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MAY 2026

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THE WORTH OF WATER

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 05



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Always New
Monthly
Rabbit Hole



WORKING TOWARDS ONE CUT?

By Kendra Cook

The latest news on the Colorado River agreements broke May 1 - that the Lower Basin states have offered a short term deal, in the hopes of helping Lake Powell and Lake Mead from collapsing completely - that's California, Arizona and Nevada "noted their conservation contributions of 1.5 million acre-feet, including reductions from Mexico. The states now offer at least 700,000 acre-feet more with a target of up to 1 million acre-feet. The proposal includes 3.2 million acre-feet of savings by water users across the Lower Basin through 2028, which builds on our conservation record of over 11 million-acre-feet of contributions to the system since 2003" as reported by Fox news from the Lower Division States letter from John Entsminger to Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek. The support of the Bureau of Reclamation's proposal to provide water to Lake Powell by releasing water from Flaming Gorge, is a big part of what's at question. Along with throwing water on the problem, they are also addressing infrastructure to create more efficient solutions as well. The points in the proposed letter are not independent but must be accepted as a total package, the letter insisted they are "non-severable".

As reported earlier this year, deadlines from the Federal government have been passed time and again. Ultimately if the Upper and Lower groups do not come together on an agreement, the Federal proposal will take precedence. The deadline on this last 'line in the proverbial sand', is October. The Upper Basin includes Utah, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico, with all parties concerned on who takes what cuts and how

deep. Prior to this latest update, the upper basin group had proposed using a mediator to facilitate the negotiations moving forward.

Meanwhile locally, the usual pre Mother's day spring is in the air, a feeling of hope and seeing the fields come back to life with irrigation water, tilling and care, is just not here this year. All around the area, farmers and ranchers have been calculating costs for operations and assessing the record dry winter implications - how much to plant, how much can we plant, and how much will that bring in based on all types of input expenses, or in the case of water, no matter the price, it just isn't available. In the Ute Mountain Reservation lands, ranchers recently released they are expecting 14% of average supply of water. The same chatter is heard from regional farm families, that there may be enough water for some fields through June - so a first cut may well be it on many fields.

This isn't a localized issue - the entire states of Colorado and Utah have both seen devastatingly low moisture with the US Drought Monitor plunging the average percentage numbers to 10% or less. The economic impacts won't be seen as fall out until we know how many workers get laid off, how much sale of supply inputs reduce the income for supplemental industries such as feed and seed suppliers, the costs of diesel increasing, and costs to the farmers and ranchers themselves. The reduction of farm land production hits not just growing less people food - it's food for animals in terms of hay sources being limited as well. So the ranchers are hit hard, while the trickle of rains are determining how much viable pasture will be available into the summer.

More Waters Issues on Page 10



DOVE CREEK

DOLORES COUNTY

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Check calendar at

www.dc2j.org

- May 1 HS Baseball Districts
- May 2 HS Track @Pagosa Springs
- May 4 HS Wrestling Awards
- May 6 HS Track @Grand Junction
- May 7 Chapter FFA Banquet
- May 9 HS Track @Montrose
- HS Baseball Regionals
- May 11 DCE Community Night
- May 13 School Board Meeting
- May 14-16 HS Track State Champ.
- May 14 HS Baseball State Champ.
- May 14-15 DCE Mental Health STUD
- May 19 - AR Field Trip Durango
- May 21 GRADUATION!!!!
- May 21 Early Release
- May 25 Memorial Day
- June 1-4 State FFA Convention

The Pinto Bean on Facebook shares the school news and sports from the surrounding areas as well as Dove Creek, the home town from which this publication started.

The Southwestern Adventure Corridors - Moab to Durango to Telluride and all around the zone - follow with our 3.1K followers Facebook page @ThePintoBean for daily updates of news, weather, roads, and events in SE UT and SW CO - some NE AZ and NW NM too! It's free to follow, share, comment, and get the latest across the region - for locals AND tourists too! Email for Rate Card to reach an estimated 10K plus readers - through FREE print distribution to over 600 locations, as well as online at our website PintoBean.CO

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ALL GRADUATES

2026



Dove Creek Bulldog Class of 2026

Congratulations List with

"Shout Outs" are on page 17





Dove Creek Annual

Spring Clean Up

Saturday May 9, 2026 8:00am-12:00pm

and

Monday-Thursday

May 11-14, 2026

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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PIONEER CENTER DOLORES COUNTY

By Kendra Cook

Dolores County Pioneer Center / Senior Services is NOT closing despite how they were portrayed in recent media coverage. Their fiscal year runs from July to June, and on the horizon is a funding cut of around \$100K due to the medicaid fraud reform reducing funding. As a governmental agency, the avenues for grants and operational support is limited, with significant regulations. Programs and projects can apply for funding, but core operation funding is limited. The annual "Chicken Enchilada" fundraiser with chance drawing, is coming up June 18th, along with additional activities, they provide a significant portion of funding for their various programs, and the agency is deeply appreciated for the gracious local support.

Service provided to the elderly is created to improve quality of life, for independence and dignity to stay in their own home as long as possible, featuring these programs: Senior nutrition program, senior and public transportation, home chore homemaker services, outreach program, health promotion and exercise program, national caregiver program, SHIP Senior Health insurance assistance program, senior commodities program (CSFP) and aging and disability resources for Colorado.

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Harvesting Water from the Air: The Promise of Fog Collection Systems

How to pull water out of thin air...

By Hayden Pate

Inspired by a cactus spine and pitcher plant slippery surface, emerged a strategy to design a superhydrophobic water collection system.

In regions where rainfall is scarce, air collection systems offer a sustainable solution to water scarcity. At least another opportunity. The image to the right, illustrates a simple yet powerful technology that transforms airborne moisture into clean, usable drinking water—using nothing more than mesh, gravity, and basic filtration.

At the heart of the system is a vertical mesh panel positioned to intercept fog carried by the wind. As moist air passes through the fine netting, tiny droplets of water condense on the surface. Over time, these droplets grow heavier and slide downward, guided by gravity into a water collection trough at the base of the panel. From the trough, the collected water flows through a filtration system designed to remove debris, microorganisms, and impurities. Multiple filter stages ensure the water meets safety standards before it reaches the storage tank. This step is essential, transforming raw atmospheric moisture into reliable potable

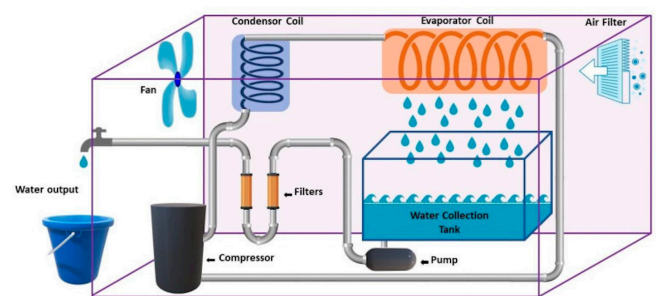
water. The filtered water is then stored in a sealed tank, protecting it from contamination and evaporation.

From here, a simple piping system delivers drinking water directly to a tap, ready for household use, irrigation, or emergency supply. The entire process operates without electricity, making it ideal for remote or off-grid communities. However, you need moisture in the air - in the dry southwest you might think it won't work - but you can still find moisture in mountainous, and high-altitude regions where fog occurs frequently or in canyons at different times in the day and night.

Countries such as Chile, Morocco, and parts of East Africa have already adopted similar technologies to support villages that lack access to traditional water infrastructure. Beyond practicality, fog collection represents a broader shift toward sustainable resource use. It harnesses a naturally occurring phenomenon without depleting groundwater, altering ecosystems, or producing emissions. In essence, fog harvesting demonstrates how thoughtful design and natural processes can work together; By capturing what once drifted away unnoticed, this technology turns air into life.



There are many creative ways to harvest and extract potable water from desalinization plants, to various extraction systems, to simple rain harvesting when rain is available.



