

**Minutes of the Colorado Natural Areas Council
- Irish Canyon/Moffatt County Council Outing -**

June 17, 2005

Council Present: John Masson, Dr. Tom Ready, Lee Shropshire, Kathy Yates

Council Absent: Dave Anderson, Dennis Brinker, Phil James

DNR staff: Rob Billerbeck, Elizabeth Gillespie, Lisa Kraft, Jeff Thompson

Council and staff met at the River Ridge Restaurant in Craig Colorado.

Council Chairman John Masson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Introductions: Staff and Council introduced themselves upon meeting at 1313 Sherman St. before departing for the weekend outing.

Introduction: This council meeting was held in Craig at the first overnight of a 4 day CNAC outing with the Natural Areas/Stewardship staff. Council and staff visited the Wolford Mountain Identified Natural Area and the Kremmling Cretaceous Ammonite Local before arriving in Craig to stay in a hotel. The meeting was held over dinner. On Saturday, CNAC and staff departed for the Irish Canyon Designated Natural Area and the Limestone Ridge Designated Natural Area in northern Moffatt County. The group camped in Irish Canyon this evening. On Sunday, the group visited the Ducey Stromatolite Local Identified Natural Area and the Lookout Mountain Designated Natural Area. On the way to camping at the Deer Lodge Park Campground in Dinosaur National Monument (which is also East Cactus Flats Identified Natural Area), the caravan drove past Lower Little Snake Identified Natural Area.

Reports from Staff

Rob Billerbeck – Meeting agenda items - staff introductions and qualifications, sensitivity matrix for natural areas, update on progress of Castlewood Canyon NA expansion and North St. Vrain designation process.

Agenda Item #1: Passing out the trip information packet to the council. This was done at 1313 Sherman so CNAC members could review the packet on the drive.

The information packet for the trip was handed out in Denver prior to departure so that Council and Staff has the opportunity to look over the information on the sites before visitation. Jeff lead a brief discussion on each site and what we can expect to find. Lee handed out a geology field guide to the sites we will be visiting and introduced the group to some basic geology of the area. Jeff Thompson briefly reviewed the informational packet at the end of the meeting.

Agenda Item # 2: Introduction of Staff

Elizabeth Gillespie – Stewardship Coordinator – Elizabeth has a background in noxious weed management and aquatic vegetation. She will be handling stewardship plans and Threatened and Endangered species work. Elizabeth has a BS in biology from Elmhurst College in Illinois. Her first job in Colorado was with Rob as a weed mapping/GIS seasonal in 2002. She also worked

as an independent contractor for Resource Stewardship from 2003 – 2005. Lisa Kraft and Jeff Tiemann were also working for Rob when Elizabeth started in 2002.

Brian Kurzel – Natural Areas Coordinator – Brian was unable to attend, so Rob introduced him to CNAC. Brian has a MS in forest ecology from CU Boulder and got his undergraduate degree at Cornell. Brian has held three jobs under Rob in the last 6 months – TNE, Stewardship, and Natural Areas.

There are 2 cooperative positions in the Stewardship team. These positions are through other agencies, but are active in our office.

Lisa Kraft – Fuels Mitigation/GIS – position through the State Forest Service. Lisa coordinates fuels mitigation work for State Parks. She has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire focussing on biology, geology, and environmental studies. Lisa began a MS at Michigan Tech in Environmental Policy and GIS and is planning to finish her masters work at another university.

Jeff Tiemann – GIS/Geology – position through CSU/Colorado Natural Heritage Program. This is Jeff's third term with Rob in Stewardship. Jeff makes really nice maps.

There is one seasonal/temp this year.

Jeff Thompson – CNAP – this is Jeff's second term as a seasonal for CNAP. Jeff worked with Ron West last year and upon Ron's departure aided in keeping the program moving forward. Jeff has a MS focusing on land management, biology and environmental policy. He also has degrees in recreation land management from Western State College in Gunnison and Outdoor Leadership from Colorado Mountain College in Leadville. He has 5+ seasons of field work experience.

Agenda Item #3: Sensitivity Matrix

This is a formal accounting measure to determine what individual Natural Areas sensitivities are to visitation. This system will evaluate areas such as: access – is it public or private land; hazards – is it dangerous to be on this site; vandalism – are there chances for defacement to occur; collection – are there attributes such as fossils or butterflies on site that are actively collected; erosion – are there sensitive soil types on the site; visitation – is the area a breeding or nesting area that would be disturbed by visitation. This system will also quantify what we do or do not want on the website or in GIS and will define a standard protocol for GIS requests.

