

May 2025

SIDE SHOTS

Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado

Volume 56, Issue 2

RMSS RECAP

see pages 13-14



HIXON

Mfg. & Supply Co.

www.hixonmfg.com

Two convenient retail locations

Surveying, Construction,
Engineering, Drones,
and Machine Control

Equipment and Supplies

Sales - Service - Rentals

Largest GNSS RTK Reference
Network in Colorado & Wyoming

Tilt all day.

Leica GS05

The lightest GNSS smart antenna to trust.



- when it has to be **right**

Leica
Geosystems



FORT COLLINS, CO

1001 Smithfield Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970.482.0111

DENVER, CO

7154 Dillon Court
Englewood, CO 80112
303.694.0012

**PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
OF COLORADO, INC.**

AFFILIATE—NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
MEMBER—ASSN. OF COLORADO ENGINEERING COUNCIL
MEMBER—WESTERN FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

OFFICERS (2024)

BRIAN DENNIS
President
719-337-1262

HEATHER LASSNER
Vice President
970-310-4089

SHAUN LEE
Secretary/Treasurer
sdl051@yahoo.com
570-499-8073

BECKY ROLAND
Executive Director
PO Box 441069, Aurora, CO 80044 • broland@plsc.net
Phoenix AMC (303) 551-3266 F: (720) 230-4846

Directors: Rafael Bombacini, Chase Corbridge, Todd Johnston,
Dennis Moulard, Steve Parker, Ryan Swingley, Tom Sylvester,
Scott Thompson, Rob Trudeauux

SIDE SHOTS EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Laine Landau, Chair; Becky Roland, Brian Kelly, Todd Johnston,
Sean Mullen, Ryan Brooks, Jim Lynch,
Celine Bromley, Don Hulsey, Brian Boniface

**2025 PLSC CHAPTER
ORGANIZATION**

CENTRAL COLORADO PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

President, Jim Lynch
Vice President, Justin C. Scheitler; Secretary, Greg Gilbert
Treasurer, Daniel Davis
Directors: Roger Atnes, Derek Brown, John W. Doty,
Eric Laburda, Randy Loveless II,
Tony Peall, Hayley Young

NORTHERN CHAPTER - PLSC, INC.

President-elect: Celine Bromley;
Secretary/Treasurer, Heather Lassner
Directors: Chase Corbridge, Tony Fendick,
Pete Paulus, Kathryn Rocha, Reade Roselles,

**NORTHWEST 1/4 COLORADO
LAND SURVEYORS**

President: Brian T. Kelly
Treasurer/VP, AJ Summers; Secretary, Walter Magill
Directors: Thomas H. Effinger, Peter Epp, Walter Magill,
Skidge Moon, Lloyd Powers,
Past President and Director: Gordon Dowling

**SOUTHERN COLORADO PROFESSIONAL
LAND SURVEYORS**

President: Don R. Hulsey
Vice President: Mark Johannes; Secretary:
Secretary/Treasurer: Steven Parker
Directors: Joseph Alessi III, Dennis Craig, Steve Rutzen,
Jon Tessin, Eric White,
Honorable Lifetime: Nathan Lira, PLS

SOUTHWESTERN CHAPTER - PLSC, INC.

President: Brian Boniface
Vice President: Tim Barnett; Secretary: Robert Hinojosa;
Treasurer: Justin Bonnell

WESTERN COLORADO LAND SURVEYORS

President: Sean Mullen
Vice President: David Holmes; Secretary-Treasurer: James Combs
Directors: Brian Bowker, Trent Howell, Ted Juntilla, Renee Parent,
Kurt Shepherd, Alec Thomas, Tom Sylvester

SIDE SHOTS

MAY JOURNAL 2025

VOLUME 56

NUMBER 2

■ From the President	4
■ From the Editorial Committee.....	5
■ PLSC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes	6
■ Chapter News.....	8
■ Putting Out a Fire	10
■ Celine LeBeau Interviews Wally Muscott.....	11
■ PLSC 2025 Survey Summit Recap.....	13
■ PLSC RMSS 2026 Location Survey	15
■ Shaping the Future	16
■ Continuing Education Draft Rules	17
■ 2025 Awardees	20
■ WFPS Update -- October 12, 2024	21
■ WFPS Update -- February 7, 2025.....	24
■ Sustaining Members.....	26

*Side Shots is the official publication of the Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado, Inc.
and is published quarterly for the betterment of the surveying profession.*

Brian Dennis
President

For Editorial Correspondence, contact:

Laine Landau
sideshots@plsc.net

*This publication is not copyrighted and articles may be reprinted with due credit.
Statements made and opinions expressed are from the contributors and do not necessarily
express the official views of the Professional Land Surveyors of Colorado, Inc.*

*Deadlines for editorials, articles, pictures and advertising are January 1, April 1,
July 1 and October 1. Publication is February, May, August, and November. Material received after the
current deadline will appear in the next issue of Side Shots.*

*We would like to invite anyone who is interested to advertise in Side Shots.
Do you have something you want to sell, trade or buy? Why not use Side Shots for your
next ad? We can also reproduce business cards for advertising. Ad space reservation must be arranged with
Becky Roland, PO Box 441069, Aurora, CO 80044; 303-551-3266.*

(Deadlines: January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1).

Current Advertising Rates:

Business card size or less: \$40.00

One-Half Page: \$190.00

Full Page: \$375.00

Annual Non-Member Discount: 10%

Annual Member Discount: 20%



PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS OF COLORADO, INC.

PO Box 441069, Aurora, CO 80044

AFFILIATE – NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
MEMBER- WESTERN FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

OFFICERS (2025-2026)

BRIAN DENNIS
PRESIDENT
C: (719) 337-1262
president@plsc.net

HEATHER LASSNER
VICE PRESIDENT
C: 970-310-4089
hmlassner@gmail.com

RALPH PETTIT
PAST PRESIDENT
C: (720) 400-3723
ralph.pettit@denvergov.org

BECKY ROLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
O: (303) 551-3266
broland@plsc.net

SHAUN LEE
SECRETARY-TREASURER
O: (570) 499-8073
sdl051@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS (2025-2026)

TOM SYLVESTER
O: (970) 255-7386

TODD JOHNSTON
O: (970) 769-8751

CHASE CORBRIDGE
O: 970-800-3300

RYAN SWINGLEY
O: 317-306-0158

ROB TRUDEAUX
O: 970-247-175 x01

DIRECTORS (2023-2026)

SCOTT THOMPSON
O: (970) 244-1821

DENNIS MOULAND
O: (928) 460-0230

STEVE PARKER
C: (719) 641-3355

WFPS DELEGATES (2022-2023)

TODD BEERS
(O): (303) 353-3528

RAFAEL BOMBACINI
C: 719-440-3763

NSPS DIRECTOR (2022-2023)

TODD BEERS
(O): (303) 353-3528

STEVE PARKER
Alternate
C: (719) 641-3355

Hello Fellow Members

Winter is winding down, and we are beginning spring. Time for trees to bloom (disrupting our GPS signals), animals are coming out including snakes, and time for workloads and our hours at work to increase as we gear up for summer again. Many of our mountain communities received approximately 70% snowpack for the year. While that is not good for the water supply or rafting, perhaps they will have extended field time this year. The weather has been strange this past winter and moving into spring. Hopefully everyone has good fortunes this year with great clients that pay their invoices and pay on time with good projects and opportunities for the future.



I really enjoyed seeing everyone at the 2025 Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit (RMSS). For many of us, it is the only time we get to visit our friends and fellow surveyors. Thank you to everyone that attended the conference. The RMSS committee, chaired by Heather Lassner, works hard all year to pull this event together. It is a large undertaking with many moving parts and unexpected turns throughout the process and the RMSS committee does an outstanding job of taking everything in stride and developing solutions. There is no such thing as too much help, when it comes to the conference. If you want to be a part of an amazing event, contact Heather or Becky Roland. There are always slots open for those that want to help, either big or small. All help is welcome!