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Barndominiums



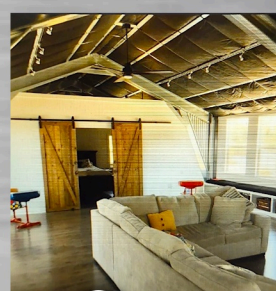
Cold Form Steel Structures



Offices



Barns

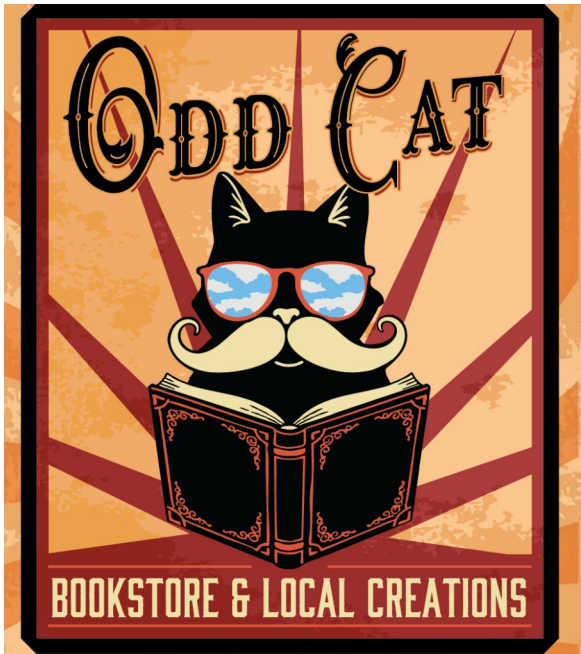


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From Odd Cat Angie B.
Hello from the cutest little bookshop in the Dolores River Valley

This month, as we continue to puzzle out what season we’re in, I’m highlighting one of our local authors! Alana Connelly is the author of, “Taki the Brave Little Warrior”, an adorable kid’s book about a puppy who was born with a cleft lip and a hole in his heart. With the love and care of his humans, Taki grows up to be strong, resilient, and a source of inspiration to everyone he meets. It is a lovely and empowering story! Alana happily resides in our little corner of the Southwest with her beloved family of rescue dogs, cats and chickens. She has been a vet tech for 30+ years and is working toward earning her doctorate in clinical psychology!



From the author- “My passion for helping animals and fellow humans drives all aspects of my professional and personal life. When I’m not writing, I spend my days snuggling my furry and feathery rescues or searching in our mountains for crystals.”

It’s an honor to have such an uplifting and local book in my shop! I am a stalwart supporter of local authors and artists alike, without feeling the need to take advantage of them. One of my MOST favorite things is the joy on a creator’s face to finally find a space to share their creations with others. I am truly blessed to be able to offer the platform of Odd Cat Bookstore & Local Creations as a forum for these human treasures within our communities! Stay creative my friends

PINTO BEAN BOOK CORNER

By Kendra Cook

The Pinto Bean strives to offer current interesting information on what’s going on in the regional areas, but also to alert readers about topics and dots to connect that they may not have access to in their workaholic lives. The “Book Corner” monthly reviews are from books we’ve read that might be interesting, helpful, or just something you wouldn’t see on the mainstream library shelves. However, this month, as the ‘back to the land’ and back to ‘preparing’ is trending high along with the prices of Everything trending higher, let’s look at some homesteading or resource books that others have found to be useful in 2026.

If (or when) the internet and power may go down or off, what ‘preppers’ are looking at from various scenario options (pole shift/world wars/civil wars/health threats etc.) is that we need to be more community locally reliant - grow your own food, learn to live with less ‘conveniences’ and more.

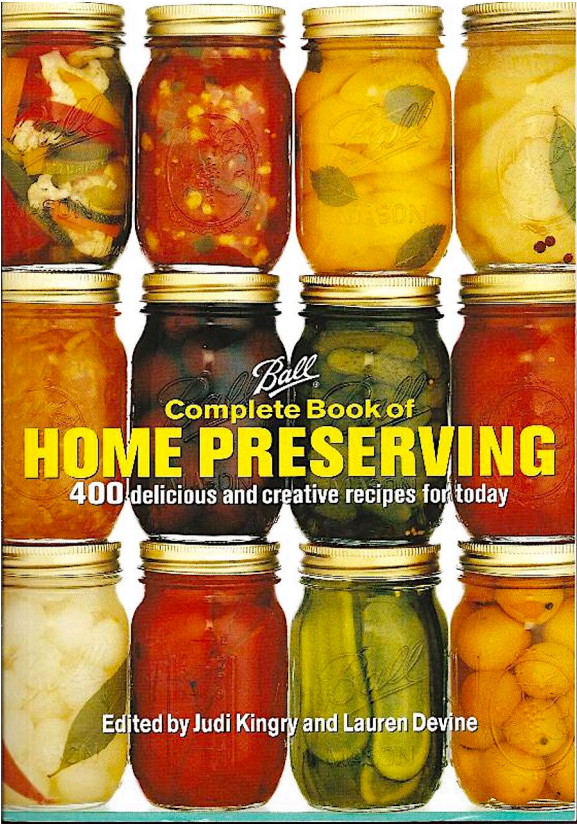
When you think of being prepared, water and food and of course shelter, top the list - with the increasing costs of so many foods, growing your own, or finding affordable local produce and 'putting it up' as they say, canning in jars (I know that's a weird one, and in the UK you put it in a tin). Ball Jars are one of the most prevalent brands out there, and they created a very comprehensive book to explain most everything involved in the process.

"Ball Home Canning Products are the gold standard in home preserving supplies, the trademark jars on display in stores every summer from coast to coast.

The experts at Ball have written a book destined to become the “bible” of home preserving.

As nutrition and food quality have become more important, home canning and preserving have increased in popularity for the benefits they offer:

- Cooks gain control of the ingredients, including organic fruits and vegetables
 - Preserving foods at their freshest point locks in nutrition
 - The final product is free of chemical additives and preservatives
 - Store-bought brands cannot match the wonderful flavor of homemade
 - Only a few hours are needed to put up a batch of jam or relish
 - Home preserves make a great personal gift any time of year
- These 400 innovative and enticing recipes include everything from salsas and savory sauces to pickling, chutneys, relishes, and of course, jams, jellies, and fruit spreads, such as:
- Mango-Raspberry Jam, Damson Plum Jam
 - Crab Apple Jelly, Green Pepper Jelly
 - Spiced Red Cabbage, Pickled Asparagus
 - Roasted Red Pepper Spread, Tomatillo Salsa



-Brandied Apple Rings, Apricot-Date Chutney

The book includes comprehensive directions on safe canning and preserving methods, plus lists of required equipment and utensils. Specific instructions for first-timers and handy tips for the experienced make the Ball Complete Book of Home Preserving a valuable addition to any kitchen library.”

You can easily find it online OR better yet, order it through your local book store!

Haven’t worked with a pressure cooker? It’s ominous with so many choices these days, if you have a relative or a neighbor to ask - and can help you with the process, that would be the best resource. With new ‘electric’ pressure cookers, that offer auto venting, easy one touch settings and some added safety features, they work for many applications, but the good old style versions work well if you know what you are doing. The range in pricing may also play a part, you can pay over \$300 for a Breville Fast Slow Pro, or around \$90 for a Cosori Electric unit for best value, or under \$90 for a simple stainless steel basic unit your great grandma used to use.





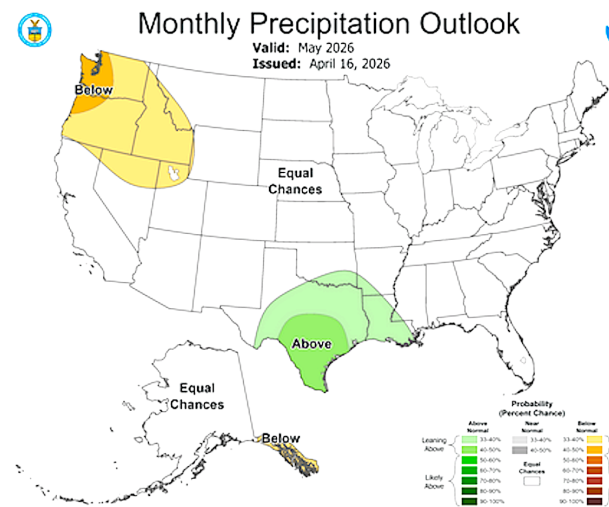
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As of print we have 3.1K followers and continue to grow, as we cover stories in between the Bean - from political issues, election coverage, land and hunting, recreation, arts and music events, the latest road issues, weather, what's happening in Dolores County Colorado, San Miguel, Montrose west end, La Plata, Montezuma, and also Grand and San Juan Counties Utah. Follow us as we share something new every day!