Kathy commented that the qualified individuals often have the most interest in and knowledge of the value of a particular attribute (and, hence, maybe a higher likelihood of collecting). John followed by saying that CNAP should bring legislators to sites to improve government visibility of the program. He followed this by stating that student trips can go more places because they are governed and monitored so students wouldn't be likely to collect. Tom added that different groups should be categorized to have different levels of access to Natural Areas. Rob called this a public visitation rating for each site, which would include a rating for school group visitation and research opportunities. John mentioned that letters of recommendation (to ascertain the reputation or affiliation of researchers) could be used as a determiner for allowing access to sites.

Rob likened the access issues to public data sharing. It's a tough issue, especially with something that is transportable, like GIS data or fossils. John followed by stating that the Open Records Act states that because we are funded by tax payer dollars that there is an open door to giving information to members of the public when it is requested. Rob added that if the request is for sensitive data it can be denied. He followed by stating that when data leaves you, you don't know where it goes. John mentioned that maybe it could be faxed in a paper form. Rob said that was a good idea and that the City of Denver gives paper maps, but no electronic data. He continued by stating that the State says if a request asks for electronic data, then it needs to be filled as electronic data. Rob went on by saying that Jerry Craig, a former DOW raptor scientist, wouldn't put his sensitive data into electronic GIS form so he wouldn't have to worry about giving sensitive electronic data out. Lisa asked how other state's Natural Areas programs are handling this issue. Rob said that there were no challenges that he knew of.

Rob stated that the goal for the next couple of years is to promote research on Natural Areas to academics (masters/doctoral thesis work). This would add legal protection of Natural Areas for education and research if there was research taking place. This couples with the sensitivity matrix, showing what "sensitive" means.

Agenda Item # 4: North St. Vrain/Castlewood Canyon Update

Rob informed the group that the USFS has concerns over public awareness and over use of the site, but they are generally supportive of Natural Area designation. Jeff Thompson added that the site, although it is an RNA, is posted on the USFS website with access to "Bright Trail" shown. This does not exactly go along with RNA status. Kathy asked what the hits were on the website. Rob said this figure is unknown.

Rob updated the Council on the Castlewood Canyon expansion, an issue that should also be brought forward at the next Parks Board meeting. Douglas County wants CNAP to notify the landowners with land adjoining the expansion area of the intent to include the expansion into the Natural Area. CNAP has mailed announcements to these land owners and has received no negative responses. Dr. Weber of "Colorado Flora" fame just visited the site. We are awaiting any new info he might have for us.

Agenda Item # 5: Schedule Next Council Meeting

Meeting to be held at Aiken Canyon Designated Natural Area, owned and managed by the Nature Conservancy. The parcel is between Colorado Springs and Canon City on CO 115. This will be a day trip. Tentatively scheduled for Friday July 22nd, 2005.

In the field with the Colorado Natural Areas Council

FRIDAY JUNE 17, 2005

Summary of the Wolford Mountain visit:

After meeting in Denver, the first stop of the Council outing was at the Wolford Mountain Identified Natural Area. It was led by Dr. Emmett Evanoff of Northern Colorado University/Denver Museum of Natural History and Lee Shropshire of the CNAC. We stopped at a parking area north of the Wolford Reservoir to view the mountain.

Some History: There was once a seaway from mid-Utah to Minnesota. Here on the western edge the Rockies upthrust. Wolford Mountain is capped with 1 billion 800 million year old pre-Cambrian rock thrust over 800 million year old Pierre Shale. Wolford Mountain is recognized as one of the best visual examples of this 'orogeny', or mountain building episode. It is thought that fault activity pushed the older rock over the younger. Wolford Mountain is the farthest north thrust fault on the east side of the front range. Emmett commented that recently some dispute within the geologic science community has arisen over the formation of Wolford Mountain.

Summary of the Kremmling Ammonite visit:

Council, staff, and guests caravanned to the next site, the Kremmling Cretaceous Ammonite Local Designated Natural Area. The site is located a few miles off CO 40 in rolling sagebrush hills near the Wolford Mountain Identified Natural Area and reservoir. Abundant Ammonite and Bacculite fossils are found here. These nautiloids are shelled relatives of the modern octopus, with ammonites having spiral shells and bacculites having straight shells. The ammonite shells of this site are 27 – 36” in diameter.

