

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments eNews April 2016



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Welcome Elaina Wiegand Office Manager



Elaina's background is a perfect fit for the Office Manager position for the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments. She has spent much of her career coordinating, organizing, and multitasking for a variety of non-profit organizations. She was recently employed by the National Sports Center for the Disabled as a Volunteer Coordinator which prepared her to handle high volumes of requests for information with an eye for details. She has also worked as a Community Organizer, an Event Coordinator, and as Administrative Assistant for AmeriCorps and Mercury Manufacturing.

She is looking forward to learning more about the NWCCOG and how towns collaborate to make a difference in the lives of our community. She said, "I also look

forward to doing whatever I can to improve workflow and ease in the office. I absolutely love what I do and hope to be helpful to everyone at NWCCOG."

Originally from Trenton, Michigan, she's been in Summit County for nearly two years. As with most of the people who come to Summit County, she loves the outdoors and enjoys hiking, rock climbing, skiing, running, camping, and exploring - and she loves to take her 3-year-old Aussie mix, Asher, with her whenever she can. In addition to outdoor recreation, she also enjoys concerts, museums, art venues, historic locations, sewing, writing, and learning about other people and places. With her ability to pack all those activities into her life, we think she'll be a great office manager!

A Word About Water and the People Who Help To Protect It

People often remark about the breadth of services provided by the NWCCOG. A lot of programs are mentioned, but there are



few observations about the role played by the organization relative to water. There are two unique, but complimentary organizations within NWCCOG tasked with focusing on arguably the most critical resource in Colorado - water.

1. The **Water Quality and Quantity Committee (QQ)** comprises municipalities, counties, water and sanitation districts, and conservancy districts in the headwaters region of Colorado located in Grand, Summit, Eagle, Pitkin, Park and Gunnison counties. The Colorado River Water Conservation District is also a QQ member. The QQ Committee is made up of elected and appointed officials from member jurisdictions.

QQ's purpose is to facilitate and augment the efforts of member jurisdictions to protect and enhance the region's water quality while encouraging its responsible use for the good of Colorado citizens and the environment. The QQ Committee monitors water development activities and participates in legislative and administrative proceedings that affect water quality or quantity in the basin of origin.

2. NWCCOG is the designated regional water quality management agency for the region, and as such NWCCOG's **Watershed Services Program** creates and implements a water quality management plan for the region in compliance with the Clean Water Act. It provides demographic information, descriptions of wastewater treatment facilities, summaries of trans-mountain diversions, recommendations for State water quality standards and classifications and an overview of the Region's water quality over time. Most importantly, it provides policy recommendations for future water quality management in our region.

One of the most notable accomplishments of these groups, is that after many years of negotiating clarity standards for Grand Lake, the Water Quality Control Commission recently adopted **the only clarity standard in the state**. The coordinated efforts of state, local, and federal agencies to address water quality is historic. Thanks to the efforts of the QQ members over the past 25 years, adaptive management and cooperative efforts are becoming the new normal.

Lane Wyatt

QQ Contract Staff Co-Director & Watershed Services Program Director



Having been involved with this project in one way or another since 1987, Lane is certainly an expert in his field. He works with both groups: QQ and Watershed Services. Under Watershed Services he administers and implements NWCCOG's Area-wide Water Quality Management Plan. He is also part of the contract staff team for QQ and provides technical assistance to QQ - primarily on policy matters such as water quality standards rule-making and Environmental Impact Studies for trans-mountain diversions.

Lane grew up in Canyon City, but it was while he was at North Carolina State University that he was recruited for this position. He made a call about Pollution Trading



programs for Dillon reservoir to Barbara Green, Independent Counsel for the project (then and now), and ended up in Summit County working on water quality issues in Colorado.

He says the best thing about working at NWCCOG is the amazing people: the staff, the terrific Board of Directors, and the QQ Committee. He also says, "The nature of the projects and issues we work on are so interesting and cutting edge."

When asked what he thinks surprises people about what the NWCCOG provides to the community he says, "I don't think many members realize how we can represent them in front of Boards and Commissions on water matters, thus saving considerable money on legal and technical fees."

As for his favorite activities - he says, "Pretty much anything outdoors makes me happy."

Victoria Jarvis QQ Contract Staff Co-Director

While studying for the bar exam in the summer of 2013, Torie began working with QQ part-time;



Torie Jarvis and Barbara Green on the upper Colorado River.

becoming full time later that fall. As an independent contractor, she provides policy review and guidance to QQ members on issues relating to environmental health, local authority, and the headwaters economy. Primarily, she serves as QQ's lobbyist during the state legislative session and represents QQ during state administrative proceedings before fulfilling her duties on the Water Quality Control Commission and Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. She and her team also work to actively monitor water development around the state and its impacts on the headwaters region, including trans-mountain diversion oversight.

Torie was born in North Carolina and grew up in Alabama. She began her water career as a raft guide in college at West Virginia University and moved to Telluride to guide in the summer and ski in the winter. She'd done some work as an AmeriCorps*VISTA volunteer working on abandoned mine-land issues and became familiar with Summit County's water quality issues. Around that time, she also met the man who was to become her husband, (who grew up in Silverthorne). She attended law school in Oregon before starting with QQ and always knew she wanted to return to Summit County.

