

Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative Southwest Steering Committee Members

The Southwest Steering Committee consists of eight members and makes decisions by consensus.

The composition of the committee is balanced with implementers and community values. Membership includes representatives from: the U.S. Forest Service, the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Colorado State Forest Service.

The four core values of the RMRI are clean water, healthy wildlife & forests, fire adapted communities and accessible recreation. A community member representing each value sits on the steering committee.



U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Kara Chadwick is the San Juan National Forest Supervisor. She has 35 years experience in the Forest Service where she has managed the full range of natural resources.



NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION

Patt Dorsey is the Director of Conservation Operations for the 11 western states. She has over 30 years experience in wildlife management and lives in Bayfield.



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Cody Robertson is the NRCS Resource Team Lead for the Durango and Pagosa Springs Field Offices, as well as the Ignacio Program Delivery Point.



COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

Mark Loveall is the Supervisory Forester, in the CSFS Durango Field Office. His office serves Archuleta, La Plata, Montezuma and Dolores counties.



WATER

Mike Preston spent 12 years as Manager of the Dolores Water Conservancy District and as the Southwest Basin Roundtable Chair. He continues to be active in watershed health from a small farm between Dolores and Cortez.



WILDLIFE

Matt Thorpe is the Southwest Deputy Regional Manager for Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Matt has 20 years of wildlife and habitat management experience with CPW.



COMMUNITIES

Aaron Kimple is the Program Director for the Mountain Studies Institute. Aaron also serves on the Southwest Wildfire Impact Fund, coordinates the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership, and the 2-3-2.



RECREATION

Amy Schwarzbach is the Natural Resources Manager for Durango Parks and Recreation. She oversees City open space, mountain parks and Lake Nighthorse. Her experience in land and recreation management spans 20 years and multiple agencies.



Jason Lawhon is the Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative – Southwest Project Manager for the San Juan National Forest. Prior to serving in this role, he worked in the Rocky Mountain Regional office as the lead for RMRI and the Director of State & Private Forestry and Tribal Relations. Jason also worked for The Nature Conservancy and for the USFS across the West.

