

# LM 41 Natural Resource Day

## Speaker Bios

*Thank you to our speakers for generously donating their time and expertise to support Leadership Missoula*

**Boson Wakeham, Finance & Operations Director, Five Valleys Land Trust**

Email: [boston@fvlt.org](mailto:boston@fvlt.org)

Since joining Five Valleys Land Trust in 2021, Boston Wakeham has served as the Finance and Operations Director, bringing more than a decade of experience across the outdoor, recreation, and conservation sectors. After moving to Montana in 2011, Boston found a deep and lasting connection to the landscapes and communities that make our region unique—fueling a long-standing commitment to conservation and stewardship. With a passion for finance and operations, they enjoy designing and improving systems that are not only efficient and resilient, but also supportive of healthy organizational culture. Outside of his work, Boston can be found frequenting the local rivers with their wife and dogs, or exploring the ends of forest roads, mapping the best dispersed camping sites and adding more chips and dents to their truck.

**What speaker(s) inspire you?** Simon Sinek

**What Podcasts are you currently listening to?** A Bit of Optimism, Hidden Brain, Freakonomics Radio

**What book(s) are you currently reading?** The Will of the Many

**Please list any volunteer opportunities within your organization or those you serve that may be available.**

Engaging your business/team to come pour beer for us out at the Big Sky Concert Series  
Come give your time on the land with Hands on the Land. A program that helps support hands on stewardship work on some of our conserved lands.

So many opportunities to engage! Call our office, sign up for our email updates or check out: <https://www.fvlt.org/story#how-you-can-help>

**Jenn Doherty, Managing Director of Mission Operations, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation**

Email: [jdoherty@rmef.org](mailto:jdoherty@rmef.org)

Jenn Doherty has more than 20 years of experience advancing land protection, habitat conservation, and public access initiatives nationwide. She has led complex projects, built strategic partnerships, and guided high-performing teams to deliver lasting conservation impact.

Her leadership experience spans operations management, fund administration, policy, and program delivery.

Jennifer is a 2015 Fellow of the National Conservation Leadership Institute and is passionate about strengthening leadership across the conservation community. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling and adventuring with her husband and two teenage kids.

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**What Podcasts are you currently listening to?** Science VS

**What book(s) are you currently reading?** No Ordinary Times by Doris Kearns Goodwin

**Please list any volunteer opportunities within your organization or those you serve that may be available.**

Rmef.org for volunteer opportunities, work events and chapter engagement

Big Game Days, July 16-19, 2026: 2026 Big Game Days - Save The Date | Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

**Lisa Ronald, Associate Conservation Director, American Rivers**

Email: [ironald@americanrivers.org](mailto:ironald@americanrivers.org)

Lisa works with local communities, businesses, government agencies, conservation groups, Indigenous Nations, and elected officials to honor western Montana's legacy of wild free-flowing rivers. As a stronghold for cold, clear, plentiful water, rivers are essential to western Montana's economic prosperity, outdoor recreation culture, and ranching legacy.

A native of southeastern Idaho, Lisa has lived in Montana since 1996, including ten years living off-grid in the Blackfoot River watershed. She joined American Rivers in 2022. Prior to that, she spent nearly 20 years working on national wilderness outreach and partnerships at the University of Montana's Wilderness Institute. She is an alumni of UM's College of Forestry and Conservation. In 2017, she helped found and continues to coordinate a national alliance of more than 60 river groups. Lisa is an avid whitewater kayaker and packrafter.

**Tony Schoonen, Chief Executive Officer, Boone and Crockett Club**

Email: [tony.@boone-crockett.org](mailto:tony.@boone-crockett.org)

Tony was born and raised in Butte, Montana and graduated from the University of Montana. In his senior year he started a film production company, Stoney-Wolf Productions focused on outdoor productions for home entertainment and commercial theatres. After selling the company in 1997, Tony chose a second career in the NGO world of conservation, working first for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation as their Vice President of Marketing and Communications, then for Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium as their executive director, and finally for the Boone and Crockett Club as their Chief Executive Officer, a position he currently serves.

Tony is a National Conservation Leadership Institute Fellow from Cohort 3. He currently serves on three boards: Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium, the Boy Scouts of America, Montana Council, and the Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports.

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### **Casey Hackathorn, Montana State Director, Trout Unlimited**

Email: [casey.hackathorn@tu.org](mailto:casey.hackathorn@tu.org)

Casey Hackathorn leads Trout Unlimited's national staff team across Montana based here in Missoula. Casey is a restoration professional with over two decades of project management experience including 12 years as TU's Upper Clark Fork Program Manager prior to assuming the State Director role in 2023. Before joining TU, he worked on rivers and in mountains across the West as an outfitter, guide, and wilderness instructor. Casey started his natural resource career in the Air Force while managing environmental cleanup projects at DoD facilities around the country.

Casey holds a BS in civil engineering from the U.S. Air Force Academy and has served in a variety of volunteer leadership roles in Montana. He currently serves as president of the Clark Fork River Technical Assistance Committee and on the board of Hellgate Hunters and Anglers.

His previous board service includes the Montana Watershed Coordination Council and the Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana.

