



The Mountain Pact

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Founder & Executive Director

Colorado Association of Ski Towns Quarterly Meeting
August 28, 2015
Vail, CO

| AGENDA FOR TODAY



1. INTRODUCTION



2. MEET THE TEAM



3. THEORY OF CHANGE



4. STRATEGY & TACTICS



5. GET INVOLVED



INTRODUCTION

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES & OUTDOOR REC ECONOMIES

 WARMING TEMPERATURES

 DROUGHT

 WILDFIRES

 FLOODING

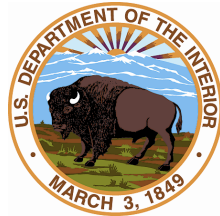
 INCONSISTENT SNOWPACK

 PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC



FEDERAL RESPONSE TO LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACTS

MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE?



Priority Agenda

Enhancing the Climate Resilience



of America's

Natural Resources

COUNCIL ON CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCE



PRESIDENT'S STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL LEADERS TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCE

Recommendations to the President

The Mountain Pact



Our mountain communities in the American West are experiencing detrimental effects to our environments and economies as a result of climate change: increases in catastrophic wildfire, the spread of the mountain pine beetle epidemic, and reduced snowpack are just a few of the impacts compromising our landscapes and, in turn, our tourism-based economies.

The Mountain Pact empowers mountain communities to build resilience in the face of economic and environmental stresses, and calculates how to best speak to these challenges through federal climate mitigation and adaptation policy.

Mountain Communities for Environmental & Economic Resilience

TIMELINE



2012 THE RESEARCH

Impacts of climate change on outdoor recreation-based mountain communities & obstacles to overcoming these challenges.

2014

THE LAUNCH



In spring & summer 2014, secured nonprofit status & seed funding from Aspen, Durango, Park City, and Lake Tahoe.



2014 SKI AREA WATER RIGHTS

Organized mountain communities & coordinated with Vail Resorts to provide public comment on USFS proposed ruling on ski area water rights.

2014 - 2015 WILDFIRE DISASTER FUNDING ACT



WILDFIRE DISASTER FUNDING ACT



Our communities are vulnerable to wildfire and as we are often surrounded by public lands, we hurt when USFS and DOI transfer funding away from other land management responsibilities. We need a solution that guarantees up-front funding for firefighters while reducing the need to transfer funds from essential non-suppression programs.

Ask of Congressional reps: Cosponsor the bipartisan Wildfire Disaster Funding Act which funds a portion of federal wildfire response activities, similar to other natural disasters, and enables federal land management agencies meet other responsibilities such as wildfire prevention, forest health, & recreation infrastructure.

Action: Worked with 7 communities across 6 states to send letters and meet with Congressional reps, house and senate leadership and the White House.



2015 RECRUITMENT

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We continue to engage new mountain communities in our efforts.

2015 COAL ROYALTY REFORM



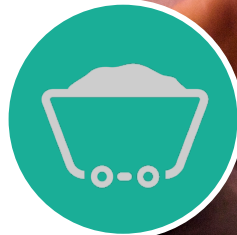
COAL ROYALTY REFORM

In the face of climate change, mountain communities are paying more while coal companies are paying less.

Asks of the Department of Interior:

- Close the loophole that allows coal companies to game the system for how coal is valued, and avoid paying what they owe in royalties.
- Update the royalty rate for fossil fuels extracted on public lands to ensure that American taxpayers receive their fair share.
- Invest a portion of new revenues into local climate resilience projects.

Action: Worked with 11 mountain communities on a joint public comment letter to DOI supporting coal royalty reform & 4 town representatives provided public testimony at BLM listening sessions.





2015
FOSSIL FUEL ROYALTIES TO
FUND CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Bringing attention to climate impacts on
outdoor recreation economies & opportunities
to fund resilience through fossil fuel royalties
& fees



2016+
AWARENESS & INVESTMENT
IN CLIMATE RESILIENCE
MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES



MEET THE TEAM



MEET THE TEAM



Diana Madson
Executive Director & Founder
South Lake Tahoe, CA



Maddie Rehn
Project Director
Gunnison, CO



Clay Walberg
Project Director
Denver, CO



Jill Sanford
Project Manager
Placerville, CA

The background image shows a town with several brick buildings. The buildings have multiple windows, some with flower boxes hanging below them. In the background, there is a large, steep hill covered in dense green forest. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall scene is a picturesque view of a town nestled at the foot of a forested mountain.

↻ THEORY OF CHANGE

THEORY OF CHANGE





STRATEGY & TACTICS

STRATEGY & TACTICS



Letters
(Joint & Individual)



Media Attention



Public Testimony



In Person Meetings



Op-Eds



Awareness



GET INVOLVED



GET INVOLVED

JOIN YOUR PEERS, HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD &
CALL FOR FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY



GET ON OUR CONTACT LIST

Stay informed on Mountain Pact efforts.



OPT-IN POLICY

Engage where and when you want to engage.



JOIN A POLICY CAMPAIGN

Sign onto a joint letter, author an op-ed, participate in media events, etc.



THANK YOU & QUESTIONS

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