

San Juan Public Lands People



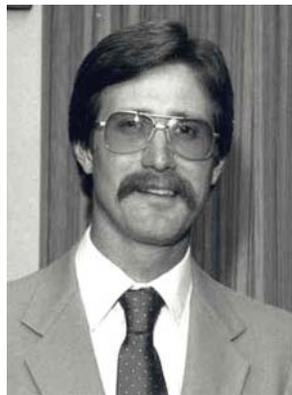
News of and for current and past San Juan Public Lands employees & partners



December 2008



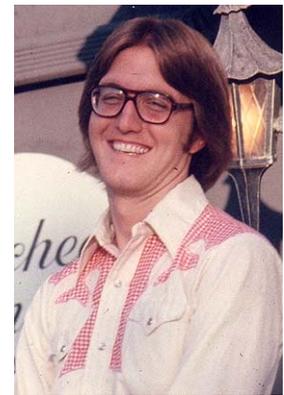
Now



Then



Now



Then

Dallison Ready to Retire

DURANGO - San Juan Timber Program Leader Dave Dallison will retire in January after 30 Years with the Forest Service. Dave started out as a seasonal working on timber crews for the Routt and San Juan NFs in the 1970s.

He went on to become a Forestry Technician on the Dixie NF in Utah in 1979. By the following year, he was the Dixie's Timber Management Assistant/Fire Management Officer. In 1989, Dave returned to the Routt NF, also as TMA/FMO. In 1996, he landed on the San Juan NF as Timber Program Leader, a position he's held until now.

"I think we've been able to leave the lands we treated in a healthier, more resilient condition than before," Dave says. "Keep up the good work."

Dave holds a bachelor's degree in Forest Management Science from Colorado State University. He enjoys most outdoor sports, including skiing, hunting, fishing, and backpacking. He also enjoys restoring cars, and spending time with his family – wife Tracy; children Laura, Lindsay and Daniel; and granddaughter Lily.

Dave says one of the high points of his career was being part of a rescue team at two airplane crashes, and the fact that the survivors still send him Christmas cards.

His retirement plans call for skiing on weekdays, sleeping in, and lying on the beach. In between, he'll fit in some selective fire assignments, volunteer work, travel, and backcountry wanderings. He and the family plan to remain in Hesperus.

- Ann Bond

Speegle Says Farewell

DURANGO - Richard Speegle, Columbine Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner, will retire in January from the BLM/FS after 33 years with the federal government.

Richard began his federal career in 1975 as Recreation Planner with the BLM in its Albuquerque District Office and then moved to the Taos Resource Area Office in 1978.

In 1989, Richard went to work as Recreation, Lands and Minerals Staff for the Camino Real RD on the Carson NF. In 1994, he arrived in Durango to work for the BLM San Juan Field Office as an Outdoor Recreation Planner. In 2000, he moved over to the Columbine RD/FO in his current position until now.

Richard holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of New Mexico in Recreation and Land Use Management and Planning.

"I have especially enjoyed working with the San Juan Mountains Association," Richard says. "It always amazes me the amount of hard work and dedication of the volunteers and community partners who help make our jobs successful."

Richard plans to pursue other work endeavors, but mostly plans to play "Ski Dad, Golf Dad, Rafting Dad, Bike Dad, etc." with son, Roman, and wife, Diana.

"I am most proud of the creative management of the Service First experiment with the BLM and Forest Service," Richard says. "Don't be afraid to try something new and different, and try to have some fun in your job!"

- Ann Bond

PUBLIC LANDS CENTER NEWS



Kampf Keeps Up with APDs

DURANGO – Brenna Kampf is the San Juan's new BLM Legal Instruments Examiner.

She was an environmental biologist with the Farmington office of Ecosphere Environmental Services, managing environmental reports and NEPA compliance for oil and gas projects.

"I'm excited to be working with the BLM and the challenges of the job," Brenna says. "I'll be doing work along the same lines, but different, handling mineral rights and other legal aspects of oil and gas."

Her new BLM responsibilities include processing Applications for Permits to Drill and other associated duties.

Brenna moved to Durango from Colorado Springs eight years ago, and holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Biology from Fort Lewis College.

She and husband, Clay, live with Jack, a rescue dog from Mexico, and cat, Bandit. Clay is working for San Juan Hydrologist Kelly Palmer under the Student Temporary Employment Program.

