



## CAN THE SOIL SAVE US? THE DIRT ON LOCAL AGRICULTURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

### June 20 Panel Discussion Speakers

#### **Barclay & Tony Daranyi, Indian Ridge Farm**



Barclay comes from an agricultural background, having grown up on Caretaker Farm, near Williamstown, Ma. She is a Yale University graduate and has lived in the region since 1985. Her interests are skiing, cycling, hiking, painting, reading and getting out into the wild whenever she can.

Tony came to agriculture in a circuitous manner. Born in Lima, Peru, his family had large agricultural interests in that country, before leaving Peru for the United States in 1966. He has a Master's Degree in business from Northwestern University. His interests are writing, cycling, skiing and hiking. In the winter he works part-time for the Telluride Ski Patrol, stepping down from a full-time position as a Sr. Avalanche Technician. He's also a certified EMT, volunteering for the Norwood Fire District and was recently appointed to serve on the Norwood Water Commission.

Both Barclay and Tony are committed to organic farming and regenerative practices on their 120-acre Indian Ridge Farm outside of Norwood, CO seeking to improve the soils, hydrology and the farm's biodiversity, while producing nutrient-dense food for the regional community.

#### **Chris Hazen, San Miguel Conservation Foundation**



Chris was raised outside of Chicago and spent a good portion of his youth playing in creeks and the woods, later learning first hand about restoration ecology while working on native short grass prairie restoration with the Lake Forest Open Lands Association. College brought Chris west to the University of Colorado, and later to Oregon State University for a Master's in Geosciences. Arriving in Telluride in 1991, he found inspiration with the Telluride Institute's newly formed Watershed Program which led to a 10-year stint with the Telluride Ski & Golf Company as Director of Environmental Affairs managing the restoration of 50+ acres of wetland habitat. As owner of The Terra Firm, Inc, a Telluride based ecological consulting company, he is able to focus on interdisciplinary projects for local governments and landowners. In 2014 Chris took on the role Executive Director of the San Miguel Conservation Foundation - a local land trust focused on land preservation in San Miguel County. Since 2019, Chris has managed a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) program for San Miguel County,

focused on soil health and land management practices that can lead to increased carbon sequestration in our soils - the SMC-PES program will be the primary focus of his contribution to tonight's presentation.

**Cindy Lair, Colorado Department of Agriculture**



Cindy Lair is the Deputy Director and Climate Resilience Specialist for the Conservation Services Division at the Colorado Department of Agriculture. She directs the Agricultural Drought and Climate Resilience Office, which includes the Soil Health Program, STAR Ranking Framework, Agricultural Water Policy, and the Advancing Colorado's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ACRE3) activities. Within her duties she continues to oversee the Colorado State Conservation Board and serves on the Colorado Natural and Working Lands Working Group for the US Climate Alliance. She works on agricultural water quality and quantity issues, including Salinity control and the PFAS Task Force. Cindy graduated from Colorado State University in Natural Resources Management and is an alumna of the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Class of 2014.

**Moderated by Adam Chambers, US Department of Agriculture**



Dr. Adam Chambers is a Scientist at USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He leads Environmental Markets activities under NRCS's Energy and Environmental Markets Team. Adam's work focuses on leveraging markets that value ecosystem services, building strategic partnerships, and getting 'more conservation on the ground'. His environmental markets and conservation finance work is supported by NRCS Farm Bill programs that aim to increase the amount of voluntary conservation practices that are implemented on working agricultural lands in the United States. Over the past two decades Dr. Chambers' project work has focused on the applied sciences and reducing atmospheric pollutants (air pollutants and greenhouse gases). He is currently working to implement conservation practices on managed agricultural lands that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance carbon sequestration in soils, providing an emerging carbon market opportunity for US landowners and agricultural producers. Adam received his Doctorate from the Technical University of Vienna (Austria), Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and his B.Sc. from Murray State University in Kentucky.