As typical at the RMSS, we installed several new PLSC Board members. We want to give a big Thank You to all outgoing Board Members and big Welcome to the new incoming Board members. The names of the Board members are usually listed on the left side of this page. As you know for the past two (2) years, the PLSC Board was without a Vice President. Heather Lassner, in addition to her role with the RMSS committee, agreed to fill that role for the next two (2) years. However, we do have a vacant position that needs to be filled. Our Secretary/Treasurer role. Shaun Lee, who has held that position for the past two (2) years is stepping down to spend additional time with family. We did not have any candidates on the ballot to replace him and per the Bylaws, the PLSC MUST have a President and Secretary/Treasure to operate. Shaun has done a fantastic job for the PLSC in that role and we Thank him for his time and commitment. Please reach out to myself, Shaun or any Board member to express interest in filling this critical role on the Board.

Scott Thompson, Legislative Committee Chair, needs your thoughts and ideas for legislative actions for the committee for 2025/2026. In addition, we need your help on the committee. Scott has been an active leader working with our lobbyist, as

continued on page 5

FROM THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

This edition contains a recap of the 2025 RMSS and the results of the PLSC Survey about the 2026 RMSS program. In 2026 we will be hosting it in Colorado Springs. The goal is to save money and to move the conference to different geographic areas to make the conference more accessible to all out members, particularly now that Continuing Education credits (CEs) will be required for license renewals. Please see the attached draft of the CE requirements. We will provide an update once we have more definitive information.

This edition also celebrates Wally Muscott, former City of Fort Collins Surveyor. Wally has a quick wit, a quirky sense of humor, and a willingness to help others in our profession. He is retired but still works part time for the City of Fort Collins checking plats.

Tony Fendick contributed an article about the Marshall Fires, a challenging situation early in his professional career. I appreciated his willingness and that of the other survey teams to work overtime to help others rebuild their lives.

I want to apologize to all of you who have been waiting for this edition to arrive in your email. I have been slowed down by an eye injury and surgery. I am hopeful that I will regain my vision and get back on schedule soon!

Sincerely,

Laine Landau
Editorial Committee Chair

From the President *(continued)*

they discover actions that may harm our profession and also moving items forward that the membership has voted on to benefit our profession. This includes the upcoming Continuing Education Requirements. Currently, the requirements are still on the drawing board and in discussions with DORA, AES Board and committee members from the PLSC which includes, Scott Thompson, Todd Beers and Myself. We appreciate that DORA and the AES Board asked for our input and participation to assist in the development of these requirements. As information becomes available, we will be sharing that information with the PLSC

Board which is comprised of Chapter Presidents, in an effort to get the information disseminated through the Chapters and to the membership. This committee is the most important component of the PLSC but it can only be as good as the folks that participate. There are always those who like or do not like what the legislative committee is doing. The easiest way to stay informed or provide guidance with the committee is as a committee member. Join and be part of the process!

Brian Dennis, PLS
PLSC President

PLSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Agenda April 22, 2025 • 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Name	Position	Chapter	Dennis Attending?
Brian Dennis	President	Southern	x
Heather Lassner	Vice President	Northern	x
Shaun Lee	Secretary/Treasurer	Central	x
Becky Roland	Executive Director	n/a	x
Rafael Bombacini	Director	Southern	x
Chase Corbridge	Director	Northern	x
Ryan Swingley	Director	At-Large	x
Rob Trudeau	Director	Southwestern	
Steve Parker	Director	Southern	x
Tom Sylvester	Director	Western	
Scott Thompson	Director	Western, Legislative Co-Chair	x
Dennis Mouland	Director	Northern Chapter	
Ralph Pettit	Ex-Officio	Central	
Todd Beers	Non-Voting	NSPS/WFPS Delegate	x
Guests:			
Justin Scheitler		Central Chapter	x
Laine Landau		Side Shots Co-Editor	x
Jim Lynch		Central Chapter	x

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. NSPS Response to NCEES Model Law Revisions
2. NSPS Questions to NCEES on Non-Boundary Licensure
3. Requested Action
 - a. Chapters are asked to present the information at their next meeting and gather input
 - b. Input back to PLSC Board is due June 20
 - c. Board and Chapter Presidents will be point of contact for member input
- D. BR will send the documents and request for input to members on April 23

Email to Members:

PLSC is looking for your input on an important issue that was presented at the recent National Society of

Professional Surveyors meeting.

Issue 1: Non-boundary Professional Surveyor License
NCEES is considering developing a new mapping science pathway to surveying licensure. This pathway would provide a non-boundary professional surveyor license. This would utilize a new exam focused on non-boundary aspects of authoritative mapping, such as remote sensing, hydrography, photogrammetry and geodesy. States would have the opportunity, based on their individual statutes, to choose whether to use this exam to issue a new license type or to issue a standard professional surveyor license but with the expectation the licensed professional would only practice within their area of expertise.

NCEES asked NSPS the following two questions:

1. If NCEES developed and offered a mapping science exam, do you believe members of your association would benefit from a non-boundary professional surveyor license? Please feel free to comment beyond a “yes” or “no”.
2. Do you believe a NCEES mapping science exam would encourage more of your members to seek licensure as a professional surveyor? Do you have any thoughts regarding how many members might be interested?

Issue 2: Proposed Model Law

The NSPS ad hoc committee on the NCEES Model Law was charged with reviewing the current NCEES Model Laws and Rules for Surveying to ensure that it is still consistent with the practices of surveying today, and to make a report of recommendations for any revisions to the NSPS Board of Directors for its review.

Please click here for the report submitted from the ad hoc committee.

Request from PLSC to you

Please review the documents linked below and provide any input to your Chapter at the next meeting. You can also contact any of the PLSC Board Directors or Todd Beers, NSPS Director for PLSC (see emails below).

Documents

- [NCEES Model Law](#)
- [NSPS Letter to NCEES](#)
- [NCEES Article on Non-Boundary License](#)
- [Recording of BOD Discussion on NCEES/NSPS Topics](#)

Emails

- PLSC President – [Brian Dennis](#)
- PLSC Vice President/President Elect – [Heather Lassner](#)
- PLSC Secretary/Treasurer – [Shaun Lee](#)
- Director – [Rafael Bombacini](#)
- Director – [Dennis Mouland](#)
- Director – [Scott Thompson](#)
- Director – [Steve Parker](#)
- Director – [Chase Corbridge](#)
- Director – [Ryan Swingley](#)
- Director – [Tom Sylvester](#)
- Director – [Rob Trudeaux](#)
- NSPS Representative – [Todd Beers](#)
- Central Chapter – [Jim Lynch](#)
- Northern Chapter – [Celine Bromley](#)
- Northwest ¼ Chapter – [Brian Kelly](#)
- Southern Chapter – [Don Hulsey](#)
- Southwest Chapter – [Rob Trudeaux](#)
- Western Chapter – [Sean Mullen](#)

**CERTIFIED
FEDERAL SURVEYOR**

MASTER FEDERAL BOUNDARIES

The Certified Federal Surveyor (CFedS) program is the United States' pre-eminent public and tribal land survey certification since 2005.

**INTENSIVE ONLINE
TRAINING PROGRAM
NOW AVAILABLE**

Apply today at **cfeds.org**

NSPS

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER NEWS

CCPS

The Central Chapter had a busy 1st quarter of the year. In January, Dave DiFulvio of Farnsworth Group spoke at our General Meeting on the Business of Land Surveying, and in February our General Meeting featured Darryl Wilson, Chief Cadastral Surveyor of Colorado (Retired). What an incredible life and story. Both meetings were very well attended, and the response is only going to increase.

Thanks for stopping by our table at the Surveyor's Summit. Hope you grabbed some free swag and maybe purchased some of our logo gear. Coming up in June will be our annual golf tournament. It will be on Sunday the 8th at The Homestead Golf Course in Lakewood. Spots are still available. Contact https://c.aztecwww.com/ccps_golf.

Moving forward the Central Chapter will concentrate on presenting speakers and/or presentations that adhere to the new Continuing Education Activities requirements that will go into effect in October. We anticipate much larger turnouts in the near future and will be planning accordingly.

