FEBRUARY 4, 2023



News from BOULDER COUNTY NATURE ASSOCIATION

Our mission: To conserve resilient natural ecosystems in our region through science, education, and advocacy



BCNA ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH, 7PM

The BCNA Annual Meeting and elections to the Board of Directors will be held via ZOOM at 7:00 PM on Saturday, March 4. An invitation to the meeting with the Zoom link will be emailed to all BCNA members the day before the meeting.

This meeting will include an update on significant BCNA news, selection of board members for the coming year, a report on upcoming classes and activities, and a report of research grants awarded for the coming year.

Two of BCNA's 2022 grant recipients will present a summary of their research findings. It is your support of BCNA that allows these important research projects to be funded.



The American Pika: National Park Service's "Canary in the Coal Mine" for Climate-mediated Changes in Habitat Quality Airy Peralta

Current niche models that evaluate whether and where pika will go extinct and whether we might lose the ecosystem services provided by pika are based on climatic variables that these animals don't experience. Pika habitat's micro-climates show us another picture that might help improve the accuracy of these models and, therefore, conservation efforts.

Identifying Climate Change Winners and Losers within Small Mammals in the Southern Rockies Peter Billman



In this study, we are aiming to tease apart how both climate and the presence of other species shape mammal distributions in Boulder County and beyond. Specifically, we are investigating occupancy patterns of American pikas, yellow-bellied marmots, and bushy-tailed woodrats to understand what currently limits where each species can live so we can then use climate models to predict where each species will shift to in the future in response to intensifying climate change.

SUPPORT BCNA: VOLUNTEER TO SERVE ON A COMMITTEE OR ON THE BOARD

We always welcome individuals who have an interest or background experience in environmental science, education, advocacy, publications, communications, or marketing to help on one or more of our many committees.

This year, BCNA has several board members who are leaving the board after many years of service. This has created several open at-large positions.

If you want to find out more, please <u>email us</u> to let us know how best to contact you. BCNA will benefit from your ideas and energy and you will help us to fulfill our important mission!

Membership will vote on nominations to the Board at the upcoming Annual Meeting.

BCNA will send out a Zoom link for the annual meeting on March 3, the day before the meeting. Hope to see you there!

What We Do

Education: We have offered hundreds of classes and field trips since 1988 as a critical conservation tool.

Citizen Science: We conduct many citizenscience projects, including an eco-steward monitoring, bird banding, bird counts, and raptor surveys.



Ecosymposium: We hold an annual, free, oneday symposium which is an in-depth exploration of important issues.

Research: We fund local ecological research and conduct citizen science to augment the local

ecological data set. We also award small, one-year grants for projects consistent with our mission.

Advocacy and Community Engagement: We track local management plans and projects, participate in collaborative decision-making, and work with local governments and other stakeholders to develop land management strategies that foster ecological resiliency and sustainability.

Nature-Net: BCNA and Boulder County Audubon Society jointly sponsor this e-mail discussion and announcement forum. Sign up at **bcna.org/nature-net**

SUPPORT BOULDER COUNTY NATURE ASSOCIATION

A big thank you to all who currently support BCNA! Without your assistance, we would not be able to accomplish all that we do for our community and for the natural world around us. Memberships for the calendar year renew in November and December, but you can renew for next year any time.

Please consider renewing today if you have not already done so.

New members are always welcome!