- Ann Bond

Local Partners Take Top Regional Honors

DENVER - Two local partners who have helped the San Juan Public Lands Center manage BLM and National Forest lands in southwestern Colorado for several years were recently honored by the USFS Rocky Mountain Regional Office.

The Regional Forester's Honor Award for Recreation Partner of the Year was presented to Trails 2000.

The Durango non-profit organization coordinates trails across jurisdictional boundaries, builds and maintains trail systems, and provides educational opportunities.

Since 1990, the volunteer group has provided up to 3,000 hours of volunteer work annually for trail maintenance and public involvement on public lands, valued at more than \$500,000.

"This award recognizes all of the work our volunteers have contributed for the past 20 years and the importance of volunteer work on public lands," said Mary Monroe, Trails 2000 Executive Director. "We are honored to receive such a prestigious award on behalf of our volunteers."



(Left to right) Jackie Parks, Acting Deputy Regional Forester; Tony Dixon, Deputy Regional Forester; Mary Monroe, Trails 2000 Executive Director; Rick Cables, Rocky Mountain Regional Forester; and Mark Stiles, San Juan Public Lands Manager.

The Regional Forester's Honor Award for Partner of the Year went to Ken Francis, Director of Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services. Working with a coalition of partners, Ken helped to raise \$4.39 million of funding for the San Juan Skyway from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) in its latest round of land conservation grants.

This grant builds on earlier successes, including acquisition of \$5.7 million for the Skyway from GOCO in 2004 and \$14.1 million of Land and Water Conservation Funds for the Red Mountain Project.

Ken has also been involved in other community projects with public lands ties, providing support to the USFS/BLM for the San Juan's joint Land Management Plan Revision through a Challenge Cost-Share Agreement.

He and his staff have functioned as conveners and facilitators for several community meetings and have helped develop technical documents related to the Plan.

"It is an honor to receive this award," Ken says, "but it must be shared with the many excellent partners who were essential to these team efforts."



Ken Francis, Director of the Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services (center) accepts his award from the same dignitaries identified in the above photo.

PLC NEWS



Redmond in New Position

DURANGO – Beth Redmond, who has been San Juan Budget Analyst for the past six years, is now Grants and Agreements Specialist. She'll

be providing advice and assistance to BLM and FS program managers on funding and policies for grants and cooperative agreements.

Beth worked for 14 years on the Yampa RD of the Routt NF, first as a Clerk/Typist, then as Support Services Supervisor, before moving to Durango. She enjoys hiking, traveling, reading, and playing the guitar.

"I am very excited to have been chosen for this position," Beth says. "It is a great opportunity."

San Juan Service First



DURANGO - The San Juan Public Lands Center has received a Service First Award from the Deputy Secretary of Interior and Under Secretary of Agriculture for its integrated planning efforts.

The San Juan Planning Team worked with the BLM Colorado State Office and USFS Rocky Mountain Region to complete a joint Draft Land Management Plan and accompanying Draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2007.

The Draft Plan represents a milestone in Service First by meeting the legal requirements of both agencies, while providing consistent direction for both National Forest and BLM lands.

The joint planning process capitalized on the skills of both agencies' staff with the USFS providing hydrology, visual resource management, and wilderness skills, and the BLM providing expertise in air modeling, minerals management, wilderness study areas, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

"Developing the joint plan wasn't easy, but hopefully the San Juan's efforts can open doors for other Service First units to do it more efficiently," says Thurman Wilson, San Juan Planning and Public Services Staff. "Consistent management across agency boundaries will help us in the long run."

- Ann Bond

COLUMBINE NEWS



Hand It to Hon

Bayfield- Hon Schlapfer is Columbine's new Hand Crew Supervisor. For the last four years, he worked as a private Engine Boss for National Wildland Fire in Durango.

Hon graduated from Lewis and Clark High School in Spokane, Washington, in 1993. He went from there to work for the Alaska Fire

Service as a BLM Hotshot and Hotshot Foreman.

Hon worked as a USFS Hotshot Foreman at the Darby RD on the Bitterroot NF in 2001, then moved to Missoula, Montana, for the 2002-2003 fire season as a Smokejumper.

Hon and his wife, Courtney, have an 18-month-old daughter named Lucia. He enjoys skiing and spending time with his family. Hon is looking forward to the challenges of his new position and to becoming a part of the Columbine Public Lands team.

- Stan Sparks

Wise to Work on Columbine

BAYFIELD- Amy Wise is Columbine's new term archaeologist. For the last year, Amy has worked as a San Juan Mountains Association Archaeologist, where many of her projects were conducted for Columbine.

