

MOUNTAIN STUDIES INSTITUTE

Summer 2005 - Seminar, Film, and Field Trip Schedule
Donations Accepted
All seminars at MSI's Historic Avon Hotel Unless Specified
144 East 10th Street, Silverton, Colorado

Thursday, June 16, 7:30-8:30 pm

Dirty snow: how desert dust affects hydrology and radiation in the San Juan Mountains

Dr. Tom Painter, Snow and Ice Data Center, Boulder, Colorado

Dust from the southwest deserts is deposited high in the San Juan Mountains. Learn about research showing how the dust changes snow pack properties, timing of snowmelt, and ecological processes. This research will also help us understand which areas the dust comes from and whether or not humans are to blame.

Tuesday, June 21, 7 pm, Location: San Juan County Courthouse

Providing water quality data for land use planning decisions

Dr. Mark Williams and Kim Raby, University of Colorado

Water quality of streams draining landscapes can be a good indicator of how sensitive these areas are to disturbances. Learn about a study that provides this information to local land managers. This talk is a presentation to the San Juan County Planning Commission and is open to the public.

Thursday, July 14, 7:30-8:30 pm

Eyes of the Earth: The science and psyche of mountain lakes

Dr. Koren Nydick, Mountain Studies Institute

Mountain lakes are valued for many reasons such as their beauty, serenity, recreational opportunities, and interesting ecology. This talk will explore these values and how society is dealing with threats to these precious resources.

Saturday, July 23, 10 am – 2 pm

Field trip: Wildflower Walk

Peggy Lyon, local botany expert

Meet at MSI's Avon Hotel and carpool to nearby trailhead for a walk (~1 mile) to learn about wildflowers and other mountain plants.

Monday, August 1, 7:30-8:30 pm

Geology of the San Juan Mountains

Dr. Rob Blair, Professor Emeritus of Geology, Fort Lewis College

Tuesday, August 2, 7:30-8:30 pm

Lynx Reintroduction Program: Social, Ecological, and Cultural Considerations

Gary T. Skiba, Colorado Division of Wildlife

This presentation will describe the history of the lynx reintroduction effort in Colorado. Information on numbers of animals released, known causes of mortality, habitat use, diet, current status of released individuals, successful reproduction, overall accomplishments, and future needs will be presented.

Thursday, August 3, 7:30-8:30 pm

Trails, Trams, and Trains - Mountain Transportation in the San Juans

Bill Jones, local historian & operator of the Old One Hundred Mine Tour

Learn about the history of Silverton and the San Juan region through the lens of transportation. From the prospecting days to the mining industry to tourism and recreation, transportation has been a key to economics and culture.

Thursday, August 11, 7:30 pm

Has fire suppression created unhealthy forests in Colorado? The real story of fire, forest health and forest management

Dr. Jason Sibold, University of Colorado

August 18, 7:30pm

Film: Cultural Adventure in the Himalayas!

Join adventurer and author Jan Reynolds as she crosses the world's highest peaks from Nepal to Tibet, on an ancient salt trade route. Blending stunning video and still photography, this video introduces us to Sherpas and Tibetans, whose lives are so integrally connected with their high mountain environment. What do Silvertonians have in common with these folks half way across the globe? Come and see. Great for kids and adults alike!

Friday, August 19, 7:30 pm

Abandoned mines and water quality: a collaborative cleanup in the Upper Animas Watershed

Bill Simon, Coordinator of the Animas River Stakeholders Group

Water quality in some streams of the Upper Animas Watershed is poor due to both natural geology and mining. Learn about work to remediate the effects from abandoned mines and restore water quality and aquatic life to pre-mining conditions. This collaborative effort, involving the Stakeholders, BLM, USFS, USGS, and EPA, uses best management practices and is a model for collaborative watershed cleanup around the nation.

