

QUIVIRA CONFERENCE

Inspiring Adaptation



November 13 - 15, 2013
Albuquerque, New Mexico
quiviracoalition.org

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*Cover and back artwork by LoaCom (www.loacom.com)
Hand drawn items in the light bulb by Trish Jenkins and Jeremy Smith, Cycle Farm*

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A Message from Avery C. Anderson,
Executive Director

On the Ground in 2013

To know the spirit of a place is to realize that you are a part of a part and that the whole is made of parts, each of which is whole. You start with the part you are whole in. ~ Gary Snyder

When Courtney and I sat down exactly one year ago to hammer out the details of Quivira's graceful leadership transition, we were jointly motivated by one guiding question: *how will Quivira continue to inspire adaptation?* Starting as we always do, by looking hard at ourselves, we made several significant structural shifts within Quivira that we believe will bring us closer to answering our guiding question.

For starters, we put Courtney's gifts as a storyteller to work. With sixteen years of innovative work at the Radical Center—together with trips all over the world and thousands of hours in conversation with the most innovative land stewards and food producers on the planet—Courtney has accumulated a veritable treasure trove of knowledge. The knowledge alone is impressive, but Courtney's true gift is distilling massively complex ideas into straightforward methods that can be pulled off the shelf and put to work on the ground this afternoon.

In 2013, Quivira's publications coordinator, Tamara Gadzia, compiled fourteen of Courtney's 2% Solutions in a special issue of our Journal, *Resilience*. In addition, Courtney completed work on his epic Carbon Country manuscript (slotted for publication by Chelsea Green in 2014). From bats to pasture cropping, it's all captured in these two guiding texts by Quivira's new creative director.

Beyond implementing our usual set of restoration workshops, agrarian apprenticeships and biocultural resilience strategies, Quivira's Land and Water, New Agrarian and Tribal Partnership programs went above and beyond "normal" to inspire adaptation in 2013. Land and Water Program director, Mollie



Walton, Ph.D., worked tirelessly with a team of brilliant young interns to devise an innovative balloon-mapping methodology for watershed health assessment in remote places like the Valle Vidal in northern New Mexico. New Agrarian Program director, Virginie Pointeau, oversaw the dramatic expansion in the reach of Quivira's agrarian support activities by engaging new mentors for affiliate apprenticeships, doubling the number of people connected through the NAP email list serve and increasing the profile of Quivira's New Agrarian Career Connection, held each year

at the Quivira Conference. Lastly, Tribal Partnership Program director, Catherine Baca, collaborated with our Navajo colleagues to lay the foundation for a re-localized food system, complete with backyard gardens, native seed exchange, reintroduction to traditional methodologies and exploration of new technology (like mobile food markets!) that will help eliminate Native food deserts.

As for me, I continue to be humbled by the opportunity to lead such a remarkable effort and am energized by our continually expanding network of relationships. In 2013 alone, we developed new partnerships with the National Young Farmers' Coalition, Positive Energy Solar, The Nature Conservancy, the Western Land Owners Alliance, and the spin-off groups in California and Montana informally calling themselves "Quivira West" and "Quivira North." The magnitude of the challenges that we face keeps me on my toes and learning daily from Quivira's development team—Deanna Einspahr, Kit Brewer and our Board of Directors—about how to think of Quivira as a healthy regenerative system. As always, we aim to lead by example and hope that our targeted efforts in inspiring adaptation, culminating in the 2013 Quivira Conference, will carry the Quivira Community into 2014 with a renewed devotion to the parallel reality that we are building together.

Thank you for joining us!



An Essay from Courtney White ■ Inspiring Adaptation

***The Westerner is less a person than a continuing adaptation.
The West is less a place than a process.***

~ Wallace Stegner

From prehistoric times to the present, human societies have successfully adapted to the challenges of a changing West, including periods of severe drought, limitations created by scarce resources and shifting cultural and economic pressures. However, the American West is entering an era of unprecedented change brought on by new climate realities, which will test our capacity for adaptation as well as challenge the resilience of the region's native flora and fauna. It is therefore paramount that we find and share inspiring ideas and practical strategies that will help all of the region's inhabitants adapt to a rapidly changing world.

But what is adaptation anyway? What I've learned over the past year is that there are two types of adaptation: short-term and long-term. In the short-term, adaptation is a type of first responder—i.e., individuals, groups, communities and cities who see the early effects of a warming world, sense an emergency in the making and are taking action.

First responders aren't particularly interested in why the emergency happened in the first place. Their job is to deliver aid, fix things that are broken, troubleshoot and deal with the mess generally. Their focus is on the acute side of the spectrum: hotter weather, bigger storms and more frost-free days. Triage here includes maintaining human wellbeing day to day, dealing with natural disasters, repairing infrastructure, adjusting to distorted rhythms of nature and coping with the cost of it all.

And it's not just about humans. Heat-induced stress or a lack of food brought on by drought conditions are beginning to impact a wide variety of wildlife species as well. On the long-term or chronic side of the adaptation spectrum are the compounding effects of prolonged drought on water supplies and plant productivity, an increase in intensity and quantity of wildfire, expanded tree and



wildlife mortality, and reduced values associated with nature. Adapting to these latter challenges will be much more difficult and complex, partly because they are unprecedented. They will also require a different sort of professional response—the difference, say, between an emergency room doctor and a research physician or a medical disaster planner.

As Wallace Stegner noted, none of this should be news to westerners, especially the indigenous populations of the region. The West and water scarcity have gone hand in hand for centuries. Recently, however, we've managed to inoculate ourselves

against climatic seesaws. We built reservoirs on the meager rivers to trap the water; we dug wells into the ground and attached electric pumps in order to draw out precious water from the deep; and lately we've inserted long metal straws into the Rio Grande and have begun sucking on their ends like someone trying to siphon gasoline from a car's tank with a plastic hose.

