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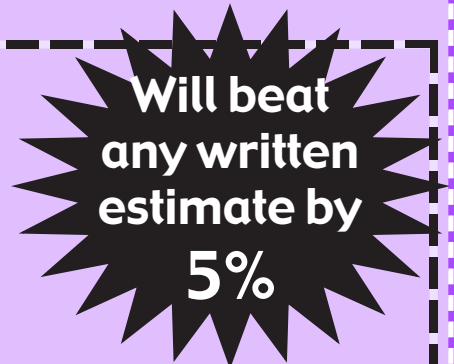
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About the Cover:

Wild Horses,

by Scott McReynolds.



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America's Wild Horses

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has unleashed helicopters to begin its summer assault on wild horses and burros living on public lands in the West. In the BLM's crosshairs: wild horse and burro herds in Utah, Colorado, and Nevada. The largest roundup of the summer will take place in Nevada's Shawave Mountains Herd Management Area (HMA), just 50 miles northeast of Reno. The HMA is part of the 1 million-acre Blue Wing Complex, where the BLM allows just 333 to 553 horses and 50 to 90 burros while authorizing 1,200 privately owned cattle and 2,700 sheep to graze year-round.

This is just the beginning. If the BLM has its way, as many as 18,000-20,000 wild horses and burros will lose their freedom each year... if Congress decides to fund the agency's mass roundup plan. Summer roundups are particularly inhumane due to sweltering desert temperatures and the presence of tiny, vulnerable foals that are sometimes literally run to death in miles-long helicopter stampedes. This summer, this cruelty could take place out of public view, as the BLM is preparing for these summer roundups they are planning to ban the many wild horse advocacy groups from attending, both to document them and to fight back if the BLM attempts to crack down on public observation.

At the same time, many are working on Capitol Hill to shelve the BLM's plan to massively scale up roundups and force the agency to stop inhumane fertility control to manage wild herds and keep them wild. Your help is needed on all fronts! Here's what you can do today: Contact Your Representative and Senators to ask them to put the brakes on BLM's mass removal plans, require the use of humane fertility control as an alternative to roundups, and prohibit the conducting of helicopter roundups in the absence of public observation.

Modern issues - Due in part to the prehistory of the horse, there is controversy as to the role mustangs have in the ecosystem as well as their rank in the prioritized use of public lands, particularly in relation to livestock. There are multiple viewpoints. Some supporters of mustangs on

public lands asserts that, while not native, mustangs are a "culturally significant" part of the American West, and acknowledge some form of population control is needed. Another viewpoint is that mustangs reinhabited an ecological niche vacated when horses went extinct in North America, with a variant characterization that horses are a reintroduced native species that should be legally classified as "wild" rather than "feral" and managed as wildlife. The "native species" argument centers on the premise that the horses extirpated in the Americas 10,000 years ago are closely related to the modern horse as was reintroduced. Thus, this debate centers in part around the question of whether horses developed an ecomorphotype adapted to the ecosystem as it changed in the intervening 10,000 years.

The Wildlife Society views mustangs as an introduced species stating: "Since native North American horses went extinct, the western United States has become more arid ... notably changing the ecosystem and ecological roles horses and burros play," and that they draw resources and attention away from true native species. A 2013 report by the National Research Council of the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine also challenged the idea of horses being a reintroduced native species stating that "the complex of animals and vegetation has changed since horses were extirpated from North America." It also stated that the distinction between native or non-native was not the issue, but rather the "priority that BLM gives to free-ranging horses and burros on federal lands, relative to other uses."

Mustang supporters advocates for the BLM to rank mustangs higher in priority than it currently does, arguing that too little forage is allocated to mustangs as opposed to cattle and sheep. Ranchers and others affiliated with the livestock industry favor a lower priority, arguing essentially that their livelihoods and rural economies are threatened because they depend upon the public land forage for their livestock. The debate as to what degree mustangs and cattle compete for forage is multifaceted. Horses are adapted by evolution *(Continued on next page.)*

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to inhabit an ecological niche characterized by poor quality vegetation. Advocates assert that most current mustang herds live in arid areas which cattle cannot fully utilize due to the lack of water sources. Mustangs can cover vast distances to find food and water; advocates assert that horses range 5–10 times as far as cattle to find forage, finding it in more inaccessible areas. In addition, horses are “hindgut fermenters.” meaning that they digest nutrients by means of the cecum rather than by a multi-chambered stomach. While this means that they extract less energy from a given amount of forage, it also means that they can digest food faster and make up the difference in efficiency by increasing their consumption rate. In practical effect, by eating greater quantities, horses can obtain adequate nutrition from poorer forage than can ruminants such as cattle, and so can survive in areas where cattle will starve.

However, while the BLM rates horses by animal unit (AUM) to eat the same amount of forage as a cow–calf pair, 1.0, studies of horse grazing patterns indicate that horses probably consume forage at a rate closer to 1.5 AUM. Modern rangeland management also recommends removing all livestock during the growing season to maximize re-growth of the forage. Year-round grazing by any non-native ungulate will degrade it, particularly horses whose incisors allow them to graze plants very close to the ground, inhibiting recovery.

By Jay F. Kirkpatrick, Patricia M. Fazio

Modern horses, zebras, and asses belong to the genus *Equus*, the only surviving genus in a once diverse family, the Equidae. Based on fossil records, the genus appears to have originated in North America about 4 million years ago and spread to Eurasia (presumably by crossing the Bering

land bridge) 2 to 3 million years ago. Following that original emigration, there were additional westward migrations to Asia and return migrations back to North America, as well as several extinctions of *Equus* species in North America.

The last prehistoric North American horses died out between 13,000 and 11,000 years ago, at the end of the Pleistocene, but by then *Equus* had spread to Asia, Europe, and Africa. Animals that on paleontological grounds could be recognized as subspecies of the modern horse originated in North America between 1 million and 2 million years ago. When Linnaeus coined the species name, *E. caballus*, however, he only had the domesticated animal in mind. Its closest wild ancestor may have been the tarpan, often classified as *E. ferus*; there is no evidence, though, that the tarpan was a different species. In any case the domesticated horse probably did not arise at a single place and time, but was bred from several wild varieties by Eurasian herders.

It is well known that domesticated horses were introduced into North America beginning with the Spanish conquest, and that escaped horses subsequently spread throughout the American Great Plains. Customarily, such wild horses that survive today are designated “feral” and regarded as intrusive, exotic animals, unlike the native horses that died out at the end of the Pleistocene. But as *E. caballus*, they are not so alien after all. The fact that horses were domesticated before they were reintroduced matters little from a biological viewpoint. Indeed, domestication altered them little as we can see by how quickly horses revert to ancient behavioral patterns in the wild. So a good argument can be made that it, too, should enjoy protection as a form of native wildlife.

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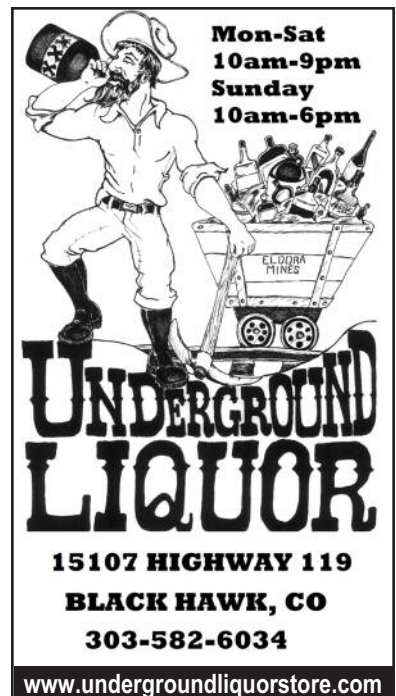
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Increased Fire Restrictions In Place NOW

Starting July 10th the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland, located along Colorado's northern Front Range and Grand County, will raise the level of fire restrictions on National Forest lands in Boulder, Clear Creek, Gilpin, Jefferson and Park counties to Stage 2 due to increased fire danger conditions. Stage 1 restrictions will remain in place on National Forest System lands in Grand, Larimer and Weld counties.

Fire restrictions are in place until rescinded to enhance public and firefighter safety, protect natural and cultural resources, and help minimize human-caused wildfires and in response to changing local conditions. It is important to check with the local county you plan to visit as many also have fire and recreational shooting restrictions in place.

Within the Stage 2 Fire and Shooting Restriction area on National Forest lands on the Boulder, Clear Creek and small portion of the Canyon Lakes ranger districts within Boulder, Clear Creek, Gilpin, Park and Jefferson counties **forest visitors may not:**

Build, maintain, attend or use a fire, campfire, or stove fire. This includes charcoal grills and barbecues, coal and wood burning stoves and shepherd's stoves and includes their use in developed camping and picnic grounds except devices using pressurized liquid or gas (stoves, grills or lanterns) which include shut-off valves are permitted when used in an area at least three feet or more from flammable material such as grasses or pine needles.

Smoke, except within an enclosed vehicle, trailer or building.

Weld or operate an acetylene or other torch with open flame.

Operate or use any internal combustion engine (e.g. chainsaw, generator, ATV) without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained and in effective working order.

Operate a chainsaw without an approved spark arresting device as described above, a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher (8 oz. capacity by weight or larger and kept with the operator) and a round point shovel with an overall length of at least 35 inches readily available for use.

Use explosives.

Possess or use a motor vehicle off established roads, motorized trails or established parking areas, except when parking in an area devoid of vegetation within 10 feet of the vehicle.

Discharge a firearm.

Within the Stage 1 fire restriction area on National Forest lands on the Canyon Lakes and Sulphur ranger districts and the Pawnee National Grassland within Larimer, Grand and Weld counties **forest visitors may not:**

Build or maintain a fire or use charcoal, coal, or wood stoves, except in permanent fire pits or fire grates within a

developed recreation site (e.g., campgrounds where fees are charged).

Smoke, except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while in an area at least three feet in diameter cleared of all flammable materials.

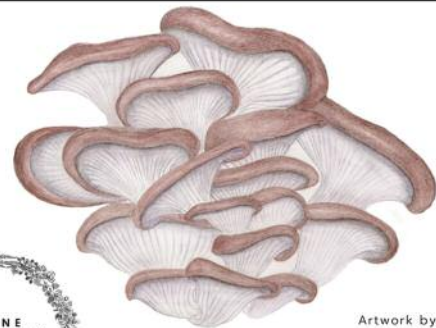
Use any internal or external combustion engine (including chainsaws) without a spark arresting device properly working and a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher and a round point shovel.

