

## SCCORR Stakeholder Meeting minutes, January 31, 2024.

Abe	Proffitt		Leah	Griffith	
Alex	Krebs		Leslie		
Andy	Hawk	Phoenix Recycling	Lo	Williams	SJNF
Anthony	Culpepper	MSI	Luke	Kline	Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
Ashley	Downing	Wildfire Adapted Partnership	Meghann	Burke	SJMA
Bob	Milford	Pagosa Area Trails Group	Melissa	May	MSI
Bryan	Meador	San Juan Sledders	Michelle	Furi	Coordinator
Bryan	Petersen	Bear Smart	Mike	Hurst	Durango Trails
Chara	Ragland	Great Old Broads for Wilderness	Morgan	Anderson	
Curt	Larsen	San Juan Trail Riders	Nick	Olson	NFF
Deanne	Gallegos	Visit Silverton	Owen	Tallmadge	City of Durango
George			Paul	Blackman	SJNF - Pagosa
John	Whitney	Sen. Bennett	Sam	Pankratz	NFF
Jordan	Williams	Continental Divide Trail, CO rep	Thomas	Brice	
Josh	Peck	SJNF - Pagosa			

Stephanie Weber (SW): Welcome to the first SCCORR meeting.

- Please provide your name and affiliation in the chat.
- The last meeting was to discuss regional partnership initiatives: we, and Montelores, are the 14th and 15th to launch in the state of Colorado.
- We got to watch the other organizations form and we've learned a lot from them but we also recognize our area is very unique.

What are we here for?

- The March meeting was stakeholders gathered at the invitation of Colorado Parks and Wildlife to get more information on what it meant to have a regional partnership and to see if we wanted to explore one.
- SJMA - work with a lot of federal land agencies, provide visitor information and education outreach to all stakeholders using our public lands. We also provide environmental education across the entire region. We stepped forth to put forward an application. Received notification of funding the end of June; by the time we signed a contract it was late August. Immediately launched into a search for a facilitator. In November, we brought on board Elli Morris as our facilitator.
- Want to introduce you to Ashley Coady Smith. Mike White was SJMA Associate Director when we put forth the RPI application. He has moved on

to Great Outdoors Colorado and still very much part of this region. Ashley is now serving as our Associate Director.

- We received a two year planning grant from CPW. We go through June 2025 with the goals:
  - Convene a diverse group of stakeholders. This meeting has 33 participants. Stakeholder email list has about 80 individuals
  - Geography: right now it is pretty broad. Part of the planning is determining if we stay this broad. Is this going to be the best way to work with a very diverse set of needs and individuals etc
  - Engage a facilitator. We've done that. She will help guide us through these efforts
  - Develop an inventory of what is currently happening as it relates to conservation and outdoor recreation. There is an array of initiatives on forest health and water conservation. Many of you are actively engaged in numerous initiatives in this region. How do we make heads or tails of what is happening in each of those? The goal of the stakeholder group is to provide a platform to have resources to better understand what is actually happening across the region.
  - Montelores also got a grant at the same time. We're moving at about the same speed, out of the gate together. We'll be working closely with them.
  - Define region: right now what we're looking at is La Plata County, potentially Archuleta, San Juan, and southern Hinsdale. A lot of that will depend on what the priorities are and what this stakeholder group is feeling about the scope and breadth. That is a decision factor in the work ahead of us
  - Get a good map developed. We want to have a visual depiction of where recreation is taking place, where key wildlife migratory corridors are, where our watersheds are (they're well mapped), and really give us a clear picture so that when it comes time to actually begin to narrow down our priorities, we have a visual of what is happening where now and what opportunities might lie ahead as we get further down the process
  - goal is to understand how decisions are being made in this region, what's happening in this region on a broad array of facets that involve conservation and outdoor recreation. This is really meant to be a place where all of us can come together to share information and learn
- Our main goal over the next 2 months is to gather input from a broad group of people, people who have lived here all their lives, people who have lived here recently, people who come here in the summer. We want input on what really draws people when it comes to conservation and outdoor recreation.
  - Series of 10 listening sessions across the region. First one is this coming Monday in Durango.
  - The remainder will take place in quick succession over the next couple of months. Currently have 1 scheduled in Pagosao, 2 in Bayfield, 1 in Ignacio, 1 in Silverton. More need to nail more down and will be sharing those dates
  - Ashley put together a new website. Serve as a landing page for information. Still a lot to be done but it will be a place to share information and get information. SCCORR.org. It is live.

