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|  | **2016 Water Course:**Planning for Resilience |
| Speaker BiographiesFebruary 18, Session 1**Joe Ramey, Forecaster, National Weather Service**Joe Ramey has been a forecaster for the National Weather Service in Grand Junction since 1999. He is also the Climate Services Focal Point here, which means he takes national level climate information and downscales it to western Colorado and eastern Utah. Prior to Grand Junction, he worked at NWS offices in eastern Oregon and southern New Mexico. Prior to that, he was a forecaster in the USAF at the Air Force Academy and Daegu Korea.**Dr. Gigi Richard, Professor of Geology, Colorado Mesa University**Gigi Richard is currently a Professor of Geology at Colorado Mesa University (CMU) in Grand Junction, CO in the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences and the Faculty Director of the Water Center at CMU. She holds an M.S. and Ph.D. from Colorado State University in hydraulic engineering and a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Richard created the Watershed Science program at CMU and teaches water science and environmental geology classes. Her research on human impacts on rivers systems includes the study of downstream impacts of dams and levees on rivers in Colorado, New Mexico and New Zealand. Recent work has focused on better understanding the hydrology and morphology of intermittent streams in western Colorado and on the need for peak flows to maintain the channel form of the Yampa and Dolores Rivers in western Colorado. A resident of Colorado for 23 years, she has experience in private engineering consulting and served on water quality and land use planning commissions in Summit County, Colorado from 1990 to 1996.**Taryn Finnessey, Climate Change Risk Management Specialist, Colorado Water Conservation Board**Taryn Finnessey works on Climate Change adaptation, and natural hazard risk management for the Colorado Water Conservation Board. She is responsible for developing approaches for quantifying and considering uncertainties and vulnerability in water resource planning & management, focusing primarily on climate change and implementation of water management strategies. Taryn is also responsible for the implementation of HB 13-1293, Colorado’s climate change efforts and manages the Colorado State Drought Mitigation and Response plan. She holds a B.A. in Earth and Environmental Science from Wesleyan University, and a M.A. in Global Environmental Policy from American University.  |