When asked what she liked best about working with NWCCOG she replied, "The elected officials and staff from the NWCCOG and QQ regions are amazing! They are active and involved in all that we do and really believe in QQ's mission, which makes my job so much more rewarding."

She also thinks, "QQ is a big surprise to people, especially to folks from other parts of the state. We're the only council of governments with a Committee looking directly at environmental, local

authority, and economic issues, and as such we have a powerful voice on these issues statewide."

It comes as no surprise that when asked what she does in her spare time she answered, "I still spend as much time as possible on rivers around the West. I love the headwaters of the Colorado but also spending time on the desert river sections downstream. I'm always ready for another three week trip through the Grand Canyon. My newest hobby is roller derby, which I started two years ago and LOVE. I also love cooking, especially spicy food, and traveling to new places."

New Programs Help Match Volunteers to Projects



Many people in our communities love to volunteer, but sometimes don't know how to find opportunities that make the best use of their skills.

Volunteer Match is the online volunteer portal where people can go to search for opportunities in their area. The website VolunteerMatch.org is a resource to find just the right match for your time needs and preferences..

The "**Got an Hour? Give it back**" campaign was developed by the Aging Network Volunteer Collaborative to help local agencies attract volunteers to programs that work with seniors.

People who are looking specifically for an opportunity to help seniors can go to GiveltBackToSeniors.org. This site will link directly to openings where seniors might need a little extra help.

As these programs continue to grow there will be additional opportunities for volunteers to get even more involved.





The **Got an Hour Campaign** was developed by the Aging Network Volunteer Collaborative to help local agencies throughout the country attract volunteers to programs that work with seniors. The campaign's website www.GiveItBacktoSeniors.org provides downloadable materials, and a search tool to help connect prospective volunteers with opportunities and programs in their neighborhood.

**Northwest Colorado Council of Governments
Alpine Area Agency on Aging**

**Region XII Volunteer Program
249 Warren Avenue • PO Box 2308
Silverthorne, Colorado 80498**

volunteers@nwccog.org

(970) 468-0295 ext. 122 FAX: (970) 468-1208

Senior Day At The State Capital

Each year seniors are treated to a special day at the state capital. Topics are general updates of issues that may have impacts on seniors -- such as healthcare costs, economic programs, etc. This year, the group was also treated to remarks from Governor Hickenlooper. As you can see below, the turnout was very strong!



SAVE the DATES:

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) recognition 5/9/16 -
Colorado Mountain College in Edwards

	<p align="center">RSVP Volunteer Recognition Event May 9, 2016 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Colorado Mountain College in Edwards</p>
<p>REGISTRATION FORM</p>	
<p>Return to: Alpine Area RSVP • PO Box 2308 • Silverthorne, CO 80498 FAX (970) 468-1208 • volunteers@nwccog.org</p>	
<p>You are cordially invited to attend the RSVP Volunteer Recognition Event.</p>	
<p>Event date: Monday, May 9th</p>	
<p>Deadline for registration: Monday, May 2, 2016 5:00 pm</p>	
<p>RSVP Volunteers: FREE (1 guest can attend for free)</p>	
<p>Non-RSVP Volunteers: \$20 each</p>	
<p>You may pay in advance or at the door with cash or check</p>	
<p>Please make checks payable to: NWCCOG</p>	
<p>SCHEDULE</p>	
<p>11 am—Noon</p>	<p>Registration and Visit with Volunteer Stations</p>
<p>Noon—1 pm</p>	<p>Buffet lunch and awards ceremony</p>
<p>Return bottom section only</p>	

Senior Awards Luncheon - 5/11/16, Summit County Community and Senior Center in Frisco
 For registration Information Contact Amanda at noc12@nwccog.org

2016 Senior Awards Ceremony
"Blaze a Trail"
May 11, 2016
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Summit County Community and Senior Center



Caregiver Conference 6/14/2016
For more information contact Erin at aaa12@nwccog.org



Caregiver Conference

Free
Lunch Included

June 14, 2016

Glenwood Springs Community Center
9 AM - 3:30 PM

Planning for the Future / Planning for Yourself / Planning for Your Loved Ones

2016 NWCCOG COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 26, 2016

Full Council & EDD Board Meeting

Location: Glenwood Springs Community Center, 100 Wulfsohn Road, Glenwood Springs

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Primary Agenda Items: Review/acceptance of 2015 audit; presentations by the City of Glenwood Springs and the State Demographer's office; program updates.

Thursday, July 28, 2016

Full Council Meeting

Location: Walden, Meeting Room TBD

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Primary Agenda Items: Approval of 2017 dues; discussion re: Annual Planning Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 25, 2016

Full Council & EDD Board Annual Planning Meeting

Location: Buffalo Mountain Room, Summit County Commons, Frisco

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Primary Agenda Items: Strategic Planning for 2017

Thursday, October 27, 2016

Full Council Meeting

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Primary Agenda Items: Review of draft 2017 budget

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Full Council & Foundation Board Meeting

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Primary Agenda Items: 2016 budget revisions; approve 2017 budget; adopt 2017 meeting schedule; annual NWCCOG Foundation Board meeting.

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

www.nwccog.org

970.468.0295

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN NWCCOG!

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, P.O. Box 2308,
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