

MEM student of the Week

Ryan Wilbur, an Integrated Land Management student, is working on his project on Assessing Bias in Human-Black Bear Conflict Reporting in Durango, Colorado. As human-black bear conflicts increase, there are potential increases in negative impacts on black bear survivability, increased public safety concerns, and high management costs. Wildlife managers estimate the severity and spatial trends of human-bear conflict by monitoring voluntary conflict reporting. His research aims to understand potential bias in voluntarily reported black bear conflicts versus the real frequency and distribution of human-black bear conflicts.



Here's the link to the [Master in Environmental Management calendar](#)

Meetings

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District Monthly Board Meetings: They are always discussing interesting resource management issues and typically have guest speakers. The board is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders and is a great place to meet some of the leading voices in resource issues in the area. These public meetings are **typically held the last Monday of the month from 5:30pm to about 8:30pm**. They meet at the District office 210 West Spencer Suit B here in Gunnison. Find more info here: <http://ugrwc.org/>

Gunnison Sage-grouse Strategic Committee Meetings: With representatives of the FS, BLM, USFWS, CPW, Gunnison County, HCCA, and several other community members, these meetings are all about the latest issues and lawsuits in the sage-grouse saga. The next public meeting is scheduled for **November 20th, from 10am-2pm** at the Courthouse at 200 E. Virginia here in Gunnison .

You're Invited! Prosperity: Getting From Here to There: A community event that will call on participants to help the Community Builders Task Force (OVPP leadership) confirm its goals, brainstorm key challenges, and guide action planning. Attendees will be updated on the progress of OVPP, asked to provide feedback on established regional priorities, and join the discussion on how best to approach and manage critical challenges our collective community faces, namely affordable housing, sustainable recreation & tourism, and economic resiliency. Dinner, drinks, and childcare provided for free. **November 5th from 5:15 - 8:30 PM** in the University Center Ballroom.

Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting: We invite you to present an oral presentation or poster on the topics of wildlife research, ecology, management, conservation, education, or policy at the 2016 annual meeting of the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society Abstract Submission Deadline: January 8th , 2016 Meeting date is **February 3rd -5th 2016**, at the Double Tree Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO. More info in attachment.

Meeting to get involved with MEM Forums: MEM Students! At the next MEM Forum: *Sustaining the Unsustainable: Winter Life in the Gunnison Valley*, you will be able to join leaders, students, and community members in looking at our Valley's main support systems - food, transport, recreation, energy, waste, economy, and habitat - and explore steps we can take as a community to lower our impact in these areas. This will be taking place on **Thursday, November 12th from 6:30-8:30pm** in the University Ballroom. Any MEM students are welcome to work as a community to make our rural lifestyles as sustainable as possible - join them on **Thursdays at 2pm** in the LEAD office if you want to get involved, Free dinner included! Contact Erin Griffin (erin.griffin@western.edu) or Andres Esparza (andres.esparza@western.edu) for more info.

Items of Interest

2015 Quivira Conference: In this conference, we will hear thoughts on how to flourish amidst the emerging conditions and challenges of the twenty-first century from ranchers, farmers, scientists, activists as well as others. It will take place **Wednesday, November 11th — Friday, November 13th, 2015** at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico. More info at: http://quiviracoalition.org/2015_Conference/

Writing/Designing Winning NSF Proposals Workshop: This comprehensive workshop is geared for those who wish to submit winning research proposals to the National Science Foundation (NSF) at a cost of \$375. See more info on this workshop and others here: https://granttrainingcenter.comutm_source=994&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ol

Help the Gunnison Angling Society Chapter of Trout Unlimited Kick off Their Gunnison Basin Adopt-a-Trout Program: Adopt-a-Trout is a youth education program that creates the next generation of conservationists and fisheries stewards and allows students to connect with their local environment as well as foster a life-long appreciation of natural systems. You can make a donation here: https://org2.salsalabs.com/o/7023/c/1633/p/salsa/donation/common/public/?donate_page_KEY=13013 their goal is to reach \$1,400, make a donation today!

FreeCycle: Student-run and in need of donations. If you have any unwanted and gently used items, please consider donating them to this program. FreeCycle is in the basement of Ute Hall and is **open weekdays from 3-5 pm**. You may also drop off donations in the LEAD Office (UC 118). FreeCycle is currently being managed by Cara Leapley, a Student Sustainability Coordinator, MEM students and a team of volunteers.

13th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the posting of the Request for Applications, *P3-People, Prosperity and the Planet Award Program*, with the goal to research, develop and design solutions to real world challenges involving the overall sustainability of human society. **Open date: 10/06/2015 - Close Date: 12/08/2015.** More info at: <http://www2.epa.gov/research-grants/13th-annual-p3-awards-national-student-design-competition-sustainability-focusing>

Interagency Forum on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptations: They meet regularly in Washington, D.C (you can attend over the phone) to discuss climate change impacts and adaptations in government. NASA, DOI, and the U.S. Global Change Research Program co-host this informal forum on climate change impacts and adaptations. Here's the description from the website: <https://www.fedcenter.gov/programs/greenhouse/ccforum/>

Master Student Business Cards: Through B&B printers, you can develop your own card, separate from Western, with a cost of \$60.00 for 250 cards. However, if you want to use the Western Template, then it will only be \$32.00 for 250 cards. You will need to do this on your own by filling out the template attached and sending it to creativeimages970@gmail.com. In the email, you will need to say you are a MEM student, will be using the Western template, and will be paying for it yourselves.