It's worked—at least temporarily. We've become so accustomed to this state of affairs, however, that we've let our guard down and eroded our ability to respond to the short-term emergencies or to take long-term threats seriously. The latter requires planning and transformational changes, rather than business as usual. Are we willing to try? Tweaks won't do it—a water conservation plan here, a "green" building there, a research study in this place, a task force in that place—not in the long run anyway.

Fortunately, there are a lot of scientists, ranchers, farmers, conservationists, urban planners and others who are working on short-term and long-term solutions and have bright ideas and important tools to share from their adaptation toolboxes. We've assembled a wonderful group of them in this year's Quivira Conference. Thank you for attending; we're glad you are here!

Quivira History and Future

Founded in 1997 by two conservationists and a rancher, the Quivira Coalition is a nonprofit organization, based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, dedicated to building economic and ecological resilience in western working landscapes.

We do so through four broad initiatives:

1. improving land health;
2. sharing knowledge and innovation;
3. building local capacity; and
4. strengthening diverse relationships.

When we started out in 1997, our goal was to expand an emerging radical center among ranchers, conservationists, scientists and public land managers by focusing on progressive cattle management, collaboration, riparian and upland restoration, and improved land health. Our original mission was “to demonstrate that ecologically sensitive ranch management and economically robust ranches can be compatible.”

We called this approach The New Ranch and described it as a movement that “operates on the principle that the natural processes that sustain wildlife habitat, biological diversity and functioning watersheds are the same processes that make land productive for livestock.” The principles of The New Ranch were disseminated through workshops, lectures, publications, grants, consultations, collaborative land and water demonstration projects, a journal, the New Ranch Network, a small loan program and an annual conference.

From 1997 to the present, more than one million acres of rangeland, 30 linear miles of riparian drainages and 15,000 people have directly benefited from Quivira’s collaborative efforts. We have organized over 100 educational events on topics as diverse as drought management, riparian restoration, harvesting water from ranch roads, conservation easements, reading the landscape, monitoring, water harvesting, low-stress livestock handling, grassbanks and grassfed beef. We have published numerous newsletters, journals, bulletins, field guides and books, including a rangeland health monitoring protocol and a 258-page manual on riparian restoration titled *Let the Water Do the Work*. And lastly, we managed the innovative Valle Grande Grassbank, located near Santa Fe, eventually becoming producers of local, grassfed beef ourselves.

But most importantly, Quivira has lit sparks across the West that grew over time into small bonfires of change. Through our work, we’ve convinced ranchers to adopt conservation practices, environmentalists to value ranching, agencies to be more open to innovations, scientists to get more involved and the public to support all of the above.

Despite our success, the world kept changing, which meant we needed to keep changing, too. Although no one knows precisely what the decades ahead will bring, there are enough indicators of change to say with confidence that the challenges ahead will be daunting and varied. We believe that one response to these multiple challenges is to increase the ecological and economic resilience of communities and landscapes.

The dictionary defines “resilience” as “the ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.” In ecology, it refers to the capacity of plant and animal populations to handle disruption and degradation caused by fire, flood, drought, insect infestation or other disturbance. Resilience also describes a community’s ability to adjust to change, such as shifting economic conditions or a steady rise in temperatures.

To help address these issues, in the fall of 2007 the Quivira Coalition’s Board of Directors adopted a new mission statement: ***to build resilience by fostering ecological, economic and social health on western landscapes through education, innovation, collaboration, and progressive public and private land stewardship.***

Today, we implement our mission through the following programs:

Quivira Conference

This upbeat event regularly draws more than 500 people—one-third of whom are ranchers—and has become a successful forum for a “radical center” of ranchers, conservationists, public land managers and members of the public. Themes have included *Bridging the Urban-Rural Divide*, *Innovation and the Next Generation*, *Building Resilience* and *The Carbon Ranch: Using Food and Stewardship to Build Soil and Fight Climate Change*. Speakers have included Wendell Berry, David Kline, Bill deBuys, Patty Limerick, Richard Louv, Deborah Madison, Jonah Western and many others.

Outreach and Publications

As part of our mission of education, the Quivira Coalition publishes journals, books, field guides and articles; maintains a vast archive of resource materials on our website; and conducts land health outdoor classrooms and volunteer riparian restoration workshops. Educational workshops are informative, fun and open to the public.

Land and Water Program

Quivira's Land and Water Program has for many years stewarded restoration projects in the Comanche Creek Watershed, which encompasses 27,000 acres in the Valle Vidal Unit of the Carson National Forest, Taos County. Each season at the annual summer workshops, the mainstem of Comanche Creek, as well as upper tributaries including Grassy Creek and Springwagon Creek, benefit from the labor of many dedicated volunteers. Thousands of hours have been invested by Quivira volunteers in this beautiful and fragile landscape.

Quivira's Red Canyon Reserve property in Socorro County, New Mexico is another beautiful and fragile place. We are now exploring ideas to make this property meaningful to its native inhabitants, as well as to a larger audience of people who might use the property for educational pursuits.

In addition to striving to restore New Mexico landscapes, Quivira's Land and Water Program is also devoted to sustaining our important partnerships with others working toward the same goals. Our partners in this endeavor include the New Mexico Environment Department, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, Taos Soil and Water Conservation District, watershed protection groups statewide, a variety of knowledgeable and talented stream and wetland restoration contracting businesses, and hundreds of land stewards within the Quivira community.

New Agrarian Program

With the national average age of U.S. ranchers and farmers approaching 60, and with less than 2 percent of the U.S. population currently dedicated to producing food, it is critical that we increase the number and accessibility of training opportunities for the next generation of food producers and land stewards. If

we fail to take proactive measures to train the next generation of agrarians, we face food insecurity, rural instability and development of prime agricultural land.