Weld or operate acetylene or other torch with open flame except in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.

Use explosives.

Violation of Stage 1 and 2 fire restrictions could result in a maximum fine of \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for more than six months, or both. If responsible for causing a wildfire, one could be held accountable for suppression costs of that fire.

To view the fire restriction orders and maps, go to www.fs.usda.gov/arp. They will be listed in the Fire Restrictions alert on the right side of the page.



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Report Confirms Nesting Bald Eagle Studies

From Dave Bove: info and photo

The Stearns (Broomfield) nesting Bald Eagles need five minutes of your time. If not, a successful nest as in this photo may never be seen again.

Factual Background: The Boulder County planning process at Carolyn Holmberg is underway, and County Open Space management at BCPOS have told the County Commissioners—without ever even considering our studies and data—that these Bald Eagles are fine, and need no protections from exponential trail usage and a lack of a protected area to nest in. Your Boulder County Commissioners—based on open space staff input—even refuse to meet with our group to hear what we have learned and our input on this situation.

An **EEI consulting report** in comments has sound recommendations for the nesting eagles at Holmberg. Prepared for: Front Range Nesting Bald Eagle Studies by Dale W. Stahlecker, Eagle Environmental, Inc. July 13, 2020.

(Excerpts from report:) Breeding Bald Eagles first occupied the Stearns Lake territory between 2010 and 2012. They nested successfully during 5 of 7 seasons in their original nest tree from 2012 to 2019. Not only was this nest on private land, but it was also in a finger of the City and County of Broomfield, though surrounded by Boulder County, which remains a party to the conservation easement on that land. Construction of townhomes near the original nest tree in 2013-2014 corresponded with abandonment of the nest in May 2014; this was

immediately followed by nest construction at or on one perch, just south of Stearns Lake. After townhouse construction was completed in early fall of 2014, the eagles returned to resume nesting in their original nest location. A large housing construction project within 200 m of the original nest in 2018-2019 was likely the reason the eagles chose to begin to build another nest in October 2019.

There is a shortage of suitable nest trees in their near-nest area therefore the eagles built the new nest in a nearly dead old-growth cottonwood with poor supporting limbs for the nest. Weekly (or nearly so) photographs documented the westward collapse of the nest, which finally gave way on 18 April 2020, causing the loss of two nestlings. The eagles also attempted to build a nest in that perch during April and May, 2020; however, only a few sticks accumulated, likely due to the dense canopy and poor crotch support afforded. Nest building has been only sporadic and largely confined to the early morning since mid-May. Nest site is only 80 m from the Cutoff Trail, so it will be necessary to close the trail year-round to encourage the eagles to nest there in 2021.

This recommendation of closure of the “Cutoff Trail” is consistent with the guiding principles of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP), 2015 Update (City of Boulder 2015). According to the BVCP, the city and county will emphasize the protection and enhancement of critical wildlife habits and local species of special concern. Local species of special concern, as identified in the BVCP, include nesting Bald Eagles and thus a management plan to

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protect their critical habitat is consistent with guidance under this plan.

Furthermore, the previous planning documents for CHPRCF (BCPOS, 2002) prioritizes preservation of critical wildlife habitat; wetlands and riparian areas; unique stands of shortgrass prairie; historic/ archaeological resources; and to maintain agricultural production. In terms of trail usage, the guidance in the report advises to “provide compatible

recreational use” in reference to the stated protections. Closure of the ~800 meter-long “Cutoff Trail” would be consistent with these priorities, and still maintain the goals for this property and the BVCP (City of Boulder 2015), which state that “a county-wide trail system shall be promoted to serve transportation and recreation purposes.”


2) PLEASE Email BCPOS planner for Holmberg Preserve. Address is mratzel@bouldercounty.org (Marni Ratzel)

3) Subject line: Protect nesting Eagles at Holmberg (Holmberg Planning Comment)

4) Say: I have read parts of the EEI consulting report (*here*) drafted on behalf of FRNBES (protection of nesting eagles



at Holmberg), and I would like to offer my wholehearted support for the recommendations included therein.



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Dawn Horse - Colorado Native!

Article and Art by Valerie Wedel

Have you heard that horses were born here, in North America? It is true. From here, horses populated the world.

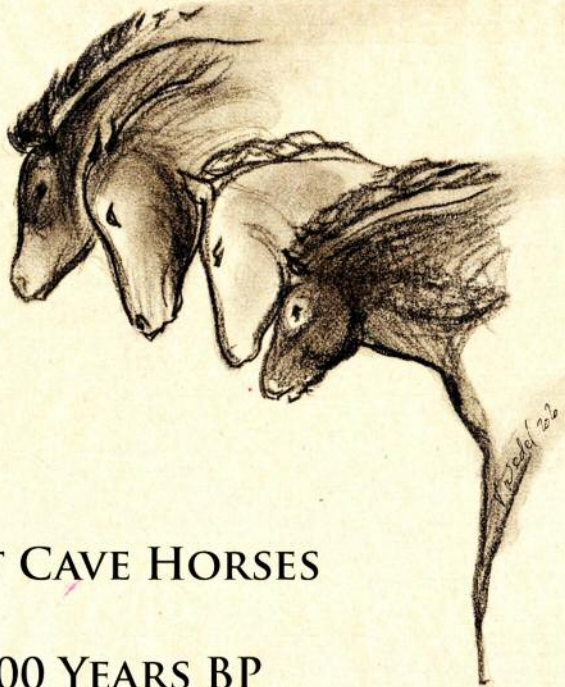
Pre-historic horses thrived throughout our West, including right here in Colorado. Our early horses crossed a land bridge to Europe, which existed when ocean levels were much lower than today. Horses then spread across Europe. They survived there to become our beloved best friends today.

Horses had their pictures painted 28,000+ years ago, in France, in caves. But their story really began millions of years earlier.

Approximately 35 million years ago, Eohippus roamed our lands.

Eohippus means "Dawn Horse." This name comes from two Greek words: "Eos" for dawn, and "Hippos" for horse. Scientists in North America began to name fossils, back in the 1800's, using Greek and Latin descriptive names.

Our dawn horse was very small – about the size of a fox. They were adapted to a warmer and wetter climate. They ran about in damp forests of that time, eating fruits, leaves and probably flowers.



CHAUVET CAVE HORSES

C. 32,000 YEARS BP

PRESENT DAY:
VALLON PON D'ARC, FRANCE
 ORIGINALS WERE CHARCOAL ON ROCK,
 THESE ARE CONTE ON PAPER, DRAWN
 FROM PHOTOGRAPH OF CAVE.

Eohippus had four-five toes! Her feet had pads more like a dog, with little hooves instead of claws. This worked well for scampering about on damp ground.

Over millions of years, our little dawn horse evolved. She became bigger, and faster. Gradually her toes and the joints in her legs changed. Today, horses have one hoof. But you can see the vestigial remains of the other toes in the splints on the canon bones. Also, the 'chestnut' on the inside of each leg of your modern horse is a vestigial toe.

Our early horses also changed their teeth. Slowly, over millions of years, here the climate became drier. Plants became tougher. Forests gave way to prairie and then steppe grasslands. Our prehistoric horses also changed. Their teeth became like modern horses. The shape and material of the teeth slowly

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Highlander Horse

adapted to chew tougher grass.

The interesting change from dawn horse to modern horse has been well studied over the last 100+ years. Many, many fossilized skeletons have been found in North America.

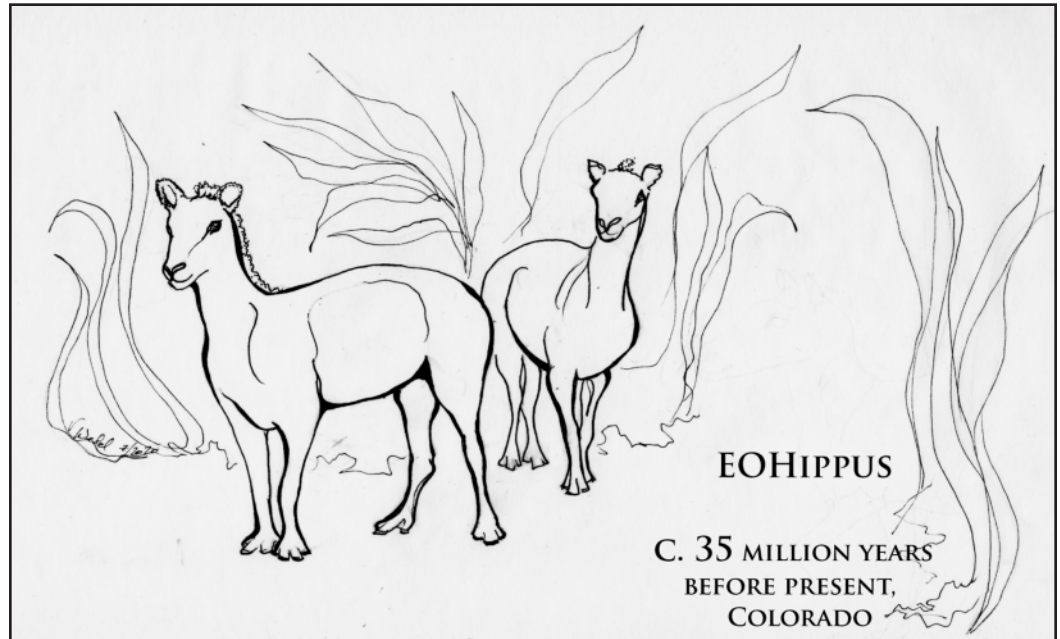
Scientists can often tell the age of a fossil by how and where it is found. It is a fascinating story to piece together. One of the biggest parts of the story is how horses began right here.

Then something mysterious happened about the time the last ice age ended. Here in North America, horses disappeared along with many, many other species of animals. Scientists still debate why and how this happened. One theory is a cataclysmic event. Some think a very large comet spitting fragments at earth caused sudden and catastrophic melting of glaciers. The unbelievably massive flooding that resulted gouged out a new shape to our land. This could also be the origin of flood tales told all over the world (Hancock, 2017).

Happily, horses had already migrated into Europe. Remember those French cave paintings from 28,000 years ago? Horses survived whatever massive earth change affected our planet, roaming in the Eurasian steppes. There, they also made friends with people. From there, they migrated back all over Europe. Eventually, with the help of explorers and conquistadores, horses returned to North America. They came back home, here, to their ancestral motherland.