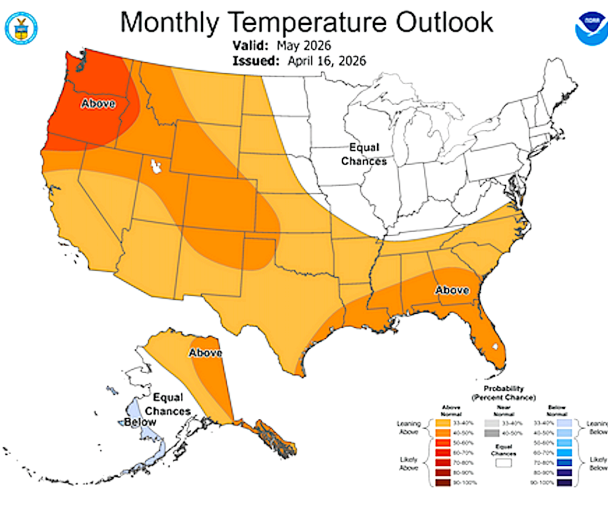
A bill in Maryland would "require state agencies to direct at least 50 percent of their advertising budgets to local newspapers, digital publishers and public media outlets." Washington State, a proposed new law would support local reporting by "creating journalist employment grants for local newsrooms, funded through taxes on search engines and social media companies." New Mexico recently passed the Local Journalist Employment Tax Credit, which provides a refundable tax credit to cover 30% of a journalist's wages, capped at \$15,000 per reporter each year. And just recently, the Utah legislature passed an "historic proposal" by Republican Gov. Spencer Cox to "apply a tax on targeted advertising, especially by the largest tech platforms." Fifty-two local newspapers have closed in the last decade. Why doesn't our legislature care? Why aren't the politicians in those communities screaming their heads off in panic right now? Can you imagine if 52 schools suddenly shut down, yet journalism is essentially school for adults.

- CO Press Association



MAY WEATHER

May flowers... spring planting - dangers from wildfires with strong winds and dry conditions? Most plant after mother's day. Minimum precipitation expected. Listen to the weekly "Global Alert News" radio show from GeonengineeringWatch.Org it will answer some of your questions on weather whiplash. Saturday afternoons. Maps from Weather.gov





I've started investing in stocks: beef, chicken and vegetable. One day, I hope to be a bouillonnaire!

I started working at the bicycle factory this week... They already made me the spokesperson.

A bald man got a great deal on a wig today - only \$1! It was a small price toupee....



A pun hasn't completely matured until it is full groan...

MAY WHAT'S UP

Birth Flower - Lily of the Valley
Birth Stone - Emerald
Zodiac - Taurus - Gemini

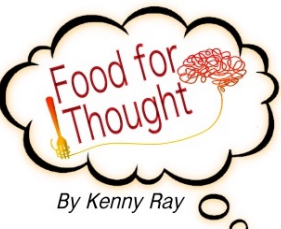
- May 1 - May Day Beltane
- May 2 - Kentucky Derby
- May 4 - Bird Day
- May 5 - Cinco de Mayo
- May 7- National Tourism Day
- May 10 - Mother's Day
- May 15 - Peace Officers Day
- May 16 - Pizza Party Day
- May 17 - Armed Forces Day
- May 20 - Rescue Dog Day
- May 24 - Brother's Day
- May 25 - Memorial Day
- May 31 - Utah Day

Blue Moon Full again May 30-31



Moon Phases

MAY 16	- New Moon
MAY 01	- Full Moon
MAY 17	- Perigee
MAY 04	- Apogee



Food for Thought

By Kenny Ray

We must periodically examine what serves us, and what doesn't.

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Tick Tock Tick Season

By Staff

Tick populations are surging, driving record emergency department visits for bites and raising concerns about a growing array of tick-borne illnesses. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), tick bite-related ER visits have reached levels not seen in nearly a decade, with spikes particularly pronounced in the Northeast and Midwest. Reported cases of tickborne diseases have climbed significantly over the past two decades, fueled by range expansion, warmer winters allowing ticks to survive farther north, and booming deer populations that serve as hosts. Ironically with the increased media coverage, the announcement that Pfizer (in partnership with Valneva) has developed a potential vaccine candidate called PF-07307405 (also known as LB6V or formerly VLA15) in late March, as a tool against tick borne disease.

While blacklegged (deer) ticks remain the primary vector for Lyme disease—caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*—the Lone Star tick (*Amblyomma americanum*) is expanding its footprint and introducing a unique threat. Once concentrated in the South, this aggressive, fast-moving tick has pushed northward and westward, now found across much of the U.S. The Rocky Mt tick is named after our Mountain range, and is also capable of carrying disease such as Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

The Lone Star tick is most notorious for triggering alpha-gal syndrome (AGS), also known as red meat allergy or tick bite meat allergy. This serious, potentially life-



Lone Star Tick

threatening condition occurs when the tick introduces the sugar molecule alpha-gal into the human body during a bite. In susceptible individuals, the immune system produces antibodies against alpha-gal, leading to delayed allergic reactions—often 3 to 8 hours later—to red meat (beef, pork, lamb) and other mammalian products, including some dairy and medications.

Symptoms range from hives, itching, and gastrointestinal distress to full anaphylaxis. Unlike typical food allergies, reactions are delayed and unpredictable making it difficult to diagnose as to the cause. Public health experts emphasize that not everyone bitten by these ticks develops AGS, but the condition adds another layer of complexity to tick prevention efforts. There is no cure, and management relies on strict avoidance of triggers and carrying epinephrine.

Lyme disease itself continues to pose widespread risks, with symptoms including fever, fatigue, joint pain, and the characteristic bull's-eye rash. Untreated, it can lead to severe complications affecting the heart, joints, and nervous system. Co-infections and ticks carrying multiple pathogens are also on the rise.

The rise in ticks and diseases has revived longstanding speculation about the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, a federal research facility off New York's Long Island. Established in the 1950s (with operations beginning around 1954), the site—initially under U.S. Army oversight as part of the Cold War-era biological weapons program. Offensive bioweapons research ended in 1969 under President Nixon, after which the facility transitioned to the USDA for defensive research on foreign animal diseases threatening agriculture.

Its proximity to Old Lyme, Connecticut—where the named disease was first identified in the 1970s—has inspired theories that Lyme disease or weaponized ticks escaped or were potentially released from the lab. Books like *Bitten* and public figures have amplified claims of tick experiments for bioweapons purposes. In 2019, Congress directed the Pentagon to review historical insect weaponization research from 1950–1975. Today, there are concerns over a conspiracy that the alpha gal syndrome works well for decreasing the desire to eat red meat specifically beef, while large companies continue to try to promote alternative lab grown protein replacements.

For useable information, health officials urge the public to take precautions by wearing protective clothing, use EPA-registered repellents, and most importantly perform thorough tick checks after outdoor activities, and shower promptly. As tick season intensifies, awareness of both Lyme and emerging threats like alpha-gal syndrome is critical, but should not be feared. That means for you and your pets.



No water for the wolves!

Commentary By
Aimee Tooker

Under the Wildlands Project (plotting a North American Wilderness Recovery Strategy- Wildearth Special Issue 1992) at least 50% of land of America would be returned to “core wilderness” area with no human activity. Those areas would be connected by corridors a few miles wide where human activity would be limited, and the core areas and corridors would be surrounded by cooperation zones where humans would be allowed to live.