Quivira's New Agrarian Program (NAP) has responded to this challenge by creating a comprehensive leadership-training program for new agrarians—the only one of its kind in the West. NAP partners with sustainable ranch/farm operations to implement intensive, hands-on apprenticeships targeted at young people who have a sincere commitment to employment and life at the intersection of conservation and sustainable agriculture. Since 2008, apprentices have been trained and graduated in fields that include sustainable ranching, grass-based dairy and artisan cheesemaking, and locally-sourced fiber production.

Tribal Partnerships

Since 2005, the Quivira Coalition has been collaborating with the Ojo Encino Chapter of the Navajo Nation to rebuild resilience in both the biological and cultural environments of the Navajo Nation. What started as a focused effort to develop grazing plans for severely degraded rangelands has since blossomed into a holistic effort to restore iconic features of the landscape, manage a feral horse population, manage erosion, engage youth, learn from elders, grow a local food system and build capacity in a Navajo-run nonprofit called Hasbídító. Our ultimate goal is to empower Hasbídító and the Ojo Encino Ranchers Committee as they work to create a biocultural landscape that will be resilient in the face of climate change.

Carbon Ranch Project

The mission of the Carbon Ranch Project is to explore and share climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies that sequester CO₂ in soils and plants, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and produce co-benefits that build ecological and economic resilience in local landscapes. Strategies include enriching soil carbon, no-till farming with perennials, employing climate-friendly livestock practices, conserving natural habitat, restoring degraded watersheds and rangelands, increasing biodiversity and producing local food. Project work includes essays, outreach and an online library (www.carbonranching.org).

Conference Sponsors and Supporters

This conference is made possible through the generous support of:

THE CLARENCE BURCH AWARD

Andrew Dunigan and the Dunigan Family

COMMUNITY \$10,000+

~Judith McBean Foundation~

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\$16,000+ IN SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

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Healthy Community Food Systems
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Frank Hayes
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Pleiades Foundation
James Ranch Artisan Cheese
Cynthia Villa
Gwendolyn Kolb



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- U.S. Forest Service Region 3 for Wednesday's Workshop

CONFERENCE IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

Toni Beatty
Green Fire Times
Anna Hansen
KSFR 101.1
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Orion Magazine
Elaine Patarini
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CONFERENCE STAFF

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Ellen Herr	

CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS

Toni Beatty
Marguerite Dimas
Rick Martinez
William Mee
Tarry Pesola
Jeremy Smith
Patricia Jenkins

We would especially like to thank Chef Toni Hilty and Lee Smith, Convention Services Manager, with the Embassy Suites Hotel, for taking extra steps to accommodate our goal of serving local and organic foods.

▪ Wednesday

Adaptation 101: *Regrarian Farm and Ranch Planning for Drylands*

12:00 – 5:00 pm SANDIA BALLROOM

Dennis Moroney, rancher, and his wife Deb live in a way that makes a compelling case for agricultural diversification and the integration of regenerative practices in the face of climatic and market uncertainty. They own and operate a family scale operation located in Cochise County, Arizona where they raise crossbred cattle, Boer goats, Navajo Churro sheep, and sell all natural grassfed meat. In addition, they have chickens, olive trees, high tunnels, and Deb produces handspun Churro yarn. Dennis and Deb have lived off the grid since 1992 by using solar and wind power, and they have numerous conservation, habitat and watershed restoration projects in progress at any given moment.

Dennis will open the afternoon with an inspiring talk on the adaptive practices that he and his family employ on the 47 Ranch. He will describe the way that they have made the shift from “being in the cattle business to being in the food business,” and how that adaptive shift has increased their social, ecological and economic resilience.



Darren Doherty is managing director of HeenanDoherty of Victoria, Australia whose mission is to ensure the regenerative enhancement of the biosphere's ecosystem processes. Darren is a self-described “Regrarian” — a 5th generation Australian farmer and regenerative agriculture pioneer who has been involved in the design and development of over 1600 landscape-scale projects across 5 continents in more than 45 countries, focusing on the practical regeneration of agricultural landscapes, soils, communities and families.

WHAT is a 'REGRARIAN'?

Regrarian, derived from “Regenerative Agrarian,” is a term first coined by Doherty in 2013 to describe those who are actively undertaking the serious and timely process of regenerating, restoring, rehabilitating, rehabilitating, rekindling and rebooting production landscapes across this planet.

Recognizing that many of today's farm and ranch production landscapes were laid out many years ago in a way that may not have made the best use of the geography or reflect current climate realities, Darren has developed the “Regrarian Platform” to help agricultural operators redesign their landscapes in a way that helps to ensure that their water supplies exceed their enterprises' needs.

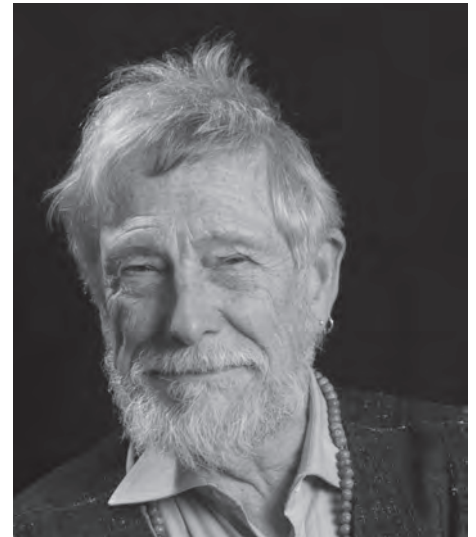
Darren will open his four-hour talk on Day 1 of the 2013 Quivira Conference with a description of the different elements captured within his *Regrarian Handbook: Processes to Rebooting Agricultural Ecosystems & Enterprises*. He will describe how each of the elements contributes to creating a cohesive adaptation strategy for your ranch/farm. There is a good chance that many people in the Quivira community will be familiar with one or more of the individual principles that he will discuss, but Darren will challenge the audience to put the different principles to work together. For the second half of the workshop, Darren will walk us through the Keyline Land Planning process using a real life (dryland) example and interactive conference audience feedback to demonstrate the power of adaptive thinking.