In the past, plant matter and other sediments washed out of seashore deltas and was deposited on the sea floor. The Pierre shale of the area is sea shore sand sediment from this time period (800 mya). The Pierre shale is the eastern counterpart of the Mancos shales of the western slope and the Mesa Verde in the south. The ancient seas receded as the mountains came up. This is how we have these fossils in the inter mountains. There are also sharks teeth and Mosasaur (a dinosaur fish) vertebrae in the same area. The Mosasaurs were probably predators of the nautiloids.

There are also trace fossils found here. Trace fossils are remnants of ancient creatures that are not fossilized body parts such as burrows and tracks. Vertical burrows indicate a rapid rate of sedimentation, as the animals were burrowing straight down to avoid heavy sediments and currents. Horizontal burrows indicate lighter rates of sedimentation, as the sedimentation and currents were light enough to allow creatures to hang out on the bottom. At the Kremmling site, sexual dimorphism is displayed in the fossilized Ammonites. This means that the male and female of the species are of different sizes. Here, the females are much larger than the males. This assumption is made from the fact that modern octopii and their relatives share the same sexual dimorphism. Most of the easily recognizable fossils on this site are ammonite females.

The ammonites are nautiloids, meaning they are invertebrate shelled creatures. The difference between a nautilus and an ammonoid is that ammonoid shells are round but thin, like a coin, where nautiloids are generally spherical. Nautiloids have thicker shells and straighter sutures. Sutures are the seams between growth events in the nautiloid shell. Sutures are used to identify the species of nautiloids, with each species having a distinct suture pattern. Ammonoids have thinner shells with jagged sutures that lend strength to the shell.

All the complete molds that were on the surface at this site were collected. There is no legal protection of invertebrate fossils, so it is legal to take them from the site. It was universally agreed that additional interpretive signage is needed to aid in deterring collection at this site. Emmett stated that there is more help coming from having interpretation than the harm from advertising/collecting.

The ammonites at the site are spread out fairly evenly over the landscape, with the lower side of the fossils being almost complete and the upper side often being cracked and full of holes. Emmett explained that a theory on this is the animal was inside the shell when it died and then predated on from above. Over 2/3 of the fossils on site are left side down and facing the same direction. The Ammonites could have been protecting their eggs on the bottom of the shallow sea. They could have been orienting themselves with the current so as to keep their position on the bottom in a current while staying above the eggs. Modern female octopii are known to stand guard over their egg masses in a similar fashion. They are known to die of starvation because they never leave their nests. It is believed that this may also be what happened to the ammonites here, and which is why they might have been predated upon after their deaths. The male shells that are found here are often beat up, indicating they may have come into the nesting area and were thwarted by the nesting females.

Contacts: Emmett gave the names of two additional contacts for the site. Peter Harries (harrys) of the University of Florida at Tampa and Earl Kaufmann, a mentor of Emmett and Peter. Peter Harries will be in Colorado in September 2005.

Emmett also mentioned that there has been little research on the “bird baths” on the surface. These are the impressions left behind that form large bowl-like structures on the surface. There are many imprinted signs on these that have yet to be investigated. This could be a good graduate research project that CNAP grant funds could help get going.

Plants: Lichen on site indicate a healthy system/good grazing regime. Pronghorn were seen on the next ridge...they graze on lichen as a part of their winter diet. *Koeleria macrantha* (june grass), *Oxytropis lesquerella* (locoweed), *Eyantherus sp.* (evening primrose), *Lesquerella rectipis* (bladderpod) were seen on site.

SATURDAY JUNE 18

Summary of the Irish Canyon visit:

This was the first stop of the Moffatt County sites. At the southwest entrance to the site is a picnic area. Here there is interpretive signage for a large Volkswagen size chunk of pre-Cambrian rock with petroglyphs from the Fremont/Anasazi people. Many human forms and a few snake forms can be seen here. From this area the joining of pre-Cambrian (Uinta Mountain Group) and the Browns Park formation can be seen. The difference in the age of these two rocks is two billion years. The difference is called an ‘unconformity’, meaning that the time in between cannot be accounted for by geologists. There are two theories why unconformity happens. The first theory is that sediments were deposited and then erosion erased those layers in between the pre-Cambrian and Browns Park formations. The second theory is that the land was higher then and there was no sedimentary activity in that area.