- Citizen Survey: we've gathered feedback from folks and are in the midst of incorporating those changes and recommendations. We hope to have that launched next week. It will be online. There have been, particularly in La Plata County, a lot of surveys underway. We've worked really hard to look at what this region has asked of the citizenry and tried to fill in the gaps so we're getting a comprehensive picture of what really matters to people who live and visit here.
- This stakeholder group is meant to represent the many constituents actively engaged or following some aspect of conservation and or recreation in this region. Right now, the current plan is to hold the stakeholder meetings quarterly. Expectation is the next one would be in April.
- Advisory committee: be the workhorse, the ones making sure we are hearing from every constituency group. Advisory group has yet to have been pulled together; that is our next step in terms of the governance of SCCDORR moving forward. We will work to get a smaller group of people together to really dive into the day-to-day planning and analyzing and determining what goes on the agenda for these types of meetings.
- How long will SCCORR last:
  - I don't see an end date. I see continued potential support from the state and I see a continued need as this region continues to see a lot of change and growth.
  - As facilitators we're not going to get it all right. We're going to look for feedback and engagement from all of you.
  - We're not going to have 100% agreement. I do hope that we're all coming together to because we love this place and that we want to make it a place where we thrive, where our wildlife thrives, where we have access to clean water, and where our communities are protected.
  - There will probably be difficult conversations ahead but I think in the end there will be a lot of learning and a lot of coming together. I see SCCORR as a place where we all can share our passions and priorities and continue to make this place wonderful.
  - Ask each of you to agree to listen to various points of view, to learn from each other, and to communicate as clearly as possible. I'm excited to launch this again.

#### Participants' Questions

- Luke Kline: Who was involved with the survey and is there still time for involvement before it is release?
  - SW: I thought through who represents geography, agency, and user groups. I invited Mia and Stein to weigh in. I've not heard from Mia so if you would love to have your eyes on it there's still an opportunity.
- Andrew hawk: There are a ton of local collaboratives and forest initiatives. Can you please explain how this endeavor is different?
  - SW: This is a landing spot for all the user groups to better understand all the different collaborations and initiatives. A major goal of what we're trying to do with the roundtable is to coalesce everything. This group can serve as the drawstring to tie everything together and keep everybody informed and engaged.

- Nick Olson | NFF: How do you envision this roundtable working with proposed EAs (e.g. Durango NW Recreation Project, etc.)?
  - SW: As a source of information, the more people understand what is happening and why it's happening the more people can be engaged and understand.
- Jordan Williams (he/him) - CDTC, Colorado Regional Rep: Will there be a virtual listening session option this spring as a catch-all? Unfortunately, I have travel planned during many of the scheduled listening sessions in Feb/Mar. Thanks!
  - SW: We have entertained the option. There is the possibility that we throw a listening session up online. We don't want to widely promote that, we'd rather see everybody in person and engaged face to face. We're just keeping that card in our back pocket.
- Bryan Peterson: Is there a desired outcome or deliverable from this?
  - SW: The state would like to see an outdoor recreation and conservation plan emerge from this. How far along we get in a year and a half is TBD. From our peers across the state we're starting, after 2 1/2 years, to see some of those plans emerge. The state understands that it's a big lift. The ultimate goal would be having an outdoor recreation and conservation plan from our defined graphic area
- Bob Milford-Pagosa Area Trail Council: How is the plan to avoid duplication from other collaboratives and groups?
  - SW: Really clear communication. Those of us who are actively engaged in other groups are talking, lots and lots of talking. Be as open and transparent as we can with each other.
- One question for all of you: Are there Listening Sessions you'd be available to be a moderator and are you willing to help us get the word out so that we you know the constituents you represent will show up and make their voices heard?
- Anthony Culpepper - MSI/4Rivers: How does this effort overlap with the Durango NW Rec planning effort?
  - SW: SCCORR will be a conduit to getting information out. There are many people involved in the Northwest Rec effort but there are also probably a lot of people who don't know what's going on. The efforts of the roundtable are making sure that a broader group of users knows what's happening and how it relates to J-Firm, boiling it down to how and where they can engage. I see that as the primary purpose of the roundtable at this point in time
- Bryan Peterson: Does CPW have current, accurate mapping of wildlife habitat and distribution? Have they mapped migration routes and/or critical, sensitive wildlife areas?
  - SW: Steve McClung if you can make sure I am answering this correctly, they do have migration data that they can share with us that will help inform our efforts.
  - Steve McClung: we do have a variety of mapping for wildlife. We have our SAM (Species Activity Map) maps, high priority habitat maps, migration corridors, and raptor nesting so we have a variety of mapping products that we already do. Once we get further into this process, we'll be able to