Wednesday Evening

Evening Fundraiser: Gary Snyder and Jack Loeffler

7:30 pm SANDIA BALLROOM

Pulitzer Prize winner **Gary Snyder** began his illustrious writing career in the 1950s. Snyder was born in San Francisco and raised on small farms in Washington state and Oregon. One of America's most celebrated poets, he has won numerous honors and awards for his writing, including the Bollingen Prize, an American Academy of Arts and Letters award, a Guggenheim Foundation fellowship, and many more. He is an American man of letters. Perhaps best known as a poet, he is also an essayist, lecturer and environmental activist. He has been described as the "poet laureate of Deep Ecology." He began his career as a noted member of the "Beat Generation," though he has since explored a wide range of social and spiritual matters in both poetry and prose. Snyder's work blends physical reality and precise observations of nature with inner insight. In an essay published in *A Controversy of Poets*, Snyder offered his own assessment of his art. "As a poet," he wrote, "I hold the most archaic values on earth. They go back to the late Paleolithic: the fertility of the soil, the magic of animals, the power-vision in solitude, the terrifying initiation and rebirth; the love and ecstasy of the dance, the common work of the tribe. I try to hold both history and wilderness in mind, that my poems may approach the true measure of things and stand against the unbalance and ignorance of our times." — *From The Poetry Foundation Bio of Gary Snyder*



Find your place on the planet. Dig in, and take responsibility from there. ~ Gary Snyder



Jack Loeffler is an aural historian, writer, radio producer and sound collage artist. After moving to New Mexico in 1962, he spent several seasons as a fire lookout, was a curator with the Museum of International Folk Art and the Center for Arts of Indian America, and conducted projects for institutions including the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, National Public Radio, the Museum of New Mexico, the University of New Mexico, the Western Folklife Center, the New Mexico Humanities Council, the Arizona Humanities Council, and others. In early 1970, he founded both the Central Clearing House and Black Mesa Defense Fund, environmental organizations committed to environmental activism, and preservation of indigenous culture within the context of native habitat. He has either produced or otherwise recorded, written and narrated over 50 soundtracks for documentary films, videos and museum exhibitions. He is the recipient of a New Mexico Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts and the Edgar Lee Hewett

Award for Writing from the New Mexico Historical Society. In 2011, he was presented with the Stewart L. Udall Award for Conservation. He is honored as a Santa Fe Living Treasure.

■ Thursday Evening

New Agrarian Career Connection

6:30 – 8:30 pm SIERRA ROOM

There is another way to live and think: it's called agrarianism. It is not so much a philosophy as a practice, an attitude, a loyalty and a passion—all based in close connection with the land. It results in a sound local economy in which producers and consumers are neighbors and in which nature herself becomes the standard for work and production. ~Wendell Berry

Are you a beginning or aspiring farmer, rancher or market gardener seeking mentorship or work opportunities? Are you an established farmer or rancher possibly looking for an extra hand or willing to share your knowledge as a mentor for the next generation? Are you a sustainable agriculture and land stewardship advocate, working in the nonprofit, private or government sector and interested in connecting young people to opportunities? If so....participate in this year's New Agrarian Career Connection.

Quivira recognizes the urgent need to connect experienced land owners/managers and conservation leaders with the next generation of people who will be responsible for growing our food and stewarding our planet. The purpose of the New Agrarian Career Connection event is to create the ideal conditions for conversing with like-minded people, exploring apprenticeship and partnership possibilities, learning about land transfer programs and more.

This gathering of ranchers, farmers, conservation leaders and new agrarians will take the form of an informal evening of open mingling, with prospective employers/mentors clearly identified so that the new agrarians can easily find them. Prospective employers/mentors will include (but are not limited to) private ranches and farms, conservation groups, food advocacy organizations, government agencies, land use service consultants (e.g. Holistic Management) and related private-sector businesses.

This year, the New Agrarian Program is working with the National Young Farmers' Coalition to help ensure a strong showing of highly qualified, enthusiastic beginning farmers, ranchers and land advocates in search of mentorship and opportunity. Prospective employers/mentors will each be assigned a table, where they can place business cards and other relevant information and meet with interested new agrarians. New agrarians are encouraged to come prepared with résumés and contact information.

Join in the fun, make new connections and find new opportunities!



Agenda ■

WEDNESDAY november 13

9:00 am

Check-in | LOBBY

12:00 – 5:00 pm

**Adaptation 101: Regrarian Farm and Ranch
Planning for Drylands**

**Workshop by Darren Doherty, with opening
presentation by Dennis Moroney**

SANDIA BALLROOM

(Break at 2:30 pm in Lobby)

This day is supported by the U.S. Forest Service,
Region 3

5:00 – 7:00 pm

**Southwest Grassfed Livestock Alliance (SWGLA)
Annual Meeting**

Dinner, auction and updates with guest speaker

Gary Nabhan, Ph.D., *Planning for Uncertainty:*

The Wisdom of the Desert

Visit the SWGLA exhibitor table for more information.

