



Join us

Soil Health In The West

Wednesday November 14
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Adams State University Student Union Building
(SW Conference Rooms)
1603 First Street
Alamosa, CO 81101

The Soil and Water Conservation Society - Colorado Chapter is keen to carry on the legacy of Mike Collins in highlighting the innovations in soil health in our midst. To this end, we invite you to this event, featuring keynotes by Jay Fuhrer and Rudy Garcia, and a panel discussion by soil health practitioners, ranchers and farmers from the Western United States.

Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to share thoughts with such skilled soil health experts as these. Our presenters have convened in honor of Mike Collins, to continue the work he began in the Western U.S. so all may benefit from healthy soils.

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors:

Soil and Water Conservation Society
Salazar Rio Grande del Norte Center (Adams State University)
Mosca-Hooper Conservation District

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/yagmn42e>

Agenda

7:30 Check-In and On-Site Registration

8:00 Clare Lindahl and Steve Kadas - Opening Remarks and Mike Collins Commemoration *Soil and Water Conservation Society Executive Director Clare Lindahl and SWCS Board Member will offer perspective on national efforts towards soil health, and Steve Kadas will offer his thoughts on Mike Collins' legacy relative to soil health in the West, and on the health of the land and the communities where Collins worked during his life.*

8:30 Jay Fuhrer *North Dakota-based soil health expert with the NRCS who has worked around the world on soil health implementation and training. Jay will offer insights into which approaches have proven to work for building soil health in water-short areas.*

9:20 Steve Tucker *Western-Nebraska farmer and rancher whose unique use of cover crops and soil management have led to great market opportunities on limited water, beyond what was imaginable prior to implementing soil health principles on his land.*

10:00 Break

10:10 Panel Discussion with George Whitten, David Harold, Rob Jones, Kyler Brown *These producers have integrated soil health principles in raising livestock and growing crops across multiple regions of Western Colorado. With many years of practical experience, this panel will share its thoughts on the gains and pitfalls they have experienced in the pursuit of productivity, resiliency and healthy soils.*

11:05 Rudy Garcia *NRCS Soil Health Specialist for the Southwestern US, Rudy specializes in soil health management for arid lands. Rudy will speak on improving water use efficiencies by growing healthy soils.*

12:00 Depart for Self-Driving Field Tour - Lunch During Field Tour

1:00 Nissen Farms - Erin Nissen & Patrick O'Neill *Erin Nissen has actively engaged soil health principles, integrating livestock and forage diversity into cash crop rotations, all the while mindful of irrigation water use. Patrick O'Neill works with Nissen Farms as an adviser on matters of production and soil health. Field visit will allow us to dig in and experience some of the unique challenges of managing for soil health in the arid West.*

2:30 Green Ranch - George Whitten *Grazing to improve soil health, animal production, and profitability are all concerns George Whitten engages when planning how his ruminants will engage the landscape. See some of the opportunities to build soil health unique to integration of a well-managed cattle herd.*

4:30 End of Activities