

Mountain Studies Institute Newsletter

Fall 2009

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[MSI](#) is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and a State of Colorado Enterprise Zone Project. All donations are eligible for a federal tax deduction. Donations of \$200 or more are eligible for 25% Colorado State Tax Credit.

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**Upcoming Moving
Mountains Education
Series Events**

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[Air Quality and Human Health
in the Four Corners Seminar-
Oct. 8 in Durango](#)

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[Dealing with Drought
Workshop - Oct. 22nd in
Durango, CO](#)

Dear Friend of MSI,

Exciting things are happening here at Mountain Studies Institute, and we would like you to be a part of it. First of all, we would like to announce the start of our monthly e-newsletter as a way to keep you in the loop. We hope you can take some time to look over a few of MSI's recent accomplishments including the 2009 Air Quality Forum and the Natural Resource Internship Program. Check out upcoming events like a "Dealing with Drought" workshop and Fen Wetlands Partnership Meeting.

If you are not a member already, please join our team and [donate to MSI](#).

Sincerely,

Koren Nydick, executive director
and the MSI Staff

2009 Air Quality Forum

Event Report



Nearly 60 participants attended the 2009 Air Quality Forum, including concerned citizens, local government, state and tribal agencies, federal scientists, and industry.

The 2009 event included presentations about ground level ozone, mercury pollution, human and environmental health, and air quality policy and regulation. These topics were discussed in relation to proposed changes in EPA environmental standards, responses of agencies to recent monitoring results, the complexities of regulating air quality in the Four Corners, the need to make air quality information more accessible, and interactions with climate change. [Read On.](#)

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[Field Station Open House and Tour - Oct 24th in Silverton, CO](#)

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[San Juan Fen Partnership Meeting and Tour - Late Oct. \(TBD\) in Telluride, CO](#)

[Full Moving Mountains Schedule](#)

MSI in the News

[Local experiment looks at how snowmelt affects wildflowers](#)

by Dale Rodebaugh
Durango Herald

[MSI unveils plans for Silverton campus](#)

by Mark Esper

Silverton Standard and the Miner

[Acid rock Workshop traces source of metals in Silverton-area water](#)

by Dale Rodebaugh
Durango Herald

[Other studies hinted at high levels](#)

by Dale Rodebaugh
Durango Herald

[Net results - Mancos songbirds checked for mercury](#)

by Dale Rodebaugh
Durango Herald

[Airborne element enters food chain](#)

by Dale Rodebaugh
Durango Herald

Join Our Mailing List!

2009 Summer Intern Program

MSI and The San Juan Collaboratory successfully guided eleven interns through the summer intern program this year. The interns worked with researchers and land managers addressing issues such as climate change, land development, air and water pollution, ecosystem restoration, and resource management. They worked on lakes and in forests, wetlands, alpine tundra, high desert, and human communities.



Our sincere thanks to this year's interns for their hard work and dedication, and to our funders including the San Juan Public Lands Center, Colorado State University, Grand Mesa Umcompagre and Gunnison National Forest, and MSI. [Full Report HERE.](#)

San Juan Fen Partnership Meeting



Join us for an update on the fen wetland project

The San Juan Fen Partnership will meet in late October, date TBD, in Telluride/Mountain Village to discuss recent progress and plans for the future. Date will be posted at www.mountainstudies.org under "What's New".

[Learn more about the Fen Restoration Project here.](#)

MSI's New Field Station in Silverton, CO

MSI has found a new location for our Field Station in Silverton, CO, the "heart of the San Juan Mountains". The field station includes 8 cabins, RV hookups, a lodge with complete kitchen, classroom, lab and bunkhouse, and is located on the edge of town on 10 acres of land. Part of this land includes a fen wetland, perfect for wildlife viewing from the lodge balcony!



Mountain Studies Institute on Facebook

Thanks to all of
our 2009
Members:

Beverly Rich
Thurman Wilson
Brian Fowler
Ira Nydick
Sander Nydick
Kenneth Wright
Mary Gillam
Ali Sabeti
Rob & Pat Blair
H. Creswell Fleming
Charlie Smith
Matt Janowiak
David Swanson
Robert Delves
Emily & Brandon Vogt
Thurman Wilson
Bruce & Sandy Kowalski
Bill Borgers
Katrina Blair
Luann Andrew
Wendi & Rich Weinstein
Dave Rich
Art Goodtimes
Dave Wood and the Citizens
State Bank of Ouray
Ken Sulinski
John Bregar

We need your help to purchase this property. We will be having an Open House tour on October 24th, 2009 at the Field Station. Guided and self-guided tours will be available from 3-6pm. [More information on the facilities can be found here.](#)

Dealing with Drought Workshop

Co-hosted by MSI along with the CO Water Conservation Board, CU-NOAA Western Water Assessment, and others.

Durango - Oct 22

One day workshops for people working in sectors directly affected by drought and climate, including water resources, public utilities, land management, agriculture, recreation, and tourism.

This workshop builds on themes and information from the October 2008 Governor's Conference on Managing Drought and Climate Risk, though attendance at that conference is not required to participate in the workshops.

[More information and registration HERE.](#)

New MSI Stickers!

Check out our new MSI weather-proof stickers. Get yours today for your truck, car, or business windows. Members will receive two free stickers (they will be in the mail shortly). Show your support for MSI proudly!

Our Price: \$1.00
S & H: \$1.00



Email mountainstudiesinstitute@gmail.com for more information.

Mountain Studies Institute would also like to welcome two new members of our staff. Jim Donovan has joined us as the Finance and Operations Director in the Silverton office, and Michael Costello is our new VISTA Volunteer in the Durango office. Both Mike and Jim have hit the ground running, and look forward to meeting all of you.

As always, thank you for your continued interest and support for Mountain Studies Institute.

Sincerely,

Koren Nydick and the MSI Staff

Newsletter developed by: Kathryn Rende OSM/VISTA, Mountain Studies Institute