



2023 Annual Meeting AGENDA

Tuesday, May 16

9:00 a.m. **WERA Kick-off**

Welcome to 8,021 feet: Survival Guide for High Altitude, YMCA Logistics

Henry Reges, National CoCoRaHS Coordinator, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Introductions, goals, and objectives for the meeting

Tony Bergantino, WERA 1012 Co-Chair, Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Opening Words from The Agricultural Experiment Station

Gene Kelly, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

9:30 a.m. **SESSION 1 – WERA Partners**

National Weather Service, COOP Update

Amy Fritz, National COOP Program Manager, National Weather Service, Silver Spring, MD

10:10 a.m. **Break **Group Photo****

10:40 a.m. CMOR Drought

Kelly Smith, National Drought Mitigation Center, Lincoln, NE

11:10 a.m. CMOR: The relation between dispositional and organizational variables of a citizen science application to drought; revealing indicators of commitment

Marleen Lam National Drought Mitigation Center, Lincoln, NE- The Netherlands

- 11:45 a.m. PRISM Climate Group Update
Chris Daly, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
- 12:15 p.m. **Lunch** (Pine Dining Room)
- 1:15 p.m. **SESSION 2 – CoCoRaHS Support and Operations**
CoCoRaHS Budget Report
Henry Reges, National CoCoRaHS Coordinator, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 1:30 p.m. 25th Anniversary: A 35 minute - 25 year look back
Henry Reges, National CoCoRaHS Coordinator, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2:05 p.m. CoCoRaHS Data Quality Control Update
Steve Hilberg, CoCoRaHS Project Manager, Colorado State University., Fort Collins, CO
Dani Talmadge, CoCoRaHS QC, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2:25 p.m. Website Updates
Julian Turner, CoCoRaHS Web Development, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 3:00 p.m. **Break**
- 3:30 p.m. Website Status/Updates Discussion
- 4:00 p.m. Unfinished Discussions from the Day
- 4:45 p.m. Adjourn for the day.
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner (Pine Dining Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Rocky Mountain National Park Adventure (drive)

Wednesday, May 17

- 9:00 a.m. **SESSION 3 – Canada, Clues, Comments, and CoCoRaHS**
CoCoRaHS Canada
Juliet Hull, Environment Canada, Dartmouth Nova Scotia
- 9:30 a.m. Clues in the Comments
Alicia Wasula, President, STM Weather, Cropseyville, NY
- 10:10 a.m. **Break**
- 10:30 a.m. **SESSION 4 – Volunteer Recruiting, Retention, Engagement**
CoCoRaHS Recruiting and Retention Update
Matt Spies, Connecticut State Coordinator, Brookfield, CT

- 11:00 a.m. CoCoRaHS - An excellent source of observers for CoCoRaHS
Tony Bergantino, Wyoming State Coordinator, Laramie, WY
- 11:30 a.m. Open Discussion: How can we adapt successful observer retention strategies?
- 12:15 p.m. **Lunch** (Pine Dining Room)
- 1:30 p.m. Weather Observation Jeopardy!
Hosted by Russ Schumacher, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2:00 p.m. **SESSION 5 – Programs, Parameters, and Products**
NE Rain Updates
James Williams, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Lincoln, NE
- 2:25 p.m. Premium CoCoRaHS TROPO Precipitation Gauge
Tye Parzybok, Climalytic Instruments, LLC
- 2:50 p.m. Ice Accretion Measurement – Looking forward
Noah Newman, CoCoRaHS Education Coordinator, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 3:15 p.m. **Break**
- 3:40 p.m. Election of Officers for 2024
- 4:00 p.m. Unfinished Discussions from the Day
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner (Pine Dining Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Evening activity to be announced

Thursday, May 18

- 8:30 a.m. **SESSION 5 – The Next Step - Issues that Need Continuing Attention, Setting Priorities, and Action Items**

It's important to maintain the momentum from this meeting and continuity for the next year. During this session we will identify the issues that came up during the meeting that need further follow-up, set priorities, and assemble a to-do list of action items that can be addressed by the committee and potentially be completed in the coming year.

- 9:45 a.m. **Break** (check out)

10:15 a.m. Open discussion, meeting summary, action items to be followed-up on, wrap-up 12:00

Noon **WERA Meeting adjourns** – see you next year! - **Lunch** (Pine Dining Room)

What does WERA stand for?

III. WESTERN MULTISTATE PROJECTS

A. Research Projects (W)

Multistate Research Projects involve cooperative, jointly planned research employing multidisciplinary approaches in which SAESs, working with the ARS, or other college or university, cooperate to solve problems that concern more than one state and, usually, more than one region. Cooperative Extension and academic faculty are encouraged to participate if and where appropriate to meeting joint objectives.

B. Coordinating Committees (WCC)

Coordinating Committees provide a mechanism for addressing critical regional issues where multistate coordination or information exchange is appropriate within a function (i.e. research, education or extension); have expected outcomes; convey knowledge; and are peer reviewed. The work of Western Coordinating Committees can be classified into the following categories:

- Multistate research, education or extension programs with clearly established, outcome oriented, goals where research results are already available. Knowledge is conveyed utilizing methodology which results in increased understanding and effective resolution of identified needs.
- Multistate research, education or extension coordination resulting in increased communication between faculty, avoidance of unnecessary duplication and gained efficiencies in the use of resources and shared ideas.

C. [Western] Education/Extension and Research Activity (WERA)

These activities serve to integrate two or more functions (i.e., education, extension and research) on a particular topic where multistate coordination or information exchange is appropriate; have expected outcomes; convey knowledge; and are peer reviewed. The work of Western Education/Extension and Research Activity Committees can be described as follows:

- Fully integrated research, education and extension program coordination with clearly defined, impact- oriented objectives, where results are effectively embodied in educational efforts to assist those in need.