Exerts from (Plotting a North American Wilderness Recovery Strategy- Wildearth Special Issue1992)-
“Restoring and reconnecting the land will take time and the dedication of thousands of bioregional activists. Cattle and sheep grazing on many federal lands must be reduced or eliminated. Road construction in major National Forests and BLM lands should stop, and many existing logging roads will need to be closed. In lowland areas, eroding and degraded croplands currently used for livestock feed (about 70% of grain production in the US) must be converted to other purposes. It is no simple matter to repair the ravages of centuries.”

“Maybe our task as conservationists is to remove the fear from people who see themselves threatened by attacks on their occupations, their livelihood, their world view, and their property. The first step is to admit that much of their fear is born of impatience-our impatience. After all, 100 years is less than 1/10,000 of the lifetime of the average vertebrae species. The goal should be staying the course, not setting a speed record”.

For the wildlands project it is about removing cattle, sheep and people from the land through emotional and economic hardship to create those non-human activity “core wilderness areas”. If the activists really wanted the ranchers and wolves to coexist then the USFWS and the Colorado Wolf plan would be complimentary instead of confrontational and work in coordination with ranchers instead of labeling them as bad faith negotiators, and bad apples. This is exactly why ballot box biology doesn’t work, and the science should be left to the experts within the parameters of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

The Endangered Species Act states in Section 2 (C) Policies (2) It is further declared to be the policy of Congress that Federal agencies SHALL COOPERATE with State and local agencies to resolve water resource issues in concert with conservation of endangered species.
Cooperation allows Federal, State and local governments to contribute expertise, data, and studies to the analysis of specific planning.

Shall means they will, it doesn’t say may or can or possibly. So, it is my opinion that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) should require Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) to assess and address the water needs of these animals prior to anymore introductions or releases. During periods of water scarcity like this year, wolves are likely to move into areas around watering holes that are primarily used by cattle and sheep. This overlap could create challenges for livestock owners and increase competition for limited water resources among other wildlife and domestic animals. So, in the spirit of cooperation and coordination it would conclude that this year is not scientifically viable for the release of more wolves.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Federal Register are taking public comments the 10J rule of non-essential species.
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/03/12/2026-04789/agency-information-collection-activities-endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-experimental-populations#open-comment>



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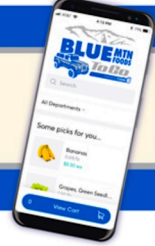
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-Artist formerly known as Prince

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From Music to Mountain Hikes - Crazy Expos to Car Shows - Foot Races to Balloon Rides - Horses to Horsepower -Fundraisers to Parties and more!

EVENTS IN THE FOUR CORNERS

Green River

Apr 30-May 3 Building Man JenkStar Ranch

Moab

May 1-3 Moab Grenadier Rally

May 10 Josie Wyatt's Grille

First Annual Mother's Day Brunch Buffet

May 7-10 Raptors on the Rocks

May 13 -16 Red Rock Ram Rally

May 15 MoonFlower Community Coop

Seeds to Starts

May 29 - 31 Canyonlands PRCA Rodeo

Monticello

May 9th Astronomy tour at Glamping Canyonlands - 9:30PM

Blanding

May 2 The Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum

“Archeology Day and Art Market” on Saturday

May 2 Mothers Day Grad. Party + Bouncy Time!

Page Party Professionals San Juan Wellness Center

White Masa

May 9 9AM- 12PM Moccasin Run Foster Care 5K

Ridgway~Ouray

May 1 Opening Day at RAT - The Sherbino Friday

May 15 Ouray County 9AM - 4PM

Conduct Full-Scale Evacuation Exercise

Flagstaff

May 22-24 Grateful Festaval

May 24 Tabaaha Memorial Trail Ride Lukachukai Mt.Campground

Dove Creek

May 9 Stateline Bar & Grill Live Music Dave Mensch 7PM

Prime Rib Night!

May 23 Banger’s Bar & Pizza Poker Run SXS 14ers Music

May 30 Stateline Bar & Girill Live Music with the The Flyaways

Egnar

May 15-18 Paradigm Gathering Lil Hatu Ranch

Cortez

Apr.27 - May 31 Ute Mountain Casino Hotel

Kuchu’s Special Diner

May 5 / 6 7pm Mancos Valley Chorus Lampost

Creative Learning / Cortez United Methodist Church

May 6-10 Ute Mt. Mesa Verde Birlding Festival

May 3 12 HOURS OF MESA VERDE

Pleasant View

May 30 - Vintage Flea Market Rustic Ranch 9am

Dolores

May 15-16 Pink Panther Musical Community Center

Mancos

May 3 / 8 Mancos Valley Chorus 3pm/7pm @United Methodist Church

Rico

May 23-25 Memorial Weekend Enterprise Live Music

Telluride

May 22 Gondola Re-Opens for the Summer Season

May 21-25 Mountain Film

May 29 Music on the Green Summer Concert Series

Norwood

May 2 Annual Night of Elegance Chamber- Lone Cone Library

Naturita

May 16 Grand Valley River Fest

May 21-22 WeBe Race Series – Round 2/Naturita

May 29 The Grand Loop Race

Nucla

May 2 Community PotLuck @ The Park at Noon to 4pm

Durango plus

May 2 - iAM Music Fest - 4 days various venues

May 2 Carute Roma Gypsy band Rotary Park Durango

17th Annual Dandelion Festival

May 7 - Bear Film Festival Durango Arts Center

May 7 Hydrophonic Fest Tico Time River Resort

May 24 IRON HORSE BICYCLE CLASSIC

May 29 - June 31 Tico Time Rise & Vibes

May 16 Grand Valley River Fest

May 28 - 30 Durango Bluegrass Train

Inaugural Run Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

May 30 - 43rd Annual Animas River Days Santa Rita Park

Pagosa Spring

May 15 -16 11th Annual Pints, Pools, and Paddles Craft Brew Festival @ The Springs Resort

Bayfield

May 3 Lost Goat Market Days

Farmington

May 22 Rivers Festival Berg and Animas Parks



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Drought Prompts Mix of Voluntary and Mandatory Water Restrictions Across Southeast Utah and Southwest Colorado

Extreme drought conditions gripping the Four Corners region have prompted local water providers in southeast Utah and southwest Colorado to step up conservation efforts. While no statewide mandates are in place in either Utah or Colorado, cities and counties are relying on a combination of voluntary guidelines and targeted mandatory restrictions — primarily aimed at outdoor irrigation, which accounts for the bulk of residential water use.

In Utah’s Grand County, which includes Moab, officials are strongly encouraging voluntary conservation measures through at least Sept. 30. The City of Moab and the Grand County Water and Sewer Service Agency have not activated their full Water Shortage Response Plan, noting that current supplies remain adequate. However, residents are urged to avoid watering lawns until after Mother’s Day and, once started, to limit irrigation to the hours between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. using drip systems for trees and shrubs. Key voluntary restrictions target aesthetic watering, vehicle and pavement washing, private and common-area lawns, lodging laundry, misters, sprinklers, toys, non-food plants, swimming pools, dust control and excess indoor use. Outdoor landscape irrigation makes up roughly 60 percent of residential culinary water use in the area.

Monticello is offering voluntary watering-timing guidelines to reduce evaporation, recommending irrigation only in the early morning before 10 a.m. or between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Blanding adopted a voluntary

water-wise landscaping ordinance in February for new development and remodels, limiting grass to 50 percent of front and side yards to qualify for state turf-removal incentives; existing lawns are unaffected.

Just across the state line in southwest Colorado, drought is also driving local responses. Montezuma County, including Dolores and Mancos, is operating under voluntary conservation guidelines. Residents are asked to water lawns and gardens only in the early morning or evening, fix leaks promptly, prioritize essential trees and plants, and use drought-tolerant landscaping. Cortez has added a specific restriction to begin May 15th: no outdoor watering is allowed between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Dolores County, including the towns of Dove Creek and Rico, currently has no mandatory restrictions in place from the Dolores Water Conservancy District. Rico maintains ordinances authorizing future restrictions and penalties if needed, but none are active.

In San Miguel County, the mountain town of Telluride and nearby Mountain Village enacted mandatory outdoor water restrictions on March 31. Irrigation is permitted only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and only before 8 a.m. or after 7 p.m. Irrigation systems must be reduced to 70–75 percent of normal usage, all exterior water features such as fountains must be turned off, and trucked-in water cannot be used for irrigation. Additional restrictions could be imposed if conditions worsen.