Jim Lynch, PLS
2025 CCPS President

NORTHERN CHAPTER

Hello PLSC Members,
Updates from the Northern Chapter are brief due to the recent Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit in late March. Even through the turmoil of last-minute speaker changes the conference appeared to be a success. Many, many thanks to all of those that made it happen, you know who you are! Also, thanks for showing up at our Chapter meet and greet at Benders during the RMSS; it was great getting to know more fellow members a little better. We are looking forward to another great conference next year in a new location yet to be determined.

Now for the meeting updates; I hope they may entice some of you to join us:

February 5th we met at Lamp Rynearson to learn about 'TBC Tips and Tricks' from Michael Stratton, from the Fort Collins Lamp Rynearson office. There was no shortage of TBC tips dealt out to us during the presentation; I know I missed some of them so I would like to have another version in the near future.

March 5th we met again at Lamp Rynearson for a presentation on 'GIS for Surveyors' by Marc Marean, GIS Specialist in the Omaha Lamp Rynearson office. Marc showed attendees many applications of GIS in surveying and where to find up to date LiDAR data. We did not hold an April meeting due to the RMSS, however we are having an informal meeting at a location to be determined May 7th (please visit our site for more information and to RSVP as we will have food). We will be taking our summer break from regular meetings until September 3rd. Meetings are 6pm-8pm the first Wednesday of the month (except summer June-August, month of RMSS, and December due to Holiday Party). There is usually a speaker, food chapter meeting, and open discussion (please RSVP for food).

In the works for the Northern Chapter for 2025 are more presentations (maybe some for CEU's) and our annual Holiday Party Eagle's Game. We welcome any suggestions for presentation subjects. If we don't see you May 7th have a great summer, stay safe, have fun and hope to see you in the fall.

Céline M. Bromley, PLS
President Elect, Northern Chapter

NW1/4

Spring has arrived in the Northwestern part of the State with all the usual variations that spring brings: highly variable weather, contractors, owners and designers working to get their projects in the ground, property corners blooming like wildflowers since they aren't covered under 3 feet of snow and the ever present real estate market. Given the inflation of material costs and possible tariffs, owners and developers continue to value engineer their projects. A wise engineer once told me that when you value engineer a project you get neither value or engineering. However, this is a reality of what is

CHAPTER NEWS

going on compared to two or three years ago when the sky was the limit.

There is considerable confusion and reticence with the subject of Federal Funding for Highway and Airport projects given what we all read and hear. The stability and reliability of these projects are changing and everyone wants them to reach a new equilibrium. That has not happened yet. We have now seen three Federally funded projects we bid last spring not break ground until this spring. Some of this is due to the supply chain delays, but that is compounded by the lack of initial commitment of the Funding source.

More real estate deals are falling apart as buyers are more uncertain about the market, interest rates and a variety of factors. Properties are taking longer to sell. Some of this is good as the rapid increase in real estate values we witnessed from 2020 until 2023 was unsustainable. It does affect surveying as Improvement Surveys and Improvement Location Certificate orders are slowing down as a result.

However, we are all incredibly busy as there are fewer of us. Some of the younger generation- party chiefs and Survey Technicians for example- are not staying in the area as long as they can't get a foothold in the expensive housing market. This is an issue with all businesses in the area.

On a brighter note, the NW ¼ is having it's spring meeting in ten days!

Respectfully submitted,
Brian T. Kelly, Vice-President
PLS in New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah

SOUTHERN CHAPTER

Southern Chapter has their meetings on the third Tuesdays. We have guest presenters, and board meetings. We always enjoy a meal together, and we provide at least one scholarship a year. Keep an eye out on scpls.net for up coming meetings and events, or call 719-641-3355.

Steven Parker

SWC-PLSC

The Southwest Chapter of the PLSC held its regular chapter on Tuesday, March 18th With spring break in full swing, many regular attendees were unable to participate. Nevertheless, the meeting proved to be a very productive venture as we welcomed the new County Surveyor, Daryl Crites. Mr. Crites shared his goals for LaPlata county and discussed how he plans to continue the work of the former County Surveyor.

In addition to Mr. Crites, Montezuma County Surveyor, Rita Caffey, made the trip to provide insights into her activities in Montezuma County. She shared her efforts to improve access to information for surveyors in the area.

Despite the inclement weather reminding us that winter is still with us; the meeting was brief yet impactful. We are very grateful for the attendance we received and excited about the opportunity to gather as a community.

Brian M. Boniface PLS
President SW Chapter PLSC

WCLS

The chapter's March 12th meeting, hosted at Grand Junction City Hall, included reports from CDOT, the City of Grand Junction, CMU Tech, and Mesa County. In May, the chapter will hear Brian Bowker's presentation on historical right-of-ways. Preparations for the Fall Seminar are nearly complete, and further information will be released soon.

Respectfully,
Sean Mullen, PLS
WCLS President

Putting Out a Fire

By Tony Fendick

The Marshall Fire destroyed nearly 1,200 homes in Boulder County during the holiday season of 2021. With thousands of people left without homes, this wind-driven devastation led to an abrupt demand for surveys in order to rebuild these homes.

As we all know, the holiday season can be a little slow for surveyors and is usually a good time to step back and take the time to train our employees. I was a newly licensed surveyor still learning how to manage projects and crews. I was still transitioning from field to office and getting comfortable using CAD and making boundary decisions. After the Marshall Fire blew through Boulder County, we knew we were going to see an influx of survey requests coming along our desks. As a team, we discussed different options to keep our surveys organized and to come up with a solid control network within these affected areas.

The demand for surveys exceeded our expectations. We were drowning at times and were working overtime to keep up with the demand. We all knew that there were families that needed a quick turnaround to get permitted in order to rebuild their lives.

Quickly, we sent out our senior crew chiefs to establish a control network for our crews to tie into for each survey. This way we weren't having multiple job files and

conflicting job properties between crews. We had each control point tied into NGS benchmarks, so we didn't waste time establishing vertical control for each project. Within a few days our crews were able to set up on our established control and be off and running collecting as much data as possible during each field visit.

In the office, we had few project managers overseeing the surveys as to not have too many hands in the pot. We were able to communicate with each other and have plans for which subdivisions were being worked on and which lots were already surveyed so we could tie into them. We had a separate drawing for each survey to keep a record of which monuments were found and which ones needed to be set. This helped us get quicker with our boundary determinations as the more monuments were found and lots were reestablished then the lots and blocks practically fell into place over time.

For about eight months we were put through the ring of high demand and a quick turnaround for the people that lost their homes. As a newly licensed surveyor, I had the opportunity to learn quickly and get to understand the importance of proper management. During this time, the terms "drinking from a fire hydrant" and "putting out fires" brought a whole new meaning to my career.

INTENSIVE ONLINE
TRAINING PROGRAM
NOW AVAILABLE

**CERTIFIED
FEDERAL SURVEYOR**

**MASTER THE
FEDERAL LANDS**

The Certified Federal Surveyor (CFedS) program
is the United States' pre-eminent public and
tribal land survey certification since 2005.

NSPS

Apply today at **cfeds.org**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Celine LeBeau interviews Wally Muscott

Wally Muscott is yet another very tall surveyor I am interviewing, standing at 6'2" tall. I had the pleasure of working with him intermittently at the City of Fort Collins, as he is semi-retired. Wally is married to Sue, with whom he has three children and five grandchildren. He likes to fish and is an avid railroad model builder.

1. How did you get into surveying?

Wally grew up in Michigan and joined the workforce building Oldsmobiles in Lansing. That was not life for him. He then studied Construction Management at Ferris State from 1966-1967. He took a course in land surveying and liked it so much he transferred to a land surveying program at Ferris State. He graduated from Ferris with an associate degree in Land Surveying. He became a registered Michigan surveyor in 1978, licensed in Colorado in 1980, and licensed in Wyoming in 1982.

2. What do you love about surveying?

Wally enjoys the work environment and the local and national land surveying history.

3. Who was your biggest professional influence and why?

His professor at Ferris State, John Norton, also ended up signing his license. He remembers fondly a quote Prof. Norton said, "You will always have a job, and you will never be rich."

He also credits the surveyors he worked for in Michigan, and Don Fredrick whom he worked for at Kruback in Loveland, Colorado.