"My new job will be doing exactly what I did for SJMA, only now as an official BLM employee," she says.

Amy has worked on and off for the San Juan since first volunteering for the BLM at the Anasazi Heritage Center in 1994. She also worked a season on a fire rehabilitation team at Mesa Verde National Park in 1997.

After that season Amy worked as a seasonal Archaeologist for the BLM San Juan Resource Area until 2000, when she accepted a job with SJMA to start the Southwest Colorado Cultural Site Stewardship Program. In 2002, Amy returned to BLM seasonal work, and started her own consulting business in 2003 for winter employment. She went full time with BLM in 2004 until returning to work for SJMA in 2007.

Originally from Union City, Indiana, Amy has lived in the area since 1992, when she moved here to attend college. She holds a bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Fort Lewis College and spends her free time enjoying the outdoors and playing sports.

- Stan Sparks



PAGOSA NEWS



Hello to Sutton

PAGOSA SPRINGS - In third grade, Wendy Sutton wrote an essay about her intent to become an archaeologist.

"I like the way archaeology challenges your creative imagination,"

says Wendy. "It brings bits and pieces of information together using a variety of skills and knowledge, including science, writing skills, and knowledge of history."

A native of San Diego, she first worked in her career of choice while a pre-teen in southern California. Wendy holds bachelor's degrees in Anthropology and Mesopotamian Art and Archaeology from the University of California at Berkeley. She earned masters and doctorate degrees in Anthropology, specializing in Archaeology, from Columbia University. Her dissertation fieldwork involved studying the proto-historic period in Wyoming.

Wendy directed excavations and fieldwork on the Bighorn NF for Columbine, then in 2005, became a USFS employee on the Bighorn. In 2007, she took a BLM in position in Buffalo, Wyoming.

Wendy was attracted to the position of Pagosa Archaeologist, partly due to the Chimney Rock Archaeological Area and its interpretation program. She will soon be joined by her husband John, son Owen, 9, and their standard poodles, Byron and Shelley.

John is an author and college administrator. The family enjoys several outdoor activities, including canoeing and cross-country skiing.

- Phyllis Wheaton

Baker Comes Inside

PAGOSA SPRINGS - After three years of working summer seasons on the Pagosa Trail Crew, Connie Baker has come indoors to work year-round as Resource Assistant.

Connie is a Colorado native from the small farming community of Genoa, about 90 miles east of Denver. She holds degrees in Business Administration and Recreation from Western State College in Gunnison.

After working in Denver for an independent adjusting firm, Connie followed her sister to Pagosa Springs in 1993, and worked for 14 years in purchasing for Wolf Creek Ski Resort.

Connie enjoys following the sports careers of her four nieces and nephew. She likes to snowshoe, ski and hike—even after all those miles of clearing trails. She and her husband, Mike, share their lives with Border collie, Katie.

-Phyllis Wheaton



Jones Working in Rec

PAGOSA SPRINGS - Jesse Jones is making a career change from Fuels Crew Supervisor to work in Developed and Dispersed Recreation. He is very excited about learning a new discipline and the new challenges that come with the change.

"Pagosa has so much to offer visitors," Jesse says. "I'm really looking forward to helping people have a good outdoor experience here."

Jesse grew up in Oregon and followed in the footsteps of his parents, who both worked for the USFS. He started his career with the agency 13 years ago on the Willamette NF on a YCC trails crew, then spent four years with the fire crew. He went on to work a season on the Wallowa-Whitman NF Sled Springs Rappel Crew. In 2001, Jesse landed on the San Juan working in Helitack. He was with the San Juan Hotshots in 2003 and also worked for the Columbine Office.

Jesse is married to Beth, Pagosa Support Services Specialist. They have two children, Kaia, 6, and Samuel, 2. Jesse enjoys camping, hiking, hunting, and skiing.

With his career change, he looks forward to being able to spend more time with family and enjoy outdoor activities.

- Phyllis Wheaton



SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS PEOPLE is published by San Juan Public Affairs Office and USFS/BLM Visitor Information Specialists in Bayfield, Durango, Dolores and Pagosa Springs.

Read this and past issues online at:
www.fs.fed.us/r2/sanjuan/about/newsletter.shtml

Find lots of helpful BLM and National Forest information online at:
www.fs.fed.us/r2/sanjuan

-or-

www.co.blm.gov/sjra/index.html

AHC/CANM NEWS



Thomas has Sailed Away

DOLORES - Susan Thomas retired from the Anasazi Heritage Center in June after 20 years as the Supervisory Museum Curator.

