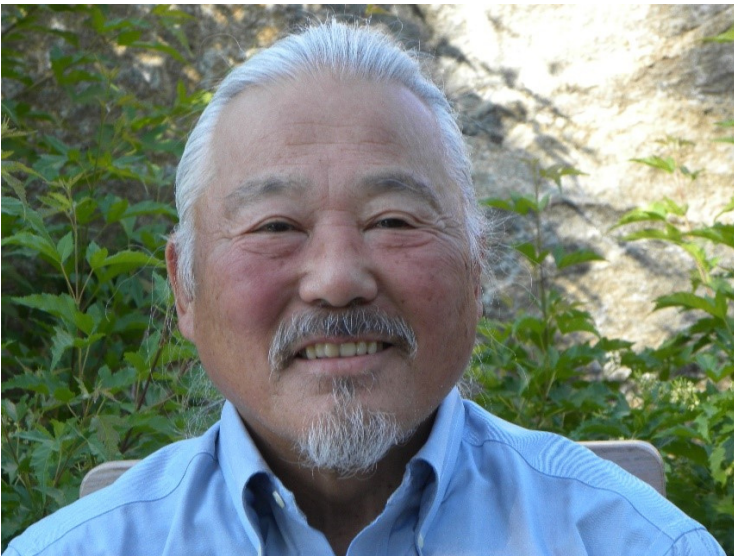


Faculty Colloquium Series:

“Managing for climate uncertainty and variable weather events in Colorado ecosystems”

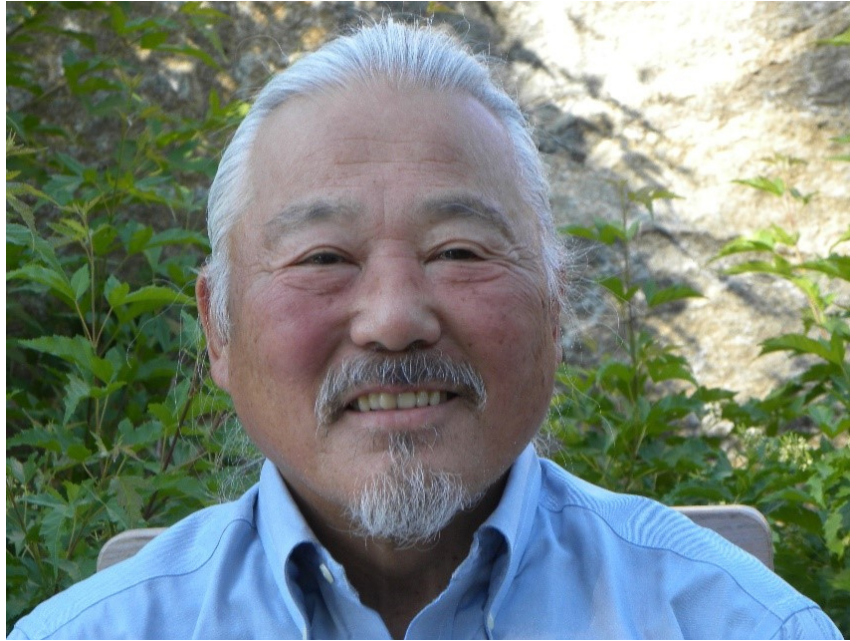


Dr. Dennis Ojima
Emeritus Professor, Dept of
Ecosystem Science and
Sustainability &
Senior Research Scientist at the
Natural Resource Ecology
Laboratory,
Colorado State University

Abstract

There is no doubt that climate change is affecting Colorado ecosystems, and Coloradoans have dealt with variable climates in the past. What is troublesome is that the manner in which climate change is affecting our weather patterns and thus our ecosystems is high unpredictable. Climate change is affecting various controls of seasonal weather patterns extending fire season far into the autumn months, earlier onset of spring like temperatures resulting in earlier snowmelt, and earlier bud burst of vegetation leading to increased vulnerability to killing frosts and snows. This increased weather variability across Colorado ecosystems have major impacts to rural livelihoods across Colorado, and development of appropriate climate adaptation strategies are needed to deal with a range of climate effects. This presentation will cover some of the climate features that are associated changes across the state of Colorado. In addition, discuss how development of climate adaptation strategies can increase resilience and response actions to deal with changing weather conditions.

Monday, April 4, 2022,
4-5:15 pm Dominguez Hall,
Room 111



About the speaker:

Professor Ojima is currently serving as the President of the Ecological Society of America. He is an Emeritus Professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Sustainability and a Senior Research Scientist at the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University (CSU).

Dennis Ojima has conducted research and assessments on global change impacts on ecosystems around the world and in the Great Plains in the US. His research on adaptation to climate change has been conducted with colleagues in Mongolia, China, and domestically in the Central US. He has led or participated in several National Climate Assessment reports on the Great Plains and co-led the Colorado Vulnerability reports over the past decade. Dennis has received recognition for his contributions to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005 Zayed International Prize for the Environment), the 2007 Noble Peace Prize for his contributions to the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In 2013, he was honored as a Champion of the Environment by the Mongolian Minister of the Environment and Green Development.