Our wild mustangs are often referred to as “feral.” This means they started as domestic animals. Then they

escaped and turned wild. While this is true of our modern mustang horses, it is only part of the picture. It is the smallest possible fragment of horses’ history. Horses’ history really begins as an indigenous, or native species, right here in America.



REFERENCES:

Note to fellow research lovers: With our libraries closed, research was conducted mostly online. This included Wikipedia. The reader is invited to research more, when our libraries open.

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<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mesohippus>

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Thomas Dunne Books - St Martin's Griffin Press,
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Air Quality ~ FERC Licence Amended

Federal appellate court deals victory for improved air quality in Boulder County

Boulder County, CO – July 10th a federal appellate court dealt a victory to Boulder County and other proponents of improved air quality. In a case about how boundaries are drawn around sources of air pollution in the Front Range, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals invalidated the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) designation of the Metro-Denver ozone nonattainment area.

The current ozone nonattainment area stretches along the Front Range from Castle Rock in the South to Fort Collins and Greeley in the north and west into Rocky Mountain National Park. The area did not include northern Weld County and its thousands of oil and gas sources. These sources contribute to the serious ozone problem in the Metro-Denver area and the northern Front Range of Colorado, including Boulder County.

The court ruled the EPA’s decision to exclude northern Weld County from the nonattainment area was “arbitrary and capricious.” The court has ordered EPA to reconsider its decision because the previous nonattainment decision was inadequately supported and reasoned.

“We are encouraged that the EPA will reconsider excluding northern Weld County from the ozone nonattainment area,” said Cindy Copeland, Boulder County Public Health air and climate policy specialist. “Including northern Weld County in the area would require many oil and gas sources to meet EPA requirements to reduce emissions, which would help to greatly improve ozone levels for front range residents.”

Including the Weld County area in the ozone nonattainment area would bring many additional oil and gas sources into air quality planning under EPA requirements. The resulting reductions in nitrogen oxides (NOX) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) pollution would help to greatly improve ozone levels in the Denver metro area, including Boulder County. Air quality conditions and ecosystem health at Rocky Mountain National Park could also be improved with more emissions controls.

The ruling is a result of a lawsuit against the EPA filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit by the Boulder County Board of Commissioners, the Center for Biological Diversity and National Parks Conservation Association.

This victory is yet another valid reason to reject Denver Water’s proposed expansion of Gross Dam and Reservoir. Particulates contribute greatly to ozone and the proposed project promises to elevate particulates in addition to many chemicals that would become airborne: exhaust from all the machinery required to clear trees, semi truck trips, blasting rock, producing cement – well the list is nearly endless and all those things should prevent the Boulder County Commission from allowing the 1041 permit once Denver Water is made to apply for it by the courts.

Stay up to date on this issue by following TEGColorado.org and Save Boulder County in their legal efforts to STOP THE EXPANSION OF GROSS DAM AND RESERVOIR. Nearly every item listed on the 1041 Permit are environmental damages residents have raised to oppose the expansion since 2003 and Denver Water’s



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scoping meetings. This ill fated effort to rob water from the Colorado River would most certainly increase ozone levels in and around the existing Dam and Reservoir with an unneeded construction project the likes of which Boulder County has never seen before.

From TEG

On Friday, July 17 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued a permit to Denver Water to amend the existing license for hydroelectric in the Dam at Gross Reservoir. Denver Water is asserting that because they have received this final federal approval they are OK to proceed with construction on an expanded Gross Dam.

This is NOT the case!

The FERC amended license specifically states that Denver Water must “comply with all applicable State, county and municipal laws, ordinances, and/or regulations.” Colorado Statute 1041 gives Boulder County the authority to review this project and to deny it if appropriate. Denver Water has already lost one court case fighting the 1041 regulation but has appealed that decision – we expect they will lose that as well. But they may well claim that federal approval overrides local regulations and will proceed anyway. It is absolutely critical that the Boulder County commissioners stay strong in exercising their right to review this proposal. This is the largest, most environmentally damaging project in county history. There is legal precedence for Colorado counties to maintain this oversight as demonstrated by the recent fracking regulations put in place over the objections of oil and gas companies.

With our coalition of other concerned organizations, TEG is supporting Boulder County in their ongoing legal fight against Denver Water, and in a federal case against the Army Corps of Engineers for issuing a flawed permit. This costs money!

Rest assured, we are not giving up – we will fight this to the end. In their arrogance, Denver Water wants us all to believe that this project is a foregone conclusion. Do not be misled! Write the Boulder county commissioners and encourage them to stay the course in compelling Denver Water to go submit the 1041 application process. The commissioner’s emails are:

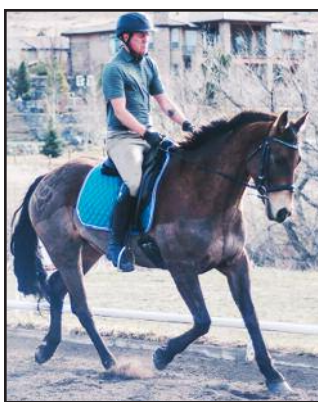
- Deb Gardner: dgardner@bouldercounty.org
- Elise Jones: ejones@bouldercounty.org
- Matt Jones: mjones@bouldercounty.org

You could also write to newspapers, the governor and your representatives. MAKE NOISE! Make sure they all know that the citizens of Boulder County are not deterred by Denver Water’s deep pockets and that we want local control over a project that will unequivocally hurt Boulder County’s environment and put all of Coal Creek Canyon in harm’s way: safety on our roads and pollution in our air. TEG will be meeting with our legal teams soon to strategize on next steps.

Editor’s Note: The thirty page 1041 Application lists each and every one of our environmental opposition issues. The permit itself is our safety net to stop this project. Just because FERC has permitted an amendment to the hydro in the existing Dam does not mean they didn’t tell Denver Water in writing (which they did) to get all local permits i.e. Boulder County’s 1041. This is not over, no matter what Denver Water says.

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Cherokee Nations Adopted Racism From Whites

By Rebecca Nagle July 10, 2020 High Country News

As our tribe debates Cherokee history and identity, Cherokee citizens with white privilege carry the most responsibility to move our tribe forward.

On a warm Saturday morning this June, a crane pulled up to the courthouse square in downtown Tahlequah, Oklahoma. As controversial monuments were being taken down by activists and cities across the country, the Cherokee Nation shook two Confederate monuments loose from their foundation, strapped them to a trailer, and put them in storage.

“There are some painful references on these monuments,” Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. said at the courthouse square. “And I think we live in a time when we need to be mindful of the unity we have here on the courthouse Capitol Square.”

One of the monuments, a 13,000-pound slab of granite, was installed in memory of my great-uncle, Stand Watie, (see photo page 17) who led the Cherokees on the side of the Confederacy. The Cherokee Nation’s role in the United States Civil War is complex, and Watie was the last Confederate general to surrender. Watie’s monument and a marble fountain memorializing Confederate soldiers were installed by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1913 and 1921, at a time when the square was controlled by the state of Oklahoma.

I can’t think of a single topic on which Cherokees agree, and the removal of the monuments was no exception. After it was announced, tribal citizens immediately took to Facebook. Many said that the monuments represented racism, while others argued that their removal erased history. Some pointed out the fact that the Daughters, not the tribe, installed them. Others dug up the early 1900s rolls of the organization and noted that the local chapter was largely Cherokee. A petition to restore the monuments has garnered less than 800 signatures, out of a tribal citizenry of more than 380,000.

This controversy is not new to our tribe. The Cherokee Nation has a long history of anti-Black racism, one that includes adopting Southern chattel slavery from the American South in the early 1800s and our modern government’s disenfranchisement of the descendants of the people we enslaved. It’s a history that still divides

our citizens over what rights the descendants of those freedmen should have, as well as the larger conversation concerning who is “legitimately” Cherokee.

We need to do more to confront that history within our tribe. But there is a parallel history of race within Cherokee Nation, one that for centuries has shaped our attitudes toward and laws regarding Black Cherokees. And that is even more difficult for our tribe to talk about: Cherokees and whiteness.

Intermarriage with white people started for Cherokees in the 1700s during a period of expanding trade relationships, multiple smallpox epidemics and intermittent conflicts with white settlers marked by massacres that wiped Cherokee towns off the map. The marriages served two purposes. For the male traders, who had no rights as non-Cherokees in Cherokee country, they brought legal protection and economic advantage. For Cherokee women, the white men filled places that had been left vacant by disease and violence. Martin Schneider, a German missionary of the Protestant Moravian movement, wrote that all the white traders he encountered in his travels during the early 1780s were married to Cherokee women.

Such intermarriage proceeded for decades without much disruption to concepts of race and Cherokee identity. After all, Cherokee identity was based on clan; if your mother was Cherokee, you were, too. But in 1825, all that changed. Cherokee men (including John Ridge and Elias Boudinot, two of my ancestors) started marrying white women. They petitioned the Cherokee National Council to change Cherokee citizenship from clan to lineal descent, so that children with a Cherokee father and white mother would



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Highlander History

still be citizens. And — probably because of the men’s prominence within Cherokee politics — the council obliged.

The National Council had taken up a similar question about mixed-race Cherokees and arrived at a different conclusion just one year earlier. On Nov. 11, 1824, the nation passed a law stating that “intermarriages between Negro slaves and Indians, or whites, shall not be lawful.” For decades, Cherokee citizens — including my family — practiced the institution of slavery, which they adopted from the Southern U.S. Cherokee law now barred the people they had enslaved and their descendants from citizenship in our tribe.

At this pivotal moment — when the Cherokee ceased using the clan system to determine citizenship — we simultaneously made more space for Cherokees who were mixed white, while excluding Cherokees who were mixed Black.

By 1850, an estimated half of all Cherokee citizens were of mixed race. Prior to Oklahoma statehood, in 1907, the Cherokee Nation included Cherokee Indians, adopted Delaware, adopted Shawnee, intermarried whites, freedmen and their descendants. With the exception of a few rolls leading up to allotment, the records the nation kept of its citizens did not include blood quantum — or even note who was Cherokee “by blood” and who was not.

But the Dawes Roll, which was created so the United States could divide up communally owned tribal land and eventually open it up to white settlers, changed that. Between 1898 and 1914, as the roll was completed, the lines of citizenship hardened.