Susan's time at the AHC started when the facility first opened to the public in 1988. She and her husband, Patrick Harden, a retired archaeologist, have moved from the area and now live exclusively on a small diesel-powered yacht.

They are visiting ports in Central America and keeping friends informed of their travels.

- David Kill

Landes is New AHC Curator



DOLORES - Carolyn Landes, who recently held the same title at Mesa Verde National Park, is the new Supervisory Museum Curator for the Heritage Center. She has lived in Montezuma County since 1989, and is glad to be reducing her work commute from one hour to 15 minutes.

Carolyn is responsible for accountability and accessibility of the the collections at the AHC, which is a federal repository. She also has Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act duties.

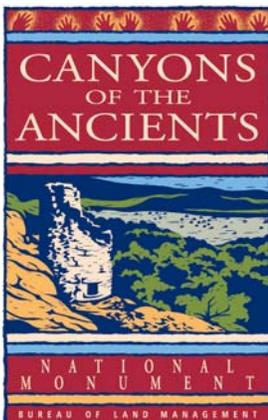
Carolyn worked as a museum specialist at the AHC from 1991-2000. She also worked as a temporary Recreation Assistant for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument for about five months in 2005, while furloughed from the National Park Service. She has about 25 years of federal service with the NPS and BLM, mostly in the Four Corners area.

"I feel so lucky to be returning to the Heritage Center," she says. "It's a great facility with a top-notch crew. I very much look forward to working with all the wonderful volunteers."

Carolyn holds a bachelor's degree in Anthropology with a History minor, plus a secondary level Teaching Certification from Fort Lewis College.

"I'm lucky to live in the same town with my kids and grandkids," she says. Her hobbies include playing with her grandkids and gardening.

- Ann Bond



The Anasazi Heritage Center, a world-class museum and headquarters for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, helps visitors learn about Ancestral Puebloan culture and how to explore the area's fragile resources.

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument is part of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System. These designated areas include national conservation areas, national historic and scenic trails, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness areas, and wilderness study areas.

BLM Colorado manages 63 National Landscape Conservation System areas encompassing more than 1 million acres – about 1/8 of the 8.3 million acres of BLM land in the state.

AHC/CANM NEWS



LouAnn Jacobson receives the NLCS Leadership Award from Kevin Mack, Campaign Director for the Conservation System Alliance.

Jacobson Honored

DOLORES - LouAnn Jacobson, Manager of Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, has received the annual BLM National Landscape Conservation System Leadership Award.

"LouAnn's leadership and commitment to protecting these lands made her nomination rise above that of many other outstanding nominees," said Kevin Mack, Campaign Director of the Conservation System Alliance, which consists of more than 80 organizations with the combined purpose of supporting the BLM system.

The annual honor recognizes a BLM employee for commitment and leadership in managing the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System.

The BLM Conservation System consists of Congressionally and Presidentially designated public lands recognized for their national significance in cultural, ecological, recreational and scientific resources.

As Monument Manager, Jacobson oversees 166,000 acres of the highest known density of archeological sites in the nation.

"LouAnn's outstanding innovation and accomplishments on behalf of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System are a service to the heritage of the American Southwest and Colorado's public lands," said Sally Wisely, BLM Colorado State Director.

- Ann Bond

Atkins and AHC Receive Awards

DOLORES - Victoria Atkins, Supervisory Interpretive Specialist for the Anasazi Heritage Center and Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, has received double accolades for her work on the interpretive video, *Visit with Respect*.



The Colorado Historical Society presented the Heritage Center with a Caroline Bancroft History Award, which is given to individuals, organizations and museums in Colorado that contribute to the advancement of state history.

Victoria's work on *Visit with Respect* also received the Gold Award for BLM's Excellence in Interpretation and Environmental Education Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to interpretation and/or environmental education efforts.

Visit with Respect is shown to visitors who plan to explore southwestern Colorado's backcountry archaeological sites. Through interviews and narration, the film offers the Pueblo Indian view that archaeological sites are not abandoned, and that ancient villages are actually alive with their ancestors' spirits. The film features contemporary Pueblo Indians asking the public to respect the areas they visit and respect the privilege to visit ancestral places.

Visit with Respect was created through a partnership with the San Juan Mountains Association, Colorado Historical Society State Historical Fund, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, and community members from the Pueblo of Acoma, Hopi Tribe and Santa Clara Pueblo. - Ann Bond

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