Lee discussed various geologic interpretive characteristics such as fossils, water, sedimentary structures and cross-bedding. Lee also explained rock textures (different or similar grain sizes in the rock), which tell geologists whether or not there was water to transport grains of different sizes at the time of deposition. The only pre-Cambrian sedimentary rocks in Colorado are in NW Colorado in the Irish Canyon and Dinosaur National Monument area.

In this area, *Stipa comata* (needle and thread grass), *Oryzopsis hymenoides* (indian rice grass), *Elymus elymoides* (bottlebrush squirrel tail grass), *Bromus tectorum* (cheat grass), *Sisymbrium altissimum* (tumble mustard), salsify (*Tragopogon porrifolius*), pinion/juniper forest, *Crysothamnus sp.* (rabbit brush), *Heterotheca vilosa* (hairy aster), 2 *Atriplex sp.* (salt brush), *Chenopodium album* (lambs quarters), *Salsola iberica* (Russian thistle) were observed. The cheat grass in the area is abundant throughout. Cheat grass, tumble mustard, lambs quarters and Russian thistle are all noxious weeds.

About one mile up Irish Canyon the group stopped for a view of different geology. Here the Uinta Mountain pre-Cambrian formation is under the Madison limestone of the Mississippian. Madison Limestone is widespread over the western interior. There are around 300 million years difference between these abutting layers that is unaccounted for (unconformity). Here Lee explained that this area has the only known pre-Cambrian sedimentary rock in Colorado. Lee said that in Colorado Springs is an example of the "Great Unconformity" (named by Powell) which is a 150,000 MY gap and is the same unconformity as can be found in the Grand Canyon.

Lee continued by telling us about Karst formations. Karst formations are the end product of underground water solutions that form sink holes, caves and other such features often found in limestone. At this stop, *Bromus tectorum* (cheat grass), *Agropyron smithii* (western wheat grass), *Elymus sp.* (wild rye), *Sisymbrium altissimum* (tumble mustard), *Salsola iberica* (Russian thistle), and pinion/juniper forest were observed.

The third stop on this visit was to view Weber formation cross beds. This is a section of rock that shows remnant sand dunes of the Pennsylvanian. In this spot, 'lithification' is illustrated. Lithification literally means 'turn to stone'. Here, sand dunes were covered by soil. Covered sand makes a good aquifer. Here, water containing minerals calcified the rock and with pressure created dense rock out of the former dunes. The stratification of the former dunes is readily observed here.

Summary of the Limestone Ridge visit:

From Irish Canyon, we visited Limestone Ridge. This Natural Area runs along the western edge of the Irish Canyon Natural Area. It is literally a limestone ridge, made of Mississippian limestone of the Madison formation. Bishop conglomerate is the exposed at the top. . We were standing on Bishop conglomerate made of Uinta Mountain boulders. This may have helped produce some interesting plants, like the Bitterroot (*Lewisia rediviva*).

The gap road up to Limestone Ridge is a high clearance four wheel drive trail. We blew a tire on the way down on the sharp rock of this area. After our visit we camped in the campground within Irish Canyon.

SUNDAY JUNE 19

Summary of the Bull Canyon quick stop:

Bull Canyon is just south of Irish Canyon. Bull Canyon is where a fast river once moved through and cut a canyon out of the center of the Uinta Mountain group (pre-Cambrian sedimentary rock). Like Irish Canyon, there is no water flowing through the canyon today. Here we could see the Browns Park formation resting on the Uinta Mountain group. There are no

other Irish Canyon formations in Bull Canyon. Because these formations are in Irish Canyon and not in Bull Canyon, this lends to the first theory of unconformity that the formations were there before an uplifting and then they were eroded away. Lee urged that the council should consider adding Bull Canyon to the list of Identified Natural Areas. This is the first of many sights we saw *Atriplex confertifolia* (spiny saltbush).

Summary of the Ducey Stromatolite visit:

The drive into the Ducey Stromatolite site is a weaving route across desolate BLM land. The route we took went in from the southeast of the site and wound along the southwestern edge of the Sand Wash Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. It may have been possible to get there from the north, but maps were unclear as to this route.

