

## Plenary Speakers

### Gunnison Climate Change Adaptation Workshop

**Dr. Linda Mearns**, Director of the Weather and Climate Impacts Assessment Science Program (WCIASP) and Head of the Regional Integrated Sciences Collective (RISC) within the Institute for Mathematics Applied to Geosciences and Senior Scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado

Ph.D. in Geography/Climatology from UCLA



She served as Director of the Institute for the Study of Society and Environment (ISSE) for three years ending in April 2008. She has performed research and published mainly in the areas of climate change scenario formation, quantifying uncertainties, and climate change impacts on agro-ecosystems. She has worked extensively with regional climate models. She has most recently published papers on the effect of uncertainty in climate change scenarios on agricultural and economic impacts of climate change, and quantifying uncertainty of regional climate change.

- She has been an author in the IPCC Climate Change 1995, 2001, and 2007 Assessments regarding climate variability, impacts of climate change on agriculture, regional projections of climate change, climate scenarios, and uncertainty in future projections of climate change.
- For the 2007 Report(s) she was Lead Author for the chapter on Regional Projections of Climate Change in Working Group 1 and for the chapter on New Assessment Methods in Working Group 2.
- She has also been an author on two Synthesis Products of the US Climate Change Science Program. She leads the multi-agency supported North American Regional Climate Change Assessment Program (NARCCAP), which is providing multiple high-resolution climate change scenarios for the North American impacts community.
- She is a member of the National Research Council Climate Research Committee (CRC) and Human Dimensions of Global Change (HDGC) Committee, and the NAS Panel on Adaptation as part of the America's Climate Choices Program.
- She was made a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society in January 2006.

**Dr. Ian Billick**, Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory

Ph.D. University of California at San Diego



Ian Billick has a BA in Math/Physics from Trinity University and received his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of California, San Diego in 1997. He has published 15 scientific papers exploring ants and the insects they farm.

- He has an edited book due out with the University of Chicago Press in 2010- "The Ecology of Place: Contributions of Place-based Research to Ecological Understanding", that explores how successful field biologists study special places to inform our understanding of the world.
- He has been Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory since 2000 and oversees one of the largest annual gatherings of field biologists.
- Ian is the incoming President of the Organization of Biological Field Stations.
- He has chaired his county's Planning Commission for 3 years and has had the opportunity to see how science informs (or doesn't) local land use decisions involving a range of issues, including endangered species, rural development, and oil and gas.

**Dr. David W. Inouye**

Professor and Director, CONS program

Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology  
Department of Biology  
University of Maryland

Ph.D. in Zoology, University of North Carolina



He has worked with bumblebees, euglossine bees, pollinating flies, tephritid flies, hummingbirds, and wildflowers, on topics including pollination biology, flowering phenology, plant demography, and plant-animal interactions such as ant-plant mutualisms, nectar robbing, and seed predation. He has worked in Australia, Austria, Central America, and Colorado, where he has spent summer field seasons since 1971 at the RMBL. His long-term studies of flowering phenology and plant demography are being used now to provide insights into the effects of climate change at high altitudes.

- He teaches courses in ecology and conservation biology at the University of Maryland, and has also taught at the University of Colorado's Mountain Research Station, the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, and the Organization for Tropical Studies.
- At the University of Maryland he directs the graduate program in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology.
- He is the founder and moderator for the Ecological Society of America's ECOLOG-L listserv list, edits the Technological Tools and Citation Classics columns in the Bulletin of the ESA.
- Served on the Board of Trustees of RMBL, now on boards of the Ecological Society of America, National Phenology Network, and North American Pollinator Protection Campaign.

**Dr. Joe Barsugli**, Research Scientist at the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Environmental Sciences (CIRES) at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Washington in Seattle



- His specialty is "Climate Dynamics", which is the study of the changing weather and climates of the past, present and future with an emphasis on the role of atmospheric and oceanic fluid motions -- winds and currents -- often using global climate models.
- His research has ranged from the role of sea-ice during the last Ice Age, to the effects of El Nino on individual storms, to the impacts of Tropical Ocean "hot spots" in climate change.
- Joe works with the Western Water Assessment on the use of weather forecasts and climate change projections to inform water resources planning in the West.
- He is one of the lead authors of "Climate Change in Colorado: A Synthesis to support Water Resources Management and Adaptation." and of a forthcoming white paper for the Water Utility Climate Alliance on improved climate modeling to better serve water resources management.