SIERRA ROOM

5:30 – 7:15 pm

Dinner with Gary Snyder and Jack Loeffler

Preregistered guests only

AGAVE ROOM

7:30 pm

Inspiration from Gary Snyder and Jack Loeffler

Book signing following talk

SANDIA BALLROOM



David Fortson, LoaCom
Master of Ceremonies

THURSDAY november 14

7:00 am

Check-in | LOBBY

8:15 am

Opening Remarks

Avery C. Anderson, Quivira Coalition

SANDIA BALLROOM

8:40 – 9:30 am

Jonathan Overpeck, Ph.D.

Future Climates: What Will We be Adapting To?

9:30 – 10:00 am

Snack Break | LOBBY

Sponsored by Western Landowners Alliance

10:10 – 11:00 am

Tom Sidwell

Managing for Drought on the JX Ranch

11:05 am – 12:00 pm

Gary Paul Nabhan, Ph.D.

*Growing Food in a Hotter, Drier Land: Lessons from
Desert Farmers on Adapting to Climate Uncertainty*

12:00 – 1:30 pm

LUNCH

Beef donated by Panorama Organic Grass-Fed Meats

1:30 – 1:40 pm

Remarks

1:40 – 2:30 pm

Rodrigo Rodriguez and Travis McKenzie

*Project Feed the Hood: Urban Farming and
Environmental Justice in New Mexico*

2:35 – 3:25 pm

Renata Brillinger

*California on the Frontlines of Agriculture
and Climate Policy*

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Snack Break | LOBBY

Agenda

THURSDAY november 14 (cont.)

4:10 – 5:00 pm

Pati Martinson and Terrie Bad Hand - Taos County Economic Development Corp.

Supporting Food, Land, Water and the Cultures of the Peoples of Northern New Mexico: A Land-based Perspective on the Challenges in Changing Times

6:30 – 8:00 pm

New Agrarian Career Connection
SIERRA ROOM

FRIDAY november 15

7:00 am

Check-in | LOBBY

8:15 – 8:30 am

Opening Remarks

Courtney White, Quivira Coalition
SANDIA BALLROOM

8:40 – 9:30 am

Bill Zeedyk

Buying Time in Riparian Areas: On the Ground Adaptation to a Changing Climate

9:30 – 10:00 am - **Snack Break | LOBBY**

10:10 – 11:00 am

Deborah Finch, Ph.D.

Climate Change in the Southwest: Effects, Adaptations and Tools

11:05 am – 12:00 pm

Amy Haak

Native Trout Management: An Adaptation Strategy for Coldwater Habitats

12:00 – 1:30 pm

LUNCH

FRIDAY november 15 (cont.)

1:40 – 2:30 pm

Forest Service: Judith Dyess, Stephanie Coleman and Ron Mortensen

The Collaborative Response to the Wallow Fire — Flames, Fins, Feathers, Fur, Forage, Fences and Forests

2:35 – 3:25 pm

Nils Christoffersen

Is Co-management of the West's Public Lands in Our Future? Innovation and Adaptation in the Pacific Northwest

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Snack Break | LOBBY

4:10 – 5:00 pm

William Burnidge and Tim Sullivan

Conservation, Ranching and Adaptation in Two Colorado Watersheds

6:30 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm)

AWARDS BANQUET

Honoring the 2013 Clarence Burch and Radical Center Awardees

SIERRA ROOM

Local, organic dinner with cash bar

Audio recordings for all speakers, and select YouTube video presentations will be posted on our website after the conference.



Friday Evening

Awards Banquet 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm) SIERRA ROOM

CLARENCE BURCH (1906-2000)

Rancher, teacher, conservationist, activist, international diplomat and public servant to five governors, Clarence Burch lived an enviable career full of innovation, dedication, curiosity and good humor. He was a man very much of his time, and yet miles ahead of it as well.

The eldest of nine children, Clarence was born in Bromide, Oklahoma, in what was then Indian Territory. Raised on various farms and ranches, he developed a love of the land that grew to become a passion for a lifetime. "My grandfather had an innate sense for natural forces," says Andy Dunigan. "Land was in his blood. Every discussion always started with a question about the weather."

One area to which Clarence applied his "can-do" attitude was water. While serving as director of the Division of Water Resources in the 1940s, he traveled to every seat of Oklahoma's 77 counties to assess municipal and rural water needs. Shortly thereafter, with Clarence's encouragement and over the objections of the oil companies, Governor Roy Turner signed the state's first groundwater restrictions into law.



Clarence was a careful steward of his own land as well. "He knew that all he had to sell on his ranch was grass," recalls his son Tom. "So, he took care to do the job right." His grandson agrees. "He understood that land has its limits," recalls Andy, "and he emphasized collaborative solutions to natural resource problems."

Clarence's people skills extended to his family. Andy remembers him as an "extremely warm, charismatic man who got along with people from all walks of life." A son-in-law, Jim Wilson, says Clarence could "carry on a conversation on any topic" and did so right up to the end of his life.

Perhaps Andy sums up his grandfather's qualities best: "Clarence embodied what we call today 'The Radical Center.' He was more than just a rancher. He was a public servant, an activist and a man very concerned about the land and sustainable practices. He was a remarkable man."

The Quivira Coalition is proud to honor Clarence Burch with an Annual Award presented in his name.

THE \$20,000 CLARENCE BURCH AWARD is given by Andrew Dunigan and the Dunigan Family to honor the memory of Andy Dunigan's grandfather, an innovative and enterprising rancher who courageously embraced new ideas and methods of doing business. The award recognizes individuals, organizations and others who have led by example in promoting and accomplishing outstanding stewardship of private and/or public lands. The goals of the Burch Award are consistent with the mission of the Quivira Coalition and its New Ranch paradigm, i.e., to explore innovative ideas in ranch management and build bridges between ranchers, environmentalists, public land managers, scientists and others with the goal of restoring western rangelands collaboratively.