The road to the Stromatolite site ends at a grazing gate with a two track behind it. The two track ends at a point overlooking the land below. There is a three foot thick layer of loosely stratified rock forming the promontory point on which the two track ends. This point faces west/south west. Below the parking area the soil is eroding down to a second rock band of similar loosely stratified rock. This band is 200' below the parking area and a wash runs along the southern part of the second band. It is on and below the second band that we found the stromatolites. They are easily seen from the parking area with field glasses and occur mostly to the south of the parking area. Stromatolites occur over most of the southern portion of the site along the wash with some standing over 10' tall. John Masson came across a petrified tree in the wash itself. The presence of this wood led Lee to speculate that this may have been a fresh water site, which is very unusual for stromatolite formation. It would be worth further investigation into the site to see if this is true. It may be a good grant/funding opportunity to get a graduate student out to do some work here. There is a cornucopia of stromatolites and various types of rock in the area. All involved were very excited by the abundance and size of the stromatolites. The remoteness of the site, the size of the specimens, and the private land ownership involved with the natural area seem to have deterred collection and vandalism on the site.

In the wash, bull rushes were growing. This was rather surprising considering the harsh terrain that surrounds the area. There were ATV and motorcycle tracks in the wash. These tracks drove directly over stromatolites and the fossilized tree that we found in the wash. There were a few fresh elk tracks in the wash as well. There were some weedy grass species on the uplands coming into the wash, but no major weed problems within the wash. An unknown *Astragalus* was found, we brought a sample back to ID. At this site, we also identified two mustards, *Stanleya pinnata* (desert prince's plume) and *Caulanthus crassicaulus* (desert candle).

Summary of the Lookout Mountain visit:

We drove northeast up and along the Vermilion Bluffs to Lookout Mountain from the Ducey site. This drive had some FANTASTIC views of the BLM badlands that encompass the area to the north of CO 318. Some of the EOR's occur along this road near the Natural Area, but we did not identify any during our visit. I would not recommend driving in on this route if rain is in the forecast.

The road winds up to the top of Lookout Mountain, where we were surprised to find all sorts of cellphone/microwave towers. The northeastern road graded up to the top, so we shouldn't have been surprised. John pointed out the oil production going on just to the north. Bishop

conglomerate is the exposed top layer at the top. Lee said that this is the only place he has ever seen Bishop conglomerate as the surface layer. There are several species of mat forming plants on top of Lookout Mountain. The isolation, elevation, and the Bishop cap on the mountain probably lend to some of the EOR's here. We took samples to ID in the office.

Again, the view from the top was FABULOUS, and although the wind was gusty the experience was excellent.

We drove past Lower Little Snake Identified Natural Area on the way to camping in Dinosaur National Monument. This site sits on mostly private land along the river. More erosional badlands formations occurred here. We stayed at the Deer Lodge Park Camp Ground just inside the Monument's borders. This is where the rafters put in. It is a pay campground with toilet facilities. The mosquitoes were quite active.

MONDAY JUNE 20

Summary of the Cross Mountain Canyon visit:

This site is about 8 miles east of the entrance to Dinosaur N.M.. At this point is the southwestern entrance to the canyon. Here you can see the pre-Cambrian rock meeting shale again as the Yampa rushes out of the mouth of the canyon. Lee said that it is possible to walk through the canyon, but that some wading, swimming, and a little climbing/scrambling would be involved. The water is high this time of the year, so travelling this way would have to occur in the fall.

Cross Mountain is an excellent example of "superposition". Lee pointed out that every canyon in Colorado is formed by superposition. This occurs where the rock layers are forced upward from below until on the edges of the uplift break forming faults. Here the rock between the fault breaks continues to move upward, and in this case, forming Cross Mountain. The uplift mountain was covered by Cenozoic rock over about 55 million years. At this time the Yampa River started to flow, slowly eroding down into the Cenozoic layer. When it reached the early uplifted form of Cross Mountain that had been under the surface, the river continued to erode downward starting the formation of Cross Mountain Canyon. Cross Mountain itself is 15 miles long and Cross Mountain Canyon travels approximately 3 miles through the mountain.

