

**THERE'S MORE TO THIS PLACE THAN  
MEETS THE EYE:  
100 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE  
IN RMNP**

**MAY 22, 2020**



**COURSE LEVEL: II COURSE #: S3046  
FEE: \$80 PER ADULT AGES 16 AND OLDER**

**INSTRUCTOR: DR. DEANNA LAUREL PAGE 1 OF 2**

**LOCATION: Rocky Mountain Conservancy – Field Institute & Conference Center  
1895 Fall River Road, Estes Park, Colorado**

**TIME: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an overview of the history of environmental change in the national park, emphasizing human-caused change. We will discuss the history of mining, water engineering, recreational development and tourism, atmospheric inputs of dust and nitrates, wildlife management, and climate change in the context of protecting and restoring the park's natural environments. The objective of this course is to understand how past human activities influence contemporary ecosystems and options for park natural resource management.

**COURSE LEVEL: II**

Short walks of less than a mile per day with elevation gain of less than 100 feet.

**BRIEF INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY:**

DeAnna is a professor of environmental science at Aims Community College. She received her bachelor's degree in environmental science from the University of Denver in 2008. She spent several years working for the U.S. Geological Survey on paleoclimate research before attending graduate school at Colorado State University, where she completed her master's degree in 2014. She received her Ph.D. degree in 2018. Her graduate research focused on geomorphic controls on stream temperature and the effect beavers have on fluxes of water, sediment, and organic carbon in Colorado mountain stream meadows. She has been conducting research in Rocky Mountain National Park for more than 5 years.

**EXPECTATIONS:** Professional conduct will be expected from participants at all times. Individual ideas will be respected. Except during course breaks, cellular phones, pagers, and personal entertainment devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom and during field sessions.

**CAR-POOLING:** Rocky Mountain Conservancy - Field Institute courses utilize car-pooling to limit vehicles traveling into the park. Car-pooling makes it easier to keep the group together, reduces transit time, and allows courses greater access because fewer parking spaces are required at destinations. In addition, it provides an opportunity for participants to discuss course material in small groups during transit. Typically, a few participants from each course volunteer the use of their vehicles for car-pooling to course locations.

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## TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

8:30 AM – 8:50 AM	Welcome/Introduction Meet participants; Course description; Expected outcomes; Procedures for the day
8:50 AM – 11:00 AM	Introduction to park ecosystems, human effects on the region prior to 1915 designation of the national park, and 20 <sup>th</sup> -century human effects
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	<b>Break</b>
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Contemporary human effects on park ecosystems
12:30 PM – 1:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Travel to and discuss beaver meadows at Hidden Valley and Horseshoe Park
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Travel to and discuss beaver meadows at Moraine Park
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Return to Field Institute for concluding remarks on the sites visited and on the contemporary state of ecosystems in the park

## USEFUL EQUIPMENT:

- Notepad and pen/pencil for taking notes
- Camera

## RECOMMENDED READING:

*Of Rock and Rivers: Seeking a Sense of Place in the American West* by Ellen Wohl (University of California Press, 2009)

## REMEMBER TO BRING THE 10 ESSENTIALS:

Rocky Mountain National Park recommends that hikers always carry the 10 essentials in their daypacks.

- |                             |                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▪ Raingear                  | ▪ Map and compass | ▪ Flashlight or headlamp        |
| ▪ Sunglasses and sunscreen  | ▪ Candles         | ▪ Matches or other fire starter |
| ▪ Pocketknife               | ▪ First-aid kit   | ▪ Extra layers of clothing      |
| ▪ Sack lunch, snacks, water |                   |                                 |

*Note: Rocky Mountain Conservancy - Field Institute recommends that participants for all courses dress in layers and wear comfortable, sturdy hiking boots/shoes. Participants should be prepared for sudden changes in temperature and weather conditions.*

## REFUND POLICY:

Cancellations received at least 14 days prior to the start of a class will qualify for a refund minus a cancellation fee of \$25 per participant for a one-day class, \$50 for a multi-day class, \$5 per kid's class and \$15 per half-day class or bus tour seat. Registration money transferred to another class will be subject to a \$10 switch fee. Cancellations received less than 14 days prior to the start of a class or bus tour will not generate a refund. If the Field Institute cancels a class, every effort will be made to place the participant in another class; otherwise, a full refund will be given.

## TEACHER RECERTIFICATION CREDIT:

Most courses are eligible for teacher recertification credit through the Centennial Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES). The fee is \$25 per class (.5 units) or \$25 per series of threaded courses (1.0 - 3.0 units). A list of threaded courses can be found online at [www.RMConservancy.org](http://www.RMConservancy.org). Participants must enroll in all courses of a threaded series in order to qualify for the \$25 multi-unit fee. Please be prepared to pay for this credit with a check, made payable to BOCES, on the first day of a class or on the final day of a threaded series of courses.