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Where the Wild Things Graze:

A Night of Films Celebrating the Rangelands That Sustain Our World

Free Community Film Event • Crystal Theatre, Carbondale • April 2, 2026
Doors at 5:30 | Films and Panel 6:00 - 8:00



Photo Credit: Todd Winslow Pierce, EagleValleyWild.org



Agenda

6:00 – 7:00 Films

- Pastoralist Women for Sustainable Rangelands (5:00)
- Saving the Indian Savannas (6:45)
- Transhumance Summer: Life in Mountain Pastures (3:25)
- Shepherdess of the Glaciers (Trailer 4:30)
- A Common Right: Mongolia (6:00)
- The Turkana (10:00)
- Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands of Mexico (7:46)
- Three Creeks (18:00)

7:00 – 8:00 Presentations and Q&A

- 7:00 – 7:15 Dr. Maria Fernández-Giménez | Retired Professor of Rangeland Ecology & Management, Colorado State University
- 7:15 – 7:30 Meriwether Hardie | Explorer, Storyteller & Author
- 7:30 – 8:00 Q & A

Our Speakers



Maria Fernandez-Gimenez

Dr. Fernández-Giménez has spent more than three decades working with pastoral communities in the American West, Spain, and Mongolia — where she was among the first Western scientists to conduct field research after the country's transition from Communism. Her contributions have been recognized at the highest levels: in 2016, Mongolia awarded her the Order of the Polar Star — the country's highest civilian honor for foreign nationals, previously bestowed upon Hillary Clinton and John McCain. With over 100 peer-reviewed publications, she offers rare depth to the story of the world's pastoralists.

Meriwether Hardie

Some people study the land. Meriwether Hardie lives it. After growing up on a family farm in Vermont, she spent a year as an environmental journalism fellow with Bill McKibben — then bought a horse for \$200 in Argentina and rode from Patagonia to Bolivia on horseback, voice recorder in hand, to report on indigenous communities caught between tradition and modernity. In 2025, she traded that trail for the dirt roads of the rural American West. She is now writing a book on the future of Western working lands, drawn from conversations at the end of those driveways — with ranchers, Indigenous families, and conservationists navigating change.