At first, when land was allotted to tribal citizens, it could not be sold; the nation wanted to protect its landowners from predation. But as white settlers’ demand for land grew, Congress changed the rules. The first people Congress lifted restrictions on were those on the freedmen roll. Congress also lifted restrictions on people who had less than half Indian blood, and it allowed white guardians to control the property of anyone who had over half. The system treated Cherokees differently based on race and blood quantum, but arguably everybody lost.

For much of the 1900s, the U.S. limited Cherokees’ self-governance. In 1950, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians ratified its own Constitution and gained federal recognition. And then, in 1975, the Cherokee Nation drafted our Constitution and ratified it in 1976. In that original Cherokee Constitution, citizenship was based on lineal descent from an ancestor listed on the Dawes Roll. But by 1983, descendants of people listed on the freedmen roll were being told they could not vote. What followed was a decades-long legal battle that included tribal court cases, federal court cases, a constitutional amendment, and a bitter fight over race and Cherokee identity. Many feared that enrolling freedmen descendants would shift political power in the tribe and take away resources from the people who needed them most.

At the time, demographics in Cherokee Nation were shifting dramatically. But those shifts came less from the citizenship of freedmen descendants than from the increasing numbers of mixed-white Cherokees. In the 1970s, there were approximately 40,000 registered Cherokees. By 1999, there were over 200,000 tribal citizens — 90% of whose blood quantum was a quarter or lower. If you do the math, then, it’s absurd to worry about the political power and the potential resource drain of

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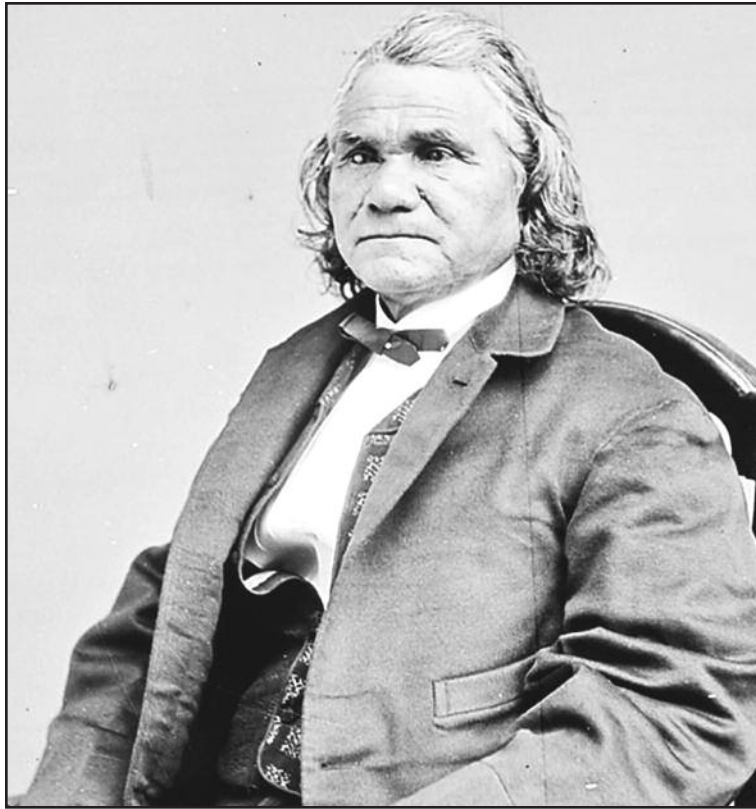
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thousands of freedmen descendants, when there are hundreds of thousands of lower blood quantum, mixed-white Cherokees, of which I am one.

Talking about blood quantum as a measure of Cherokee identity is a tricky business when it is still being used today by the United States to deny tribal nations their inherent sovereignty and treaty rights. When the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against the Cherokee Nation in the Baby Veronica case (Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl, 2013), the first line of its decision did not mention the law or the child’s well-being, but rather focused on the little girl’s degree of Indian blood. To be clear, the child is Cherokee because, like all our citizens, she is a member of our tribe, not because of her government-assigned degree of Indian pedigree.

And, at the same time, it is undeniable that those of us who are mixed-white Cherokee citizens have more privilege — not only because the broader American society rewards whiteness, but because we have more power in our tribe. We are the majority, and by a wide margin. And with that power comes a lot of responsibility.

Today, we are at another pivotal moment in Cherokee history. In 2017, after a federal court order, the nation restored the inherent Cherokee citizenship rights of the freedmen descendants. But even though the decision offers an opportunity for healing within our tribe, that’s not guaranteed. As the recent controversy over Confederate



Stand Watie, pictured when he was leader of the Treaty Party of the Cherokee Nation, in 1862. Credit: Wikipedia commons

monuments makes clear, the court decision doesn’t magically wipe away 200 years of history — or end all of the prejudice and denial that comes with it. The people who installed the monuments on the courthouse square were Cherokee, but their reasoning is not flattering to our tribe. In a biographical pamphlet sold to raise money, the chairwoman of the General Stand Watie Monument Committee wrote that the 1866 treaty was called the “Dark Treaty” because “it gave the Negroes of slave-owning Cherokees the right to suffrage.” At the same time that Black Americans were being terrorized by lynching and racial violence for

advocating for political equality in the United States, these Cherokees believed Black people shouldn’t have the right to vote.

Throughout our history, Cherokees have taken things from Europeans, adapted them and made them ours. We added glass beads to our bandolier bags, a crescent shape to our gorgets, and hog meat to our cuisine. But some of the things that we took from Europeans serve neither our tribe nor our people. From white society, we adopted racism — plain and simple. That is our history. Rooting out the visible ways that racism still exists within the Cherokee Nation is not erasing our history, but building a better future for our tribe.

Rebecca Nagle is a writer, advocate and citizen of Cherokee Nation living in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

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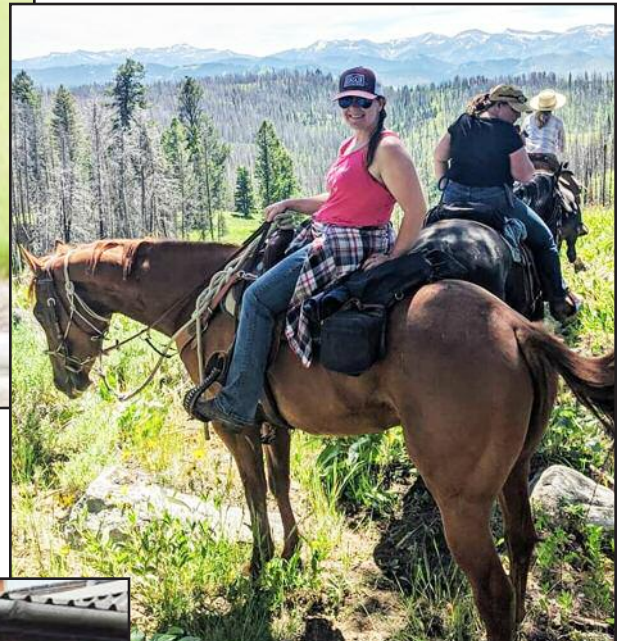


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This page top right: *Annerly Wyatt riding sidesaddle.*
Top left : *Gil and Merlin.*
Bottom left: *Lexi and Lollipop from Sue.*
Middle right: *Aurora with her dog, from Grandpa Bill.*

Next page top right: *New Rescue Cat from Pam.*
Top left: *From Allison Payne.*
Bottom left: *Gus with Donna Owen.*
Middle right: *Gina Cox with friends in Wyoming.*
Bottom right: *Alert Sascha.*



Teen Driving 101 A Step By Step Guide

From Jim Plane State Farm Insurance

How do you know if your child is ready to drive? When it's time to teach your teenager to drive, parents should begin by taking the time to make sure their teen is knowledgeable about and comfortable with the vehicle and its controls. Parents can also check with their insurance companies to see if they have programs to help teach a teen to drive. For example, the State Farm® Steer Clear® program is a great way for teen and young adult drivers to improve their driving skills.

Rules of the road refresher - Driving rules and the way students are taught change periodically. If it's been awhile since you studied the current rules it may be good to review your student's materials before instructing them.

Start with a tour of the vehicle - Before you hit the road, start by training your teen on the basics: demonstrate how to adjust the seat, and the side and rearview mirrors safely to fit their needs. Make any other accommodations that are necessary, such as tilting the steering wheel. Review the controls and features of the car. Give your teen an education on how each of these works:
Dashboard controls - Steering wheel and seat adjustment - Mirror adjustment - Turn signals - Headlights.

Safety features like air bags and seat belts-Wipers -Emergency lights-Parking brake/release-Starting/turning off the engine-Gas, brakes (especially ABS)-Warning indicator lights on dashboard (such as low fuel, oil, temperature indicator) - Also, be sure to show your teen where the registration, insurance card, and car manual are located.

Get a feel for the vehicle - The first time your teen actually drives the car, start in the safest, easiest location possible, like an empty parking lot. Have your teen practice applying gas and brakes, driving straight, turning, and backing up. As you see your teen beginning to master these skills, take note and make the situation a little more complex next time. For example, instead of just stopping and starting, have your teen pull into and out of a parking spot.

It can take several outings to learn how to get from point A to point B, and to figure out how much pressure to apply to the brakes to stop or how far to move the steering wheel to turn.

This is also a good time to remind your teen driver to pay attention to their surroundings: Look ahead and to the sides. Check mirrors. Scan continuously for hazards. Teach your teen to keep a clear "safety space" around the car so there's room to react to any hazards. The farther he or she hangs back from the vehicle in front, the better your teen will be able to see what's ahead. Seeing better and farther provides extra time to react to changing traffic conditions.

Start in low-speed, low-traffic areas

Once your teen is comfortable with the basic operation of the car, take your training to quiet streets where your teen can practice staying on one side of the road, anticipate cars exiting driveways, and learn to pull up to a stop sign. For the next several lessons, stick to roads that have slower speed limits (under 35 mph). Emphasize that the posted limit is only a guide for an acceptable speed in excellent conditions.

Your teen should drive even slower in poor weather, heavy traffic, or areas where there are a lot of pedestrians.

