

# ROCC Dark Sky Committee Report

ROCC Business Meeting May 16, 2024

## Background:

- Since 2017 the Dark Sky Committee has partnered with the Town of Ridgway and Top of the Pines to facilitate Dark Sky certifications by DarkSky International.
- DarkSky International certifications have set the standard in protecting the dark sky resource that residents of the area enjoy.
- Actively involved to influence OC Planning Commission update to Master Plan

## Accomplishments:

- Continued to provide Dark Sky related contributions to the ROCC Ad Hoc Master Plan committee – Dark Sky language in first draft of OC MP
- Very successful joint Town of Ridgway and ROCC Dark Sky presentation event held with invited speaker Aaron Watson at the Decker Room, Ridgway April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Early outreach planning initiated for 2024 to include events at Top of the Pines Aug 10, Ridgway State Park Aug 31 and Ridgway (TBD).

## Upcoming Plans:

- Looking for additional committee members and continue detailed planning for 2024 outreach events in August and Sept
- Provide Dark Sky recommended protections to HOA's in Ouray County
- Will be proposing Ouray County and Town of Ridgway Proclamation of June 2024 as a Dark Sky Month – Governor expected to do the same



**Dark Sky Jewels in Colorado**  
Current, and New Gems\* for 2024 & Art exhibit  
Thursday April 25, 2024 at 7pm  
(Doors open at 6pm)

- \* Opening remarks – Colorado's current Jewels – (Val Szwarc)
- \* Six New Candidates on a Fast Track for 2024 - (Aaron Watson - Former Chair of DarkSky Colorado)
- \* Becoming a Certified Dark Sky Park – Status and Challenge – (Erin Vogel, Senior Ranger, Ridgway State Park)

**Ridgway**  
THINK OUTSIDE

Decker Community Room  
Ridgway FUSE  
675 Clinton St Ridgway  
More info can be found at  
<https://www.ridgwayfuse.org/Decker>

Ridgway Ouray  
Community Council

This Free Family Friendly Event  
Co-sponsored by  
ROCC's Dark Sky Committee  
&  
The Town of Ridgway Colorado

Photo credit: Val Szwarc and Top of the Pines, Ouray County, CO