Study Abroad Course in Malawi: Through the University of Rochester. A great course that allows students from any background the opportunity to conduct field based research. They offer undergrad and graduate level courses. For more information visit <http://www.rochester.edu/college/ant/malawi/>

Leadership Speakers: *What is Leadership?* Provides diverse speakers who allow us insight into leadership from a variety of lenses – be that poor leadership (the power of hindsight), accidental or intentional leadership, etc. Up next, we will hear from a documentary film editor on **Monday, November 16th**. Please see attached poster for details, as well as visit www.western.edu/lss for more details and archives. As always, if you'd like to partner to bring in a speaker, please contact Brooke Moran. Further, if you're interested in having any folks visit with your classes or other groups, please contact Brooke at bmoran@western.edu

“Watershed” Screening and Discussion: Join Western State Colorado University for an evening of inspiration and discussion surround the Colorado River Basin and the Gunnison valley. *Watershed*, a solution based documentary, will be shown followed by an audience involved discussion with local water experts to discuss possible solution within the Gunnison valley to promote a new water ethic. **Tuesday November 3rd, 2015** in the University Center Ballroom. **Doors open at 6:00** with free pizza for all and the film begins 6:30 with the discussion starting around 7:30-7:45. Here is the trailer link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mCHrzOlmoY>

Fall Crop Cover Tour: Sponsored by the Uncompahgre Soil Health Team, they will be providing a bus to tour 6 different locations in the Uncompahgre Valley where producers have planted cover crop seed mixes after their regular season cash crops. There will be \$5 per rider fee to help offset some of the bus expenses, and registration is necessary. Those wanting to bring their own personal vehicles can follow the bus to the stops. Tour will **begin at 1:00pm** at the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users office. Come see how local producers are growing their own nutrients while enriching their soils. **November 10th, 2015 from 1pm to 5pm**. At the U.V.W.U.A building 601 N. Park Ave. Montrose. Contact Shavano Conservation District to register: 970-249-8407

Housing Available

Western maintains a list of housing and rental opportunities here: [Housing and Rentals](#). This may be a great resource for new students looking for rentals. Another place to look for housing is the **Gunnison Marketplace** on Facebook. It is more widely used than Craigslist and has new postings all the time.

Volunteer and Training Opportunities

Gunnison Valley Animal Welfare League: Looking for volunteers. They are always **in need of weekly volunteers, which is a 2 hour commitment** (either morning/evening dog care, or afternoon dog walkers). They are also always looking for foster care providers for dogs. Contact Liz Moore ([\(703\) 283-4895](tel:7032834895)) with any general questions, Kayce at ([\(970\) 238-0252](tel:9702380252)) to get started fostering, and Erika Landis at ([\(303\)809-8659](tel:3038098659)) for volunteering!

DOI Learn Website: This is a great resource for training and classes related to public lands. Some of the classes cost money, but others are free. Check it out: <http://www.doi.gov//doilearn/index.cfm>

The Gunnison Center for Adult and Family Education (CAFE): Seeking volunteers interested in working with adult English Language Learners and their children. This program provides Adult English Language Learners (ELL) classes and classes for children of adult ELL students. They are **looking for volunteers who can commit around two hours a week**. No experience is necessary, and volunteers do not need to speak any Spanish. The classes for ELL adults and the classes for ELL children meet **Monday and Wednesday evenings** at the Community School Library **from 6:00-8:00 pm**. They also need help with a class of women **Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-10:30am** at the Multicultural Resource office in the social services building. For more information, contact Karen Hausdoerffer. khausdoerffer@western.edu or Marsha Collins (our director) at the CAFE office 641-7684.

Telluride Fire Festival In Need of Western Student's Help: January 14th-18th, 2016 Joe Merritt is looking with Erin Ries, Director of the Telluride Fire Festival, to bring some Western students to the Fire Festival to tell the science part of the fire based art in the festival. This art is akin to what is found at Burning Man, etc., and the artists often exhibit/perform at both. What they're looking for this year is a few students to help put together educational posters (and perhaps students who would like to hang out in person) explaining what's going on in the art - the physics, chemistry, etc. [Telluride Fire Festival](http://www.telluridefirefestival.org) Email Erin if interested: erin@telluridefirefestival.org

GOCO Seeking Peer Reviewers for Local Government Land Acquisition, Local Park and Outdoor Recreation, Mini and Planning Grant Applications: Participating in a peer review is an excellent professional development opportunity, and you will be exposed to new and innovative ideas from your peers around the state. To volunteer to be a GOCO grant peer reviewer, please email Madison Brannigan at mbrannigan@goco.org with your complete mailing address and daytime phone number. If you are a prospective grant applicant this cycle, note the grant program and your intent to apply. Applying for a GOCO grant will not necessarily disqualify you from reviewing in a different grant program. **The grant application deadline is Nov. 5, 2015.**

