

## **SPEAKERS**

# **Bird-Friendly, Climate-Friendly Conference**

Opening Address Birds and Climate Change

**Alison Holloran, Audubon Rockies**

Biography

Alison Holloran is the executive director of Audubon Rockies and a vice president of National Audubon Society. She was hired in 2001 as the Important Bird Area coordinator and has since played many roles in implementing Audubon's conservation strategies. Before Audubon Alison was a research scientist for the Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Wyoming. She received her master's degree in zoology and physiology from the University of Wyoming and her B.S. in wildlife management from University of West Virginia. Alison enjoys any activity that takes her outdoors, including hiking, birdwatching, hunting, skiing, and running.

Presentation Description

Coming soon!

Presentation: Xcel Carbon Vision Plan

**Lucas McConnell, Xcel Energy**

Biography

Coming soon!

Presentation Description

Coming soon!

Presentation: Our Climate Future: Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Efforts from the City of Fort Collins

**Jensen Morgan & Carolyn Conant, City of Fort Collins**

Biographies

*Jensen Morgan*

Jensen hails originally from Salt Lake City and moved to Fort Collins to earn a Master's in Greenhouse Gas Management and Accounting from Colorado State University. Upon his degree completion, he began to work for the City of Fort Collins, first in the Economic Health Office and then in his current position as Community Engagement Specialist for the Climate Action Team in Environmental Services. Jensen's favorite bird is the peregrine falcon.

## *Carolyn Conant*

Carolyn works part time for the City of Fort Collins' Climate Action Team and is a full-time graduate student in Environmental Sociology at Colorado State University. While new to Fort Collins, she is proud to continually learn of the many municipal and community efforts being undertaken to combat climate change. Carolyn's favorite birds are hummingbirds, birds of prey, and great blue herons.

### Presentation Description

The City of Fort Collins has been a state and national leader in driving climate mitigation efforts over the last twenty years. Learn about Fort Collins' Climate Action Plan and strategic efforts to reduce municipal and community greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to a changing climate, and promote an equitable, healthy future for our community.

## Presentation: The Evolution of Jack's Solar Garden - Getting the Most out of Our Land

### **Byron Kominek, Jack's Solar Garden**

Biography  
Coming soon!

### Presentation Description

**Think: solar + agriculture + kids + science + pollinators.** That's the essence of Jack's Solar Garden. Byron Kominek, owner of Jack's Solar Garden, will tell you the story of his family's farm in Boulder County and about the work he has done to make his family's dream come true. Researchers will use Jack's Solar Garden to study crop growth underneath our panels and transmit that information to other farms along the Front Range. A pollinator habitat will be established around the perimeter of the solar array for the birds and the bees, while school kids will be invited to tour our land to see for themselves how food and energy can be produced together.

## Presentation: Sustainable Gardening

### **Aaron Michael, Earth Love Gardens**

Biography  
Coming soon!

### Presentation Description

Coming soon!

## Presentation: Take Action: Plant a Better World for Birds and People

### **Jamie Weiss, Audubon Rockies**

Biography  
Jamie Weiss is the Habitat Hero Coordinator for Audubon Rockies. Along with her B.S. in marine biology and chemistry from University of North Carolina Wilmington, Jamie is a certified interpretive guide through the National Association for Interpretation. Jamie previously worked at Boyd Lake State Park and the Georgia Aquarium as an educational interpreter, raising awareness of conservation. She combines her science and educational background to manage the Habitat Hero program, which focuses on engaging community members and businesses in actively restoring natural habitat for birds, butterflies, pollinators and other wildlife large and small.

Presentation Description

**Demonstrating the importance of restoring our communities, one garden patch at a time. From a birds-eye view, learn how to create bird-friendly gardens that help combat the loss of open spaces and create green corridors that link your wildscape to larger natural areas by providing habitat for wildlife.**