**What speaker(s) inspire you?** My wife, Tina Barrett

**What Podcasts are you currently listening to?** Mountain and Prairie with Ed Roberson and Pivot with Kara Swisher and Scott Galloway

**What book(s) are you currently reading?** The Colony by Annika Norlin

**Please list any volunteer opportunities within your organization or those you serve that may be available.**

Montana Trout Unlimited's Youth Conservation and Fly-fishing Camp, need volunteer counselors, July 6-10, Georgetown Lake, MT

WestSlope Chapter TU – local membership events and volunteer opportunities

### **Kyle Weaver, President & CEO, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation**

Email: [kweaver@rmef.org](mailto:kweaver@rmef.org)

Born and raised in southern Virginia, Kyle Weaver built his life in the outdoors whether it was hunting, fishing, camping, or working on the farm. By doing so, he developed a profound love of the land and a love of wildlife. And that appreciation has only increased over the years. Kyle went to college on a baseball scholarship and majored in business administration with a concentration in finance and economics.

Kyle's professional career spans 30 years in the non-profit sector. Before RMEF, his non-profit career began as an entry level financial coordinator and rose to serving as an officer and COO. Kyle oversaw 300+ employees and a budget of \$290 million that focused on business operations, fundraising and delivery of programs. In 2018, Kyle was hired to serve as the President and CEO

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of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation whose national headquarters is located her Missoula, MT. RMEF has grown to over \$160 million in assets and a working budget of \$80 million per year.

**What speaker(s) inspire you?** John Wooden, Tony Robbins, Nick Saban  
**What Podcasts are you currently listening to?** None at the time, too busy  
**What book(s) are you currently reading?** Start with Why, Simon Sinek

**Please list any volunteer opportunities within your organization or those you serve that may be available.**

Internships in legal, science and research and communications  
Fundraising events  
Mission projects

### **Kevin Condit, Marketing Manager, Neptune Aviation Services**

Email: [kcondit@neptuneaviation.com](mailto:kcondit@neptuneaviation.com)

Kevin joined Neptune Aviation in 2014 as the marketing manager working on the launch of Neptune's new aerial firefighting aircraft, the retirement of Neptune's fleet of P2V aircraft and the introduction of business/consumer flights between Missoula and Billings.

Kevin is focused on growing Neptune's aerial firefighting offering, aircraft maintenance services, and Flight School.

Kevin serves as Board Chair of the Montana Food Bank Network working to end hunger in Montana through food acquisition and distribution, education, and advocacy.

Kevin is a 1986 graduate of Marquette University. Kevin and his wife Nancy sometimes have an empty nest, but enjoy life more when their son (Tanner) and daughter (Aidan) are back in Missoula.

**What speaker(s) inspire you?** Peter Attia  
**What Podcasts are you currently listening to?** War Stories with Mark Felton  
**What book(s) are you currently reading?** Random Walk down Wall Street

**Please list any volunteer opportunities within your organization or those you serve that may be available.**

The Montana Food Bank Network is looking for groups to build "Mail A Meal" boxes for Seniors in rural Montana.

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### **James Jonkel, Wildlife Management Specialist, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks**

Email: [jajonkel@mt.gov](mailto:jajonkel@mt.gov)

Jamie brings over 50 years of experience with wildlife management and conflict reduction to his position with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. He has worked in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Alaska, New Mexico, Canada and Russia with various private and public entities including: National Geographic, Hornocker Wildlife Research Institute, Glacier Institute, Interagency Grizzly Bear Study, Glacier National Park Wolf Ecology Project, Idaho Fish and Game, Maine Fish and Wildlife, Border Grizzly Bear Project, and several privately-owned ranches.

He has been with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks since 1996. Jamie received his Bachelors in Wildlife Biology and a minor in Journalism from the University of Montana in Missoula.

### **Brooke Tanner, Founder, Executive Director, Wild Skies Raptor Center**

Email: [montanawildskies@gmail.com](mailto:montanawildskies@gmail.com)

Originally from Toledo, Ohio, I relocated to Boulder, Colorado at 19 years old before settling in Seeley Lake, Montana in December 2001 following my graduation from Vet Tech School. In 2003, while working at a local ranch, I began volunteering in raptor rescue after helping rehabilitate two young kestrels, an experience that would shape the rest of my career. By 2006, that passion had grown into a full-time position as assistant to Ken Wolff at the Grounded Eagle Foundation in Condon, MT.

When the Grounded Eagle Foundation closed in September 2009, I saw an opportunity to continue the work and founded Wild Skies Raptor Center, a nonprofit dedicated to raptor rescue, rehabilitation and release, and conservation-based education programs featuring live birds. In 2014, we secured property in Potomac, Montana, where we have since built a raptor rehabilitation facility and education center that provides volunteer opportunities for both community members and University of Montana students.

In my presentation, I will share personal experiences from more than two decades of raptor rescue and rehabilitation. This work is deeply rewarding, but it also means bearing witness to the very real threats facing our wildlife, particularly raptors and songbirds, and the challenges that come with that responsibility.

**What speaker(s) inspire you?** Jane Goodall

**What book(s) are you currently reading?** Finding the Mother Tree by Suzanne Simard

**Please list any volunteer opportunities within your organization or those you serve that may be available.** Some - I will discuss volunteering after the talk.

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