

The Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies is pleased to welcome Ella Bump as their new Research Associate/Assistant Director!

Ella Bump is a native of Wisconsin and has lived in Colorado since 2011. After a formative trip to Moab, UT in 2007 where her family rafted the Colorado River, Ella was caught by the magic of the west. She moved to Colorado to attend the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and became a whitewater raft guide on the Arkansas River in Buena Vista during the summers. She received a B.A. in Geography and Environmental Studies and a Minor in Spanish in 2015, and has put many more stretches of river under her belt since her guiding days.

Ella attended Colorado State University (CSU) to pursue a MS in Watershed Science with an emphasis in snow hydrology in 2020 with Dr. Steven Fassnacht. During her time at CSU, she worked for the NASA 2021 SnowEx Campaign on Cameron Pass, CO, doing snow pit analyses to ground truth airborne radar data. Her Master's thesis is on snow water equivalent using dendrochronology to create a historical times series in the San Juan and Sangre de Cristo Mountains. She began working with Jeff Derry and CSAS in 2021, digging snow pits for the dust-on-snow longterm monitoring project, and has continued to work as-needed since then, doing field work as well as data management, analysis and visualization work. She was also a ski patroller at Copper Mountain, has recreational avalanche education and is a Wilderness EMT.

In November 2023, Ella moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she was a hydrology assistant for the National Parks Service Inventory and Monitoring Division, based with the Southern Plains Network (SOPN) and doing streamflow monitoring and trends studies on the Pecos River on other SOPN parks. She also traveled often the Sonoran Desert Network and Chihuahuan Desert Network to participate in field work and research initiatives.

Ella is very excited to make the move back to Colorado, and Silverton no less, be immersed in snow, and see all parts of her scientific interests come together in this position for CSAS.