Beginner skills checklist

Vary the routes to practice the following: Turns: speed and use of signals-Braking smoothly: gradually slowing to a stop -Accelerating smoothly: steadily increasing to a safe speed within the posted limit- Approaching intersections controlled by stop signs or lights - Determining right of way-Single-lane and multi-lane roadways (low speeds)- Changing lanes and how to merge into traffic safely- Maintaining appropriate speed- Scanning for and identifying hazards - Keeping a safe following distance- Sharing the road with cyclists, pedestrians, and school buses-Driving in a school zone-Reacting to an approaching emergency vehicle-Using turning lanes.



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As your new driver starts to master these skills, pay attention to which ones he or she is confident with.

Driving on the highway

Driving on a multi-lane highway for the first time can be scary. Start your teen out by driving at quieter times of the day to practice merging into traffic, staying in the lane, and using higher speeds and safe following distances without the added stress of rush-hour traffic. Once you are both comfortable with that, gradually move on to busier traffic situations.

Before heading out onto the highway, prepare your new driver for: Higher speeds that call for longer stopping distances-The need to check blind spots before changing lanes-Driving near large trucks-Anticipating interchanges by reading signs-Allowing a "safety space" around you, in the event you need to pull off the road for another vehicle or debris-Looking for traffic stopped or slowing ahead

Advanced skills checklist

Skills a new driver needs to master while in high-speed, high-traffic conditions: Merging into traffic-Identifying road signs and exits-Navigating toll booths-Passing and being overtaken-Maintaining proper speed-Being courteous to others-Keeping a safe following distance.

Advanced challenges

Difficult driving conditions are dangerous for all drivers, but are extremely hazardous for new drivers. After you and your teen feel confident with his or her ability to handle each driving situation in daylight and good weather, make sure your teen has plenty of opportunities to drive each type of road at night and in rain, snow, and fog. Discuss using features like the defroster, fog lights, and bright headlights. Until both you and your teen driver are comfortable with driving in "degraded" conditions, he or she shouldn't do it without supervision, even if the law says it's allowed.

How do I know when my teen is ready to drive alone?

Your instincts are probably the best way to know. Remember, even if your teen is legally old enough to get a license, it's your decision whether he or she is ready.

Questions to consider

Has my teen had enough practice, in varying conditions, so we are both confident with my teen's ability to handle most situations?

Has my teen shown the ability to detect hazards and react to them quickly?

Have I noticed that scanning for hazards has become a habit for my teen?

Does my teen always wear a seat belt and remind others to do so? Does my teen avoid using a cell phone or texting when driving? Does my teen wait to pull over to handle distractions or situations that take his or her eyes away from the road? Do I think my teen will act the same way when I'm not in the car?

Does my teen speed or drive aggressively? Will my teen know to pull over if upset, frustrated, or angry? Has my teen exhibited responsibility in other areas of his or her life and do I trust him or her to drive my car responsibly?

Has my teen agreed to my safe driving habits and house rules?

If you think more time and practice is needed before your teen becomes a licensed driver, talk to your teen about the reasons. One way to handle it is to make a deal that your teen may get a license, but you don't want your teen driving alone in certain situations.



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Yellowstone Grizzlies Keep Protections

By Todd Wilkinson July 10, 2020

High Country News

This story was originally published by the Guardian and is republished here with permission.

A court ruling disallows sport hunting the bears in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

In a stunning victory for wildlife conservationists and Indigenous tribes – and for bears – a U.S. court ruled recently that grizzly bears living in the vast Yellowstone ecosystem will remain federally protected and not be subjected to sport hunting.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had sought to strip Yellowstone-area grizzlies of safeguards conferred by the Endangered Species Act. This would have allowed the states of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho to permit a limited number of people to obtain hunting licenses, though sport hunting would have remained prohibited within





Yellowstone itself.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sought to remove endangered species status of Yellowstone-area grizzlies.

Larry Lamsa/CC via Flickr

“We applaud the decision of the 9th circuit court – a triumph of science over politics – in ensuring that Yellowstone grizzly bears are allowed to truly recover and thrive,” said Sarah McMillan, conservation director for WildEarth Guardians.

WildEarth Guardians was among eight environmental groups, citizens and tribal entities that sued to have the highest level of species protection restored to grizzlies, on the basis that the bears’ recovery had not been assured.

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The Greater Yellowstone population of bears is not only globally renowned and the focus of a robust nature-tourism industry, but synonymous with the wild character of Yellowstone, the world's first national park.

The number of bears in the region has rebounded from about 140 in the 1970s to more than 700 today, and grizzlies have expanded their range to places where they haven't been in 100 years. Their comeback is considered one of the greatest successes in conservation history.

Both the states and sportsmen's groups contend that hunting is therefore on the table. "The grizzly population has more than recovered," says Tex Janecek, outgoing president of the Montana state chapter of Safari Club International. "We should be having a hunting season and the states should be regulating it. Bears are ranging far beyond the greater Yellowstone region and they are getting in trouble with livestock and putting people at risk. Hunting can be an effective tool."

Tim Preso of the environmental law firm EarthJustice, who argued the case on behalf of conservation groups and Native American clients, said the federal government and states have been managing grizzlies effectively for more than four decades without needing to enlist hunters to remove bears that get into conflict with people.

Currently there are about 2,000 grizzlies in the Lower 48, a mere fraction of the 50,000 that historically existed south of Canada. They exist today in five separate "island" populations, all disconnected from each other.

Conservationists argue that true recovery means linking bears in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem to bears inhabiting the so-called northern continental divide ecosystem, along the U.S. border with Canada.

The fate of the grizzly population has hung in the balance for several years. In 2018, a federal judge halted plans by Wyoming to commence its first trophy hunt of grizzlies in 44 years only hours before the first hunters went afield.

This year a half dozen people have been injured by grizzlies in the greater Yellowstone area, none fatally, and nearly every instance has involved a hiker or mountain biker surprising a bear.

Todd Wilkinson is an environmental journalist and the founder of the Mountain Journal.



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Working Together To Conserve Cougars

By Rico Moore June 22, 2020 High Country News

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe is part of the Olympic Cougar Project, a collaboration including Panthera, the global wild cat conservation organization, and the Jamestown S’Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, Port Gamble S’Klallam, and Skokomish Tribes, respectively. Panthera is leading the project, which is also utilizing cougar genetic data and cougar GPS collar location data from the State of Washington, along with remote camera images from the National Parks Service, to gain a fuller understanding of the local cougar population. The collaborative research team is working together across state and tribal jurisdictional boundaries to conserve cougars on the peninsula and develop research tools, including remote camera grid technology, which will allow participating tribes to estimate the abundance of cougars, deer, elk, and other species. The goals are to determine the cougar population to conserve it, and to estimate how many deer and elk are in the tribes’ historic use area to ensure their ability to sustainably hunt them there, and in turn, strengthen the tribes’ food sovereignty.

The Olympic Cougar Project brings together western science and traditional ecological knowledge for the benefit

of wildlife, people and land. “It’s a banner project under which people can unite and work together,” said Dr. Mark Elbroch, Puma Program Director for Panthera and one of the project’s leaders. “It’s a community approach as is rarely seen in the U.S.” As cougars prowl the secret places of the Elwha, partners of the Olympic Cougar Project work together to ensure the survival of their descendants.

Tribes here have been safeguarding the cougar and their environment for generations, said Joseph Pavel, a Skokomish Tribe member and Director of the tribe’s Natural Resources Department. His tribe’s sustainable management and utilization of resources on their historic use area goes back to time immemorial. “I think it will be certainly of significance to us beyond just an interest, but just to know the health of these animals — these cougars — and their populations. They have a role in the environment, as does every animal, and we respect and honor that.”

Fitting cougars like the one the crew sedated in the coastal forest with a GPS collar will allow them to monitor his movements and teach them about the peninsula’s cougar population. Using that information, they can determine whether young cougars are able to navigate

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across deadly highways and roads to connect with other cougars across the state. The stakes are increasingly high, Elbroch said, as the rapid development of the Interstate-5 corridor — one of the busiest interstates in the Pacific Northwest — has made it nearly impossible for cougars to migrate to and from the peninsula. The decrease in mobility threatens their long-term survival by isolating them from their mainland counterparts, which the collaborators suspect is the reason peninsula cougars exhibit less genetic diversity. If left unchecked, Elbroch is concerned this could eventually lead to inbreeding, effecting



Moses is treed after hounds picked up his scent during a cougar capture mission on the Olympic Peninsula.

Megan Farmer/KUOW

the persistence and health of the peninsula's cougars. Elbroch and other partners of the project are using this data to inform migration models being developed by the Washington Dept. of Transportation, which is working to ensure future transportation projects account for cougar connectivity.

Along with GPS movement data, researchers have enlisted dogs that are trained to seek out cougar scat by its scent. Along with their handlers, these "scat dogs" search predetermined areas, and when they locate a cougar's droppings, the handler collects it. Genetic analysis of the samples helps to better understand the local cougar population. Additionally, the team of researchers is developing Panthera IDS, a computer program based on thousands of images taken from motion-sensing cameras across the peninsula. When completed, the program will allow the project partners to estimate how many individual cougars live in the area, as well as estimate how many deer and elk live there, informing sustainable hunting harvest practices for the tribes.

Growing up, Cameron Macias, a Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe member who is gathering this research into a Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Idaho, watched her tribe fight to remove two dams from its main stem. Following their removal, Macias worked for the tribe studying how wildlife was recolonizing the former reservoir sites, an endeavor that came with great pride. She knows the research she is doing will not only help her people and the cougars today, "but also for future generations of tribal

members," whether they're harvesting deer and elk or observing the animals there. Like the crew in the forest, Macias hopes the partnership between tribes and researchers will strengthen the connection between the cougars, the

environment and the people who also call the Olympic Peninsula home. As the crew left that rainy day, they contemplated a name for the cougar. They landed on "Moses," the name of Castle and Sampson's ancestor who lived and thrived with the Elwha before it was dammed. The cougar Moses was also at home on the Elwha, his GPS collar revealed.

