



Parks & Open Space

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PARKS & OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Time/Date of Meeting: 6:30 p.m., Thursday, July 28, 2022

Location: Virtual Meeting

TO:	Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee
FROM/PRESENTER:	Dr. Matt Rand, Department of Biology, Carleton College
AGENDA ITEM:	Study of Distribution, Habitat Use, Reproductive Ecology, and Reproductive Success in <i>Sceloporus</i> lizards in Boulder County Open Space Properties <i>Or Coloration Biology of Sceloporus Lizards</i>

ACTION REQUESTED:	Information Only
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Dr. Rand has been studying *Sceloporus* lizards (*Sceloporus consobrinus*) in Boulder County for decades. He earned his doctorate from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and these lizards were the subject of his dissertation research. He currently has been granted an annual sabbatical from Carleton College to continue his research over the next 4 seasons during the lizards' breeding season.

These lizards possess three discrete color morphs (orange, yellow, colorless). The morphs displayed by the male lizards denote their dominance related to breeding behavior dynamics. Dr. Rand's current effort is to continuously monitor a marked population of lizards at Betasso Preserve in order to estimate reproductive success among the different color morphs. Additionally, by using a variety of methods, Dr. Rand is attempting to obtain a better picture of the different color morphs' use of habitat types and features, as well as gain further knowledge of distribution of these lizards at other open space properties (Hall Ranch, Rabbit Mountain).

These efforts assist BCPOS wildlife biologists towards making recommendations on property management to support and maintain habitat for this interesting and important species.