2013 NOMINEE RECOGNITION

Canadian River Riparian Restoration Project

Established in 2004, the Canadian River Riparian Restoration Project (C3RP) exemplifies leadership by implementing innovative and sustainable methods of watershed stewardship. C3RP is dedicated to restoring the health of the Canadian River's riparian corridors by controlling salt cedar, a high water-using plant infesting many western waterways. The project's outcome has also expanded native habitat for wildlife and returned a sustainable flow of water needed for communities, agriculture and recreation. In addition, C3RP provides educational opportunities to landowners, students and agency personnel through monitoring and grazing management workshops.

Rio Grande Community Farm

Rio Grande Community Farm (RGCF) was founded 17 years ago in partnership with the city of Albuquerque's Open Space, prompted by local demand to sustainably address growing concerns with the health of our environment, communities and foodshed. RGCF upholds its mission of stewarding public lands, while enhancing urban wildlife habitat, producing organic food, establishing a community-oriented foodshed and offering education on these topics. The farm is located on the original site of Los Poblanos, one of the earliest Spanish Colonial settlements in the Rio Grande Valley and a living link in an agricultural heritage that extends over 1700 years, making it among the oldest parcels of continually farmed land in the United States.

2013 Clarence Burch Award Winner

Malpai Borderlands Group

The Quivira Coalition is honored to present its 2013 Burch Award to the Malpai Borderlands Group, a pioneering and inspirational rancher-led collaborative nonprofit located in the “bootheel” of New Mexico and southeastern Arizona.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Malpai Borderlands Group (MBG), the original source of the “radical center” approach to conservation and restoration of western ranching and rangelands.

The MBG was formed out of two pressing concerns: 1) that grasslands were being lost to shrub encroachment due to fire suppression; and 2) that ranches were succumbing to subdivision pressure. Deciding to act proactively, ranchers in the Malpai area reached out to scientists, environmental groups and state and federal agencies in the spring of 1993, seeking to build a consensus-based approach to land management in their area. Since that time, the MBG has pioneered a remarkable array of innovative and sustainable methods of land stewardship, promoted and implemented collaborative methods of resolving land stewardship conflicts and led the way in achieving ecological and economic health on working landscapes. They have also conducted extensive scientific research, education and outreach in support of their mission.

Some of the MBG’s notable accomplishments include:

Conservation easements. Today, MBG easements cover 85,252 acres of private land, linked by grazing permits to 139,879 acres of public lands. Combined with the Nature Conservancy’s easement on the large Gray Ranch, MBG’s easements protect nearly 70 percent of the private land in the area.

Fire restoration and management. Seven prescribed fires have been conducted on a total of roughly 80,000 acres, including the 46,458-acre Baker II fire in 2003, which was the largest successfully implemented prescribed fire in the history of the U.S. Forest Service. Additionally, more than 560,000 acres of prescribed and naturally occurring fires have occurred on the Gray Ranch under an agreement between the Animas Foundation and New Mexico State Forestry.

Endangered species conservation. The Malpai country lies in one of the most biodiverse regions in North America. Rather than resist or condemn the legal protection of endangered species, the MBG has taken a proactive approach on several fronts. For



Malpai Board. (Photo by Jay Dusard)

example, in 2008 the MBG completed a Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan with the Fish and Wildlife Service, ensuring compliance of ranching activities and prescribed fires with ESA regulations pertaining to nineteen listed or rare species of fish, wildlife and plants.

Scientific research. The MBG has been a leader in promoting scientific research and science-based decision making for public and private land management in the Southwest. The MBG has investigated fire effects on vegetation and watershed conditions; grazing, climate, and fire interactions in communities of vegetation and small mammals; methods of shrub reduction and grass establishment; and effectiveness of low-tech erosion control measures (Bill Zeedyk’s methods).

Education and outreach. The MBG has actively promoted collaborative ranch and rangeland conservation through education and outreach activities on several fronts. For example, annual science conferences are held every January for scientists, agency employees, landowners and environmentalists to learn about research, both in the Malpai area and in rangelands more generally.

At the top of the list of the MBG’s accomplishments, however, is the inspiration it has provided for other groups seeking collaborative, innovative solutions to stewardship problems, not only in rangelands but also in other landscapes, including the Quivira Coalition.

Today, the MBG faces important and difficult transitions as it moves into its third decade of activities. A new generation of leadership is needed and a new strategic plan is under formulation. The Clarence Burch Award will help launch this new phase of Malpai’s continuing efforts to preserve ranching and the landscapes it both supports and depends upon.

2013 Outstanding Leadership in the Radical Center Awards

The Seventh Annual Recognition Awards for Outstanding Leadership in the Radical Center are dedicated to the “four legs” of the Quivira Coalition’s original “chair”—ranchers, conservationists, civil servants and researchers. We wish to recognize those individuals in each category who have shown remarkable and enduring leadership in the difficult job of working in the radical center—the place where people are coming together to explore their common interests rather than argue their differences, as described by author and conservation leader Bill deBuys.

We believe that the radical center is where real change happens. As Aldo Leopold said, it happens on the “actual landscape of the back forty.” But change needs strong leadership, especially in this era of seemingly endless partisanship. We continue to honor those who have advanced the cause of the radical center with integrity, vision and determination—sometimes against long odds. Each has inspired us with their dedication to family, community, healthy lands and advancement through their teaching, writing, research, service, work and good humor. Through their efforts and leadership they have been a strong voice for the common bonds that unite us. We are proud to recognize these fine individuals.