In the West End communities of Nucla, Naturita and Norwood, officials are emphasizing voluntary measures, urging residents to water only in the late evening, at night or early morning. San Miguel County officials say a broader drought plan is

forthcoming and are asking residents to “be responsible” with water use.

Over in Durango, in La Plata County, they have implemented Stage 1 mandatory water restrictions effective April 10. Lawn irrigation — which accounts for about 70 percent of city water use — is limited to three days per week based on address parity: odd-numbered addresses may water on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays; even-numbered addresses on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. No watering is allowed on Wednesdays. Irrigation is permitted only between 7 p.m. and 9 a.m. (equivalently, no watering from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Driveway and sidewalk washing is restricted, and nighttime outdoor fountains face limits. The first violation brings a warning; subsequent violations carry fines. City officials say the goal is a 20 percent reduction in daily demand, with municipal facilities and large users such as the golf course facing additional cuts. Stage 2 restrictions could follow if targets are not met.

Across both states, officials continue to reference the U.S. Drought Monitor and stress low-water landscaping, prompt leak repairs and adherence to weekly watering guides where available. No major agricultural or industrial mandates were reported in these specific communities beyond the residential and commercial rules now in effect.

Conditions can shift quickly with the dwindling snowmelt, excessive heat, winds, or changing usage patterns. Residents and businesses are encouraged to check directly with their local water provider, city or county website for the most current information. The Pinto Bean facebook page will also provide timely updates as available including when “Burn Bans” may also be instituted.



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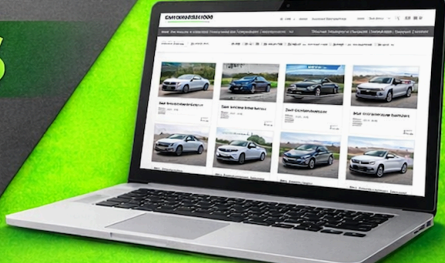


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SPILL THE BEANS.....

THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR / PUBLISHER



Kendra Cook



Ooh lala OOPARTS

How’s everyone doing? Find your inner core strength, physically, mentally and spiritually. What a ride in these times - not from what the main stream media is espousing, but wonderful how many people are opening up to the vast revealing that’s happening on so many topics and issues not on TV - but in our lives. I wanted to share what started my own personal stroll down questioning the ‘narratives’, and ask the readers to post what got them going on this path, this journey in these times of revelation. (see Facebook page post May 6th)

I’ve been on the cynical side, from living through and learning through various experiences - as a youngster, I believe my parents considered me a tad contrarian too. I was always up for a good debate/negotiation, perhaps following the path of a law degree career, but I really wanted to be a detective. I guess in a certain way, I am; Researching rabbit holes, finding out what’s happening where, and sharing with readers. Critical thinking is how we learn - not repeating what someone tells us. I have a background that included: education first and foremost, creative engagements, broad skillsets and involved in a range of activities, traveling the world with exposure and appreciation for different cultures - then in the 1980s I no longer felt following the path I “should” be on, was for me. So on down the ‘working for your self’ road I went, with my husband, who was actually the one to find OOPARTS online with

Max Igan ‘The Crow House’. That started the “search for new truths and discoveries” as he writes, “the study of 'Ooparts' or '**Out-Of-Place-Artifacts**', although often the study of these Ooparts can create a good deal more questions than answers. Before the study of Ooparts was recognized as a genuine (though still highly criticized) field of study, such items were usually considered merely as curios or archeological oddities.” Igan writes:

“*How could ancient Jewelry bear evidence of electroplating?

*How could a stone slab and set of earplugs from the Aztec era bear the signs of being machine cut at a time when there were supposed to be no machines?

*How can there be ancient maps that accurately show the Antarctic coast and continent, free from ice, hundreds of years before it was discovered?

*How could a lump of coal have a delicate gold chain trapped inside?

*How can there be numerous signs on earth that suggest ancient atomic or nuclear warfare?

*How can ancient Indian texts contain scores of pages of complicated flight manuals?

*How could people in ancient times have moved 800 ton blocks of stone?

*How could the Mayans have built those gap free megalithic fortresses?

*How could a 500,000 year fossil encrusted geode contain a spark plug within it?

*How can there be a computer code or algorithm encoded into the text of the Bible?”

The findings and theories were exciting to discuss, but in the early 2000s there weren’t many people searching for answers to ‘who are we, where did we come from, and who’s really in charge’. Today, an increasing alternative media in all sorts of formats, has allowed for more people to be open to reconsidering the historical narratives on many fronts.

For some, the investigation into Building 7 NYC started their efforts to find out what is really happening, others, the Egyptian Pyramids revealing a different story than taught in the last century, Sumerian tablets, UFO study that was formerly fringe is now on the verge of proper 'disclosure', to the banking industry and families lines, learning how the “Fed” isn’t “Federal” but private, and many more. As we get closer and closer to 2030 (and the unraveling of Agenda 2030), every day brings more questions more answers and again, more questions. Let’s share these topics with an open mind, and find we are (mostly) all here for Team Humanity - let’s keep working towards a “Team” effort.

“Question with boldness even the existence of a God; because, if there be one, he must more approve of the homage of reason, than that of blind-folded fear.”

-Thomas Jefferson

WILDFIRE AWARENESS

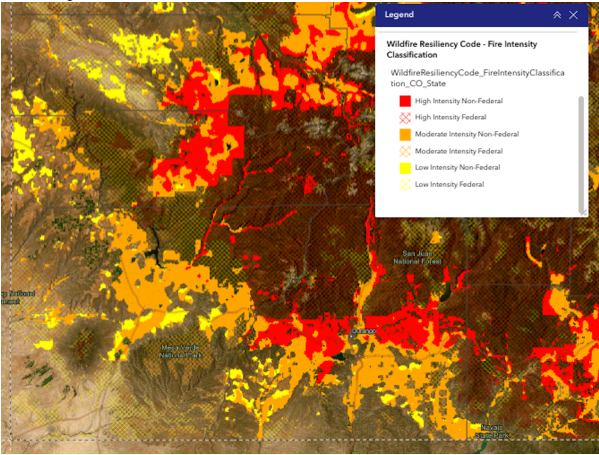
New Colorado 'Resilience Code' Statewide for new Building regulations

From the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control - “May is Wildfire Awareness Month in Colorado! Everyone is encouraging people who live in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) to take action and mitigate wildfire risk to their lives, homes, and communities.”

The state is working on implementation and enforcement methods for the new Wildfire Resiliency Code - key takeaways : first state wide building code that establishes minimum standards for construction in CO WUI areas, Class A exterior walls are required in Medium and High Fire Intensity Zones, Local jurisdictions must adopt the CWRC by April 1 2026, with enforcement beginning July 1 2026. Natural wood exterior walls must be pressure treated with fire-retardant to comply with the CWRC. The new building requirements apply to new construction projects and alterations or additions exceeding 500 square feet.

“Learning to live with wildfire must be a priority in Colorado, something we practice

until living with nature becomes second nature. To protect our everything, we must make the necessary lifestyle changes now: take action, do the work, harden our homes, and adapt to wildfire. “ Go online to Colorado State’s page for important ways to prepare the area you are responsible for - your home, business, lands. <https://csfs.colostate.edu/live-wildfire-ready/>



Map is online and is "designed as a tool for the application of the 2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code. It is not intended for other use. Questions about the map can be sent to" cdps_dfpc_wrcb@state.co.us.

So what does this mean? Here is the overview of the requirements from the website <https://woodsource.com/blog/colorado-wildfire-resiliency-code/>

LOW FIRE INTENSITY

Require Class 1 Structural hardening measures. Key requirements include:

- Class A fire rated roof coverings or assemblies
- Noncombustible gutters and downspouts
- Noncombustible ventilation openings

MODERATE & HIGH FIRE INTENSITY

In addition to Class 1 hardening measures, these zones must also incorporate Class 2 hardening measures. Notably, exterior wall coverings must qualify as one of the following:

- Noncombustible material
- Fire retardant treated wood (FRTW)
- Ignition-resistant material

The only exception is vinyl, which may be used for exterior wall coverings over a 1-hour fire rated or noncombustible assembly.