Rico Moore is an

*essayist, journalist, and poet. His book, **The Tiny House that Flew**, is forthcoming from Wolverine Farm Publishing. He lives in Fort Collins, Colorado, with his wife and cat.*

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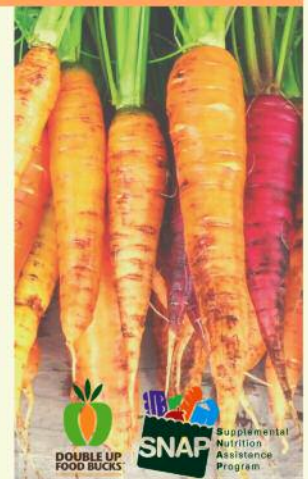


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America Must Come to Grips with its Wrongs

Once again Europe has opened my eyes to the fact that America has never come to grips with its wrongs. Not many places in Germany can you go that the memory of their country's wrong, the killing of Jewish people, are on display. Honoring the many Jewish families whose lives were taken by a time that to this day still shames German people. This honoring consists of gold stars in front of the houses of people that were killed, statues erected in their memories and a never-ending reminder of the wrongs that occurred.

Admitting and never forgetting these tragedies is a strong way to make sure this never happens again. I think this shows a true path to healing. To admit wrong and display it helps ensure it will never happen again.

The country I come from, America, has much to be ashamed of from our past, yet we don't make any efforts to recognize or to face our demons. Our country was formed on the backs of slaves we took as our property from Africa.

The welcoming to the new continent came from the Native American tribes. They taught us how to survive in the new world, what to eat and all the other knowledge needed to keep us alive. Then we began to murder them and steal their land, removing their way of life. Starting the first form of chemical warfare, in the form of small pox blankets, we weakened them and then exterminated their food supply by killing over 30 million Buffalo.



Our harsh and unforgiving ways can never be forgotten. Yet these atrocities go almost unrecognized in the history of our country; in fact we honor the ones that committed these crimes with statues and in our history books. To truly heal from these inhumane acts, we need to recognize and admit how horribly wrong all these actions are. We need to honor the millions of lives lost by paying tribute to these people and their families and admit we were wrong. Recognize that this country was built on the backs of black slaves and that this was also wrong. When I watch people get

angry over the removal of statues of people that carried out this horror, I ask them to look at why the memories still haunt so many. To undo wrongs, we must first admit they exist. We must face the evils done by our ancestors by denouncing them. Place memorials throughout the country honoring the victims of the actions. Tell the truth in our history books and always have a reminder of these wrongs so it never happens again. We must honor the victims of the past to heal

our future. As we see, this still is happening today and it is time to stop this. We need to put up memorials of all the Native Americans murdered, like we do for our war heroes. We need to erect statues of the slaves that built this country. We must have never ending reminders of what took place, so it can never happen again. This might help to let the healing begin.

Written by BFC co-Founder - Mike Mease

While giving talks in Europe Feb. 2020

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Masking Cognitive Dissonance

By Diane Bergstrom

Ever behaved in defiance of your beliefs, values or attitudes, causing you to feel uneasy, uncomfortable, unhappy? Or did you author a self-justification for the contradiction you created? As a student of sociology and psychology, I've always found cognitive dissonance fascinating. It outlines when a person holds two or more contradictory beliefs, ideas, or values; or participates in an action that goes against one of these three, and experiences psychological stress because of that. It is also framed as the state of having inconsistent thoughts, beliefs, or attitudes, especially as relating to behavioral decisions and attitude change. Leon Festinger, social psychologist, developed the theory in the 1950s, and the concept is making a mainstream comeback in our current challenging times. Basically, it's about how people try to make sense of contradictory ideas and lead lives, according to them, that are consistent and meaningful.

Social psychologists Elliot Aronson and Carol Tavris in their article, "The Role of Cognitive Dissonance in the Pandemic," *The Atlantic*, July 7, 2020, explained the impact how cognitive dissonance in underlying the reluctance to admit mistakes or accept scientific findings, "This dynamic is playing out during the (current contagion) among the many people who refuse to wear masks or practice social distancing. Human beings are deeply unwilling to change their minds. And when the facts clash with their preexisting convictions, some people would sooner jeopardize their health and everyone else's than accept new information or admit to being wrong." Aronson expanded the theory and identified the personal pain felt when evidence strikes at how we see ourselves and threatens our beliefs, "The minute we make any decision—I'll buy this car; I will vote for this candidate; I think (the current contagion) is serious; no, I'm sure it is a hoax—we will begin to justify the wisdom of our choice and find reasons to dismiss the alternative. Before long, any ambivalence we might have felt at the time of the original decision will have morphed into certainty. As people justify each step taken after the original decision, they will find it harder to admit they were wrong at the outset. Especially when the end result proves self-defeating, wrongheaded, or harmful." So people have a hard time admitting when they're wrong, especially when it hurts themselves or others. They also explained how this clouds political perspectives, "...when people feel a strong connection to a political party, leader, ideology, or belief, they are more likely to let that allegiance do their thinking for them and distort or ignore the evidence that challenges those loyalties... Americans have to choose whom to believe as they make decisions about how to live: the scientists and the public-health experts, whose advice will necessarily change as they learn more about the treatment and risks? Or (the administration), who suggest that masks and social distancing are unnecessary or 'optional?'"

Not only are we making decisions about how to live, our employers are making decisions about how we'll work.

A local warehouse has required their customers to wear masks even before Gov. Polis issued the Executive Order D 2020 138 requiring people in Colorado over 10 years old to wear face coverings over noses and mouths when entering and moving within a public indoor space or while using/ waiting for public or non-personal transportation. (This was enacted July 16th and will be in effect for 30 days, or longer, and is a result of pressure from local Colorado politicians, small business owners, and online petitions.)

Many warehouse patrons commented that they were pleased the business proactively protected their customers and employees. Some patrons were not. A young mask-less couple entered the warehouse, claiming to have a condition that prohibited them from wearing masks. They were allowed in. They proceeded to the Optical Department, where additional safety measures are in place to protect the employees in necessary close encounters; a non-contact thermometer reading is taken of each customer and a temperature below 100 degrees is required for assistance. The man had a temp of 100. The employee explained why she could not assist him, the customer became irate, and the store manager was called to the department. The manager negated the policies and required the employee to wait on the customer. Why? It was a poor decision with rippling ramifications for the employees, their families, the surrounding customers, and perceived brand trust. In a moment of corporate cognitive (Continued on next page.)

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dissonance, the manager's decision and behavior did not match the company's protective safety policies. An excerpt from a Logical Party post, author unknown, reads, "Businesses have a right to not let you in, not serve you. You can't have it both ways...you are free to make a choice, but that means accepting the consequences of your actions. Screaming at employees and businesses for protecting their workers and customers does not make you a patriot...it makes you an a__hole. Don't mistake inconvenience for oppression." Aronson and Tavriss suggest that we live with dissonance for awhile in order to not jump to self-justification. The self-reflection time allows us to admit we were wrong. With hope, the manager has had a reflective epiphany.

Employees need to know they have support, and employers need to know their guidelines. OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, is responsible for reviewing unsafe working conditions, safety and health violations, worker's rights and employer's responsibilities. If an employee needs to file a complaint, call (800)321-6742 to find your local office. In the Denver area, call the local office directly at (303)844-5285. Director Amanda Kupper's direct line is (303)334-3002. If employers need guidance for establishing safety measures and standards, consult www.osha.gov. Section 11(c) of Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, prohibits employers from retaliating against workers for raising concerns about health and safety conditions. There are protective measures if an employee experiences, or learns of, retaliation. You must act quickly to enact protections as filing deadlines can vary. The Whistleblower Protection Program requires a complaint submission, and some types within 30 days. No particular form is required to submit a claim and you may do so by visiting or calling your local office, or by sending a written complaint via fax, mail, email, or online. While OSHA has a varied past on responses and results, the bottom line is no employer wants

to be spanked by OSHA.

Flexibility in our thinking, beliefs, actions, reactions and problem solving is sorely needed these days. Aronson and Tavriss state that we unconsciously try to reduce our own uncomfortable dissonance. Repercussions for fixed thinking can then limit us, and are evident through our behaviors after we make our initial decisions. They suggest asking ourselves, "Will we be flexible, or will we keep reducing dissonance by insisting that our earliest decisions were right?" They wrote that while difficult, changing our minds isn't impossible. We need to live with uncertainty, inform ourselves to make the best decisions, and change those decisions when emerging scientific evidence dictates, as the leading researchers are doing. We can overcome dissonance by identifying different dissonant perceptions and keeping them separate. They called this the "Shimon Peres solution." He was the former Israeli prime minister and a friend to President Ronald Reagan. He was very angry when Reagan made a disastrous official visit to a Bitburg cemetery in Germany, where members of the Waffen SS were buried. Peres could have reduced his own resulting dissonance by ending the friendship or minimizing the seriousness. Instead, he said, "When a friend makes a mistake, the friend remains a friend, and the mistake remains a mistake." Aronson and Tavriss explained, "Peres' message conveys the importance of staying with the dissonance, avoiding easy knee-jerk responses, and asking ourselves, Why am I believing this? Why am I behaving this way? Have I thought it through or am I simply taking a short cut, following the party line, or justifying the effort I put in to join the group?" They advise that current challenging times will require all of us to give up the practices and beliefs we are sure of, as scientists learn more. Basically, allowing ourselves to change our minds.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, MD, Director of the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases since 1984, who has advised six presidents on domestic and global health issues, stated with genuine concern, "I don't know how to explain to you that you should care for other people." Well, Dr. Fauci, here's another approach from our straight forward Gov. Polis, "The emerging data is clear: wearing a mask doesn't only protect others, it also significantly reduces your own risk...so if you're a selfish bastard and wearing a mask to protect others isn't enough of a reason to do so, then maybe protecting yourself is?" He ended one news conference succinctly,

"Wear a damn mask."

*Elliot Aronson and Carol Tavriss are social psychologists. Their book, **Mistakes Were Made (But Not by Me): Why We Justify Foolish Beliefs, Bad Decisions, and Hurtful Acts**, has just been released by Mariner in an updated edition.*

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How Can We Protect Silence?

By Jenny Morber July 13, 2020 High Country News

This story was originally published by Yale Environment360 and is reproduced here through the Climate Desk partnership.

As the global population soars, cities and towns sprawl out, and roads stretch into even the most remote parts the world, quiet is becoming increasingly scarce. The noise of buzz saws and trucks infiltrate deep into the Amazon rainforest. The blast of ship horns ring out over the Arctic Ocean. The U.S. has become a highly developed landscape, with just a fraction of its original wilderness remaining, split up into parks and protected areas. Now, even in these refuges, cars, planes, motorboats, helicopters and crowds contribute to the growing din.