On behalf of the Board and Staff of the Quivira Coalition, in 2013 we are honored to present the Outstanding Leadership in the Radical Center Awards to the following recipients:

RANCHING: Dennis and Deb Moroney. Dennis grew up on the rural suburban fringe of Phoenix, Arizona in the 50s and 60s. He has BS degrees in Animal Science and Agriculture Education from the University of Arizona and a Master’s in Education from Central Washington University. Dennis is an educator at his core and throughout his career has made use of this gift by teaching vocational high school students and serving as an administrator at an alternative high school and as an adjunct instructor at Prescott College, Yavapai College and Cochise College. Dennis is a certified Permaculture designer and a past president of the Cochise Graham Cattle Growers Association and the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management.



Deb is a medical doctor, rancher, fiber artist and teacher. Drawing upon her Native and Hispanic background, as well as her extensive experience with herbal and conventional medicine and forty years as a farmer, gardener and animal caretaker, Deb has combined her accumulated wisdom to craft a life on the land characterized by compassionate care for all living things, a strong work ethic and an artist’s aesthetic sense.

Since 2002, Dennis and Deb have been living and working on the 47 Ranch located near Bisbee in Cochise County, Arizona. They have been deeply involved in conservation work on their ranch and currently have two conservation easements totaling 2,400 acres. They have strong working partnerships with the Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA NRCS, and many agencies. In addition, Dennis and Deb have used their ranch as a learning laboratory for graduate students, summer interns, traveling classes from various colleges and universities, and Quivira’s New Agrarian Program. They are devoted to providing working opportunities for students and young people who want to learn about conservation and food production. Married for more than forty years, Deb and Dennis are the adoptive parents of Allie, 20, and Gordon, 18. (*Read more about Dennis, Deb and the 47 Ranch at the top of page 7.*)

CONSERVATION: Jan-Willem Jansens. Born in the Netherlands, Jan-Willem has developed an international career as a landscape planner and ecological restoration specialist. He earned a graduate degree in landscape architecture from the Agricultural University Wageningen in the Netherlands. During a research internship with the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, Jan-Willem steered his landscape architecture study toward agroforestry, erosion control, and watershed restoration planning. His thesis work led to two trips to the U.S. and to publications on topics such as streambank revegetation, hedgerow and windbreak design in Sub-Saharan Africa and watershed restoration and agroforestry planning in Kenya. He also worked for three years in a Dutch bilateral aid program on ecological restoration and rural economic development in Niger, West Africa.



In 1993, he accepted a rural development and community forestry position with the Forest Trust in Santa Fe. In this job he developed, among other things, two collaborative forest conservation programs for the communities of Truchas and Picuris Pueblo. In 1997, he founded his own company, Common Ground, and worked on building bridges between rural communities and private and public funding programs. He coordinated a sustainable forestry funding and education program aimed at FSC certification of tribal forestry operations, conducted a series of forest products market studies and established the Galisteo Watershed Restoration Project in collaboration with Earth Works Institute.

In 2002, Jan-Willem became executive director of Earth Works Institute. His accomplishments included the establishment of the Galisteo Watershed Partnership, the Galisteo Watershed Conservation Initiative, a watershed restoration and forest products utilization program in several Navajo communities and a statewide collaborative network for the conservation of wildlife corridors.

In January 2012, Jan-Willem returned to private practice. With his new business, Ecotone, he completed a trail stewardship guide and a Wetlands Action Plan for Santa Fe County, and co-authored a hydro-geology study of wetlands in the La Cienega area. He also launched a large collaborative watershed restoration initiative in the Lower Embudo valley with the Arid Lands Institute at Woodbury University, California, in collaboration with local acequia associations and landowners, NGOs and government agencies. Jan-Willem continues to work as a landscape planner and educator for numerous private landowners, ranchers, NGOs and community groups throughout northern New Mexico.

Jan-Willem lives in Santa Fe and enjoys hiking and camping with his family in the beautiful New Mexico outdoors.

CIVIL SERVICE: Lisa VanAmburg. Lisa grew up in Kansas surrounded by agriculture, a fact that she did not realize or appreciate until leaving her small town. It is this background that drives her passion for agrarians and the work they do. She left Kansas to attend Colorado State University where she received both a bachelor's degree and a Master of Science degree in Rangeland Ecology, coupled with a Certificate in Geospatial Science.

Lisa's professional career has included work in the private sector and research with the Agricultural Research Service prior to working in land management with the U.S. Forest Service as a rangeland management specialist. She began her Forest Service career in Saguache, Colorado, where she had the opportunity to work with and learn from many remarkable ranchers. Lisa recently relocated with the Forest Service to Paonia, Colorado where she continues to learn from the many outstanding agrarians in the area. Once again surrounded by agriculture, but a few more hills!



RESEARCH: Jonathan Overpeck, Ph.D. "Peck," as he prefers to be called, is a founding co-director of the Institute of the Environment, as well as a professor of Geosciences and a professor of Atmospheric Sciences. He received his BA from Hamilton College, followed by a MSc and Ph.D. from Brown University. Jonathan has published over 130 papers in climate and the environmental sciences and recently served as a Coordinating Lead Author for the Nobel Prize-winning UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment (2007). He has also been awarded the U.S. Department of Commerce Bronze and Gold Medals, as well as the Walter Orr Roberts Award of the American Meteorological Society for his interdisciplinary research. Overpeck has been a Guggenheim Fellow, was the 2005 American Geophysical Union Bjerknes Lecturer and won, with co-authors, the 2008 NOAA Oceanic and Atmospheric Research Outstanding Scientific Paper Award. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences.



■ Honoring Dave and Andy



David Stewart is retiring as Director of Rangeland Management for the U.S. Forest Service, Southwestern Region, and many of us are sad to hear the news.

Dave began working for the Forest Service in 1963 and has spent most of his career addressing range management issues in Arizona and New Mexico, with the exception of four years spent in Washington, D.C. as a Rangeland Management Specialist. In 2006, Dave received the Professional & Technical Guidance Award, given by the Arizona Section of the Society for Range Management. He is also a co-recipient of the 4th Annual Clarence Burch Award (along with seven others), given by the Quivira Coalition in 2005.