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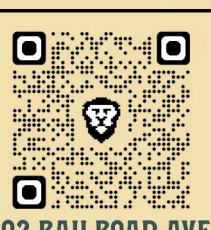
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UTAH BOATERS

With the 2026 boating season underway, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement are reminding all boaters, paddleboarders and kayakers to take steps to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species.

No major changes to the state’s rules apply this year. New legislation passed recently does not take effect until Jan. 1, 2027, so the requirements that were in place last year remain the same.

Every person who launches any watercraft in Utah — residents and nonresidents alike — must complete an annual mussel-aware boater course. Owners of motorized boats must also pay a separate Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) vessel enrollment fee: \$20 for Utah residents and \$25 for nonresidents. The course must be finished before the fee can be paid online through the DWR website. Once paid, boaters receive a current-year AIS decal (distinct from the regular vehicle registration decal).

See Additional rules and information on boating on their website :
<https://recreation.utah.gov/boating/>



COLORADO BOATERS

Boaters heading to Southwest Colorado’s reservoirs, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is urging everyone hitting the water to follow rigorous aquatic nuisance species (ANS) protocols — rules designed to keep zebra and quagga mussels from reaching local lakes and rivers. With many of the same concerns as neighboring Utah, where quagga mussels are already established in Lake Powell, officials emphasize that trailered boats crossing state lines pose the highest risk.

All motorized boats and sailboats must display a current ANS stamp before launching — a \$25 fee for residents that is added at registration or purchased separately by nonresidents. Trailered watercraft, including those coming from out of state or leaving waters known to have invasive species, require mandatory pre-launch inspections at one of more than 70 certified stations across Colorado. If mussels or other ANS are detected, decontamination is required before the boat can enter the water. For more info go to their website:
<https://cpw.state.co.us/activities/boating>



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MONUMENT VALLEY UT



Utah State University and the Navajo Nation celebrated the grand opening of USU's Monument Valley Education Building on Wednesday. The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the culmination of years of collaboration, planning and investment aimed at expanding access to higher education within the Navajo Nation and the surrounding region. The event honored the students, community members, donors and partners who made this vision possible. It also highlighted the new facility as a place of learning grounded in the principles of Hózhó — balance, harmony and beauty. The new Monument Valley Education Building will expand access to higher education for regional students while strengthening community connections and economic opportunities. The facility provides modern classrooms, student resources and a dedicated space for academic and cultural growth. It has been named Ólta' Bá Hooghan, meaning "home of learning," to reflect what the space can be for the community.

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COLORADO

The Colorado Department of Transportation kicked off the statewide camera installation project starting in south-central Colorado on Monday, March 30. The project will replace 66 cameras throughout the state, several of these cameras are located in remote areas of regions where people rely on the cameras to view highway conditions. The new camera infrastructure represents a full transition to a state-owned, state-managed network designed for long-term reliability, cost savings and operational control. Motorists can expect minimal impacts as most of the work will be off the roadway. Work next week begins by removing existing poles, then installing caissons for the new poles and installing conduit for any sites that have a fiber connection or will operate on a utility power. For a list of new camera installations, visit the project map. The project is anticipated to be completed with the newly installed cameras going live by fall 2027. Just over 90 cameras were taken off CDOT's system in July 2025 as CDOT transitioned away from a third-party vendor system toward a fully state-owned and managed network that will address longstanding performance issues with previously contracted coverage. CDOT continues to operate more than 1,000 cameras statewide, providing the public and operators with real-time views of road and weather conditions through COtrip.org. In addition, CDOT has placed cameras on portable trailers at a few priority locations to provide flexible coverage as-needed. The locations where CDOT has deployed this approach include:

- US 40 Berthoud Pass
- US 40 Rabbit Ears Pass
- CO 14 Cameron Pass
- CO 133 McClure Pass
- The Nordic Center on CO 65 in Mesa County

COtrip.org also provides color-coded road condition maps, weather station data and traveler alerts to help motorists plan ahead, monitor conditions, and make safer travel.

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EGNAR CO

The settlers originally wanted to name Egnar "Range" (likely referencing the surrounding ranching or mountain range country), but the U.S. Post Office Department rejected the name. Multiple historical accounts state that a place called Range already existed elsewhere in Colorado at the time, so they spelled it backwards to get "Egnar" as a workaround. Some accounts note the rejection was specifically to avoid confusion with the existing town of Rangely, Colorado (in Rio Blanco County), whose name sounded too similar. Either way, the backwards spelling was a quick, clever solution approved by postal authorities.

Egnar remains a small, real community (population estimates around 100–200) known locally for this quirky etymology, ranching, and its ZIP code 81325. Egnar residents (San Miguel County CO) will have a New Motor Vehicle Office Availability! May 13 at 9 am - 3 pm. The new Motor Vehicle office will be available in Egnar on May 13 from 9 am - 3 pm in the same building as the fire department (5634 County Rd H1). They hope to serve many community members in this area, eliminating the drive to Norwood or Telluride. Clerk Contact Info:970-728-3954- All departments 970-327-5080- Norwood Motor Vehicle office (Open on Tuesdays, and the first and last Thursday of each month)

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Commentary by Linda Cunningham

It’s a mystery scenario made for a good movie or book, but unfortunately it’s all true. The mystery surrounding the death and disappearances of what began as 9 and now up to 11, high ranking scientists all working, or were working, under the umbrella of NASA and the US Air Force. All of these brilliant minds were working on cutting edge technology, and some even had top security clearance for the work they were doing. The unusual and I’d say bizarre, ways these people vanished certainly leaves me to wonder just who or what is behind this. These strange events started in 2023, and the most recent happened just a couple months ago. Retired AF Major General William McCasland, age 68, even tho retired in 2013, he still held a senior role in the Pentagon. He and his wife live in Albuquerque, she left the house for a quick errand and when she got home he was gone. He left his phone, took his wallet and a 38 caliber handgun. No phone, no tracking. This scenario mirrors several of the other cases as well. Aerospace engineers, astrophysicists, physicists working on plasma science, nuclear technologies, chemical biologists, and the list goes on.... like I said, brilliant minds. Vanished or were killed. The conspiracies are running rampant, you can imagine. But one thing I know, and that is the Deep State might just run deeper than I thought. I’m not one to walk away from a good conspiracy, even if it is only theory, but this one makes me wonder just who’s watching who??

If we are notable to ask skeptical questions, to interrogate those who tell us that something is true, to be skeptical of those in authority, then, we are up for grabs for the next charlatan (political or religious) who comes rambling along.
-CARL SAGAN



QR Code to a story on line - with more details on the missing and dead scientists

This goes to AllNewsPipeline.com



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Dam Good Water

By Dewey Cheatham



Flaming Gorge release (Photo Utah.com)

Are we back to ‘whiskey for drinking - water for fighting over’ ? It’s been ‘dam dry’ out there, ok, pardon the puns, but with the driest winter with worst snowpack in Colorado statewide since they started recording this in 1941, the run off was early and light, which brings attention to the reservoirs and dam status. The depleted Lake Powell needs to keep the hydropower working, and to aid in sustaining enough water to run the system, the plan this year is to let out up to a third of the Flaming Gorge Reservoir water that is upstream on the Green River crossing the Wyoming/Utah border. Locals there will not be happy as they will expect about a 10 foot decline by late summer with projections of up to 27 foot fall in another year without changes, but this surge of input is the ‘hail mary’ for now. On the other end of things the Bureau of Reclamation water managers are considering keeping more water than usual from exiting Lake Powel on the AZ/UT border.



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This "Deep Dive" section, is designed to provide various interesting and off main stream headlines

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For the Love of Food

By Kendra Cook

In times where meat (real meat) cuts are expensive, the ground beef option remains popular - how to change it up better than burgers beyond the bun? Let’s look at Beef Kafta/kofta - meat on a stick is always popular, this one takes the affordable burger meat, and forms it in hotdog shaped meat on a skewer. One advantage of this shape is to get a lot of surface area and a mix of different flavors that pair herbs like mint and parsley with the standard onion and garlic for a Mediterranean flare. Looking for simple delicious bread to pair it with, make your own pita pockets too, and impress everyone at your barbecue parties.