4. What are the biggest challenges with this profession?

For me, as a child of the 50's and 60's, keeping up with Technology.

5. What qualities make a good surveyor?

A good personality and the ability to work with a variety of professions. A good communicator so that one can convince people why they need certain things and/or how changing things will make the project better.

6. What is the most significant issue affecting surveying as a profession?

Not having enough young surveyors. Attracting the younger generation to the profession.

7. What industry trends excite you?

The changes I have seen in my 55 years of surveying are amazing. Total Stations, computer programs, GPS, and drone usage to name a few.

8. What is the biggest change in surveying you had to adapt to?

One person crews, GPS and all associated things that go with it, remember that I started with a T-1 and a chain.

9. What career accomplishment makes you most proud?

Being a mentor to young people and passing along knowledge; why we do certain things.

10. Outside of your career, what has been your biggest accomplishment?

Family, all of whom have solid careers and are doing well. However, none have followed in the Land Surveying profession!

11. What was your favorite project and why?

At the City of Fort Collins Wally participated in Crime Scene Surveys. He said it gave him great satisfaction to work with the Police Department, to try and catch the bad guys.

Also, prior to working for the city, surveying for the land parcels being taken for the "high water" takes of the Harry S. Truman Dam at Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. Working in the Ozarks was interesting with the many "things" we might find in the hills.

Additionally, providing surveying services for the Army Corps of Engineers; doing missile sites and drainage projects. Using HASP, early computer drafting systems to determine volumes.

One experience that stood out to Wally was when

he and Rob Hintz, PLS worked on the 1983 Tire Fire superfund site, in western Virginia, where 7 million tires burned. They had to survey the pile in 1987 to determine a volume. There was a lot of metal sticking out everywhere and they had to drive 90 miles back and forth to just download the data.

12. If you could start your career again, is there anything you would do differently?

No, always had a job but never monetarily rich.

13. Do you have any advice for up-and-coming surveyors?

Be a sponge, wherever you can absorb information from, like seminars, learn from mentors like Dennis Mouland, learn from your senior coworkers.

14. What survey books would you recommend?

Clark's Surveying and Mapping, anything by Brown, Wattles, The BLM Manual.

15. Is there any knowledge that you would like to pass down?

Learn how to compose legal descriptions and how to properly prepare a plat.

Wally also wants to leave you with this quote "I think the GPS has made a better measurer out of all of us, but not a better surveyor out of any of us." ~WM, which I would have to agree with!







Our Services	Our Certifications & NAICS Codes	Contact Us
- Utility Designation* - Hydro-Excavation* - Sani/Sewer Scoping - Aerial Drone Mapping - Private Utility Designation* * Per the new ASCE Standard 38-22	- City/County of Denver: M/WBE, DBE, EBE, SBE - CDOT Certification: DBE & Level 1 ESB - RTD Certification: DBE & Category 1 SBE - NASSCO Certification: LACP, PACP, MACP	Our office: Parker, Colorado 80138 www.tomrichardsonllc.com Bid Requests/Scheduling: 303-699-3524 office@tomrichardsonllc.com Tom Richardson Sales/Estimates/VP Operations M: 303-365-2193 Tom@tomrichardsonllc.com Brandon Francis Sales/Hydro-Excavation/Drone Information M: 720-951-0418 potholing@tomrichardsonllc.co



NAICS CODES:

561990 Locating underground utility lines prior to digging.

238990 Special Trade Contractors (Potholing) & (Sani/Storm Scoping)

PLSC 2025 Survey Summit Recap

By Heather Lassner and Sue Weiss

It is always a monumental task to put together a conference and this year was no exception. It is constantly our hope that the attendees have an enjoyable and educational experience at the Summit each year and are never exposed to the chaos behind the scenes! We had quite a few unanticipated program changes hit us a month away from the conference this year. Everything from being completely ghosted by presenters, to individuals pulling out due to last-minute schedule conflicts, to funding freezes and lock downs on travel. The conference committee would like to extend their most sincere gratitude to the speakers who were able to fill our program in the last moments. This included Libby Park and the team from American Land Title, and Justin Vaughn who pickup up our contract law class and had amazing content, Brian Shaw for picking up the presentation from Michael Dennis, Tom Sylvester, Scott Thompson and Dennis Mouland for traveling out to cover our cancelled CFedS sessions, and Brian Yohn for his drone survey presentation. We appreciate the PLSC Board for helping to trouble shoot the program issues and fill in the missing content at the last moment.

This year's Summit was headlined by Kris Kline, who has been a leader in the field of legal retracement since the early 2000s. One thing of note is that you will never see Mr. Kline do the exact same presentation twice. He diligently researches the case law of every state he presents in, and as laws change and new rulings are announced, will update his presentations accordingly.



We had the opportunity to give thanks to a dear friend of the PLSC. Many of you know Dave Pehr and have been able to attend his various sessions over the years or even his classes when he was formerly teaching, so it was wonderful to be able to honor him at this year's Summit alongside our many other honorees.

The 2025 Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit was once again hosted at the beautiful Westin in Westminster. We have always received positive feedback from the Vendors regarding the layout and very positive reviews from the attendees, but unfortunately the venue comes with drawbacks as well. And yes, we have noted the grumblings about breakfast! As many of you are aware, we have been working hard to control costs and will be exploring changes for 2026.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to leave comments on the surveys and polls. After reviewing the results, we heard attendees would like to see the conference condensed and more CEUs offered each day. The board will be discussing format changes to deliver better value to our membership and reduce costs further if possible. We are also going to look at options to streamline CEUs and embrace technology further.

Another important factor is that the conference attendance has declined in the last two years, and we

believe it was the result of the timeframe. Once March hits, business starts to increase and anyone with a family has made plans to enjoy spring break. We have made it a priority to adjust the dates to either February or possibly even January to help encourage more overall participation.

We are going to look at revamping our course offerings to better reflect the needs of our members. The virtual program is here to stay so we are considering moving any business sessions out of the general format to be included in the virtual. Most small businesses don't have the ability to stop work to attend a four-day conference, so by offering sessions in a virtual format, we are hoping more individuals will be able to take advantage of their benefits.

Despite all the challenges, we did receive so much positive feedback and especially our keynote speakers in the past few years have commented on how well the conference is executed. Looking forward to 2026, Dr. Richard L. Elgin has committed to be our keynote speaker, and we already have begun filling out the 2026 program. Glen Thurow was disappointed that he was unable to present the CFedS content for us on Indian

Land Law and the Three Mile Method. As soon as he is able, we will be hosting a session for those credits. If you need the CFedS classes, please be on the lookout for that make up session.

We would like to thank the conference committee and offer a special thanks to the members who have consistently been a reliable source of ideas, productivity, and unwavering dedication to the Summit. This year we would like to extend a special thanks to Robert Boehm who was both a vital committee member and our presenter for the Solve a Boundary session and to Todd Johnston for his dedication over the last few years from the Southwest Chapter. We would also like to thank all our Vendors, but especially our platinum sponsors, Frontier Precision and Vector's Inc.

We are always looking for new volunteers to assist with this undertaking, so if you have any desire to volunteer, please reach out. We welcome fresh ideas and anyone who is interested in giving back to the PLSC and the profession. We look forward to seeing you next year!

CONFIDENCE

Certified.

NSPS
CST

CERTIFIED SURVEY TECHNICIAN

cstnsp.com

+1 (240) 439-4615 Ext. 112

JOIN THE FAST TRACK!

