

# SOCIETY FOR Central Rockies SER Meeting Summary

ECOLOGICAL Wednesday, December 4th, 2013, 12:00pm ~ 1:00pm

RESTORATION Fort Collins, CO and Denver, CO

Attendance: 14

Fort Collins: Mark Paschke, Brett Wolk

Denver: Tim Hoelzle, Josh Eldridge, Toney Ott

Phoneland: Randy Mandel, Casey Cisneros, Brock Bowles, Ray Sperger, Ann Frazier,

Claire DeLeo, Steve Yochum, Megan Bowes.

## President's Report:

Mark participated in the quarterly conference call with leaders from other SER chapters to discuss updates from SER and hear what other chapters are up to. SER is creating sections that will allow groups of like-minded people to easily communicate about a topic of special interest. The first section formed will be on large scale ecosystem restoration, but other groups discussing issues such as mine restoration, wetland restoration, and other topics will likely come soon. Anyone can suggest a new section if there is a topic of interest.

#### **Treasurer Report**

Our current balance grew since the last meeting to \$13,435.63, with income from t-shirt sales and membership dues. Central Rockies SER t-shirts make a great stocking stuffer, we have all sizes of men's and women's shirt sizes. Contact treasurer Tim Hoelzle <a href="https://example.com/THoelzle@greatecology.com">THoelzle@greatecology.com</a> if you're interested in a stylish Central Rockies SER shirt for yourself or your company, they can be picked up in Denver, Fort Collins, or shipped to an address of your choice.

## The October Central Rockies chapter meeting summary was officially approved!

## Secretary Report

Membership continues to climb, we gained 4 new members in the past month and are up to 78 dues paying chapter members. We also set up a chapter listserv that seems to be working great. Anyone who is subscribed to the email list can send a message to <a href="CERSER-L@colostate.edu">CERSER-L@colostate.edu</a> and everyone in the chapter will get the email. This makes communication much easier and allows all members to send messages directly to the group, not just the through the secretary. Currently there are 112 people signed up. Contact secretary Brett Wolk <a href="Brett.Wolk@colostate.edu">Brett.Wolk@colostate.edu</a> if you want to add a new email address to the list or change your subscription.

## Fundraising Committee - Tell your friends about us!

The fundraising committee has been waiting in the wings and ready to spur into action at a moments notice. Our most successful fundraiser recently has been through membership dues, so please tell your friends about all the exciting things happening with the chapter and encourage them to join the party.

The Central Rockies Chapter of the Society of Ecological Restoration

Presents the **Free** Pub Talk:

## Ecology and Hydrology of Fires and Floods: Applied Science in a Changing Landscape

Presented by Steven Yochum and Jonas Feinstein of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

## At New Belgium Brewery in Fort Collins, CO

500 Linden Street, Fort Collins, CO 80524

January 30, 2014

7 - 9:30 p.m.

Food, Beer & Ecological Restoration

## Outreach Committee Updates (Formerly called Events Committee)

More pub talks are planned, and Casey Cisneros has been busy arranging our event at New Belgium Brewery in January. New Belgium is graciously providing free beer and free use of their tap room for the event, but we are required to provide food for participants. The chapter approved use of funds to buy food and Casey is going to look into catering options. The fundraising committee will likely get involved as well and try to get a sponsor to help pay the food bill. Susan Sherrod is also arranging a pub talk in Boulder likely in February on fire, bark beetles, and disturbance ecology. More to come soon!

The outreach committee had a conference call with leadership from Wildlands Restoration Volunteers about how the Central Rockies SER could work together with WRV on a project. We are going to pick one or two WRV projects for next year to collaborate with them. We also discussed providing expertise from Central Rockies members to give a WRV crew leader training. A few speakers for the training are already lined up, but we are still looking for someone with expertise in road obliteration, geomorphology, and plant ID/botany skills. If you are interested in participating in one of these trainings contact Ann Frazier. A follow up call is planned with WRV to finalize our new collaboration and see how we can work together more in the future.

The outreach committee is always looking for new ideas and enthusiastic help. If you would like to join and help make our chapter fun and active, contact the chapter secretary Brett Wolk.

#### **Elections**

It was decided that an election will be held in late December or early January for the position of Vice President/President Elect. Current President Mark Paschke is term limited, so he will retire in 2014 and Vice President Randy Madel will move into the President's position, leaving the vice presidency vacant. Mark and Megan Bowes volunteered to seek nominations and conduct the election. Brett and Tim will continue as secretary and treasurer respectively until 2015, when new elections will be held for those positions.

#### Scientific Meeting Committee Update

Our enthusiasm continues building towards holding a scientific meeting. Randy, Mark and Ray breached the idea about holding a joint meeting with the High Altitude Revegetation Committee and the HAR group was mostly receptive to us joining their party. However, HAR strongly prefers to have a meeting in the spring, while we had discussed a fall 2014 meeting, so our chapter agreed we could wait until spring 2015 to hold a meeting. Randy also approached the Colorado Riparian Association and they already have a meeting planned for October 2014, but would be interested in potentially partnering with us in the spring of 2015. The scientific meeting committee will follow up with the Ecological Society of America local chapter and Society for Wetland Scientists to gauge their interest. Once the committee finishes their fact finding mission about who is interested and what each organization will bring to the table we can make a decision about when to have a meeting and who to work with. The committee currently has 8 members, but more are welcome to help! Contact Mark Paschke mark.paschke@colostate.edu if you are interested in pitching in with whatever skills and time you can provide.

## **Next Meeting**

The next chapter meeting will be in mid January. Exact time and location TBA. Hopefully the Arctic blast will have subsided, the sun will be shining, and the temperature will be at least in double digits next time around.