Dave has been an inspirational leader within the Forest Service, but it was through our work together on the Valle Grande Grassbank that we came to know – and greatly appreciate – Dave’s many talents. When the Grassbank was first proposed in 1998 by Bill deBuys and the Conservation Fund, many people within the Forest Service objected to the idea of a conservation organization buying a federal grazing permit and operating a grassbank on public land. Many put up roadblocks to the Grassbank’s implementation. However, Dave embraced the idea and provided valuable support and guidance over the years as the Grassbank passed into Quivira’s ownership and various challenges to its operation rose and fell. Dave’s sage counsel, encouraging words and deep knowledge of Forest Service regulations were essential to the Grassbank’s success. We could not have accomplished what we did without him.

Dave’s willingness (and courage) to think “outside the box” on many levels has been an inspiration to us all!



From Courtney: I remember the first time I met Andy. The year was 2001 and the Quivira Coalition was still operating out of a back bedroom in my house when I received a call from someone named “Andy Dunigan,” who said he wanted to discuss starting an annual award to honor his grandfather, Clarence Burch, who had recently passed away. I didn’t know Andy at the time, though I was certainly familiar with his family’s name as owners of the Valles Caldera ranch near Los Alamos. I told him “You bet!” and Andy came to the house, where we discussed his vision of “venture philanthropy,” which is the idea of investing in a start-up nonprofit organization in such a way as to help it grow and prosper. Andy wanted to do that for the Quivira Coalition.

Fast forward twelve years — and twelve Burch Awards — and Andy’s vision has paid off handsomely. The Award has been given to a wide variety of ranchers, conservationists, collaborative groups and other innovators in a wide variety of landscapes and geographies. Many of the awardees have used the cash and the kudos to leverage substantial co-benefits, and many have told us that the Burch Award gave them an important emotional boost, as well. At the same time, Quivira has greatly benefitted from Andy’s investment in us as news of the Award winners spread outwards. As an example of venture philanthropy, I’d say the return on investment has been huge!

It continues to be an honor to present the Burch Award and partake in its positive effects and good cheer. All of us at Quivira are grateful to Andy and his family for taking the plunge initially and for their continued support over the years. It continues to be one of the highlights of our work.

Conference Extras ■

Books and Products Sales
OCOTILLO ROOM

PUBLICATIONS BY 2013 SPEAKERS

Gary Snyder - Featured Speaker

- *Back on the Fire*
- *Cold Mountain Poems*
- *Mountains and Rivers Without End*
- *The Practice of the Wild*
- *Riprap and Cold Mountain Poems*

Jack Loeffler – Featured Speaker

- *Adventures with Ed: A Portrait of Abbey*
- *Headed Upstream: Interviews with Iconoclasts*
- *Thinking Like a Watershed: Voices from the West*

Gary Paul Nabhan Ph.D.

- *Conservation You Can Taste*
- *Desert Terroir*
- *Food Genes and Culture*
- *Growing Food in a Hotter, Drier Land: Lessons from Desert Farmers on Adapting to Climate Uncertainty* **NEW**
- *Where Our Food Comes From*

Bill Zeedyk

- See below

QUIVIRA PUBLICATIONS

Kirk Gadzia and Nathan Sayre

- *Rangeland Health & Planned Grazing Field Guide*

Quivira Coalition and Dryland Solutions, Inc.

- *Erosion Control Field Guide* (flip cards)

Quivira's New Agrarian Handbook

- *New Agrarian Education: A Handbook for Mentor and Apprentice*

Bill Zeedyk

- *Water Harvesting from Low-Standard Rural Roads*

Bill Zeedyk and Van Clothier

- *Let the Water Do The Work: Induced Meandering, An Evolving Method for Restoring Incised Channels*

INSPIRATION FROM COURTNEY WHITE

- *Knowing Pecos* **NEW**
- *Revolution on the Range*

INSPIRING PUBLICATIONS

Beth Conover

- *How the West Was Warmed — Responding to Climate Change in the Rockies*

Masanobu Fukuoka

- *Sowing Seeds in the Desert*

Kirk Gadzia and Todd Graham

- *Bullseye! Testing Your Rangeland Health Objectives*

Elizabeth Kolbert

- *Field Notes from a Catastrophe — Man, Nature and Climate Change*

Anna Lappe

- *Diet for a Hot Planet*

Deborah Madison, Past Conference Speaker

- *Local Flavors: Cooking and Eating from America's Farmers' Markets*
- *Vegetable Literacy* **NEW**

Raymond Plank

- *A Small Difference*

Sandra Postel, Past Conference Speaker

- *Pillar of Sand*

Jorgen Randers

- *2052*

Jo Robinson

- *Eating on the Wild Side* **NEW**

SARE Handbook

- *Managing Cover Crops Profitably*

Judith Schwartz

- *Cows Save the Planet*

QUIVIRA PRODUCTS

- Hats
- Small Canvas Bags



■ Conference Extras

EXHIBITORS

Animal Welfare Approved

Darren Doherty's Regrarian Handbook
Mailing List

Reba D. Epler "Attorney to the people
of the land"

Erda Gardens and Learning Center

Esri

GMX Hard Water and Irrigation Treatment

Green Fire Times

Hasbídító

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Keystone Conservation

National Center for Appropriate Technology

National Young Farmers' Coalition

New Mexico Land Conservancy

Natural Resources Conservation Services -
Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative

Ojo Encino Ranchers Committee

PNM - Renewables and Energy Efficiency

Positive Energy Solar

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SWGLA

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Acknowledgements ■

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