S: agriculture – vegetarian events.

Sarah: opportunity to elevate voices of sportsmen re: climate change.

Noe: climate change messaging re: vulnerable communities. Not just endangered species, but endangered humans. Vulnerable/marginalized communities

Gabriel: Juan at TWS. Climate plan. Build with voices from the community

Chris: 2006 Ecosystem Council worked with EPA (amazing people doing important work locally) to test homes – water. Wortked with local public health to distribute free test kits: pesticides, heavy metals, bacteria, etc. CARE Grants Community Action for Renewed Environments. public input with illegal dumping, water and air quality rising as priorities. Working with Colorado College to ask local: What are you doing to change your behavior because of climate change? Hemp uses one-fourth of water required for alfalfa. At end of October, Chris will share out questions and etails about this project

Mark: grazing/agriculture Thompson Divide, GPLI. We can’t be using ranching community to benefit our advocacy and then attack them for climate impact.

Tracy: rural community voice

Matt: HCCA could not go up against ranching community

Robyn: analogy with coal to renewable transition; meat based agriculture to fruits and vegetable. Will take time and education

Chris: some lands lend self to grazing like San Luis Valley

Tom: Ranchers want to ranch as it’s hard job.

Nathan: CoCO working with small scale producers who are water conservationists, planting native grasses, soil health, conservation easements. Enemy is big ag – not our local small producers. Tax credits for land conservation easements and for next generation who inherit lands that are in conserved easements. Local production doesn’t add to transportation climate impact.

Jared: Diverse issues re: stakeholders. Great topic for discussion for next SRCA. We HAVE to talk about animal agriculture as it is single largest contributor to climate change.

**WILDLIFE**

Hailey: **Wildlife Corridor Conservation Act.** See Hailey’s handout. Status: introduced in both chamber in May 2019. Hearing House WOW Committee October 17 (same committee as RAWA Recovering Wildlife Act) Send emails to republicans to co-sponsor by tomorrow. Lanborn, Gardner, Tipton

Beau: who is funding? Who will designate the corridor?

Hailey: not certain however expect to be similar ESA listing process but for landscape. application/consultation with agencies/promotion/analysis

Lauren: across borders, collaborative efforts

Tom: will circulate state legislation HB 1298 related to oil and gas and wildlife corridors.

Hailey: **Secretarial Order 3662** Winter Range and Big Game – improving migration corridors across the west. CPW only had a couple of weeks. Originally only had two corridors but upon resubmission 5 priority areas plus 5 research areas.

Tom: Zinke’s DOI secretarial order. Does it apply to USFS/DOA lands???

Hailey: Can you copy and paste your notes re SO here??

**Governor Polis Executive Order:** DNR analyze ungulate movement; policy, legislation to solidify corridors as priority. Legislation important since it will outlast this governorship. Expect spring 2020. Stakeholder process. Hailey can connect your organization. Mandate CDOT to consider wildlife corridors in every decision and project. Makes communication between CDOT and DNR mandatory. Hailey and allies looking at legislation. Contact Hailey if want to be involved Colorado Transportation and Wildlife Coalition.

Lauren: strategy for stakeholder meetings….

Matt S: **Connectivity** people’s safety is a component that we can message as well as impact on wildlife. Western Wildway Network map. Wildlife bridge over east moving lane at E. Vail Pass. $5 millions to construct. rodent bridge, underpasses – each species has different needs/preferences (ie will they travel through a dark tunnel) crab bridge, blue penguin underpass (NZ) turtle crossing under railroad tracks. RMW fighting among other groups to protect **Wolf Creek Pass**. (2000 unit development proposed to house 10,000 people) Not just the development but the traffic, increased recreation, the additional workers to construct and serve. Major migration corridor connects Weminuche and S. San Juan Wilderness Areas (lynx) Underpass not feasible as snow obstructs. Current status: Judge sent back to agency, agency granted right of way; in litigation again. National Litigation Conservation Act? Southern Rockies Lynx violating Std 1, but could amend forest plan and violate standard legally. FS has not amended. **Tres Rios Oil and Gas leasing** lease sale parcels adjacent to and within critical sage grouse habitat What we can do? ID corridors and conflicts, gile comments, objections, protests, etc. get maps; messaging/frame issue. Eagle Valley presenter how oil and gas impacting wildlife.

Lauren: Outdoor Retailer show might be opportunity (breakfast) to push wildlife corridor initiatives. Further discussion needed, Other issues?

Hailey: Some folks in room don’t work on wildlife per se and only wilderness, do we include corridors in our messging? Resounding yes!

John M:.org jmurtaugh@Defenders.org 720-943-0471 **Wolves** illegal for wolves to enter Colorado from S.???? Over 60% support from public for reintroduction. If restore wolves to CO CPW can’t decide because they are not a federal agency with authority. that’s why CPW has not come out in support of reintroduction. Outreach for 107 will begin in January 2020. See John’s powerpoint.

Tom: reluctance of CPW to lead on reintroduction.

John: under the radar, Polis is supportive of reintroduction and part of his selection for CPW leadership. CPW and AFIS interested in involvement in public workshops. John has some positive interactions with Wildlife Service.

Steve: Where’s funding for reintroduction.

John: planning for 3ish extra staff. no source for competition fund.

**RECREATION**

Julie: Colorado Mtn Club Recreation Impact Monitoring System (CMC RIMS) tool to collect data; can also pull in data fro other sources. Currently geared toward land managers. Currently 4 modules: trails, campsite, signs & facilities visitor information. Can look at other surveyors’ data. Resurvey over time. Chaffee County over 800 campsit surveys.

Roz: **intersection of science and politics**. Lots of trail development, but not as much emphasis on impact of trails on wildlife. Roz can send *Planning Trails with Wildlife in Mind* electronically. Trails program is updating handbook. Previously avoidance approach to keep trails off of critical species. Need to move toward larger landscape approach to minimize habitat fragmentation (which is different from connectivity) TWS isolation approach.

Nathan: consider cultural sites not through avoidance but as consideration

Julie: State Historic and Preservation O. SHPO potential resource but not strict enough

Tom: agency personnel and SHPO need to step up their game and be more outspoken.

Tom: Journal of Forest Ecology: Elk Response to Use on Public Lands. (well done study.) **ALL recreation impacts wildlife.** ATV, mtn bikes, equestrian & hikers. Avoidance distance by user and even avoidance if no one on the trail!! Impact on wildlife goes significantly beyond the actual trail. Between 500 to 700 meters on either side of trail representing 100s of acres of affected landscape. Tom will send study.

Hailey & Tom: cortisol levels and heart rates increased in wildlife species disturbed (or seemingly accustomed/habituated) near human. Ian: when distrupt a deer increase its caloric need by 25%

Steve: Steve Johnson (attorney) in Telluride interested in trail impacts on

October 29 Subcommittee Colorado the Beautiful (CtB) review

Nov 13 in person presentations from CtB applicants

Nov 14/15 Wray CPW Commission meeting

Dec 6 State Trails Committee Denver CtB recommendations

Jan 2020 CPW Commission meeting (likely to approve CtB grants)

Game cameras on site on Front Range?? Thank you Grover Cleveland for funding this project!! He talked about much more than I could capture.

Tom: priorities for Pike San Isabel TMP: considering roads as trails, though motorized plan they are ignoring quiet users; adherence to forest plan standards (ie seasonal closures to protect wildlife. Tom will send out talking points.