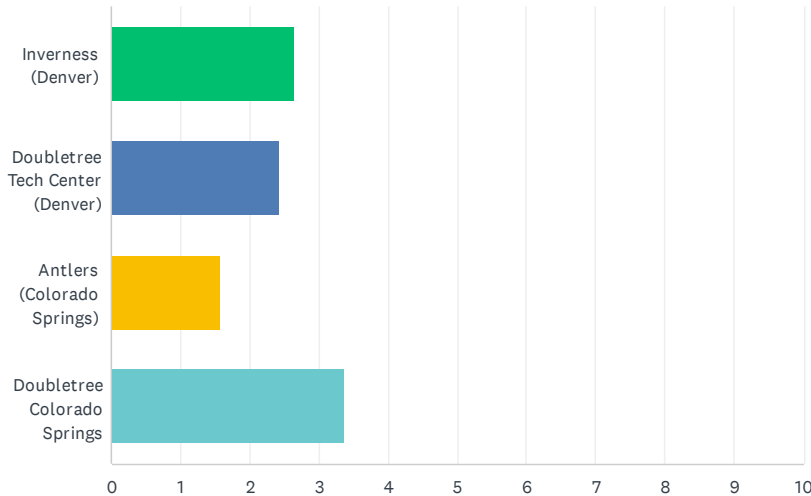
All-new quarterly online
classroom at **learnCST.com**



PLSC RMSS 2026 Location Survey

Q1 Using the arrows, please list your preferred venue selection - 1 through 4 with 1 being your most preferred.

Answered: 14 Skipped: 0



	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
Inverness (Denver)	0.00% 0	71.43% 10	21.43% 3	7.14% 1	14	2.64
Doubletree Tech Center (Denver)	21.43% 3	14.29% 2	50.00% 7	14.29% 2	14	2.43
Antlers (Colorado Springs)	7.14% 1	7.14% 1	21.43% 3	64.29% 9	14	1.57
Doubletree Colorado Springs	71.43% 10	7.14% 1	7.14% 1	14.29% 2	14	3.36

Q2 Provide any comments or additional considerations.

Answered: 5 Skipped: 9

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Doubletree COS seems to have the best of everything, but moving the conference that far is a risk. They are most flexible on dates. Inverness is next with pricing being the main downside. Location is good since there are a lot of survey firms in the area. Doubletree DTC layout and parking are not ideal. Antlers would be cool, but parking is a deal killer. It is served by Bustang though.	4/23/2025 4:53 PM
2	Antlers is lowest for me bc of parking. The two levels for the meetings at Double Tree Tech Center seems like we won't feel as connected and will have less participation in competition and with vendors. I surprised myself for picking Doubletree CO Springs as my first choice, but the venue looks well laid out. Gives me an excuse to visit the Springs. Q on the pricing note - says it was for 3 days, not 4 - are we comparing equivalent prices for each venue?	4/17/2025 10:03 AM
3	Parking needs to be complimentary. Audio/Visual information on each site evaluated?	4/17/2025 9:17 AM
4	I'd consider Inverness as the top choice if we reduce the summit to only two days. Colorado Springs would also be excellent, though we might lose some attendees. I suggest we further explore speaker options or even open a poll to all chapters to find out who they'd prefer as the keynote speaker next year.	4/17/2025 8:57 AM
5	FYI: Paying travel costs such as per diem, hotel, and travel time, is certain to eliminate my ability to send 5 to 8 people per year as we have in the past.	4/17/2025 8:51 AM

Shaping the Future

By Hayley Young

This year at the Future City event, the “Best Land Surveying Practices” Award was presented to the remarkable team “American Weirdos “ for their exceptional application of multi-dimensional data analysis in city planning. Their innovative approach to understanding and utilizing land surveying data highlights a critical evolution in urban planning methodologies. Future City challenges students to imagine and design urban landscapes 100 years ahead, integrating data-driven insights with visionary creativity. While most participants initially were unaware of land surveying’s vital role in their data sets, engaging with the youth revealed to them the critical importance of the field that captures the physical and spatial intricacies of our environment.

On behalf of our PLSC community, I gave surveying posters to any student with interest in the profession. The winning team (featured in the photo with one of the posters) stood out because they evaluated multiple dimensions of data, such as topography and projected sea-level rises, to define city parameters strategically. Looking ahead, Future City is actively seeking professional land surveyor volunteers to serve as judges for next year’s event, as I transition into a mentoring role within the program.

I kicked off my recent TEDx Talk, “Evolving Data Towards Long-Range Ethics,” with an exploration of my Future City observations, noting how simplification in

data processing profoundly influences urban planning outcomes. As surveyors, we are required to reduce complex places to a line for boundary work so that the land can be easily monetized. Long-range ethics refers to the principle in ethical codes requiring professionals to use their skills for the wellbeing of the community, ensuring their work serves both present and future generations. How do we measure well-being? While tracking certain metrics like biodiversity provides critical feedback on ecosystem health, a paradigm shift is needed to evolve our system’s goals from short-term economic gain to a regenerative approach that prioritizes sustainability and equity. Ultimately, shaping landscapes and policies to honor both current needs and the welfare of future generations requires recognizing our interconnectedness with one another, our communities, and broader systems. A worldview framed by five dimensions emerges to guide technological and systemic thinking with collective co-visioning of a brilliant future is offered in my talk available here:

https://youtu.be/Z6AuQH_-dYc?feature=shared

Learn more about Future City or register as a judge or volunteer here: <https://futurecity.org>. We invite fellow professionals within the surveying community to engage with this inspiring and educational opportunity, fostering innovative approaches and planting seeds to grow future surveyors.



Continuing Education Draft Rules 6/26/2025

b. Professional Land Surveyors.

(1) Continuing Education Requirements for Renewal.

- (a) **Statutory Basis.** Pursuant to 12-120-104(3)(c), C.R.S. the Board shall adopt rules establishing requirements for continuing education (CE) that a professional land surveyor shall complete in order to renew a license.
- (b) **Requirements.** Professional land surveyors shall complete Continuing Education Hours (CEH) in land surveying subjects and participate in a process or procedure that demonstrates the licensee obtained the required continuing education in order to renew a license to practice land surveying in Colorado.
- (c) **Continuing Educations Hours (CEH).** One CEH shall consist of fifty to sixty minutes of continuous actual educational instruction, presentation, or activity, spent in structured educational activities intended to increase or update the licensee's knowledge of, and thereby become more competent in, technical and professional subjects related to the practice of land surveying.

An activity must be a minimum of one CEH. Above this one CEH, an activity of an additional fifteen-minute increments may be credited and will equal .25 CEH (i.e. a seventy-five-minute activity = 1.25 CEH).

- (d) **Credit Required for License Renewal.** Beginning with the 2027 renewal cycle, Licensees shall have completed a minimum of 30 CEHs during each two-year period on October 31 of each odd numbered year. Licenses expire October 31, in odd numbered years. The reporting period for CEHs in order to renew a license is the odd calendar year in which the license expires. In odd calendar years the licensee has until midnight (MST) on December 31, to complete these CEH.

CEHs may be acquired at any location and need not be acquired within Colorado
- (e) **Carryover of CEH Credit.** If a licensee exceeds the 30 hours of qualified continuing

professional education during the two-year period, the licensee may carry forward a maximum of 15 hours into the first year of the next two- year period.

- (f) **Land Surveying Subjects.** Land Surveying subjects are defined as technical and professional subjects related to land surveying and consist of consisting of basic surveying, boundary law, description writing, public land survey system, surveying sciences, and as defined as professional land surveying within section 12-120-302(5), C.R.S.

Land surveying sciences include, but are not limited to, construction staking, hydrographic surveying, photogrammetry, topography, laser scanning, and LiDAR.

- (g) **Process of Procedure that Demonstrates the Land Surveyor Obtained the Required CEH.** A process or procedure that demonstrates CEH was obtained may be in the form of one of the following:
 - (i). Certificate of Completion;
 - (ii) Board Approved Transcripts; or
 - (iii) A structured report process in a format defined by the Board.

Refer to Board Rule section 1.4(3)(b)(1)(k) Recordkeeping, for the record keeping requirements for these documents.

- (h) **Acceptable Continuing Education Activities.** The Board deems the following types of activities to be acceptable:
 - (i) **Academic Coursework.** One semester credit hour may be counted for a maximum of fifteen CEHs:

One quarter credit hour may be counted for a maximum of ten CEHs.

One semester credit hour for audited classes may be counted for a maximum of eight CEHs.

One quarter credit hour for audited classes may be counted for maximum of five CEHs.

Academic coursework shall be completed at a U.S. regionally accredited college or university.