work with you to access some of that. I don't know the status of it but there was an effort to engage our GIS department to potentially create some of the mapping that Envisioned Chaffee used to help inform some of their decision making. There are a lot of SAM mapping that is drilling down to particular species, identifying what is a high priority habitat area. It's a little more informative to show you know these are landing and caving areas, migration corridors, production areas, and winter range. Instead of having to flip through 20 or 30 different map layers to get information, kind of distilling it down into a particular area you know is a high priority for a number of suite of species. I think it was going to be San Juan and La Plata counties they're going to focus on. I don't know what the status is.

- Jordan Williams (he/him) - CDTC, Colorado Regional Rep: What kind of direct collaboration or discussions about RPIs has there been with San Luis Valley Get Outdoors? They are doing great work in this similar model now. (e.g. they are working on a conservation/recreation mapping project with Rocky Mountain Wild, to Bryan's point)
  - SW: The great thing about these regional partnerships is that we do all come together monthly. We're learning a lot from each other, sharing a lot of information, and it is it's been extremely beneficial. So, we interact with the other RPI leads on a regular basis and will continue to bring back information to this stakeholder group to share with all of you. and if you are curious on the other regional partnerships the link that Elli provided in the chat on the storyboard or just CPW regional partnership initiatives web page a ton of information if this is an initiative that's new to you.  
CPW RPI:  
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/393237b131b2455e9ff2fc3692c4226f>
- Lorena Williams: In the example with Durango Northwest--will SCCORR work in reverse--where you bring the feedback from this group to, say, Four River Collaborative, or the CFLRP, etc? Or will the process be limited to information dissemination to SCCORR and not from SCORR?
  - SW: I would ultimately love for us to be in a place where communication is bidirectional. For the next couple months we're going to be really focused on gathering input so we may be behind the curve a little bit. We will start gathering input. I'd love for us ultimately to be a stakeholder group that is able to weigh into decisions like Durango Northwest Rec.
- Bob Milford Pagosa Area Trail Council - Not sure if this is a question or concern. Some of these issues are such local issues and some of these are very controversial. We're talking about recreation, forest, restoration, lots of different things. It always concerns me that we're making sure that all these inputs come from a wide variety of folks. I've seen so many times where it's one area or one group that kind of dominates so they don't really get the feedback. As this thing seems to be having a pretty big boundary, a lot of areas and a lot of projects. There's lots of different groups. Just seems like it's gonna be a super big challenge to be able to get information that represents everybody in these areas with such a large boundary.

