



ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA COORDINATION CENTER

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Southwest, Rocky Mountain and Great Plains Regions)

Bureau of Land Management (Colorado and Wyoming)

National Park Service (Intermountain and Midwest Regions)

Fish and Wildlife Service (Rocky Mountain Region)

USDA Forest Service (Rocky Mountain Region)

State Agencies in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming

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Two organizations recognized for wildfire prevention and mitigation efforts

LAKEWOOD, Colo., May 22, 2017 – The Rocky Mountain Area Coordinating Group recently recognized two Colorado organizations – Yampatika and the West Region Wildfire Council – with the inaugural Prevention Information Mitigation Education (PRIME) awards. These awards were given for the first time this year and will be presented to individuals, agencies or organizations that have made outstanding contributions in the prevention of human-caused wildfires and reducing the wildfire risk to communities.

The first recipient of the PRIME Award for Fire Prevention was Steamboat-based Yampatika, a nonprofit organization that offers a continuum of environmental stewardship and education opportunities to children and adults across counties in northwest Colorado. Recently, the organization expanded its basic wildfire prevention messages to include a high school curriculum in fire prevention as well as presentations for adults at the local library

The first recipient of the PRIME Award for Wildfire Mitigation was the West Region Wildfire Council. West Region Wildfire Council, a group dedicated to promoting wildfire preparedness, prevention and mitigation education throughout Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel counties. Its mission is to mitigate loss due to wildfire in wildland urban interface communities while fostering interagency regional partnerships to help prepare counties, fire protection districts, communities and agencies to plan for and mitigate potential threats from wildfire. The Wildfire Council works closely with WiRē Wildfire Research, an interdisciplinary research collaboration focused on homeowner wildfire risk mitigation and community wildfire adaptedness. This partnership provides the Wildfire Council with a better understanding of the communities they are working with so they can apply the best methods to achieve the greatest results. The Council provides recommendations for individual properties as well as financial assistance, giving homeowners the means necessary to complete mitigation work on and around their homes.

The Rocky Mountain Coordinating Group promotes the safe management of wildland fire and all-risk incidents through interagency cooperation, communication and coordination in the Rocky Mountain Area, including the five states of Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

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[PRIME award - Yampatika] Joe Haines (far left) and Kellie Gorman (far right) with their PRIME award presented by Kelly Kane, U.S. Forest Service (center). Photo credit: Yampatika



[PRIME award – West Region Wildfire Council] Brandon Lewis, Bureau of Land Management Fire Management Officer for the Southwest Colorado Fire and Aviation Unit, presented the PRIME award at the West Region Wildfire Council monthly meeting. Photo credit: Bureau of Land Management