- (ii) Formal Certification Programs, e.g. CFedS, Certified Surveying Technician, Remote Pilot Certificate, Certified Floodplain Manager, Geographic Information System Professional.
- (iii) In-house training. Active participation in coursework, seminars, or professional or technical presentations.

CEHs are awarded as established by recognized continuing education providers, such as NCEES, NSPS, PLSC, etc.
- (iv) Presentations. CEHs for presenters shall be awarded two CEHs per one presentation contact hour at lectures, seminars, and/or workshops. CEHs shall be recognized for the initial presentation only.
- (v) Professor and Educator. This includes teaching assigned courses at college, university, or other educational institutions. CEHs shall be awarded two CEHs per one course contact hour. CEHs shall be awarded for the initial presentation only.
- (vi) Publishing a relevant technical article, chapter, or book. Initial publication shall be awarded five CEHs upon placement in a journal, periodical, or book.
- (vii) Active Participation Service on a board or committee of a public, professional, or technical society nature shall be awarded a maximum of two CEHs per renewal cycle for each position and no more than six CEHs per renewal cycle overall.
- (viii) Ethics for Land Surveyors Course. A maximum of two CEH per renewal cycle can be awarded
- (ix) Self-Study - Structured. These may be printed or online materials, CDs or DVDs containing continuing education activities the land surveyor completes individually. Refer to Board Rule 1.4(l)(3)(b)(1)(g) for documentation requirements.

- (i) **Unacceptable Continuing Education Activities.** The Board deems the following to be unacceptable:
 - (i) Equipment/software vendor presentations;
 - (ii) Rendering pro bono services;
 - (iii) Attendance at licensing or registration board meetings or any other professionally relevant board or committee meetings;
- (j) **No Pre-Approval of Continuing Education Activities.** The Board will not pre-approve individual activities, courses, or programs. It is within the discretion of the Board to deny credit for any activity that does not meet the continuing education criteria in Board Rule 1.4(l)(3)(b)(1)(h) or the definition of a land surveyor subject in Board Rule 1.4(l)(3)(b)(1)(f).
- (k) **Record keeping.** CEHs shall be documented. The documentation shall be maintained by the land surveyor for six years from the date of award
 - (i) The documentation shall contain no less than the following information:
 - (aa) Land Surveyor name;
 - (bb) Activity date;
 - (cc) Activity title and description of content and objectives;
 - (dd) Sponsor/Continuing Education Provider (e.g. organization, institution, association, employer, publication) name and contact information;
 - (ee) Instructor/Monitor/Facilitator name and contact information, as applicable; and,
 - (ff) Number of CEHs.
 - (ii) Board Approved Transcripts obtained to comply with this Recordkeeping requirement shall be from organizations/ programs that can ensure all information in rule 1.4(l)(3)(a)(2)(n)(i) is available upon request and the transcript shall contain no less than:

- (aa) Land Surveyor name;
- (bb) Activity date;
- (cc) Activity title; and,
- (dd) Number of CEHs.

(l) **Exemptions.** A land surveyor shall not be subject to the requirement for CEHs in order to renew a license, if during the current renewal period:

- (i) The licensee holds an inactive license pursuant to section 12-20-203, C.R.S.; or,
- (ii) The licensee was initially issued their Colorado license by examination during the current renewal period (November 1st of even numbered year through October 31st of odd number year) immediately preceding the license expiration date.
- (iii) The licensee was called to federally funded active military duty for more than 120 days for the purpose of serving in a war, emergency, or contingency that falls within a renewal cycle or within the six months following the completion of service in the war, emergency, or contingency.

Such licensees shall be required to meet all other licensure requirements, including compliance with the Land Surveyor Practice Act and Board Rules, and the payment of renewal fees.

(m) **Hardship Exceptions.** The Board may grant exceptions to the requirements set out in Board Rules 1.4(l)(3)(b)(1)(b) and 1.4(l)(3)(b)(1)(d) for reasons of individual hardship including, but not limited to, health or other good cause. It is within the sole discretion of the Board to decide in particular cases whether good cause has been shown in order to grant exceptions. A licensee shall not be eligible under this section for two consecutive renewal periods except in the case of military service.

Requests for exception must be submitted in writing to the Board and must include evidence and an explanation, citing in as much detail as possible, the inability of the licensee to comply and why the license should remain in active status.

(n) **Audits.** Documentation of CEHs may be audited by the Board for verification of compliance with these requirements at any time.

If the Board disallows any CEHs then the licensee shall have sixty days from notice of such disallowance to:

- i. Provide further evidence that the disallowed CEHs meet the criteria established by these Rules; or,
- ii. Provide documentation of having completed additional CEHs during the required time frame; or,
- iii. Request the Board allow other CEH to apply towards the disallowance and/or deficiency (but such CEHs shall not again be used for any other calendar year requirement including the next renewal period and/or reinstatement).

(o) **Compliance with Continuing Education Requirements.**

- (i) Licensees shall cooperate with the Board to determine compliance with the continuing education requirements.
- (ii) Licensees shall provide all documents requested for review or audit within the day specified in the Board's written request.

2025 AWARDEES

PRESENTED AT RMSS 2025 FOR RECOGNITION OF 2024 CONTRIBUTIONS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

In order to acknowledge those individuals who give of themselves in a special way by their Distinguished Service to the surveying profession.

2024 Awardees:

Eric Ansart	Steve Parker
Dave Berglund	Dave Pehr
James Combs	Kathryn "Kat" Rocha
Gary Gable	Scott Thompson
Laine Landau	Charlie Tucker
Heather Lassner	



Dave Pehr receives Distinguished Service Award



Brian Dennis presents John Hunter with Citizen Surveyor Award

CITIZEN SURVEYOR

In order to acknowledge those members of PLSC who give of themselves in a special way by their performance of highly beneficial services to the surveying profession and to the community.

2024 Awardees:

Bill Buntrock	Gene Kooper
Dan Hanten	Sean Mullen
John Hunter	Roger Nelson

J.B. GUYTON SURVEYOR OF THE YEAR

In order to acknowledge those members of PLSC who give of themselves in a special way by their exceptional contributions to the advancement of the surveying profession and outstanding service to the public.

2024 Awardee: Sean Mullen

Sean Mullen is the President of the Western Colorado Land Surveyors (WCLS). He has taught Public Land Survey System Concepts and Computations at the PLSC/CCPS Refresher Course for the past five years. He has also taught at WCLS and PLSC conferences, national events as well as being an instructor at the BLM National Training Center. He intends to be active in PLSC for the duration of his career. He is exemplary in every respect including support for the CMU Tech. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geomatics from the Oregon Institute of Technology. Awarding Sean Mullen the PLSC SURVEYOR OF THE YEAR will also highlight the value and contributions of younger surveyors.

WFPS REPORT

Highlights from the Western States

October 12, 2024

WFPS Board of Directors meeting was held October 12, 2024 in Mesquite, Nevada. Nine of the 13 western states were represented. Below are highlights from the meeting.

HOT TOPICS

The 2026 Western Regional Conference has been set with the following states participating: Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, and Westfed. The memorandum of understanding will be finalized prior to the end of the year. If any other states are interested in participation, deadline to notify WestFed is November 1st.

WFPS Chair-Elect Trent Keenan continues to develop outreach resources many of which are available on the BEaSURVEYOR.com website. Many of the states that ordered BEaSURVEYOR.com compass/carabiners have depleted their supply. A new order will be placed before the end of the year. If your state would like to order a supply to take advantage of bulk discounting, please email admin@wfps.org no later than November 15th.

Recording laws across the western states have been compiled, however, some information is still missing. A form has been created [insert link here] to collect additional information. Once complete, the information will be shared on the WFPS website as a resource.

Deregulation and red tape reduction continue to threaten licensure. There have been discussions in Nevada regarding a mass consolidation of Boards of Registration. Earlier this year, the Arizona Board was in jeopardy of sunseting. WFPS reaffirmed their commitment to fighting these efforts and authorized the Executive Committee to take swift action to assist the western state surveying associations should an issue arise.