- SW: That's very legit and it actually ties into question from Diane Gallegos up in San Juan County. Watching our predecessors for the regional partnerships a lot of them started out county based and as they've matured we've watched them expand their geographic boundaries. That's why we put in the proposal this is planning; we need to really hash out what our geographic boundaries are. When we put the proposal in we didn't know Montalores was also moving forward too. We knew we'd have to pair it down. We knew that this would be a major part of this initial grant. As we dive into the listening sessions, I'm hoping that the information coming out of that is helping plus the stakeholders determine if we need to keep this smaller. DeAnne's like we want to be a for sure partner not a potential partner! Right now San Juan County is surrounded by regional partnerships - ORRCA which is started out as Ouray County to the north, Montaloris to the west, we've got them looped in. As we've really dive into San Juan County's needs and La Plata County's needs and southern Hinsdale needs and Archuleta's needs it's going to be a major task that those of you are brave enough to engage with us will be working towards.
- Owen Tallmadge (City of Durango): We have had some inquiries about employment opportunities. Are there any ideas on how this group could share potential openings in their organizations?
  - SW: I would put that to the group. I can see the SCCORR.org website and communication channels putting forth information on an array of things, including employment opportunities. I'll look to the group: does that sound like a good idea? We can share it with Montelores too.
  - Owen: Thanks. I wonder if there's like a little forum or something on your website that people could post things or an e-mail list or something.
  - SW: Certainly something we can discuss and get back to you
- Anthony Culpepper - MSI/4Rivers: Perhaps a question for Melissa May, related to San Juan County, how does the AHEAD planning effort fit in here?
  - SW: I'd love melissa's input.
  - Melissa May: We are supposed to be wrapping that up. I believe we got an extension to June of this year. It's going to be kind of a modeling exercise for specifically San Juan County areas but hopefully the kind of behind the scenes data analysis could potentially be used as a kind of cookie cutter on to other areas. I actually sent Steve a private message in the in the chat about that data set he was mentioning. We realized that that data set was already kind of in progress that was something that would be super helpful as far as overlapping restoration priorities, preservation, and then recreation areas. Seeing where those different priorities and existing environmental conditions overlap. Jake Kurzweil is the lead on that project. I'm going to follow up with him after this meeting to see how those things would overlap. There's also the Region 9 recreational RV - I'm going to get the acronym wrong. There's a lot of overlapping projects. It'll be a good homework assignment for all of us to make sure we're communicating and making sure we have efficiencies and not double doing double duty.

- Anthony Culpepper - MSI/4Rivers: This is more an offer to help with more mapping support. With CFLRP with each of our forest place-based collaborative documenting where DFC alignment occurs and recreation is one of those desired future conditions within CFLRP. We do have for the three place-based collaboratives here, dwarf soon to be I think called something else - 4 Rivers and San Juan headwaters - so recreation components we could provide for this effort.
- Bryan Peterson: What will the listening sessions look like?
  - EM: Very simple agenda for the listening sessions. A very brief overview of what SCCORR is so people can come up to speed about what we are working on with this new partnership. We have 70 minutes set aside for the three different breakout listening sessions. Each of those will be an opportunity for the participants to pick whichever user group topic they want to be involved in and those will be arranged by different tables. The first half of that breakout session will be 10 minutes of going over the main opportunities the participants see for the conservation or outdoor recreation - based on the topic that they have chosen. The second half they get to go over the challenges that they see, again from that topic, looking at it through the lens of conservation or outdoor recreation. We have 3 rounds of that and then we have just a 5 minute wrap-up to thank everybody for coming and make sure that they are helping us spread the word about the listening sessions and the survey. We will have moderators at each of those tables to help guide that process but mostly they're going to be note takers so that we can gather all the information that people are offering to use for future endeavors of the SCCORR partnership.
  - SW: if anyone is willing to be a moderator at any of these listening sessions, please let us know. We want to bring together folks who can help facilitate a discussion, keep things on track, record and make sure we're gathering as clear information from our attendees as possible.
- SW: We are going to work really diligently to get information coming out of this meeting, future meetings, the survey, and the listening sessions compiled as quickly as we can so that we can really dive into the next step of determining where we actually go from here. There's a lot happening and this is not easy. My hope that this can be a place where all of our user groups can come together and really share their concerns, their hopes, and find some common ground in taking care of this place that means so much to so many of us.
- Leslie: Would you please mention the meeting on Monday again? Details?
  - SW: The meeting on Monday is our kickoff session. it will take place at the library at 4:30 and it will follow the format that Elli just mentioned. We have social media announcements out via Facebook and Instagram through SJMA's channels. We do not have SCCORR social media established at this point; whether we do so will be a discussion for stakeholders and the advisory committee down the down the way.
  - EM: Our second one is in Ignacio and it is also at the library. That will be Monday, February 12th, at the same time - 4:30 to 6:00 PM.
- SW: The full list is on the new and developing SCCORR.org website.

SW: I want to thank you all for taking an hour out of your day to catch up on what we're up to. We want you joining us and we want us all working together to keep this place that we live amazing for us, for our future generations, and for every single species that lives here so thanks for your time.