Take 85-90 lean ground beef, finely minced onion, garlic, parsley, fresh mint finely chopped, salt and pepper, and other seasonings. Mix the meat and seasoning using your hands - gently, don’t overwork, then let the blend chill in the fridge for at least an hour or can be done the day before. Form the kafta by dividing the meat into equal ‘balls’ and then gently pressing each around the skewer (metal skewers are easier to use), form the oblong shape to your liking - 6” by 2” works well.

Bring your bbq to medium heat on the grill, oil the grate, place skewers crosswise and put the hood down to cook just 3 minutes or until char marks are on the bottom, turn them over and cook another 5 minutes - you don’t want to overcook this dish. Take the skewers off the grill and plate with a brush of evoo. I love any chance to use some Tzatziki sauce as a side, with fresh pita bread. Enjoy!



- Ingredients Kebabs
- 2 pounds ground beef (makes about 10 skewers)
 - 1 bunch of parsley, washed and coarsely chopped
 - 1 large red or yellow onion, coarsely chopped
 - 4 cloves garlic
 - 1 tsp cinnamon
 - 2 tsp cumin
 - 1/4 tsp nutmeg
 - 1/2 cup chopped fresh mint
 - Salt and freshly ground pepper
- keeping the Mediterranean flare, pair with a greek pasta salad, or your favorite potato salad or coleslaw.

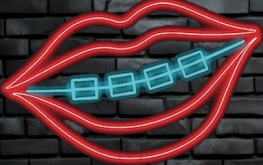
- Ingredients Tzatziki Sauce
- 1 1/2 cup greek yogurt
 - 3/4 english cucumber
 - 2tbs evoo
 - 1 tsp lemon zest
 - 2 cloves garlic
 - 1 tbsp lemon juice
 - 2 tsp dried dill
 - 1/2 tsp salt

Tzatziki Sauce

Grate the cucumber into thin slices, mix together with the yogurt, lemon zest and juice, minced garlic, dill salt and that’s it! Make ahead so the flavors meld together. The sauce will last around 3 days in the fridge. You can cut the recipe in half as needed.

Pita Bread

Dissolve yeast in a bowl with the water and sugar and wait for it to bubble. Add flour and salt and knead til soft and a bit sticky - let it rest for 20 minutes, if too sticky, add a tad more flour and knead in gently. Let it rest it a warm place with a coat of evoo and covered with a kitchen towel and plastic wrap. After rising shape portions into around 6 balls, rest again 15 minutes before shaping into 8” disks, by roller or by hand. Let the gluten rest again. Poke dimples for even cooking. To use your grill heat already there, use a cast iron skillet, a touch of evoo, pre heat it inside the grill, cook each pita about 2 minutes first side, 1 min on the flip. 1 cup lukewarm water 2 tsp active dry yeast 1/2 tsp sugar 3 cups all-purpose flour, divided (or 1 1/2 cup all-purpose flour and 1 1/2 cup whole wheat flour) 1 to 2 tsp kosher salt (I used Diamond Crystal kosher salt) 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil



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Southwestern Adventure Projects

MOAB TAILINGS LAND

By Staff

After decades of effort, the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project has reached a major milestone. More than 16 million tons of radioactive uranium mill tailings—remnants of a former Atlas Minerals processing facility that operated from the 1950s to 1984—have been removed from the banks of the Colorado River and shipped by rail to a permanent engineered disposal cell near Crescent Junction, roughly 30–42 miles north.

The 480-acre site, located about three miles northwest of Moab, once held a 130-acre tailings pile that posed risks to the river and groundwater. Large-scale removal began in 2009. As of late 2025, the bulk of the material was gone, with officials celebrating the achievement in a public event on April 9, 2026. Cleanup continues, however: roughly 1 million tons of remaining sub-pile and off-pile contaminated soil must still be addressed, along with groundwater treatment, site stabilization, regrading, and revegetation. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) projects full closure around 2029.

With the tailings pile gone, attention has shifted to the site’s long-term future. Federal legislation—the Moab UMTRA Project

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Transition Act, sponsored by U.S. Sen. John Curtis (R-UT) and Rep. Mike Kennedy (R-UT)—would transfer the property to Grand County once remediation is complete and the site is deemed safe. The bill advanced unanimously out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee earlier this year.

On April 17, 2026, Moab City Council and Grand County Commission members held a joint meeting to review more than a decade of community visioning and discuss next steps. The Moab Tailings Project Site Futures Committee—active since 2012—has led multiple rounds of public input (2013, 2018, and 2023), producing conceptual plans for trails, river access, event spaces, parks, and other public amenities. Officials are preparing for another visioning process in 2027 but intend to use existing plans to guide early development.

A key near-term decision looms: Grand County has a June 1, 2026, deadline to submit a preliminary “wish list” of infrastructure it would like transferred from the DOE. Items under consideration include roads, utilities, buildings, rail access, a potential water pipeline, and natural features such as an existing pond. A smaller working group will refine the list before it returns to the commission.

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Local leaders emphasize collaboration and realism. Moab Mayor Joette Langianese noted the need for joint city-county planning, while Grand County Commission Chair Melodie McCandless and others highlighted the balance between opportunity and liability. Roughly 74% of the site is constrained by floodplains, steep terrain, rights-of-way, and conservation areas; additional limits include potential subsurface issues, ongoing groundwater oversight, and restrictions on overnight use. Despite the challenges, the vision remains focused on public benefit. Leaders see potential for enhanced recreation, community gathering spaces, and economic diversification—often referred to informally as “Atlas Park”—while ensuring responsible stewardship. A possible shared staff position for transition coordination and renewed city-county agreements are also under discussion.

As one of the nation’s largest uranium cleanup projects nears its end, Moab and Grand County are positioning themselves to transform a former industrial liability into a lasting community asset—provided they navigate the financial, regulatory, and logistical hurdles ahead.

**Shout Outs!**

GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS!

*The Pinto Bean sends **BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERY SENIOR** in our readership area!*

Congratulations to the entire graduation class **2026 Dove Creek High School Bulldogs!** Nic Aragon, Tucker Beanland, Shea Carhart, Jonathan Davis, Mason Forst, Daniel Gray, Taylor Hampton, Hadley Hatfield, Ambrynn Grace Huffaker, Trevan Ivie, Kaden Jarmon, Audrey Jennings, Josh Kibel, Casey Rae Kricheldorf, Gabriel Kuik, Jazmyn Mikhail, Grace Myers, Madison North, Violet Padilla, Colton Spangler, Dylan Schultz, Kaylen Trejo, Trapper Vinger, Alex Williams.



Alex Williams

Alex plans to attend NAU this fall to study nursing. Love Mom, Coy, Tanner & Blake



Ambrynn Grace Huffaker

Ambrynn, We are so proud of you. Dream Big!!! Love, Mom, Dad & Quaden



Casey Rae Kricheldorf

We are so proud of you and your future - Fly high Airman! Love you, Mom and Dad



Daniel Gray

Congrats Daniel! We're all proud of you! We love you! Dad, Carson, and Grammy



Dylan Schultz
Congratulations Dylan!
Love Mom & Dad



Jonathan Davis

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments Love you Grandma & Grandpa Randall!



Josh Kibel

I'm super proud of the young man you have become! Love you, Mom



Kaden Jarmon

We're so proud of you! Can't wait to see what the future holds! Love, Mom & boys



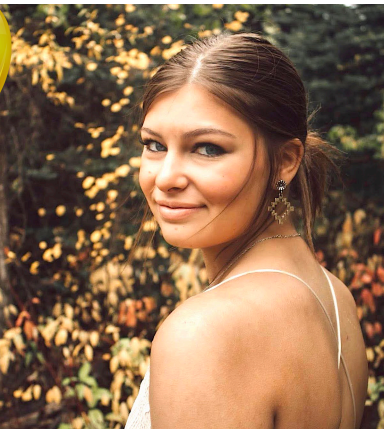
Taylor Hampton

Congratulations on your graduation Taylor We are so proud of you! Love Mom and Dad



Mason Forst

Mason will be attending Northeastern Junior College majoring in Agriculture Business.