A new regulation has been enacted by the federal department of education regarding online degree

programs. As of July 1st online degree programs must notify enrolling students if a state board of registration has not explicitly approved the degree program for licensure. There are several surveying degree programs that do not have ABET accreditation and are therefore not automatically approved by Boards. WFPS will research this issue fully and determine how we can assist these online programs to receive the approvals they need to continue operating as normal and maintain the current levels of enrollment.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WESTERN STATES

ARIZONA

APLS held a strategic planning meeting in August. Priorities were established including developing a strategy to obtain mandatory continuing education and increasing outreach activities. As part of this initiative, the Young Surveyors Network was chartered as an official Chapter and will hold a seat on the APLS Board of Directors. Regulation was changed affecting how complaints against Surveyors can be filed. Surveyors are unable to file complaints against other Surveyors, only someone who can prove harm (homeowner, neighbor, etc.) are allowed to file complaints.

CALIFORNIA

The Orange County Surveyor has recently retired and the county decided to disassemble the office of the County Surveyor and absorb those duties in other divisions. CLSA is closely watching this and may need WFPS support in encouraging maintaining the office of County Surveyor. CLSA Executive Director, Kim Oreno, has resigned to take a new position. An interim Executive Director has been appointed. CLSA presented \$48,000 in scholarships to land surveying students. CLSA will partner with NALS for the annual conference which will be held March 29-April 1 in Reno, NV.

COLORADO

PLSC Annual Rocky Mountain Surveyors Summit will be held March 24-27, 2025. In-person and virtual

options will be available. PLSC is assisting the Board of Registration in defining and shaping the requirements for mandatory continuing education which was signed into law in June 2024. There has been a significant increase in the number of CST examination requests. PLSC continues to support the CST program by proctoring the exam. Outreach continues to be a priority and PLSC is scheduled to attend several outreach events including career fairs, school counselor events, and providing classroom presentations.

IDAHO

ISPLS is participating in a joint media promotion with PLSO and LSAW. The first piece of this campaign will be the release of a video. Idaho's four year degree program has won the NCEES Education Award which included a \$20,000 grant. ISPLS and the Dept. of Professional Licensure (DOPL) is dealing with an unlicensed individual that is practicing land surveying. A new law prohibits DOPL from including any questions regarding state law on the state-specific exam. ISPLS is working with DOPL to determine if there is a way to rewrite the test to ask legal questions as part of specific survey scenarios or if it is possible to get surveying exempted from this new regulation.

MONTANA

MARLS held a fall seminar and PAC fundraiser in Helena, MT. There is an ongoing issue regarding the Department of Revenue refusing to issue tax statements on separate properties after a survey has been filed. Flathead Valley Community College currently has 15 students enrolled in the survey program. MARLS will host their annual conference on February 17-22, 2025 in Billings, MT. Approximately \$8500 in scholarships were distributed. MARLS has published the third edition of the Subdivision and Surveying Laws Digest.

NEVADA

NALS continues to have a strong focus on outreach and recruitment into the profession. NALS partners with the NALS Education Foundation to enhance their ability to participate in more events. Great Basin College continues to see strong enrollment numbers with 72 students currently in the geomatics program, 29 of which are Nevada residents. The College of Southern Nevada is working through final logistics to launch a 4-year degree program in Las Vegas in the spring. NALS

is working with the Board of Registration regarding several changes to the Nevada Administrative Code (NACs) as well as legislation to address the 2022 datum. A final point will be set for NALS founding member, William Cuddy. NALS will partner with CLSA for the annual conference which will be held March 29-April 1 in Reno, NV. Right of entry door hangers are now available.

UTAH

A city planner practicing land surveying was issued a cease and desist by DOPL and shortly afterward the Attorney General removed it. UCLS has met with both DOPL and the AG to clarify the issue of unlicensed practice. The AG has indicated that the definition of land surveying is too vague and ruled that the city planner can continue with the practice. UCLS is working to revitalize their quarterly magazine.

WASHINGTON

LSAW has scheduled their annual conference through 2028. Next year's conference will be held February 26-28, 2025 in Tulalip. A fall seminar will be held in November with featured speaker Dave Doyle and Gavin Schrock. The Board of Registration is still working to fill expired term for one of the Land Surveyor members of the Board and a second term is about to expire. A membership poll has been distributed and received over 200 responses. LSAW is partnering with PLSO and ISPLS on an outreach media campaign. Frontier Precision is helping to offset the cost with a \$15,000 sponsorship. The campaign should roll out at the beginning of 2025. The Board of Registration is seeking volunteers to assist in exam preparation. Low Distortion Projections (LDP) were not submitted in time for the 2022 datum but the state of Washington is currently working on development. A white paper regarding the importance of LDP has been distributed.

WYOMING

PLSW annual fall technical session will be held in November in Casper, WY. PLSW has distributed \$8000 in scholarships.

WFPS FUNDAMENTAL OF SURVEYING (FS) EXAM STUDY COURSE

WFPS online Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Study Course includes approximately 16 hours of videos and a manual. The program not only helps to bring affordable study resources to future Surveyors but also generates revenue for our state association members. To date, WFPS shared over \$4000 in profits with our state association members. Information on the program can be found at WFPS.org

STEVE PARRISH CONTINUING EDUCATION LIBRARY

WFPS has captured over 18 hours of webinars with respected speaker Steve Parrish. The webinars are available to purchase as a full library or as individual modules. For those that require certificate of completion for continuing education, exams are available. Please

check with your state licensing board to confirm that continuing education credit for self-study webinars. Information on the program can be found at WFPS.org
WESTFED EDITOR'S FORUM

WFPS continues to host an Editors Forum to share information and exchange ideas for building better magazines. For information, please email the WFPS Executive Office at admin@wfps.org

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Beers, PLS
WFPS Colorado Director

FINAL POINT – WFPS PAST CHAIR RON WHITEHEAD

After the Board of Directors meeting, WestFed Directors met with UCLS and Land Surveyors from across the country to set a Final Point for Ron Whitehead.



WFPS REPORT

Highlights from the Western States

February 7, 2025

WFPS Board of Directors meeting was held on February 7, 2025 via Zoom videoconferencing. Ten of the 13 western states were represented. Below are highlights from the meeting.

HOT TOPICS

The 2026 Western Regional Conference has been set with the following states participating: Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, and Westfed. The Conference will be held at the Horseshoe Las Vegas (formerly Bally's) on March 18 – 21, 2026. More information will be posted to PLSeducaiton.org in June.

WFPS Chair-Elect Trent Keenan continues to develop outreach resources many of which are available on the BEaSURVEYOR.com website. A virtual reality day in the life of a Surveyor is the latest resource under development. State associations will be able to license this VR and utilize it for their outreach campaigns.

WFPS awarded scholarships to Farrah Etcheverry (Arizona) and Shane Santos (California).

Deregulation efforts continue to be a concern in the western states and across the nation. WFPS is committed to assisting state associations to oppose deregulation movements.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WESTERN STATES

ALASKA

ASPLS reported a 30% reduction in the number of licensed land surveyors over the last two years. To address this, they are considering adding alternate paths to licensure instead of a required four year degree.

ARIZONA

APLS has welcomed NMPS as a co-sponsor of their conference. The APLS-NMPS Conference will be held May 8-10, 2025 at the Casino Del Sol in Tucson, AZ. The AZ-YSN remains active and engaged, participating in outreach efforts and hosting quarterly events. The APLS Board of Directors has approved the revisions to the minimum standards and will support migrating the standards to administrative code. APLS is looking forward to participating in the 2026 Western Regional Survey Conference.

CALIFORNIA

The CLSA-NALS Conference will be held March 29 – April 1st at the Silver Legacy in Reno, Nevada. There are a total of 4,229 Land Surveyors in the state and currently 989 licensed members of CLSA. Monument Preservation after disasters continues to be a pressing issue due to wildfires. The CLSA Education Foundation awarded \$48,000 in scholarships. CLSA is looking forward to participating in the 2026 Western Regional Survey Conference.

COLORADO

PLSC was successful in passing mandatory continuing education which will go into effect on November 1st. The Rocky Mountain Survey Summit will be held March 24-27, 2025 and an online conference will be held April 1-3, 2025.