A 2017 study by scientists at CSU and the National Park Service found that human noise doubled background sounds in 63% of U.S. protected areas. In 21% of parks, human noise increased background sounds 10-fold, “surpassing levels known to interfere with human visitor experience and disrupt wildlife behavior, fitness and community composition.” In popular spots like Zion National Park in Utah, music blares in campsites and on trails. Hiker Erica Langston from Wilmington, North Carolina, recalls the end of a Zion backcountry hike in 2017: “We converged with a popular trail and could hear the human traffic from it well before we reached it, with people playing music or yelling to be heard over the din,” she says. “The last few miles felt more like standing in line at Disney World than walking out of the woods.”

Part of the problem is simply numbers. National parks received over 327.5 million visitors in 2019, up 9 million from the year before. Yellowstone, Rocky Mountain, Joshua Tree, Acadia: tourism is surging. While some recent closures provided rangers and wildlife a temporary respite, federal parks are starting to reopen. In addition, people flocked to local parks and trails during the closures, raising

noise levels in previously out-of-the-way spots. “If you want to go hiking on a weekend, be prepared to stand shoulder to shoulder,” says Laurabeth Roundy, a member of the Facebook group PNW Hiking with Kids who lives in Washington state.

There are still some quiet places left, however, where the sounds of humanity give way to the natural world. A 2019 study pinged both the noisiest U.S. national parks and monuments — including parts of the Grand Canyon, Arches National Park in Utah, and Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado — and also the quietest places, which included Great Sand Dunes National Park in Colorado, Lassen Volcanic National Park in California, and El Malpais National Monument in New Mexico. Now, a growing coalition of environmental organizations, scientists and grassroots activists are working to protect and restore quiet places. Scientists at CSU and the National Park Service are working to document where quiet has been lost and the most prominent drivers of noise in the places people go to escape it. Local activists in Hawaii and Washington state are petitioning policymakers to reduce or stop helicopter and plane flyovers near wilderness areas. And the nonprofit Quiet Parks International is turning public attention to the fragility of quiet by flagging remaining quiet areas as worthy of special protection.

Human-created noise is more than annoying. Decades of research has implicated it in a host of chronic health conditions, including low sleep quality and high blood pressure, as well as increased risk of heart attack or stroke, diabetes and even cancer. “Noise is a known psychological and physiological stressor,” says Marie Pedersen, an epidemiologist at the University of Copenhagen who studies how environmental exposures affect pregnancies and children. Wildlife is affected too: Studies show that the auditory landscape is a key component of habitat, and human noise masks critical sounds. Animals listen for prey,

(Continued on page 31.)

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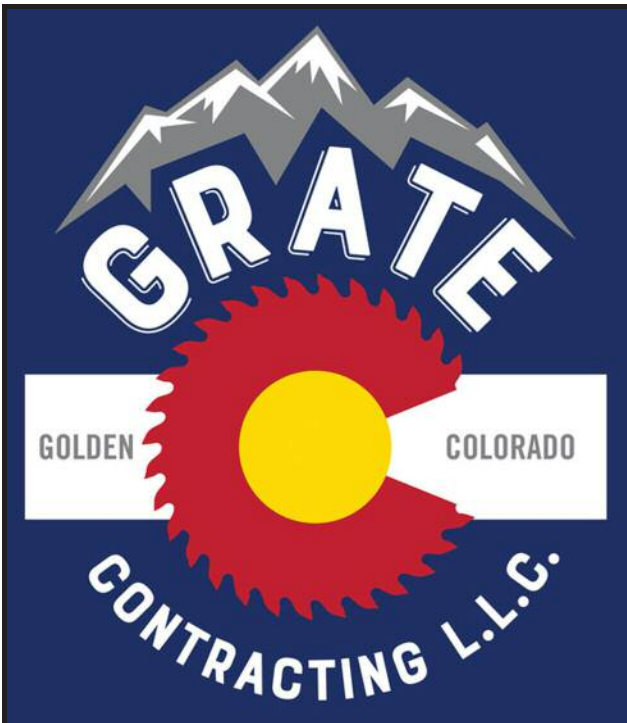
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predators, and territorial alarm calls, to locate group members, and find sexual partners. "The absence of noises, replaced in parks by sounds of leaves crunching under shoes or birds creating their own symphonies, is what draws so many of us to them," says Rob Smith, Northwest Regional Director of the nonprofit National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA). "Yet, even these values are under threat. There is definitely a growing awareness of the importance of protecting parks' sounds ... so they can continue to be useful places of refuge."

The movement in the U.S. follows an almost two-decades-long effort in Europe to protect quiet areas. In 2002, the European Union approved an Environmental Noise Directive that set out goals for determining noise levels and exposures across Europe, making this data publicly available, and working to prevent and reduce environmental noise. In 2014, the European Environment Agency recommended the creation, identification, and protection of "quiet areas." As of this year, 85% of reporting EU countries have established

"criteria for designating quiet areas in their territories," and 60% have "designated at least one quiet area." They include places like Blessington Basin in Ireland, Lake

Bäcksjön in Sweden, and Tondiloo Park in Estonia.

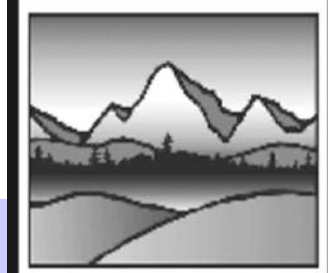
In Washington state, the NPCA is working to protect the natural quiet of Olympic National Park, where starting in 2008 a nearby Navy base began sending noisy Growler jet training flights over it. The NPCA is petitioning the Navy's Northwest commander to stop the fly-overs, developing a Growler Tracker app to build a noise map with visitor input, and suing the Navy over failing to comply with a Freedom of Information Act request for the Navy's research on the impact of Growler noise in the park.



Great Sand Dunes National Park in Colorado is so quiet that noise levels often fall below acoustic equipment's measurement threshold. Duncan Rawlinson/CC via Flickr

In Hawaii, the largest threat to quiet is helicopters. More commercial air tours fly over Hawaii Volcanoes National Park than any other protected area (Continued on page 32.)

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in the U.S., with reported flights totaling 8,333 in 2018; Haleakal National Park ranks fourth, with 4,757 reported flights. But citizens are pushing back. In 2017, HICoP (Hawaii Island Coalition Malama Pono) — a Hawaiian advocacy nonprofit formed to restore “serenity free from tour copter noise pollution” — and a group of federal workers anonymously represented by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility sued the Federal Aviation Admin. (FAA) to limit air tours over seven protected areas, including Hawaii Volcanoes and Haleakal. Protecting quiet in wilderness spaces “is why national parks exist,” HICoP founding board member Bob Ernst says.

Quiet Parks International (QPI) is a nonprofit working to establish certification for quiet parks to raise awareness of and preserve quiet places. The fledgling organization — whose members include audio engineers, scientists, environmentalists, and musicians — has identified at least 262 sites worldwide, including 30 in the U.S., that it believes are quiet or could become so with management changes. Great Sand Dunes National Park in Colorado and Haleakal Crater in Hawaii are two of them. According to the Great Sand Dunes resource manager, Fred Bunch, the dunes are so quiet that when the Park Service monitored sounds in the area, noise levels often fell below their equipment’s measurement threshold. Other places flagged by Quiet Parks for certification are Doñana National Park in Spain, Ballycroy National Park in Ireland, and the Wadi Rum Protected Area in Jordan.

In the busy summer months, Zion, Denali, and Rocky Mountain national parks now run shuttles, which reduce vehicle traffic inside the parks. Other parks, such as Canyonlands in Utah restrict numbers with permit-only visitation. The Park Service is working with the FAA to

reduce airline noise over some areas. Drones are prohibited in all but a few national parks, and there are limits on snowmobile tours in winter, following public outcry in the late 1990s about snowmobile noise pollution in Yellowstone.

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area nature preserve in Minnesota is a place of continued conflict between those who prioritize auditory solitude and those who favor motorized recreation. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act of 1978 enacted a compromise, restricting snowmobiling and mining, but allowing motorboats on 16 of the refuge’s 1100 lakes. Today, permits are required, with daily and weekly restrictions, and no more than nine people and four watercraft are allowed together in the wilderness.

In California’s Muir Woods, staff put up signs asking people to be quiet as part of a study by the Park Service. “And people listened!” says Rachel Buxton, a researcher focused on noise pollution at Carleton University who was not involved in the research. “All it took was putting up a couple of signs in the middle of the forest grove and sound levels dropped.” The findings indicate people are willing to accept trade-offs, like limiting conversations, staying off of certain trails, and having signs and rangers present, to preserve the auditory experience of nature, Barber says. QPI says the response to its work has been overwhelming. “We’re being flooded by people asking where can they go for quiet,” says Hempton. “And we’re being flooded by management of locations who wish to be recognized for their quiet.”

Jenny Morber is a science journalist based in the Pacific Northwest. Her work can be found Undark, Glamour, Ensia, NOVA, National Geographic and more.

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Keep a copy of this chart posted in the barn or laminate it and place it in your colic first-aid kit. Call your veterinarian if your horse exhibits two or more symptoms of moderate or severe colic—or if mild colic symptoms persist for more than 30 minutes.