We drove around to the northeastern end of the Canyon to view where the Yampa enters the canyon. Here you can view the meeting of the old pre-Cambrian rock abutting the much younger Mesozoic rock. The difference in ages in these abutting layers is over 350 million years. From this location we were standing on Morgan formation, but there is no Round, Doghnut, Humbug or Weber formations here. Lee pointed out that this is another example of a unconformity. We could see the Uinta Mountain Group (dark red, lowest rock, 40,000' thick) below the Lodore formation (brownish), above the Lodore was a devonian unit on a covered bench. The group is capped with a Madison limestone top. Lee explained that the Madison formation on the north-eastern side of the canyon is rounded because there was an uplifting in the center of the rock and gravity pulled both sides to the earth, actually rounding the rock.

Lee also clarified that the river deepens a canyon but does not widen a canyon. Canyons are widened by a gravitational process called "mass-wasting". The vertical joints in the formations get water in them and the water freezes and melts repeatedly. By freezing and melting, the water pushes the rock apart and eventually pieces fall off into the river, widening the canyon. Lastly,

Lee showed an example of “chert”. As the Morgan formation was deposited through sedimentation, the rocks hit against themselves leaving ‘percussion marks’. Percussion marks are half moon shaped arcs scratched onto the rock as the rocks rolled down a hill or stream together. Water got in the percussion marks and chert is formed in limestone through the deposition of silica from groundwater.

Rob pulled a fair amount of an extremely invasive weed, *Linaria dalmatica* (dalmation toadflax). There were no more visible plants when we left the site. Other species present were *Caulanthus crassicaulus* (desert candle), *Heterotheca vilosa* (hairy aster), *Atriplex* sp. (salt brush), *Stipa comata* (needle and thread grass), *Oryzopsis hymenoides* (indian rice grass), *Tragopogon porrifolius* (salsify), *Alyssum alyssoides* (yellow alyssum) *Calochortus flexuosus* (Mariposa lily) and *Lupinus* sp. (a purple lupine that we took to key out back in the office).

There was a monument at the overlook to the northeastern input to the canyon. It was speculated that the 17 year old the monument was erected for may have tried to kayak the canyon. Lee said there is an impassable rapid within the canyon and that the BLM does not allow boats to travel through Cross Mountain Canyon. This area is a popular elk and deer hunting spot in the fall months.

After visiting Cross Mountain Canyon Designated Natural Area, the group traveled to Craig for lunch and dispersed to travel home.

Decision:

Minutes from previous meeting

Council approved the minutes from the April 1, 2005 council meeting.

Other Discussions

- Rob had 2 items beyond the agenda to present to the Council:
 1. **Small grants for research and protection.** Rob has been working on including the Natural Areas Program into the workings of State Parks more now that the climate is more supportive. This association will mean more support for funding for CNAP. It is a mutual benefit because additional funds can come to both entities through this relationship. Rob had asked for \$50,000 for research and grants and received \$60,000, a nod of support for the program. These grants will be available to both NA and SP.
 2. **“What is the connection between this area and nearby State Parks?”**. Rob stressed that during Natural Areas visits by staff, this is a question that should always be considered. Do they have the same researchers working on them, similar geology, similar botany, the same attractive attributes, or do they share a border? These connections can aid State Parks through associations of contacts with scientists and land managers as well as identification of rare species and plant communities (i.e.: if a species occurs in one area it may occur in the other). John stressed the importance of the connection between NA and SP (e.g. vegetation, people, soils, volunteers, wildlife). Brian and Elizabeth are already working with Rob to make these valuable connections between NA and SP for the future.

Tom discussed publicizing CNAP within State Parks and with other agencies by focusing on wildlife and other interactions. He followed this discussion with mentioning that State Parks has annual meetings with DOW to give positive continuity between the agencies. This could be duplicated with CNAP and associated agencies. John gave two examples that would support this kind of relationship. Re-introduction of the Ruffed Grouse has been stalled because of ill feelings between agencies. The USFS has opposed the reintroduction. This stems from the absence of communication between the State and the USFS on the re-introduction of the moose. If other agencies have a more informal contact with CNAP, then interagency efforts might go more smoothly for the program.

- Re-appointment of John Masson as Council Chair.

Tom “gently and diplomatically” motioned to renew John Masson’s chairmanship of the Council. John accepted and thanked the staff for putting together an excellent program and Council trip. Kathy agreed.

- Welcome Lee back to the council. The council and staff were happy to have Lee’s experience and expertise back on the council.

Motion to Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned on schedule with the participants returning to the hotel in Craig.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeff Thompson

Approved:

John Masson, Chair