IDAHO

ISPLS is launched the Northwest Surveyor outreach program at their conference on February 2-5 in Boise. The Northwest Surveyor outreach was a collaboration between ISPLS, PLSO, and LSAW. More information can be found at NWSurveyor.com. The Idaho Board of Registration was moved under the DOPL umbrella which has caused changes to the Idaho state-specific exam which is now only 19 questions none of which address any state law. ISPLS is working to gain an

exemption to the code that disallowed legal questions on the state-specific exam.

MONTANA

MARLS conference will be held February 19-21 in Billings. An instructor has been secured for the Flathead Valley Community College program which now has 15 students enrolled. MARLS has awarded seven scholarships to deserving students. A committee has been formed to review and update the minimum licensing requirements as process' are moving rapidly to online services.

NEVADA

The CLSA-NALS Conference will be held March 29 – April 1st at the Silver Legacy in Reno, Nevada. NALS continues to have a strong focus on outreach and recruitment into the profession. The College of Southern Nevada (CSN) has officially launched their four-year degree in Land Surveying and Great Basin College continues to have steady enrollment. NALS is currently opposing SB 78 which will consolidate all Boards and Commissions under one umbrella Business and Industry. NALS is looking forward to participating in the 2026 Western Regional Survey Conference.

UTAH

The UCLS Conference will be held February 19-21 in St. George. UCLS is closing monitoring HB 160 and SB 104. HB 160 will affect education as it relates to licensure and SB 104 will fix previous legislation that negatively affected boundary line adjustments. Unfortunately, the land surveying program at Utah Valley is in jeopardy of closing due to perceived low enrollment. UCLS appreciates WFPS support to maintain the UVU program. UCLS is looking forward to participating in the 2026 Western Regional Survey Conference.

WASHINGTON

LSAW membership continues to climb. This is mainly due to a focus on providing resources and education for our sureThe LSAW conference will be held February 26-28, 2025 in Tulalip, WA. Matt Rassmussen has been appointed as Land Surveyor member of the Board of Registration replacing the expired term of Jim Wengler. LSAW Day at Olympia our in-state lobby day will be held at the end of February. This is the second year for this event which LSAW plans to continue to build upon to develop relationships with representatives. LSAW

is excited to launch the Northwest Surveyor outreach program. More info can be found at NWSurveyor.com and watch TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook for social media outreach campaign.

WYOMING

The issue of corner crossing regarding drone flights over private property and foreign ownership of property near missile sites continues. PLSW is looking forward to participating in the 2026 Western Regional Survey Conference

WFPS FUNDAMENTAL OF SURVEYING (FS) EXAM STUDY COURSE

WFPS online Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Study Course includes approximately 16 hours of videos and a manual. The program not only helps to bring affordable study resources to future Surveyors but also generates revenue for our state association members. To date, WFPS shared over \$4000 in profits with our state association members. Information on the program can be found at WFPS.org

STEVE PARRISH CONTINUING EDUCATION LIBRARY

WFPS has captured over 18 hours of webinars with respected speaker Steve Parrish. The webinars are available to purchase as a full library or as individual modules. For those that require certificate of completion for continuing education, exams are available. Please check with your state licensing board to confirm that continuing education credit for self-study webinars. Information on the program can be found at WFPS.org

WESTFED EDITOR'S FORUM

WFPS continues to host an Editors Forum to share information and exchange ideas for building better magazines. For information, please email the WFPS Executive Office at admin@wfps.org

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Beers, PLS
WFPS Colorado Director

S U S T A I N I N G M E M B E R S

ALPINE NAVIGATION LLC

David Mollenberg
3070 I-70 Business Loop Unit B-1
Grand Junction, CO 81504
970-236-2307
dave@alpinenav.com

FRONTIER PRECISION INC.

Mel Philbrook
5480 W 60th Ave., Unit A
Arvada, CO 80003
720-214-3500
mel@frontierprecision.com

EUGENE LYNNE HEATH HILDEBRAND

PO Box 27691
Denver, CO 80227
720-361-2475
ahildebrand@eugenelynn.com

TOM RICHARDSON LLC

41255 Dublin Dr.
Parker, CO 80138
303-699-3524
Gwen@TomRichardsonLLC.com

ASSURANCE RISK MANAGERS, INC.

Lisa Isom
10651 E. Bethany Drive, Suite 300
Aurora, CO 80014
303-454-9562
lisom@arm-i.com

GALLOWAY

Brian Dennis
1155 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Ste. 305
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
719-900-7220
briandennis@gallowayus.com

MERRICK & COMPANY

Todd Beers
Survey Project Manager
8051 E. Maplewood Ave, Ste. 300
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
303-751-0741
todd.beers@merrick.com

TOPO MATTERS LLC

Brian Yohn
36508 County Rd. 371
Buena Vista, CO 81211
719-398-0020
Brian.yohn@topomatters.com

CARLSON SOFTWARE

Jim Reinbold
Regional Sales Director
1412 W Powder Ct.
Eagle, ID 83616
303-482-1836
jreinbold@carlsonsw.com

GEOSHACK

Thad King
7000 E 47th Ave., Ste. 900
Denver, CO 80216
303-853-0311
tking@geoshack.com

RJM PRECISION INSTRUMENTS

David Moss
5007 Pacific Hwy. E, Ste. 19
Fife, WA 98424
602-462-3990
davidmoss@rjmprecision.com

TOPOGRAPHIC LAND SURVEYORS

S. Erik Dumas
12265 W Bayaud Ave., Ste. 130
Lakewood, CO 80228
303-989-1461
erik.dumas@topographic.com

DIVERSIFIED UNDERGROUND INC.

Richard Chuapoco
2851 S. County Rd. 137
Bennett, CO 80102
720-490-1321
richard@diversifiedunderground.com

HIXON MFG. & SUPPLY CO.

Ken Perry
1001 Smithfield Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970-482-0111
and
7154 Dillon Ct.
Englewood, CO 80112
303-694-0012
ken@hixonmfg.com

SKLD INFORMATION SERVICES

Kelly Mulé
Sales Representative
9540 East Jewell Ave
Suite A
Denver, CO 80247
(303)695-3850
kmule@skld.com

UNDERGROUND CONSULTING SOLUTIONS

Kelly Goff
2701 W. Oxford Ave., Suite 6
Englewood, CO 80110
303-904-7422
ucs@totalspeed.net

ECAD

Kelly Marrill
12130 N. Pennsylvania St.
Thornton, CO 80241
303-427-2231
Kmarrill@cad-1.com

INFINITY SOLUTIONS INC.

Joe Jimenez
10465 Melody Dr., Ste. 225
Northglenn, CO 80234
303-229-6885
jjimenez@infinitysurvey.net

SURVEYING AND MAPPING, LLC (SAM)

Mark Hall
555 Zang Street #210
Lakewood CO 80228
303-988-5852
Mark.hall@sam.biz

VECTORS, INC

Chuck Hutchins
Sales
10670 E Bethany Dr.
Bldg. 4
Aurora, CO 80014
303-283-0343
chuckh@vectorsinc.com

FLATIRONS SURVEYING, INC.

Tom Willis
3825 Iris Ave., Ste. 395
Boulder, CO 80301
303-443-7001
twillis@flatsurv.com

JACOBS

Robert Boehm,
9191 S Jamaica St
Englewood CO 80112
720.286.2914
robert.boehm@jacobs.com

SYNERGY MAPPING, INC.

Travis Kent
11027 S Pikes Peak Dr. #203
Parker, CO 80138
303-663-4483
tgkent@synergymapping.com

These firms support our organization. Please show them your appreciation with your patronage. To become a Sustaining Member, please contact Becky Roland at broland@plsc.net, or 303-551-3266.

TERRAMETRA RESOURCES

Lynn Patten
2919 Bryn Mawr Place
Longmont, CO 80503
303-909-5106
terrametra.lynn@gmail.com

**EQUIPMENT
WORLD**

**CONTRACTOR
OF THE YEAR**

2025 FINALIST



Utility Locating

Hydro Vac Excavating

Directional Drilling

Sub Surface Utility Engineering

303.636.9999

DIVERSIFIEDUNDERGROUND.COM

DBE/SBE/M/WBE Certified