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Heart rate (beats per min.)	40 to 60	60 to 80	over 80
Respiratory rate (breaths per min.)	20 to 30	30 to 40	over 40
Temperature (degrees Fahrenheit)	99 to 100.5	99 to 100.5	under 99/over 100.5
Gum color	pale pink	pale pink	bluish or purple
Capillary refill time	1 to 2 seconds	2 to 4 seconds	over 5 seconds
Gut sound	normal or increased	decreased frequency	absent
Feces	normal	small, hard fecal balls	none or profuse diarrhea
Passing gas	yes	no	no
Pain level	sweating, intermittent pawing/looking at belly/lifting hind leg/stretching	same as mild but continuous plus may try to roll	all other signs plus uncontrollable, continuous attempts to roll/thrash

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 Kysar's Place pg 9 303.582.3566
 Mountain Muffler pg 11 303.278.2043

BUILDING/CONSTRUCTION

ACE Indian Peaks Hardware pg 27 303.258.3132
 Arrow Drilling-pg 23 303.421.8766
 Caribou Painting pg 8 303.641.7964
 Grate Contracting pg 30 303.579.9519
 Meyer Hardware pg 3 303.279.3393
 Mountain Home CO pg 21 303.618.9619
 Peter Palombo, Surveyor-pg 26 720.849.7509
 RedPoint Construction pg 5 303.642.3691
 Steel Structures America ins cov 970.420.7100

BUSINESS SERVICES

Graphics Galore pg 13 303.642.0362
 Karen Schwimmer, CPA pg 11 303.642.0628
 Wondervu Consulting Serv. pg 31 303.642.0433

CHIMNEY SWEEPS

Chimney Service of CO pg 16 720.515.0416
 MidTown Chimney pg 12 303.670.7785

CIGARS

Foss Company pg 24 303.963.5693

CLOTHING

The Rustic Moose - pg 22 303.258.3225

COMPUTER SERVICE & REPAIR

Wondervu Consulting Serv. pg 31 303.642.0433

DRIVEWAYS/ GRADING SERVICES

B & H Asphalt Paving ins frt cov 303.810.0531
 Benchmark Land Care pg 5 303.485.1001
 Rock Creek Civil, LLC pg 10 720.583.4555

ELECTRIC

United Power - Inside back Cover 303.642.7921

ENTERTAINMENT

KGNU Radio 303.449.4885

ENVIRONMENTAL

TEG - tegcolorado.org

FARRIER

Forbes Farrier Service pg 9 303.642.7437

FIREWOOD & FOREST MANAGEMENT

CO Tree Specialists pg 29 303.835.7540
 High Timber Mtn Tree Serv. pg 6 303.258.7942
 Lumber Jacks - pg 21 720.212.1875
 Pruins Pruning/Tree Care pg 8 303.653.7967
 Rock Creek Civil, LLC pg 5 720.583.4555

GIFTS

The Silver Horse - pg 22 303.279.6313
 The Rustic Moose - pg 22 303.258.3225
 Nature Photography Notecards pg 16

GROCERIES

B & F Moutain Market pg 28 303.258.3105
 Golden Farmer's Market pg 25
 Nederland Farmer's Market pg 7

HEALTH & FITNESS

Hands, Hoofs & Paws pg 15 303.503.6068

HEATING

Agfinity pg 14 1.970.454.4081
 Resolution Energy pg 22 303.887.2884

HOME IMPROVEMENT

ACE Indian Peaks Hardware pg 27 303.258.3132
 B & H Asphalt Paving ins frt cov 303.810.0531
 Benchmark Land Care pg 5 303.485.1001
 Caribou Painting pg 8 303.641.7964
 Colorado Water Wizard pg 9 303.447.0789
 Grate Contracting pg 30 303.579.9519
 Meyer Hardware pg 3 303.279.3393
 Mountain Home CO pg 21 303.618.9619
 Pruins Pruning/Tree Care pg 8 303.653.7967
 Redpoint Construction pg 5 303.642.3691
 Rock Creek Civil, LLC pg 27 720.583.4555

HORSE BOARDING

Rudolph Ranch, Inc. pg 17 303.582.5230

HORSE TRAINING

Timberline Sporthorses pg 13 720.999.7235

INSURANCE

Jim Plane-State Farm- pg 20 720.890.5916

LIQUOR

Foss Company pg 24 303.963.5693
 Mid-County Liquors pg 12 303.642.7686
 Underground Liquor pg 6 303.582.6034

MUSIC LESSONS

Piano & Harp in CCC pg 29 303.642.8423

PROPANE

Agfinity pg 14 1.970.454.4081
 Carl's Corner pg 26 303.642.7144

REAL ESTATE

Byers-Sellers Mtn Properties pg 32 303.642.7951
 Mock Realty-Kathy Keating -Back cov 303.642.1133
 Mountain Home CO pg 21 303.618.9619

RETAIL

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 B & F Moutain Market pg 7 303.258.3105
 Meyer Hardware pg 3 303.279.3393
 The Silver Horse - pg 22 303.279.6313
 The Rustic Moose - pg 22 303.258.3225

REVERSE MORTGAGES

Universal Lending Corp. pg 17 303.791.4786

ROOFING

Independence Roofing pg 3 720.399.0355

STEEL STRUCTURES

Steel Structures America ins cov 970.420.7100

TAXES

Karen Schwimmer, CPA pg 11 303.642.0628

WATER & WELL

Arrow Drilling pg 23 303.421.8766
 Colorado Water Wizard pg 9 303.447.0789

Power Update

August
2020

Common Causes of Summer Outages

The summer is not an ideal time to worry about the possibility of power outages, but they are still possible. United Power monitors its system for outages, and potential outages, 24/7 so it can immediately respond when one occurs to quickly restore power to affected members. Here are some common causes of summer outages:

- **Wildlife** — Despite United Power's best efforts, animals seem to have the innate ability to locate, and interact with, substations, poles and electrical boxes. The cooperative takes proactive measures to guard against animal related outages, including avian protection on its wires and deterrents to protect ground equipment. These measures not only help prevent outages, but also protect the wildlife. Unfortunately, some animals are small enough to sneak by these defenses and get into equipment. Rodents and snakes like to hide and nest in equipment, creating the potential for outages.
- **Weather** — Severe weather can spring up at any time in the mountains. High winds and lightning storms may contribute to outages. Most of United Power's poles are equipped with technology that helps redirect lightning current away from transformers. In situations where these are not present or fail, other elements down the line will "break," hopefully containing the outage or preventing it entirely. However, it does not guarantee an outage will not occur.
- **Falling Trees/Branches** — United Power contracts with Asplundh to monitor trees near primary power lines throughout its territory. These proactive measures help to minimize outage risks where possible, but cannot prevent them entirely. Falling tree limbs are yet another potential outage risk for our members. If you notice a limb hanging dangerously close to primary power lines in your area, please contact United Power immediately.
- **Vehicle Accidents** — It's impossible for United Power to account for the behavior of drivers traveling through its service territory. Occasionally, an accident may temporarily interrupt service to members when it involves one of the cooperative's poles, utility boxes or, very rarely, a substation.

Members can report an outage by calling our outage line at 303-637-1350 or by logging into their account via SmartHub.

Be Scam Smart

Recently, residential and business members on United Power's lines have reported receiving notifications about "past due" amounts on electric bills. Notices may be demanding, and often insist that members make an immediate payment using a prepaid debit card.

To keep up with the current status of your electric account, reference your monthly statement, check your account via SmartHub (available FREE to members as a smartphone app) or call United Power's Member Services Department at 303-637-1300.

If you are ever in doubt about a potential scam call, hang up and call United Power at 303-637-1300.



Know How United Power Conducts Business:

- United Power does not collect utility payments at member homes or businesses.
- United Power never calls members in person to collect overdue electric bills.
- United Power will never require or demand prepaid debits or other prepaid methods as the only form of payment we would accept.



Save Trees with Paperless Billing

United Power members who no longer wish to receive a printed bill in the mail can sign up for Paperless Billing with SmartHub. If you are not currently a SmartHub user, the registration process is simple and allows you immediate access to view your account details.

Sign up for Paperless Billing:

- Visit www.unitedpower.com/smarthub.
- From SmartHub, select My Profile from menu options
- Select Update My Paperless Settings from options
- Toggle Paperless Status button from OFF to ON to stop receiving printed bills
- Click Yes to confirm
- On the United Power app, you can enroll in paperless by toggling Go Paperless in Settings.

Once you are enrolled, a paper bill will no longer be mailed to you. Register for SmartHub online at the link above.



Member Services: 303-637-1300

Coal Creek Office: 303-642-7921

www.unitedpower.com

Mountain Fest - Park & Rec COME OUT & PLAY

Saturday, August 29th Noon to 5 PM

CCCIA Hall - 31528 Hwy 72



6 Car Garage

Coal Creek Canyon

Gorgeous Updated Log Home - 1.82 Acres
4 BD/ 4 BA 3,817 sq.ft. **\$1,100,000**



SOLD!

5 Leon Lane

Touch of Mtn Charm- Updated -2.09 Acs
2 BD/ 2 BA 1,296 sq.ft. **\$449,900**



Horse Property

Under Contract

31448 Coal Creek Canyon

Slice of Heaven - Barn & Corral
3 BD/ 1 BA 11+ Acres **\$575,000**



New Listing

181 Hummingbird Lane

Nicely Updated - Theater Room
3 BD/ 2 BA 2,129 sq.ft. 1.29 Acres



Dream Garage

Under Contract

5 Ronnie Road

Fantastic Home - Dream Garage
4 BD/ 3 BA 3,358 sq.ft. **\$650,000**



New Listing

11838 Ridge Road

Lovely Mountain Home with Walkout
3 BD/2 BA 2,280 sq.ft. 1 Acre **\$469,900**



Extraordinary

Coal Creek Canyon

Fabulous Luxury Home VIEWS
4 BD/ 4 BA 4,697 sq.ft. 1.5 Ac. **\$929,900**



New Listing

11470 Ranch Elsie Road

Horse Property! 3.8 Acres
2 BD/ 1 BA 1,948 sq.ft. **\$455,000**



New Listing

198 Range Road

Solar Powered & Secluded "Treehouse"
2 BD/ 2 BA 1,652 sq.ft. 2.7 Ac **\$569,900**



Under Contract

294 E. Dory Drive

Wonderful View Home 1.24 Acres
3 BD/ 3 BA 1,934 sq.ft. **\$469,900**



New Listing

Vacant Land

1257 / 1316 Chute Road

Secluded 5+ acres, Divide, City,
and Gross Dam Views **\$165,000**



New Listing

11440 Inspiration Road

Amazing Views at Road's End
3 BD/2 BA 2,341 sq.ft. 1.5 Ac. **\$540,000**



New Listing

31992 Coal Creek Canyon Drive

Horse property- Walkout Guest Ste. - 4 Ac
3 BD/ 3 BA + Den 2,907 sq.ft. **\$689,900**



SOLD!

Coal Creek Canyon

Custom Log Home - 4.2 Acres
3 BD/ 4 BA 3,300 sq.ft. **\$900,000**



SOLD!

85 Valley View Drive

Breathtaking Divide & Lake Views
4 BD/ 4 BA 3623 sq.ft. 1+Ac. **\$775,000**



**BUY OR SELL A HOME with
Kathy or Janet & USE
the moving truck for FREE**



Kathy Keating
CRS, ABR, GRI
EcoBroker
Broker Associate
303.642.1133

For additional information & photos:
www.kathykeating.com
kathykeating@mockrealty.com
Janet.LoveWhereYouLive@gmail.com



Janet Ingvaldsen
Broker Associate
Realtor
720.600.9006

