

# San Juan Fen Partnership Meeting

*Working together to restore and protect our local fen wetlands!*



**Friday, October 30, 2009 at 1-3 pm**

**Mountain Village Town Hall Council Room  
455 Mountain Village Blvd, Suite A\*  
Mountain Village, CO**

## *So what is a fen anyway?*

Fens are peat-forming wetlands dominated by groundwater input. Fens are fed by springs that keep the soil saturated with water for most of the year. Plants decompose slowly and dead material accumulates to form organic-rich peat soils.

Fens in the San Juan Mountains have accumulated up to three meters of peat and most are thousands of years old. These wetlands store carbon, filter pollutants from water, and support biodiversity, including rare species. Fens are abundant in the San Juans because the combination of snowmelt and late summer monsoon rains provide ample moisture.

Fens face threats from the development of mountain watersheds and from climate change.

- Learn about progress on fen wetlands projects.
- Discuss the future of the Partnership and where the research and education program is headed.
- WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Representatives of the Partnership and others who are interested.

### **Agenda:**

- 1 pm – Welcome and introductions (K Nydick)
- 1:15 – History of the Fen Partnership (Partnership reps)
- 1:30 – Progress Report and Future Directions (D Cooper, K Nydick, and others)
- 2:30 – Future of the Fen Partnership (all)
  - Information and training needs
  - Funding
  - Fiscal sponsorship
  - Additional organizations added to the Partnership?
- 3:00 adjourn

**Co-hosted by Mountain Studies Institute and Mountain Village**

**Learn more at <http://www.mountainstudies.org/Research/SanJuanFenPartnership.html>.**

*\* In Mountain Village, go into the offices above the market. Look for huge signs “Market” and “Town Hall”.*