Conferences

The 2016 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program: Planners are inviting individuals to submit abstracts, not to exceed two pages, related to environmental justice at the 9th Annual National Conference on Health Disparities on **March 9-12, 2016** in Washington, D.C., with a theme of "A National Dialogue for Building Healthy Communities." More info here: www.thenejc.org

Tamarisk Coalition to Present at Their February 2016 Conference: If you have been working on stream restoration, then consider submitting an abstract to the Tamarisk Coalition to present at their **February 2016** conference in Grand Junction. Check out their website here: <http://tamariskcoalition.org>. There are scholarships available too, if you want to attend and learn more about what people are doing in the riparian restoration world.



Luke Danielson's ENVS 620 field trip out at Paonia, CO

SER Regional Conference: This conference encompasses not only land management, and environmental restoration but also climate change implications, and adaptive management techniques. This conference will be taking place in **Portland, OR, April 4th-8th, 2016**, and may present a field trip opportunity as well as in the Washington/Oregon area on the 8th. Western student, MaryYoung would like to get a small group to drive out there, having to leave on the 3rd of April and there until the 10th. If anyone is interested, please email Mary at mary.young@western.edu. More info at <http://restoration2016.org/>

Western Slope Soil Health Conference: The Western Slope Soil Health Conference is the premier education event which is designed for the unique challenges that are region includes and provides a range of topics from the basics to advanced applications. **Taking place on February 11th & 12th, 2016** at the Delta Performing Arts Center in Delta, CO. Featured presenters: Gabe Brown from Brown's Ranch and Jay Fuhrer and NRCS Conservationist with local and regional speakers being added. For registration visit: www.westerncoloradosoilhealth.com or call 970-874-4992 or Email: Paul@Deltacountyed.org. Early registration is from (September 1st, 2015 to January, 22nd 2016.) Fee for college students is \$20 with a valid school ID required. General admission is \$40. Late registration/At door is still \$20 for students and \$50 for general admission.

Colorado Farm and Food Alliance Conference: Join community leaders, expert panelists, farmers and chefs on **November 1st and 2nd at the Hive Paonia from 5-8pm** as they discuss food security and climate change on the western slope. More info at: <http://www.coloradofarmfood.org/climate-change-in-colorado-what-it-means-for-farming-food-security-and-the-western-slope/>

Jobs, Internships, and Fellowships

The Sustainability Program Coordinator/Manager Position: The Sustainability Program Coordinator/Manager supports Lehigh University's, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, advancement of sustainability strategies and goals by aligning communications, outreach, education, and behavior change with sustainability commitments. You can apply here: <https://lehigh.hiretouch.com/position-details?jobID=28796&job=sustainability-program-coordinator-manager> More information on Lehigh's sustainability: <http://sustainability.lehigh.edu/> Their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/LehighSustainability

The Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship Program: The Mickey Leland Energy Fellowship (MLEF) Program provides students with opportunities to gain hands-on research experience with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy (FE). The application process **closes on December 21st**. The selection process will begin in January. See <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/education/lelandfellowships/index.html> for updates when available. Email MLEF@hq.doe.gov for more information.

Watershed Coordinator Position: The Evans Economic Development Department in association with the Middle South Platte River Alliance (MSPRA) is seeking an independent, self-motivated, and outgoing individual to fill the role of Watershed Coordinator for the Alliance. More information here: <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit2/?id=12864761&t=2> Position open until filled.

Canary is Hiring: They are looking to hire someone starting **in December** to help them with the Aspen Energy Challenge, Climate Action Planning, Climate Resiliency work and lots of other great programs. Please direct questions and find more positions at: <http://aspenspitkin.com/Departments/Human-Resources/Jobs/Job-Opportunities/>

Upper Gunnison Natural Resources Information Center Project Intern: They are still accepting more interns to work on the Upper Gunnison Natural Resource Information Center project, which is an ongoing effort to assemble research, data, and studies relating to the natural resources in the Gunnison Basin; convert this information into a searchable electronic format; and make this information easily accessible to researchers, students, and the general public on the web into next semester as well. To apply please contact Frances Bursch (bursch@sdsu.org) with a resume and brief letter of interest.

Denver-Based GIS Intern: Intern will provide operational support to various GIS projects; generate/maintain digital, geo-referenced spatial data (geospatial data) and evaluate it for spatial accuracy and source data consistency; generate, modify, and/or evaluate metadata for geospatial data; assist Field Offices in GIS database construction and maintenance; and work with a diverse group of resource specialists, planners, and managers. Send application materials to Gail Bower, Education Coordinator/ HR Manager Western Colorado Conservation Corps: [970-241-1027](tel:970-241-1027) gbower@mesapartners.org and more info at: <http://www.cyca.org/>