Shea Carhart

Congratulations Shea - many are proud of you and you are very loved!



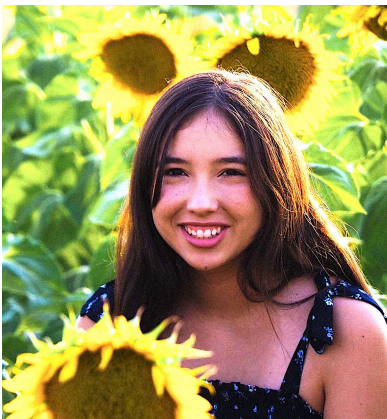
Trevan Ivie

Congrats! We're so proud of you! Here's to your next adventure! Love Mom and Dad



Trapper Vinger

Proud of the man you have become!



Kaylen Trejo
Congratulations -
Love Mom



Colton Spangler

Congratulations Colton, we're extremely proud of you!! Love Mom, Dad, Stephanie and Larry



Nic Aragon

You have done such wonderful things! Can't wait to see much more! Love You, Mom and Dad

LAND CONFUSION

By Dexter Gill

Land and who is in control of it! Starting with basics, God was and is the Creator of All and is in control of it. Man is the designated caretaker and user of the land and its resources for man’s use to sustain his life, comfort and protection.. Every man is “somewhere” on a piece of land and to be the “steward” of his parcel, for the time he is there, which is short at best, average is only 78 years; remember, the death rate here in the U.S. is six (6) people dying every minute of every day, that is life! It IS best if we all work together in groups of “peoples” of like minds and beliefs to use our pieces of land for the benefit of the greater body.

Controversy exists today over the so-called “Public Land”, which was not supposed to exist under the Constitution, but does in the eleven western states, but not in the 37 eastern states. A brief look back, shows the “new world” was settled for purpose of expanding world trade economies. That is what the world has operated on over recorded history. There is nothing produced and used to sustain man that does not come from the land and natural resources. Naturally, the man that controls the best and most with its resources, is the “winner”. The early settlers were of “one mind” in their Judeo-Christian belief system, however, some disagreed on finer points there-in, which resulted in further dispersal of like-minded communities. Thirteen different Colonies were established overtime, increasing economy for world trade.



Time passed and soon the people wanted to be free to live and develop economy on their own, “Bingo” they won! Then LAND expansion began over the next 80 years toward the Rocky Mountains. More disagreements, killings, in the un-civil war. Thereafter, Colorado was established as a State in 1876 under the new -Re-Union of States, with some new fractured rules regarding LAND for the next 100 years.

The State of Colorado’s established boundary of 104,094 square miles, is larger than eight (8) of the thirteen COMBINED Colony States and 117 Countries, Unfortunately today about 35% of its land is Federal Land, not under the State or County jurisdiction or authority. Of the Thirteen (13) Colony States, Rhode Island is SMALLER than Montezuma County, Colorado, yet has full control of all its land

and resources, and is equal to all other States in the Congress. In comparison, Montezuma County, which is larger than Rhode Island and 33 Countries, yet has control over only one Fourth (1/4) of its land base, the other 3/4 is Federal, with no control over the watershed that it is 100% dependent upon for economic development, agriculture, minerals, housing, recreation, or wildlife resources. The County has only 1/8th of One seat, (like sitting on one half of one chair leg), in the State Legislature in matters on economy, environment, water, health and safety, and welfare. That is due to having One (1) Representative for Eight (8) Counties out of 64. Rhode Island is in Congress!

Who controls the Land and Resources within the Counties, if the local “peoples” do not? Answer is, Non-Profit NGOs, and single interest industrial entities proposing legislation at Congress and State legislature! Is there a solution? A possible “Start” could/should be to have any and all State legislation to be approved by County Commissions for their Representative/Senator to propose. Second, the State to regain controlling interest of Federal lands within and for each County.. This is necessary for the State to be fully a State, as intended, as the eastern 37 States have been and are.

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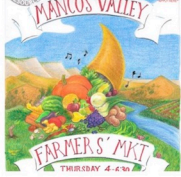
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Flagstaff Community Market
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Copper One Revives Lisbon Valley Mine with Cutting Edge Tech, Promising Economic Boost

By Staff

With a ceremonial blast on April 27, 2026, Mariana Minerals officially relaunched operations at the former Lisbon Valley Copper Mine, now operating as Copper One. The project marks a high-tech revival of a site that had idled since late 2024, bringing renewed optimism for jobs and growth in San Juan County and surrounding southeastern Utah and SW CO communities.

The Lisbon Valley operation, located about 40 miles southeast of Moab, has produced high-purity copper cathode since 2009 using open-pit mining, heap bioleaching, and solvent extraction/electrowinning (SX/EW) refining. Previous operator Lisbon Valley Mining Company faced challenges with rising costs and labor shortages, leading to a type of shutdown. Mariana Minerals acquired the roughly 10,000-acre site in late 2025 and partnered with the existing team to transform it.

Copper One bills itself as the world’s first “autonomy-first” mine and refinery. The company has deployed advanced software, autonomous haul trucks, remotely operated drilling, AI-assisted refining processes, and systems integrated under its MarianaOS platform. This technology aims to improve safety, efficiency, and output while addressing past operational hurdles.

Mariana CEO Turner Caldwell and Utah officials, including Governor Spencer Cox,

highlighted the project’s significance during the reopening event. The mine supports U.S. efforts to secure domestic supplies of critical minerals like copper, essential for electrification, renewable energy, infrastructure, and technology.

Plans call for significant expansion, targeting up to 50,000 metric tonnes of copper cathode annually by 2030. Mariana has signaled investments exceeding \$1 billion over the next decade. Refining operations continued during the transition, and mining has now ramped up under existing permits

Local leaders and residents mostly view the restart as a major economic win for a region that has faced challenges. Mariana expects to grow employment from around 80 workers to nearly 300 as production scales. Roles include heavy equipment operators, technicians, process supervisors, maintenance staff, and positions supporting autonomous systems and data analysis.

The project should benefit nearby communities such as La Sal, Monticello, Blanding, and Moab through direct jobs, and indirect opportunities in services, housing, and supply chains. Utah Geological Survey analyses have previously noted the potential for Lisbon Valley to provide meaningful economic benefits to southeastern Utah.

“This is good for the local economy,” one



Mariana Minerals and Boston Dynamics Announce Deployment of Spot® at U.S. Copper Mine
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attendee remarked at the reopening, echoing sentiments from state and federal officials who see it as part of broader efforts to strengthen American mineral production.

Copper One combines established infrastructure with next-generation technology, positioning it uniquely in the global copper sector amid rising demand. While environmental oversight remains key—building on prior federal and state approvals - proponents emphasize responsible development that balances innovation, safety, and community needs.

For southeast Utah, the project represents more than just copper extraction. It signals renewed investment, technological leadership, and tangible job opportunities in a rural area hungry for stable economic growth. As operations ramp up, residents will be watching closely to see how this “autonomy-first” model delivers on its promise.

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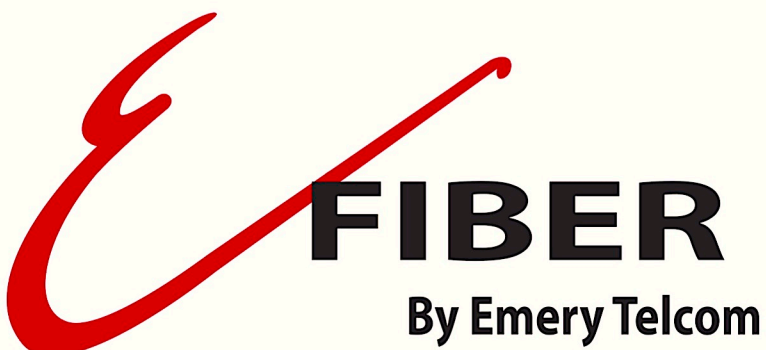


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